

## Welcome, Rosemary Wells

**'Hand in Hand,' We're Celebrating  
 Día & Children's Literacy with You**

Parents are our children's first teachers. Their "textbooks" come with large colorful pictures! Some of the best picture books are by author and illustrator Rosemary Wells. The long-time advocate for parent engagement is coming to the Modesto Library April 3, as part of the library's El Día de los Niños, El Día de los Libros/ Day of the Child, Day of the Book: One World, Many Rhythms celebration, thanks to a grant from the Phi Gamma Chapter of Omega Nu.

— Anne Britton

[See more on Page 5](#)



### Hand in Hand

Be my sky, my moon, my sun.  
 My first talker, my first walker.  
 My first feeder, my first reader.  
 My best playmate, midnight staymate.  
 Make me steady, make me strong.  
 Let me know my right from wrong.

— Rosemary Wells

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of the Modesto Library. Copies may be requested by emailing [info@modestolibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@modestolibraryfriends.org)

The Friends of the Modesto Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit registered in California. All contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law. (ID#77-0038333)

The Friends promotes goodwill and community support for the Modesto Library, stimulates public awareness of Modesto Library needs, and seeks sources of cultural and educational programs for the Modesto Library.

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of March, June, September and December at 6 p.m. in the Library Conference Room and are open to all members or interested individuals.

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Many thanks to

**ditto**

for printing our newsletter

FROM CO-PRESIDENT MAREE HAWKINS

## Dig deep and ask a friend for help

**D**are I say “resolutions”? I often brew tea from a bag that features a quote on each tea bag tag. The most recent tag featured this quote: “The worst thing about new books is that they keep us from reading the old ones.”

Since that is so true for me I’ve decided that this year when I visit the library I’ll check out an older book for each new one. I might read some classics, revisit a favorite author or just make an amazing discovery by browsing in the stacks. But it will help me step out of my comfort zone.

Also not in my comfort zone is asking people to do something. So another of my resolutions is to entice at least five friends to join FOML. (See membership information below.)

I’d like to say thank you to Pat Glatke who will chair the FOML May Used Book Sale. Denise and I were very worried that we would not find a chairperson. Pat said yes as the first step in her resolution to make a positive difference in our community this year. Lots of help will be needed that day, so say yes when she asks. Or



step out of *your* comfort zone and don’t wait to be asked. Get your name on the “Day-of-Helper” list. Find Pat’s email and more information about the used book sale on [Page 6](#).

I recently reviewed FOML’s purposes.

Fundraising is an obvious one, but we also create public support for an expanding library program, intensify community awareness of the library, encourage gifts for the library, and sponsor programs designed to add to the cultural life of the community.

While each of these is important, I invite you to step out of your comfort zone and intensify community awareness of the library this year. Share with your friends why all the libraries in our county are important.

It was great to see so many of you at our holiday gathering. We hope you’ll join us at our Friday, March 10, general meeting which begins at 5:30 on the main floor of the Modesto Library. Members and interested individuals are invited to attend. There will be a short business meeting followed by a presentation by Modesto’s Poet Laureate, Stella Beratlis. Don’t be shy about bringing a friend.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

**H**ave you renewed your FOML membership for 2017? Membership dues reset in January for the calendar year, so it is time to renew.

You can renew online or by mail. Go to <http://www.modestolibraryfriends.org>. To renew by mail click on JOIN US for

the membership form and send the form in with your check. If you want to renew online, then click on DONATE. Be sure to include a note in the text box saying this is a renewal and be sure to include any new contact information.

## AROUND THE LIBRARY

### LIBRARY TAX UPDATE



The Library Tax measure, which was tentatively scheduled to go before voters for re-approval in June 2017, has been postponed until November. This was the decision of County personnel, based on cost considerations — mid-year elections are very expensive — and the fact that no other measures are anticipated in June.

This is GOOD NEWS for library supporters! It means we have even more time to educate voters and remind them that:

- The Stanislaus County Library and its 13 branches are funded primarily by the 1/8-cent Library Sales Tax, which provides 88% of the Library's operating costs
- The current tax will expire in June 2018; without this reliable, dedicated funding source, LIBRARIES WILL CLOSE.
- This is NOT A NEW TAX, but simply a renewal of the current tax, which has been approved



and re-approved by voters every few years since 1995.

NOW IS THE TIME to sign on to help Save Stanislaus Libraries. Visit [www.SaveStanislausLibraries.org](http://www.SaveStanislausLibraries.org) to:

- Give your endorsement
- Make a financial contribution
- Volunteer to coordinate efforts in your community
- ...and make a difference!

### FOML ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE MARCH 10

We hope you will plan to attend the Friends of the Modesto Library annual general meeting Friday, March 10 on the main floor of the Modesto Library. The meeting is open to all members and anyone interested in the Modesto Friends.

The after library-hours gathering will include a social time at 5:30, then a brief business meeting, including election of officers. The evening's guest speaker will be Stella Beratlis, right, Modesto's current poet laureate and past FOML president. Poetry is a hot topic these days, so we invited Stella to be our special guest and share her talent and thoughts with us.

Stella's 2015 book of poetry, "Alkali Sink," (Sixteen Rivers Press), was one of six books nominated in the poetry division of the 2016 Northern California Book

Awards. "Alkali Sink" is her first collection of poems. Her work has appeared in numerous publications. Stella is a public librarian in Tracy, but lives in Modesto. She is on the board of directors of Modesto-Stanislaus Poetry Center. Stella and fellow poets Sam Pierstorff, Gillian Wegener and Ed Bearden coedited the collection "More Than Soil, More Than Sky: The Modesto Poets" (Quercus Review Press, 2011).

RSVP to 209-572-1720 or [jjbkquinn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjbkquinn@sbcglobal.net)



### TRIVIA, ANYONE?

Library trivia: A properly used hardcover book can be used more than 100 times before it must be replaced.

A paperback has a use rate of about 40 to 50 times.

Did you know that The Modesto Bee runs an "At Stanislaus County Library" column in the Scene section every Friday?

This column identifies some of the new and most requested titles.



# Collection Services

Months before you discover the latest bestseller at the library, Stanislaus County Library's Collection Services (CSV) is at work to ensure the book is available for you as soon as it is released.

CSV, housed in the Modesto Library basement, has two functions: acquisition of all materials (books, books on CDs, DVDs, large prints, magazines, etc.) done by the acquisition team, and cataloging and processing of the materials, accomplished by Technical Services staff. The department has seven staff members, 3.5 in Acquisitions and 3.5 in Technical Services. CSV staff work with selectors to purchase, catalog and process materials for all 13 libraries.

Small though the department might be, it is busy! During the 2015-16 fiscal year the department ordered, cataloged and processed over 51,000 items.

Stacey Chen, above right, head of CSV since 2008, says the selectors build a dynamic collection for each of the county's 13 libraries through a thoughtful process to serve the county's residents. They read reviews of books months before their publication and make careful decisions to place them in different branches to best serve the public. Stacey, who focuses on selecting adult fiction, notes that each branch has its own character and readership that reflect the community it serves. She draws on her 21 years of experience in the Stanislaus County Library system to make the best decisions for each of the libraries.

To stay in touch, selectors visit branches on a regular basis to learn about the communities and their needs.



Salida Library, for instance, serves a younger population, so its collection has an emphasis on children's materials. Customers and library staff feedback are important, as are other factors such as demand for certain books, popular genres for different branches, new trends in publications and branch shelving space.

New materials are ordered two months ahead of publication date so that customers can find them in the catalog to place holds. With materials arriving almost daily, Stacey says it is like Christmas every day. Once a shipment is unpacked and checked against the receipt, technical service staff catalogues and processes them. This involves affixing bar codes, applying plastic clear covers, and linking each item to the proper branch. They are then ready to be delivered to the libraries. Materials with customer holds have first priority. Often the distributor will send the most popular materials a few days earlier so the cataloguing and processing can be completed and the book can be available for the customers on the street date.

## Did you know?

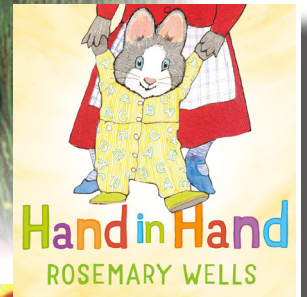
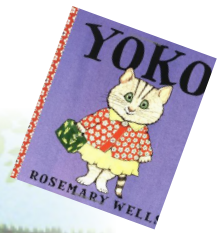
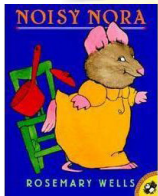
The so-called CSV (Comma Separated Values) format is the most common import and export format for spreadsheets and databases. There is no "CSV standard", so the format is operationally defined by the many applications which read and write it. The lack of a standard means that subtle differences often exist in the data produced and consumed by different applications. These differences can make it annoying to process CSV files from multiple sources.

## Here's the inside scoop on what is trending at the Stanislaus County Library:

Adult Fiction – mysteries and thrillers, romance, inspirational, historical, and biographical fiction. Adult Non-Fiction – politics, fitness and nutrition, cooking, biographies, and history. Children's – easy chapter books and tweens (10- to 12-year-olds). Young adults can find a lot of fantastic material on the shelves, some of which are being made into movies.

— Maree Hawkins, co-president FOML

# A Rosemary Wells Primer & Sampler MORE FROM PAGE 1



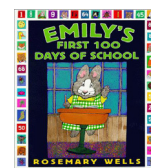
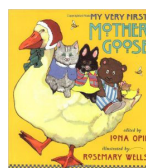
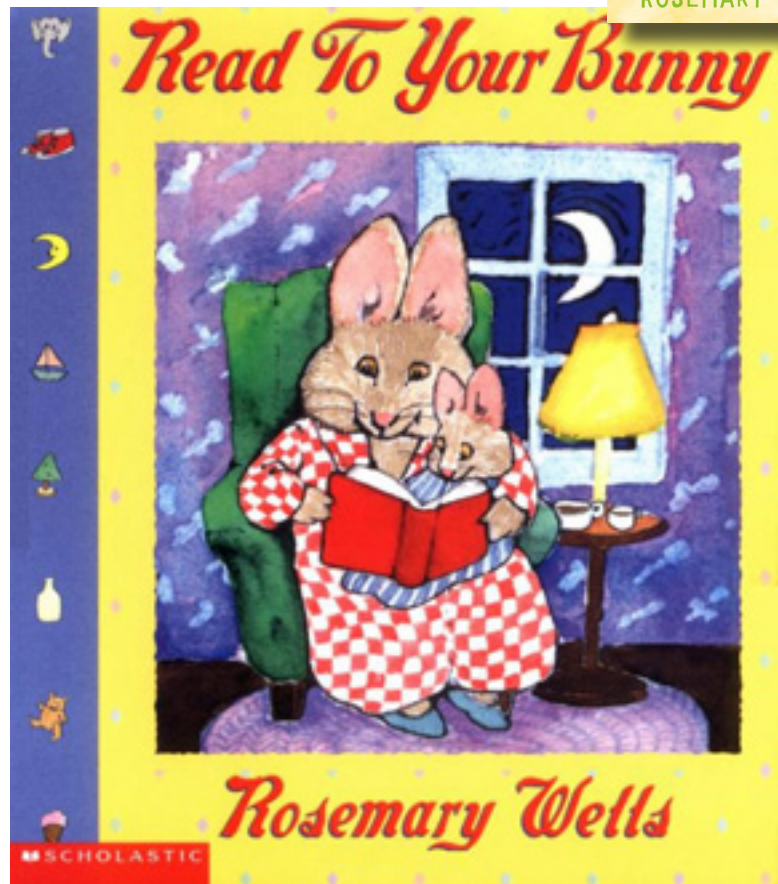
**R**osemary Wells is the author of more than 120 books. She has won numerous awards and is an inspirational speaker. Her unforgettable animal characters — bunnies Max and his sister Ruby, kitty Yoko and mouse characters like Sophie and Noisy Nora — are familiar companions in many homes.

Wells will read and sign her books for children and their families at Modesto Library on the morning of April 3 and then speak to adults that evening at the Petersen Event Center on the ideas in her 1998 book *“Read to Your Bunny”* and her new book *“Hand In Hand.”*

Both books help parents see how to model being a “first teacher” using books to talk, sing and play with their children in their earliest development toward school readiness. Parents, teachers and childcare providers who attend her workshop will find practical ideas to engage with their children. (Call Children’s Room at 209-558-7810 for details.)

Early literacy activities are not the norm in many homes. The Friends of the Modesto Library [FOML] sponsors Día every year to highlight the importance of books for children’s success. FOML will give a new, free book to any child who attends this year’s April 1 Día event at the Modesto Library. Rosemary Wells’s presence in the community puts a spotlight on the importance of spending time reading with children in the home. We thank Omega Nu and other contributors\* who make this visit possible.

— Anne Britton



**\* FOML still needs a sponsor to cover Wells’ airfare to and from the East Coast. Contact Anne Britton at 209-996-1351**



**Saturday, May 6**

# Mark your calendars

**O**ur largest fundraiser of the year, the annual Used Book Sale, will take place Saturday, May 6 on the Modesto Library portico from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. All Friends members are needed to help with this project.



FOML will use 100 percent of the money raised to assist the Modesto Library in providing services for the community.

This year's event will be chaired

by Pat Glatcke, above. Pat agreed to chair the event because she sees it as the first step in her personal resolution to make a positive difference in her community this year. Pat is definitely a library lover. "As a reader, I know the library is essential to our community," she says, adding that the Modesto Library, then housed in what is now the McHenry Museum, was the first public building she stepped into 50 years ago when she moved to Modesto and that the library is the public building she visits most often.



As always, the first step toward a successful book sale is collecting books. Tap into your network of book-loving friends for their boxes of used books. No magazines, textbooks, or encyclopedias, please, and don't include damaged books in the box.

When you have books or know their location, call or email Maree Hawkins (209-529-1517 or [mareehawkins@comcast.net](mailto:mareehawkins@comcast.net)). We will need lots of boxes, so please provide boxes whenever possible. Book collecting and sorting continues through mid-April. Sorting and storage space is being donated by Beard Land Development Company. McGrath Moving & Storage will move the boxes from the Beard office to the library.

Here's a new opportunity you might be interested in: identifying high value books for resale online. Let Maree know if you are interested.

Pat will work on day-of logistics. Volunteer opportunities include:

- Setup the day of (6 – 7 a.m.) and boxing up after the sale (3 – 4 p.m.)
- Staffing the book sale in 2-hr. shifts beginning at 7 a.m.

We are also looking for a business to donate bags so our customers can transport their finds easily. If you have thoughts on this, contact Pat. To volunteer, contact Book Sale Chair Pat Glatcke at (209) 985-7156 or [plaza611@sbcglobal.net](mailto:plaza611@sbcglobal.net). See you at the sale!

## SEVEN THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ME

*Cathie Peck, FOML Board Member*



**Favorite Color:** Blue

**Favorite Month:** October...cooler days and nights, colorful foliage, preparing the garden for winter, change in the air.

**Sun Sign:** Aquarius

**Favorite Movie:** Midnight in Paris (one of many; I love movies!)

**Favorite Thing About Being a FOML Board Member:** Increasing childhood literacy, inspiring wonder and curiosity; working with like-minded people

**Favorite Dessert:** Ice cream

**Fun Fact About Me:** I'm a 4th generation Stanislaus County resident

## EVENTS

### February

#### ALL MONTH

Teen Tech Week "Be the Source of Change" Meme Contest Entry

Create an original library or book themed meme for a chance to be entered into a prize drawing! One grand prize winner will receive a 32 GB iPod Touch. Other prizes include \$50 Target gift cards. Entry forms will be available at any Stanislaus County Library branch or by visiting [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org). Contest entry deadline is Saturday, March 4 at 5 p.m. Memes will be displayed on the library's social media during Teen Tech Week March 5-11. Program intended for teens ages 13-18.

**Wed., Feb. 1, 8, and 15 3:30 p.m.**

**LEGO Play** Children ages 4-18 can build LEGO displays for the library. LEGO play helps children develop fine motor skills. Children under 4 welcome, but must have direct adult supervision. (No LEGO Play on Feb. 22.)

**Feb. 4-13**

**Valentine's Day Cards for Seniors** Help us make Valentine's Day extra special for local senior citizens. Stop by the Modesto Library the week of Feb. 4 to make a Valentine's Day Card. Valentine Stations will be located in the Children's Room and at the Reference Desk. All materials will be provided. All ages are welcome to make cards. The library will donate completed cards to local senior citizen facilities in Modesto.

**Wed., Feb. 8 6 p.m.**

**Hope for Parents of College Bound Students**

Local financial consultant Michael Howell from Blom and Associates will cover college cost-reducing strategies, as well as offer insight into how schools determine financial need. Participants will learn how to financially position themselves for successful college planning. Reserve your seat by calling 209-857-5207.

**Thur., Feb. 9 2-4 p.m.**

**Before You Seek a Grant: A Checklist for New Nonprofits.** Geared towards community groups without nonprofit status or new nonprofits with very little experience in grant seeking. You will be provided with a step-by-step checklist approach to help increase your organization's readiness for foundation fundraising.

**Fri., Feb. 10 & 24 3:30 p.m.**

**Yoga Play** This program is a playful introduction to simple yoga poses, perfect for children ages 3 and up.

**Sat., Feb. 11**

**Mo Willems Day** Celebrate author Mo Willems in the Children's Room. Find Pigeon hiding in the room to get a prize! Take your picture in a giant book! Coloring pages will be available all day long.

**Wed., Feb 15 4:30 p.m.**

**Valentine Apocalypse** Valentine's Day is over. Let's celebrate with an apocalyptic good time! There will be crafts, light refreshments and a movie in the auditorium.

**Sat., Feb. 18 1 p.m.**

**Anime Your way** Learn how to draw anime with former Simpson's artist Carlos Nieto III. Carlos will teach you how to create and modify an anime character from scratch, no matter what your drawing level is! Anime Your Way draws from art, history, reading, geometry and creative writing. All materials are included. All ages are welcome. Contact the Modesto Library Reference Desk at 209-558-7814 for more information.

**Wed., Feb. 22 4:30 p.m.**

**Great Valley Museum:** Crime Lab Chemistry

Students become forensic detectives and scientists, using paper chromatography to investigate solubility, pigments and separation of mixtures. Best for 3rd grade and up. Held in the Modesto Library Auditorium.

**Thurs., Feb. 23 4 p.m.**

**Comix Club** Like to read? So do we! Come hang out on the last Thursday of every month for discussions, games and activities featuring our comic of the month. You can also cast a vote for what to read next. Suggested for ages 8 and up.

**Sat., Feb. 25 12:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Scrapbooking Fun** Stop by the Modesto Library to learn about and practice scrapbooking. Open to scrapbookers of all levels. Participants will learn techniques with free time afterwards to work on your own scrapbook. Some materials will be provided but you are encouraged to bring your own. This program occurs regularly and you are welcome to drop in at any time. Prizes are given out at every meeting. Drop-in, no sign up required.

### March

**Sat., Mar. 4 1-3 p.m.**

**Color Yourself Calm:** Coloring for Grown Ups  
Coloring isn't just for kids anymore! Adults can benefit greatly from the proven calming effects of coloring. Let us help you relax and de-stress with a day of coloring, conversation, and refreshments. We will provide coloring sheets designed for adults as well as colored pencils and crayons. Adults only, please. Drop-in, no sign up required.

**Mar. 5-11**

**Teen Tech Week** Check out the library meme entries on social media and come see what's up for teens all week long.

**Sat., Mar. 4**

**Cover to Cover** First day to sign up for the In-N-out Burger Cover to Cover reading incentive program. Children ages 4-12 can read up to 15 books during the program and earn up to 3 burger certificates (1 burger for every 5 books). Sign up at any of the 13 libraries.

**Fri., Mar. 10 5:30 p.m.**

**Friends of the Modesto Library Annual Meeting** Modesto Poet Laureate Stella Berattis will join us for the annual members meeting. Snacks and social time will be followed by Stella's presentation and the election of officers at the Modesto Library. All members and anyone interested in the Friends are welcome. RSVP to 209-572-1720 or [jjbquinn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjbquinn@sbcglobal.net).

**Fri., Mar. 10 & 24 3:30 p.m.**

**Yoga Play** This program is a playful introduction to simple yoga poses, perfect for children ages 3 and up.

**Weds., Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 3:30 p.m.**

**LEGO Play** Children ages 4-18 can build LEGO displays for the library. LEGO play helps children develop fine motor skills. Children under 4 welcome, but must have direct adult supervision.

**Mar. 20-25**

**Welllderly Week** Senior citizens are invited to take a photo in our photo booth to "celebrate senior citizens who never act their age."

**Mar. 20-25**

**Happiness Week** Join in on the fun with a celebration of happiness. March 20th is the International Day of Happiness but we have decided to celebrate the whole week instead! Drop by the library to see our happiness wall

and leave a note telling us what makes you happy.

**Wed., Mar. 22 6 p.m.**

**Tech Connect: Facebook Basics** This program for beginner Facebook users will help with creating an account, posting messages and pictures, finding other users, understanding privacy settings, and more. Participants are required to bring their own laptop or device and are required to have an email address. Registration is required by calling the Modesto Library Reference Department at 209-558-7814.

**Thurs., Mar. 30 4 p.m.**

**Comix Club** Like to read? So do we! Come hang out on the last Thursday of every month for discussions, games and activities featuring our comic of the month. You can also cast a vote for what to read next. Suggested for ages 8 and up.

### April

**April 1-April 29**

**Poet-tree Celebrate National Poetry Month** at the Modesto Library by adding poetry leaves to our poet-tree. Write a favorite verse or create your own on a leaf and hang it from our tree during the month of April. Stop by and help us grow our poet-tree!

**Sat., Apr. 1 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**El Día de los Niños, El Día de los Libros/ Day of the Child, Day of the Book** Join us in our annual celebration of the importance of early literacy for every child, regardless of linguistic or cultural background. This year's theme is One World, Many Rhythms and will feature children, books, crafts, activities, games, and a special bilingual story time. Children can get a free new book while supplies last, compliments of the Friends of the Modesto Library.

**Mon., Apr. 3 11:15 a.m.**

**Rosemary Wells** Don't miss this reading and book signing by the beloved children's author and illustrator of the Max and Ruby, Noisy Nora and Sophie books – right here in the Modesto Library! Call the Children's Room at 209-558-7810 for more information.

**Mon., Apr. 3 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Dia: Celebrating Children's Literacy with Rosemary Wells** Award winning author Rosemary Wells will explore the roles books and art play in children's early development. This workshop for adults will offer parents, teachers and caregivers practical skills that support school readiness and success. Petersen Event Center. Call the Children's Room at 209-558-7810 for more information.

**TBA**

**Unicorns in the Library** Keep your eyes out for these mythical beasts in April. We expect sightings in the Children's Room, but don't know when we will see them.

### Save the Dates

**Sat., May 6**

**Annual Used Book Sale!** Donations needed, contact Maree Hawkins at 529-1517 or [mareehawkins@comcast.net](mailto:mareehawkins@comcast.net).

**May 8-13**

**Scholastic Discount Sale**

**Dates are subject to change. More programs to be announced. Please check [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org) and click on events to see information about all of the great programs we have in store.**

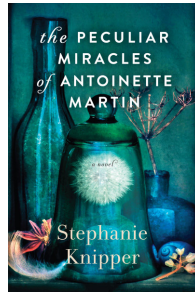
## QUICK STARTS

### First sentences (or a bit more) from selections in the New Book area

*“The guy had beautiful white teeth and a dimple that appeared when she made him laugh, but all Emily could think was, “College is where romance goes to die.”*  
— *The Last Good Girl*  
by Allison Leotta



*“My daughter, Antoinette, whispers in her sleep. Real words.”*  
— *The Peculiar Miracles of Antoinette Martin*  
by Stephanie Knipper



*“YOUNG GIRL WANTED-GOOD WAGE. Well-to-do man seeking a housekeeper who is matrimonially minded.”*  
— *Lady Cop Makes Trouble*  
by Amy Stewart



*“This is not my beautiful life.”*  
— *Next*  
by Stephanie Gangi



*“To test a spell that predicts the future, try murdering the man selling it; if you can, it can't.”*  
— *Spellbreaker*  
by Blake Charlton



## *Honor a loved one with a memorial gift*

When a longtime friend or family member passes away, the Friends of The Modesto Library offers a special way to honor their memory and give some comfort to the family. You can choose to make a donation to the Friends of the Modesto Library in your friend's or family member's name. To many,

the library holds a very special bond or connection with life in Modesto. Families will appreciate a gift to the Library in your loved one's name. It's easy to give a gift and make a lasting contribution that honors friends and loved ones. Donations may be made to Friends of the Modesto Library. Memorial gifts will be listed in the Friends newsletter.

— *By Denise Nordell, co-president, Friends of the Modesto Library*