

# Among Friends

FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2019

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)

## Friends Update

By ALEXIS TJOA  
*President, Friends of the Nevada County Libraries*

The summer programs at the Library are upon us. Take a look at the articles in this newsletter for all the programs the Library has to offer. There is something for everyone of any age.

The Friends are providing funding for the Summer Reading and other children's programs, Mondays at Madelyn's (wonderful music in a lovely setting), Lunch at the Library and a number of other programs.

We have continued to support the San Juan Ridge Community Library by

funding their new hand built bookcases.

The Friends Board welcomed a new member, Judith Bell. Judith is the Book Buddy Coordinator for the Library and her article in this newsletter explains this worthwhile service.

Hope you all have a great summer!

## Spring Renewal

By YOLANDE WILBURN  
*County Librarian*

Spring is here! It brings with it a sense of renewal and growth. We plant seeds, and the rain and sunshine provide nutrients, which bring forth the wonderful bounties of summer and fall, and help us carry on through the winter.

Last fall, Nevada County Community Library began tilling the ground to prepare for renewal and growth through the Aspen Institute Dialogue, Nevada County Rising to the Challenge: Creating Pathways for Learning, Innovation and a Resilient Community. In November, we held a conversation with residents of Penn Valley to ensure that the relocation and renovation of the Penn Valley Library would meet the community's needs. This spring we have begun to plant seeds, which will bring forth renewal and growth for all of our libraries.

The heavy rains of this spring made it clear that the roof at the Madelyn Helling and Grass Valley libraries are in need of repair along with other building infrastructure. In May, the beloved pergola from the front of the Madelyn Helling Library came down for safety reasons after 28 years of wear and tear.

Two community dialogues on renovations for the Madelyn Helling Library held on May 20, 2019 brought great feedback and input from the community. In addition to those that attended in person, we received emails and phone calls from community members that could not attend. Former

county librarians provided input. Madelyn Helling attended the dialogue and contributed valuable information to the architects about the history of the library building and design. Mary Ann Trygg emailed her concerns for replacing the roof and enlarging the community room.

Overall, the community provided positive feedback that we are doing a great job at the library. People love the programming that they have seen over the last year and they find our staff helpful and engaged. That sentiment, echoed repeatedly, demonstrates the strength of the partnership between our staff, volunteers and Friends of the Nevada County Libraries. Together we have created a library that strengthens the community and provides value.

More details on suggested space designs will be forthcoming over the next few months but some common themes did stand out. Overwhelmingly, community members believed the community room needed expansion, that expansion should include increased parking, and a drive up book return that would allow quick return of items without the need to park.

People also believed that the children's room needed more space for programming. Home school families requested more space to teach and learn within the children's room, and adults asked for relocation of the teen area to make it teen friendly. In addition to dedicated quiet space and study rooms, patrons spoke of interest in a dedicated space where people could eat. Currently patrons can eat in the Madelyn

Helling Library lobby only but some people expressed a desire for a café.

We appreciate all the input provided at the dialogues and should have some initial drawings from the architects based on the public input in late July. Meanwhile the Penn Valley Library remodel is moving forward. The Board of Supervisors approved the local architecture firm and demolition of the new space took place in May. Library staff are working with Gensler Architects and the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries to select and order furniture for the Penn Valley Library. The Friends have also agreed to fund the addition of an outdoor deck area at the new Penn Valley Library location. Our goals is to open the new location in late fall.

Over the next few year's we will continue to plant seeds of renewal and growth to improve all Nevada County Community Library locations and San Juan Ridge Community Library. Thank you for being a member of the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries; your donations are the seeds that provide the support needed to make growth and renewal of the libraries possible. If you are not a member, I encourage you to join. Your gift helps to ensure that the library can meet the needs of today's community and provides value to future generations of library users.





and sometimes even allow us to discuss possible solutions.” Patrons who enjoyed the American Creed Conversations in May and June will get a chance to continue community dialogues!

## **Blastoff to Reading and Learning this summer with free events at the library – thanks to the Friends!**

By LISA NOWLAIN

Babies, kids, and teens are always needing things to do over the summer. Luckily, the Nevada County Community Library has free events for all ages, a learning challenge program that provides the chance to win prizes, and even free lunches. We wouldn't be able to provide these necessary and enjoyable services without the support from the Friends of the Library, who fund our prizes and programs.

“This year we have made it easy for youth to keep reading, learning, and having fun with our improved challenges, more prizes, and lots of events,” Lisa Nowlain, Youth Librarian, says. “We want to combat summer slide, or the loss of academic skills, over the summer and have fun doing it, and without the Friends of the Library, we wouldn't be able to provide such high-quality programming!”

This year's theme is Blastoff for Reading. Some programming highlights include:

- A huge kick-off party and a visit from the Science Wizard who was not shy about exploding things was held on June 8 at Grass Valley Library
- Musical Mondays at Madelyn's: a weekly concert series in our beautiful Marian E. Gallagher, Amphitheater at the Helling Library in partnership with InConcert Sierra
- Bus storytimes in partnership with Gold Country Transit
- Teen events including Henna, Bob Ross Paint-Alongs, a cosplay party, and ukulele camp
- Weekly space-themed movies
- Animal shows from Conservation Ambassadors, NorCal Bats, and Wildlife Rehabilitation and Release

- A finale show featuring the Traveling Lantern Theater Company on July 27th at Madelyn Helling Library

In addition to fun programs, the library has designed a learning challenge for babies, kids, and teens. Every person who signs up for the program will receive a free book, donated by the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries, and reading and activity challenge sheet. People can sign up all summer long at any branch. Once completed, they can return the reading logs to their nearest library by July 26th to receive free ride passes for the Nevada County Fair, fun prizes including gift certificates donated by Baskin Robbins Ice Cream, as well as an entry into a prize drawing for iPads, a drone, a toy kitchen, and gift certificates.

Summer Lunches at the Library continues this year at the Grass Valley Library – Royce Branch. This continued partnership with the Nevada County Public Health Department and the Grass Valley School District supports free lunches to children ages 0-18 throughout the summer. Lunches will be served from 12 to 12:30pm Monday through Friday. Following lunch there will be interactive activities for kids that change daily. There is no registration or income requirement for this program, so all are welcome to join.

For visitors to the Nevada County Fair, the library will have an exhibit of artwork created at the library this summer displayed in the Northern Mines Building, and a chance to try our Virtual Reality kits.

Some things people said about our Summer Learning program last year include:

**“It really inspires me to read more.”**

**“We love the interactive classes and shows! As a parent I love the reading program. Helps us try new things.”**

**“As a parent I think this is a great program. It has helped my daughter to read some books she otherwise would not have read I appreciate the library putting this together!”**

**“I want to let you know that [my child] gained 1/2 a grade level in AR reading level over the summer. She went from a 5.2 to a 5.7. Thank you summer reading program!”**

For more information about the Summer Learning Program in Western Nevada

County, contact Lisa Nowlain, Youth Librarian at (530) 265-1541 or [lisa.nowlain@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:lisa.nowlain@co.nevada.ca.us).

## **Bear River Branch Brief**

By MELLISA HANNUM

Library Assistant III

Bear River is bustling this summer. Not only do we have some amazing Summer Learning programs scheduled, the library is also going to be taking up a temporary space for most of June and July while our permanent location gets some much needed TLC. New shelves have already been brought in. Solid wood and on wheels, the new stacks are lower and help make the space feel richer and bigger. Plus, patrons can look forward to new carpeting when they visit this fall. While updates are happening, we can be found in a temporary space in the administration wing of the high school. It's easy to find, as you just need to turn around when at the library's entrance. A red door is visible from that vantage point, and that's where we'll be! Don't worry – we'll also have signs pointing to our temporary home.

Just like last year, we have something planned for almost every day the Bear River branch is open in June and July. Look forward to Summer Learning programming like Bus Storytime, SYRCL's Watershed Investigations, NorCalBats, Pajama Storytime, and space themed Family Hours. We're also offering summer programs for adults including Book Bingo, Getting Artsy, Bookworms Book Club, Tech Drop In, and our weekly Collage Club on Saturdays.

Thank you so much to the Friends of the Nevada County Libraries for your support! Our summer is more successful because of you.

“Teen Tuesdays” and “Getting Artsy.” Keep your eye out for even more new programming in the coming months.

Thank you, Friends, for your continued support. Bear River appreciates all you do for us.



# NOVEMBER 2018 – MAY 2019 MEMBERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

MIKE & BROOKE BLAKE

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RACHEL JAMES

RONALD & PATRICIA PARK

## REMEMBRANCE DONATIONS:

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## IN HONOR OF DONATION

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DAVID T. BOWMAN..... DAVID WM BOWMAN & ERIC JON BOWMAN

ROCHELLE WRIGHT ..... RUBY TOTTEN

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

## **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 and Savemart Supermarkets belong 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](http://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](http://ncfol.org), under “The Ways You Can Help” section.



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

**Join The Friends of the Nevada County Libraries**

**Yes...I would like to be a member of the  
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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      Corporate/Professional...\$45

**Donations of any size are tax deductible.  
Return this form to:**

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

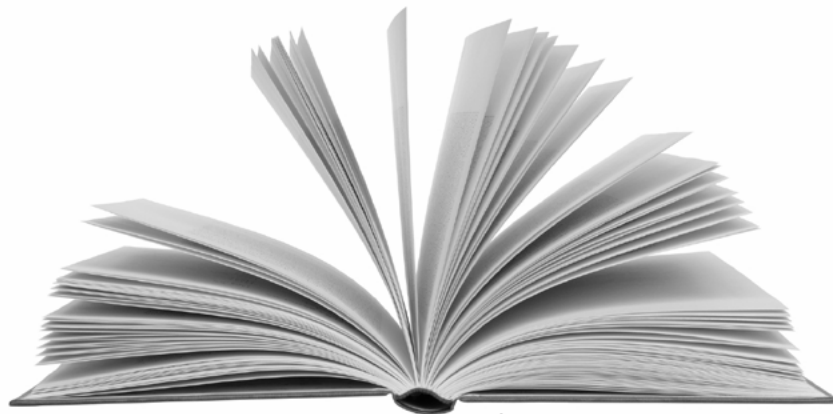
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**Thank you for supporting  
Friends of the  
Nevada County Libraries!**

Friends of the Nevada County Libraries  
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FRIENDS OF THE NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARIES

# Monthly Book Sale

**First Saturday every month!**

Doris Foley Library for  
Historical Research  
211 N. Pine St., Nevada City

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