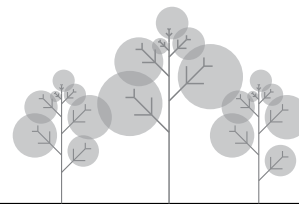


Among Friends

FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2021

The vision of the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries, a nonprofit organization, is to support our public library system as a cultural, educational, and recreational asset.

For more information please visit ncfol.org

In Memory of Madelyn Helling

County Librarian (1974–1991) and Beyond
1925–2021

Madelyn Helling led an extraordinary life, no small part of which took place during the second half of her long life. Taking on the position of County Librarian for Nevada County, CA in 1974 at the age of 47, set her on a course that would make her part of the history of what became her second home.

Madelyn was always conscious of the importance of the history of a place, and now we find that a significant part of recent history in Nevada County can be attributed to her dedication as a librarian. While becoming fully immersed in the life of the location in which she spent almost 50 years, she never forgot her roots; her birthplace of Bismarck, North Dakota. She kept up with the goings on there even acknowledging with sadness the death of a classmate shortly before she herself died.

No stranger to making history, Madelyn first worked in administrative services for both Air France and United Airlines, and second obtained a Masters in Library Science and went to work for the San Francisco Public Library. Madelyn often said that she applied for the Nevada County Librarian position because, like many library systems in California, there was no elected governing board so that she was freer to make her mark while answering primarily to Gene Albaugh, County Administrator, and the County Board of Supervisors.

The years 1974 – 1976 were a busy and challenging time for Madelyn as the construction and opening of the Truckee Library took place. She also began computerization of the County library collection and microfilming a portion of the Grass Valley Union Newspaper. From 1975 to 1991 she was instrumental



in raising funds for the Nevada County Local History Branch Library, which was formerly the Nevada City Library, before the October 20, 1991 opening of the Madelyn Helling County Library. Later, the History Branch became the Doris Foley Library for Historical Research honoring a local historian as its namesake. To Madelyn, the special gold rush history of Nevada County was what made this geographic location so attractive to so many. Stressing the importance of the gold rush here was a chance for Madelyn to promote library

services which, especially at the Doris Foley Library, were rich.

Several grants were won by Madelyn Helling, including \$994,500 from the State Library Services and Construction Act matched by Nevada County and she received \$50,000 from the May Foundation for children's books and materials for the new library. Because of this, the Children's Room was named in honor of The May Foundation. Because of her tireless efforts, the new library was immediately named in Madelyn's honor. Madelyn was quick to always give credit where credit was due in recognizing the value of strong alliances between people and organizations that were pro-library. Later in life, it was Madelyn Helling who stood up to change the name of the Madelyn Helling Library Community Room to the Gene Albaugh Community Room.

In 1989, Madelyn was successful in introducing the DYNIX library circulation computer system to the library and the next year the library received a National Association of Counties award for Homebound Services, two distinctly different, but important, services to library users. Madelyn's sharp mind recognized that the local library was a vital part of a rural community and proclaimed its benefits wherever she went. She belonged, held leadership positions, and was honored herself by many local organizations such as

Continued on next page

Library Update

by NICK WILCZEK
County Librarian

There is lots of excitement this Fall at the Nevada County Community Library.

Evening and weekend hours are back. Starting September 1st, all Nevada County Community Libraries are open during the evening and on Saturdays. These extended hours greatly improve the service to our community; evening hours allow for folks to pick up holds after work and weekend hours provide a great opportunity for kids and families to enjoy the library together.

We no longer charge fines for late materials! Fines were suspended in response to the pandemic, but we have made the change permanent. This change removes a financial barrier to library materials and makes for more equitable access. NCCL joins a growing group of libraries across the country that have eliminated overdue fines.

South County is getting a new library. The Bear River library, currently located inside Bear River High School, will be relocating to its own facility. The new site is in the Lake of the Pines shopping mall and will be modeled after the Penn Valley Library. This project is in the planning and design phase and is slated to open in late 2022.

Stay tuned to our website MyNevadaCounty.com/Library for the most up to date library news and information.



San Juan Ridge Community Library

By ROO CONTADA
Librarian

Greetings from the San Juan Ridge! It has been an interesting past few months, and we are trying to roll with all the changes! We have been excited to be able to offer our full services once again and are moving forward and looking ahead. Our fiber internet connection has kept many sane while they distance learn or telecommute. This is a vital service to our rural area and many rely on its speed and accessibility. That being said, we tried to get people off their devices and outside! This engagement is vital for many people.

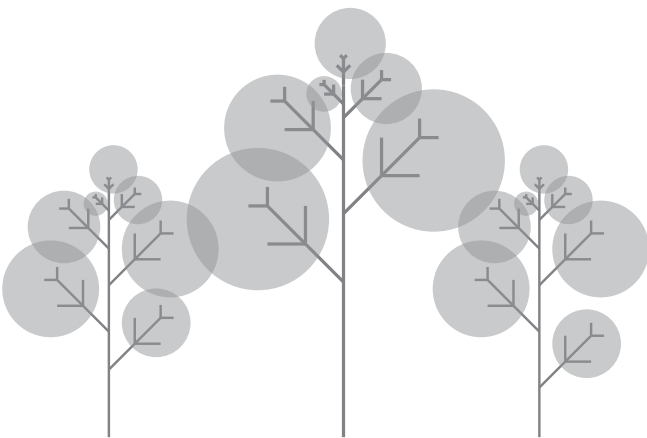
The summer was packed with action and we had several outdoor activities on a weekly basis. These activities focused on community building and bringing people and patrons to the library and the park. Our major successes were definitely a “Kite Day” where we invited families to the field and we listened to Mary Poppins’ “Let’s Go Fly a Kite” over and over! It was major, with over 15 families participating; kids and kites everywhere! We also hosted a celebration of the release of “Alice in Wonderland” by having a birthday party for Alice, complete with croquet, playing cards and birthday cake!

We had a great time with all the games and activities coordinated by our Program coordinator, Barbara Jones. Weekly, she created science projects and cooperative games with school age children. This was well-received as an activity as well, families enjoyed that it was free and allowed for drop ins. We did several things once, twice and three times a month like outdoor movie nights, family kickball, and poetry.

As the school year approaches, we are pleased to be showcasing our wonderful Annex with a host of new classes all set to begin in early September. Sneak peek: **Knitting, Basic Sewing, Spanish, Senior Tech, Sign Language, Art of Letter Writing/ Journaling, Drawing**, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays, **Homework Helper**.

There have been a few changes to our staff and we are wishing Mary Moore well as she eases into retirement. We are seeking a part time replacement for her, but she left some pretty big shoes to fill! We are hoping our new hire will guide us as we move into the the age of creative funding and staying resilient while launching us forward. We are eagerly awaiting that new member of our team!

Other projects in the works are a community mural on the Annex, as well as continual development of a robust, fundable program outline that will serve the needs and interests of our community. Hope all the “Friends” are doing well and once again we appreciate all your support!



Penn Valley Library

By CINDY PAWLOWSKI
Branch Manager

Good news from the Penn Valley Library. The branch successfully launched the Open+ Access system July 1st, 2021 which allows patrons to have access to the facility during non-staffed hours. As one of only a handful of libraries in the United States that use this system, our local library is on the cutting edge of services. The library is staffed Monday through Friday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and additional non-staffed Open Access hours are now available Mondays 7:00 am to 9:00 am and Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. To get access, patrons just need to complete an online Agreement form and then stop by to complete an orientation at the branch. Patrons that have signed up already are extremely enthusiastic about having the additional 14 hours at the branch and are beginning to use the system. Patrons can contact the library at 530-432-5764 for more information.

After a very busy Summer Learning Program with lots of activities and summer lunches, the Penn Valley staff are now gearing up for adult and youth fall programming. Staff member

Betsey Severn will host the monthly Penn Valley Page Turners book club the last Thursday of each month from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. The book club continues to grow, and new members are always welcome.

The biggest news of all is that the Penn Valley Library will begin offering youth programs for the local community. Beginning mid-September, the library will enjoy Wiggles and Giggles Storytime with Youth Services Librarian Jillene Davidson on Mondays from 10:30 to 11:00 am. Besides reading stories, the program may include singing, clapping, movement, and an after-program activity. The branch will also offer a Lego Club the first Wednesday of every month from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm beginning in September. The program will offer a designated design to create and all the LEGO's needed for the program. Signups or further information on all programs can be located on the Nevada County Library events calendar at SignUp | Demco Software (evanced.info).



CAROL HAMILTON

It is with sadness we note the passing of Carol Hamilton in April of this year.

In 2004, Carol and her husband, Robert, donated the charming life-sized sculpture of a young girl reading a book titled "Storytime" found in front of the Madelyn Helling Library in Nevada City.

Carol was a resident of Lake Wildwood for 20 years. She was heavily involved in many non-profit organizations in the County, particularly those involving animal rescue.

Carol will be missed, but her memory will live on for many years in the sculpture in front of the library.

JANUARY – JULY 2021 MEMBERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Nancy Chittenden
Olivia Mumpower
Glenna Rogers
Kathleen Sutphen

SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to thank 7 year-old Levi for his generous donation from his donation jar

IN HONOR OF DONATIONS

<i>Donor</i>	<i>In Honor of</i>
David Bowman	All Library Staff, FOL Members, and Desmond Gallagher

REMEMBRANCE DONATIONS

<i>Donor</i>	<i>In Remembrance of</i>
GEORGE BRYANT	RAMONA CARLEY BRYANT
TRALEE DOBSON	GEORGE PAUL DOBSON
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CAROL GLAD	MADELYN HELLING
HINDI GREENBERG.....	WENDY GREENBERG RASKIN
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ESTHER TAYLOR	JEAN MADILL SMITH
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YOLANDE WILBURN	MADELYN HELLING
GALE & LANCE WILLIAMS	PEGGY NEWTON
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	RUBY TOTTEN
CAUSERIE BOOK CLUB	LINDA COTTON
	JOAN DAYTON
	MADELYN HELLING
	PEGGY NEWTON
	JEANNE STROM
	CONNIE YATES

We would also like to thank all of our generous donors for their continuing support of the Friends.

Doris Foley Library

By LAURA PAPPANI
Branch Librarian

One of the things that has become abundantly clear over the last few months is how many people have either started working on their family’s genealogy or have picked it up again as a hobby. Alisa Austin and I have been collaborating on a series of online programs on genealogy for beginners and I put together a presentation on researching one’s Italian ancestors. All of the programs have been well-attended and lots of fun.

This fall, I’m hoping to offer online genealogy classes taught by an experienced instructor. I also plan to create a page on the Foley’s section of the website that is dedicated to genealogy, with information about the resources available at the Foley and the services we provide. Stay tuned!

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Youth Services Fall Programming

By MELLISA HANNUM
Youth Services Librarian, Grass Valley Library

Building from the momentum of an extremely successful Summer Learning Program, Youth Services has an active autumn in store. Penn Valley Library is now offering a Storytime, and Grass Valley and Madelyn Helling Libraries will be continuing their popular Storytimes. That means there is now a Storytime available every day of the work week in West County. Grass Valley will also maintain their virtual Pajama Storytime so that our patrons with accessibility issues can still participate.

Random Acts of Science continues to wow school age children, and Nevada County Media is broadcasting programs as well as Grass Valley Library offering live demonstrations once a month. School age options also include tween programming at both Madelyn Helling Library with a weekly Art Attack while Grass Valley offers a monthly Craft-A-Torium. Teens are also welcome at Art Attack, and Grass Valley Library has brought back Otaku Club, Dungeons & Dragons Club, and the Teen Leadership Committee for the fall.

Thank you so much to the Friends for your continued support. Our youth services are so much richer because of you!

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President’s Message

By ALEXIS TJOA
President

There have certainly been a lot of ups and downs this year. Covid, smoke, fire. Hopefully things will only be looking up the rest of the year.

We do have some good news. The Friend’s Monthly Book Sale is back, held the first Saturday of each month at the Doris Foley Library in Nevada City (across from the Courthouse). It’s an opportunity to replace all those books you read earlier this year. Book donations are being accepted at the Madelyn Helling Library.

Our libraries are extending their hours and days open, planning fall programs and a new library is in the works for South County to replace Bear River.

On the downside, we lost Madelyn Helling. Words can’t express what a loss this was. Madelyn was a force of nature and will be sorely missed.

Let’s hope that by the time of our Winter newsletter only positive things will be happening.

Ways to Support the Friends of the Libraries

Do you know about the ways you can painlessly support the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries through your purchases?

SPD Supermarket belongs to eScrip which allows you to designate your favorite charity—the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries—to receive 3% of your qualified purchases.

Pick up an application at the store or go to our website, ncfol.org for additional information.

When you shop on Amazon, use Amazon/Smile to earn 0.5% of the price of your purchases for the Friends. Select Friends of the Nevada County Libraries as beneficiary when you sign on the first time then login to Amazon/Smile every time you shop.

The Friends also accept car donations and you receive a tax receipt for your generous donation.

Detailed instructions for all these opportunities can be found on our website, ncfol.org, under “The Ways You Can Help” section.

Join The Friends of the Nevada County Libraries

Yes...I would like to be a member of the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries

New Renew Donation \$ _____

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Your email address will be used to send Library and FOL event notifications and the FOL Newsletter.

ANNUAL Membership Levels for Jan 1 through Dec 31:

Individual/Family...\$10

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Donations of any size are tax deductible.

Return this form to:

**Friends of the Nevada County Libraries
980 Helling Way, Nevada City, CA 95959**

*Please keep us informed about email address changes. If your email bounces, you will not receive notifications and you will receive newsletters by mail until you update your email address with us.

To update your email address please contact: friends@ncfol.org

**Thank you for supporting
Friends of the
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Friends of the Nevada County Libraries
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FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARIES

Monthly Book Sale

First Saturday every month!

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Masks must be worn inside

211 N. Pine St. (across from the Courthouse)
Nevada City

Book donations can be taken to the Madelyn Helling Library in Nevada City.
Donation area is at the end of the driveway on the right side of the building.

Raley's book donation area is no longer available.