

# Among Friends

FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2023

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](http://ncfol.org)

## LIBRARY UPDATE

By NICK WILCZEK  
County Librarian

I'd be remiss if I didn't start this message with a huge THANK YOU to the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries for your support over the past year. We had a fantastic 2022 and couldn't have done it without the contributions of the Friends. From supporting our Summer Learning program to sorting and processing donated books, the work you do is vital to the Library's success.

That said, I hope everyone had a peaceful holiday season and is enjoying the transition into spring. We've recently wrapped up our Winter Reading program and are looking forward to a 2023 full of amazing programs and events. Nevada County Reads is right around the corner and, before you know it, we'll be into Summer Learning.

The Madelyn Helling Library served as an overnight warming shelter multiple times during December. In partnership with Sierra Roots and the County of Nevada, the library opens its door to our homeless community members when certain weather thresholds are met. I'm incredibly proud that we are able to serve in this way. Folks receive a hot meal, warm place to sleep, and the comfort of not being out in the cold, rain, and snow.

Construction on our new Bear River location has begun! Slated to open in late summer, the new Bear River library is a million-dollar project located in the Lake of the Pines shopping plaza. The facility is approximately 2,600 square feet and is modeled on our Penn Valley location. Exciting features include a dedicated children's area, community conference room, and ample programming space.

We're very excited for 2023's Nevada County Reads. This year's book is Interior Chinatown by Charles Yu. In addition to book groups and other related events, Mr. Yu will visit us for an event at the Miner's Foundry in May. This event is a great way for our county to come together over our shared love of books and community. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there!

Nevada County Library is always looking for new and innovative ways to serve our community and we rely on the support of the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries to do our best work. Thank you for everything you've done for the library and our community over the past year. I look forward to seeing what we accomplish together in 2023!



## Nevada County Library

### YEAR IN REVIEW: 2022

**248,942**  
VISITS

**12,064**  
OPEN HOURS

**1,189**  
PROGRAMS

**413,208**  
CHECKOUTS

#### PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

**5,000+**  
**664**  
**11,326**

ADULTS  
TEENS  
CHILDREN

#### 60 NEW HOTSPOTS ADDED TO THE COLLECTION

**964**  
TOTAL CHECKOUTS

#### THE NEW RECREATION COLLECTION

**178**  
ITEMS ADDED  
**643**  
TOTAL CHECKOUTS

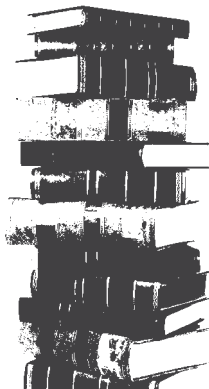
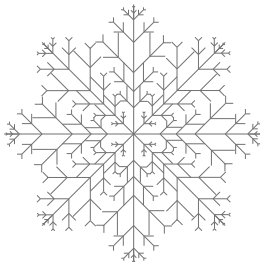
Doris Foley Library Update

By LAURA PAPPANI  
Branch Librarian

January at the Foley Library is generally a quiet month. There aren't many visitors from out of town and the weather often keeps locals at home. It's a great month for projects and getting caught up, or at least making a valiant effort to get caught up.

We have a long list of projects that we would love to see finished. Some are simple fixes and others are more long-term endeavors. I'm so glad to have the dedicated Foley volunteers to take on projects and research. I'm also very happy to have the help of Meghan Neef, a Library Technician, who is based at the Grass Valley Library. Meghan started helping at the Foley in the fall and is now here two full days a week. She's going to be working on all kinds of things at the Foley, including tidying up the Local History Files, working on digitization projects, and cataloging books for the Foley collection. Meghan is a very welcome addition to our team!

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San Juan Ridge Community Library

By ROO CANTADA  
Librarian

It's hard to believe that we are already in the throes of winter! Fall was such great time at the library, it flew by! With support of the Nevada County Resiliency grant, we continued our robust roster of weekly programs, including Minecraft Club, Guitar for Teens, Arts and Crafts, Spanish, Toddler Singing and Ukulele class, and a Dungeons and Dragons gaming night.

In October, we celebrated the season with Halloween craft day where we made all sorts of spooky stuff! We also introduced a two-week workshop, "Steps to Death" where participants learn strategies for end of life situations: wills, aftercare, health directives, etc. We will periodically be offering this workshop 2 to 3 times a year. November was a stellar month as we received a grant from Quality Counts California, a state program aimed at ages 0-5, but widely applicable to our programs. We intend to create a puppet theatre program with the monies, and are currently contracting with a local craftsman and researching puppets! We also added leather working to our roster. So exciting! December was fun with lots of holiday crafting for our Arts and Crafts! Barbara Jones, Alicia Lauder, Nichole DaLuz Ginger Wilson, Karina Williams, Renee Renoir and other community members made our Holiday Craft Extravaganza and Annual Cookie Exchange such a blast!

As we move into the winter months, we are creating a cozy space for people to escape to with our ongoing tapestry project and a puzzle. By continuing to be innovative, we are redefining what people think of when they think "library"! Thank you Friends for all your support!

We are delighted to update yet another computer station, continue our thriving programs, and keep our community literate and connected! In January, we added a class, Qi Gong, for senior movement (though everyone is welcome) and we hope to offer the "Steps to Death" workshop again February. Also in February, we do a Valentine Craft Extravaganza where we make cards and treats for those we love.

It is my intention to have ongoing, annual events that folks can rely upon. We have already established great ones, such as Kite Day and the Dog Parade. I would like to see the craft extravaganzas and puppet shows gain the same notoriety as those, while continuing to offer educational programs such as Spanish and computing. Though winter is long, we are confident that engaging programs will make the time fly and spring will be here before we know it! Thanks "Friends" for ALL your support!

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Youth Services

By EMILY PHILIPS  
Youth Services – Grass Valley Library

This Winter in Youth Services, we created a fun and simple Winter Reading Challenge: play bingo, win a book. Youth ages 0-18 could pick up a Winter Reading Bingo card from any branch, complete five activities in a row to get a bingo, and then redeem the card for a free book. Patrons were excited to participate and loved the challenge. So far, we’ve had a 47% rate of return on the bingo cards!

We kicked off Winter Reading with an interactive storywalk around downtown Grass Valley featuring Michael Genhart’s beautiful and touching picture book, *May Your Life Be Deliciosa*, which is inspired by the author’s family and features the Mexican tradition of holiday tamale-making. The storywalk led participants from the Children’s Room at Grass Valley Library around downtown as they read the book one page at a time in different business windows. As always the businesses were happy to participate and we got a lot of positive feedback from families who enjoyed the story and the walk!

We had over 120 Nevada and Placer County students participate in a Virtual Author Talk with the author of *May Your Life Be Deliciosa*, wherein Michael Genhart discussed his inspiration for the book and his process of creating it with the illustrator, Lora Loris, who was honored as the 2022 Pura Belpré Award Illustrator for her work on the book. He also encouraged the kids to share their own stories and write them down! Kids came with pre-prepared questions, which the author graciously answered in a Q&A at the end.

To cap off Winter Reading we organized a puppet show at Madelyn Helling Library with Puppet Art Theater out of Sacramento. They performed *Jack and the Beanstalk* and gave a behind the scenes look at puppetry after the show! Take home puppet kits made by Grass Valley and Madelyn Helling staff will be available while supplies last.

We have a wonderful, creative, and collaborative Youth Services team and are so excited to share our love of reading with the community!



Adult Services

By IAN BOALT  
Programming and Outreach Librarian

We’ve had some exciting developments here in Adult Services over the last few months. We’ve seen attendance at our Dungeons and Dragons program grow and had some awesome participation from our patrons. Our Rookie Chess club has also had some excellent attendance and it’s so great to see chess lovers of all-ages duking it out in the library. Art and technology programming also continues to be popular with our patrons during these wet winter months. We are looking forward to the Nevada County Reads 2023 season and are proud to announce Interior Chinatown by bestselling author Charles Yu as this year’s book selection. Interior Chinatown examines themes of the Asian-American experience through fiction. We will be using Interior Chinatown as an opportunity to examine the history and plight of our own Asian-American community here in Nevada County. Currently, we are working on a double-feature showing of documentaries *Going Home* and *Legacy*, both of which showcase the historical plight of Chinese-American railroad workers in our area throughout the turn of the 20th century. May 27th will see author Charles Yu visiting Nevada County at the Miner’s Foundry for our big finale event and we are very excited to host him!



By TRICIA CASPERS  
*Youth Services Librarian*

To complement our winter theme, we invited our young patrons to make snowflakes and other wintry items to add to our winter scene, below the heading, “Snow Many Books, Snow Little Time!” They have also enjoyed finding winter-related photos around the library as part of our wintry scavenger hunt. Once they found all eight items, they were delighted to choose a prize from the prize box.

We've also introduced two new Saturday programs: LEGO Club and Super Craft Saturday where children and their caregivers all enjoy being creative, whether they're using scissors, glue and construction paper, or building spaceships out of LEGOS.

We love seeing our regular patrons as well as many new visitors to the library. The best compliment we've received this season was from a tween who said, "I feel safe here."



# AUGUST 2022 – FEBRUARY 2023 MEMBERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

SUSAN DOERING  
MARGE FARRIS  
JOAN & MICHAEL GOOD  
SANDY KASTEN  
LISA KIRSCHBAUM  
LINNIE MCNAUGHTON  
DIANE NEUBERT  
BARBARA RUBLE  
PRISCILLA TRACZEWITZ  
DIETER WULFHORST



## REMEMBRANCE DONATIONS

<i>Donor</i>	<i>In Remembrance of</i>
DR. LARRY FRIEDLANDER .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
DEBBIE BRANS .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
KATHERINE KERSHAW .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
JAMES & SALLY LINDSEY .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
PETER & SANDY LOEW .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
RON AND JEAN PAGNI .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
RICHARD ROSSI .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
DONALD & ELISSA TEMPKIN .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER
MARK & KAREN WEITZEL .....	BARBARA FRIEDLANDER

## IN HONOR OF DONATIONS

<i>Donor</i>	<i>In Honor of</i>
Julie Kalfayan .....	Elizabeth McConner
Hindi Greenberg .....	Musical Mondays

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

# President's Message

by JOSIE LAINE ANDREWS

*President of the Friends of Nevada County Libraries*

As newly elected president of the Friends of the Nevada County Library I am looking forward to supporting the Nevada County Library in their efforts to bring engaging and dynamic programing, reading and literacy opportunities, maintaining historical records of our area, and creating welcoming spaces for all members of our community.

I am the former manager of the Grass Valley Royce Library and am currently the librarian at Nevada Union High School, and have worked in libraries for over two decades. I also serve on the Proposition A Citizens Oversight Committee. I deeply believe that libraries are a cornerstone of our society and strive to support libraries as they work diligently to ensure that people have access to information and that intellectual freedoms are protected and celebrated.

I am happy to connect with the community if you have any questions or are interested in supporting the Nevada County Friends of the Library!

## FRIENDS ELECT NEW BOARD OFFICERS

The Friends of the Nevada County Libraries Board elected new Board Officers in January.  
They will serve a two-year term.

### BOARD OFFICERS:

JOSIE LAINE ANDREWS ..... PRESIDENT  
BARBARA JONES ..... VICE PRESIDENT  
LOU ANN SCHWARTZ ..... TREASURER  
HILARY STEINMETZ ..... SECRETARY

### BOARD MEMBERS ARE:

CATHY EVILLE  
DESMOND GALLAGHER  
LARRY MEEK  
CINDY PAWLOWSKI  
ALEXIS TJOA

# **New Year's Resolution: Become a Member Today**

By CINDY PAWLOWSKI

Can't think of a birthday gift for a friend who has everything? Looking for an easy New Year's resolution to fill? Did you find \$10 in your winter pocket and not sure what to spend it on? Want to donate for a nonprofit that supports everyone in the community. Look no further, because the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries wants you as a member and it's the answer for all the above questions.

The vision of the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries (FOL) is to support our public library system as a cultural, educational, and recreational asset to our community and you can be part of that vision. Your membership donation supports the mission for a strong Nevada County Library, directly funding to the library for programs, resources, and community book programs.

Did you know that one of the current goals set by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors includes promoting sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers? The Friends of the Nevada County Libraries has been funding sustainable recreation, such as summer reading, and will continue to be a supporter with your membership.

## **So, let's get to it. There are three ways to join.**

Go to the FOL Website @ <https://www.ncfol.org/membership.html>

- Complete the membership and dues online
- Download the membership form & mail it in or drop it off at a Nevada County Library branch
- Or easiest of all, pick up a membership envelope at your Nevada County Library branch and mail it in or drop it off at the same location. Membership forms can be mailed to: FOL Membership, 980 Helling Way, Nevada City CA 95959.

Let's find your name on the list of members for 2023 and make this the best year yet for supporting our Nevada County Libraries.

## **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.

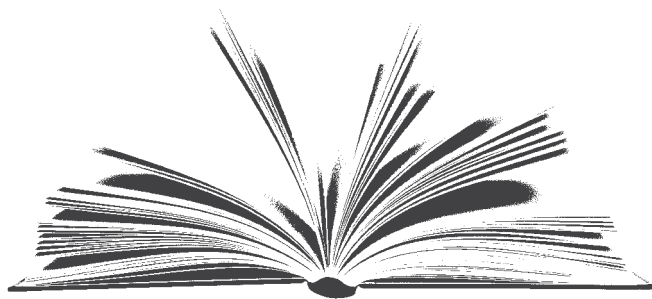
Pick up an application at the store or go to our website, [ncfol.org](https://www.ncfol.org) for additional information.

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](https://www.ncfol.org), under "The Ways You Can Help" section.

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

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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.

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.