

## Back — Bigger and Better Used Book Sale May 7

Come one, come all to the Friends of the Modesto Library Used Book Sale on Saturday, May 7, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the portico at the Modesto Library, 1500 I Street.

There will be thousands of books at bargain prices. Please tell everyone you know about the sale via emails, social media postings and in-person encounters.

This is a major FOML fundraiser. The more books we sell, the more money we can give to the Modesto Library.

Books are priced to sell: \$2 for paperbacks; hardcover books two for \$5 and children's books \$1.

Pat Glattke, in her sixth and final year as used book sale co-chairperson, says there are more books than ever. Sorting crews have been working

overtime. Sections include fiction paperbacks and hardcovers—all alphabetized by author to make book hunting easier. A private collector donated several hundred fantasy



Pat Glattke

novels in pristine condition. The non-fiction selection is extensive, with everything from biography to science. There will also be a large selection of coffee table books and other

books on the special price table.

Pat's co-chairs are Jean and Ed Haven, who have been doing some heavy lifting-literally. In addition to helping

coordinate sorting and spending hours sorting, they have also picked up carloads of very heavy books from donors. No more donations will be taken this year since there is an abundance of books. In fact, there are so many books that a second book sale will be held in the fall.

Pat says she loves the sorting times and the dale of the sale. "Our FOML crews work so well together! And on the day of the sale it is exciting to see someone find just the book they want, especially children. Our mission is to get books out to the community at a bargain price and raise funds for the Modesto Library."

Volunteers for this sale are always needed. Contact Pat at [pat.glattke@gmail.com](mailto:pat.glattke@gmail.com) ■

## Discover new books at May Scholastic Book Fair

By Anne Britton

The next Scholastic Book Fair, which features books for children and teens, will be held in person May 11-16 and online May 10-23. You will find the sale in the Modesto

Library Auditorium on these dates; May 11 (Wednesday), 1-6 p.m.; May 12 (Thursday), 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; May 13 (Friday), 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; May 14 (Saturday), 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and May 16 (Monday), noon to 7 p.m. The library is

every Sunday. Purchase online May 10-23 at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/modestopubliclibrary>.

For the last few years all of the proceeds from the Friends' Scholastic

— Continued on Page 3



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**Mail:**  
FOML  
P.O. Box 4565  
Modesto, CA 95352-4565

**Online:**  
[ModestoLibraryFriends.org](http://ModestoLibraryFriends.org)

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**Many thanks to**



**for printing our  
newsletter**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



One thing the last couple of years has taught me is that, in the words of the Carly Simon song, "These are the good old days." I find myself emerging from my COVID cocoon with a new appreciation for so many things: seeing friends (and their faces!) in person, enjoying the freedom to move around town, visiting the library again.

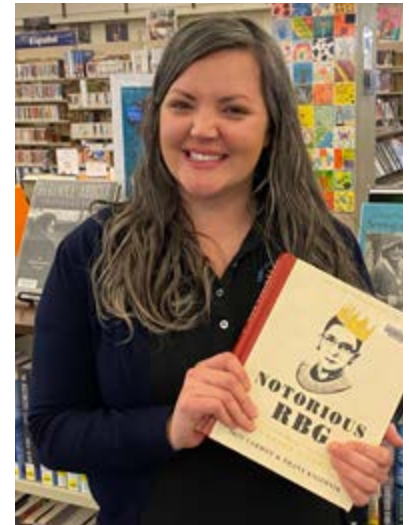
We have so much to be grateful for right now. I also have a new appreciation for my fellow FOML members, several of whom have recently stepped forward or into new roles in service to the library.

Whether participating in the new FOML Fundraising Committee, as board members, or outreach to Little Free Libraries, they're saying, in effect, "Take that, COVID!" and are making an impact today, with an eye toward a strong future for our library. Yes, the good old days are NOW, and I'm making myself a promise to enjoy them. – **Denise Nordell, President**

## Heather Matthews gets creative

By Maree Hawkins

Heather Matthews, a part-time Library Assistant II in the Circulation Department, has a variety of job duties, including assisting patrons as they check out items, make requests, have questions or need library cards. She also spearheads displays in the Modesto Library. A chat with her reveals how much she loves her job and what she considers the highlights.



Heather Matthews

**"I don't know of many jobs that will let me play with glitter and glue."**

Heather says the most enjoyable part of her job is when children come into the library for the first time. "There is nothing like the excitement and happiness on their faces when they get their first library card. They're always in awe of how many books we have and how large the fish tank is."

She also admits to loving the "setting up displays" part of her job, an assignment that wouldn't be for everyone. For Heather it's the part of her job that allows her to be creative and use her crafting talents. "I love that I can come to work and show off my creativity. I don't know of many jobs that will let me play with glitter and glue," she adds.

The displays are designed to grab the attention of patrons and encourage them to explore new topics or genres they may not have originally come in for.

Heather grew up in Stockton and moved to Southern California after high school. There she attended Chaffey College and did visual merchandizing for Barnes & Noble. Moving north,



Graceful wedding dress fashioned from recycled encyclopedias.

– **Continued on Next Page**



## Heather (continued from Page 2)

she began working for Stanislaus County as a library substitute, filling in at all 13 library branches as needed. Heather has been with the Modesto Circulation Department for the past eight years and creating library displays for about seven years.

When it comes to inspiration for displays, Heather looks everywhere. "It could be through a conversation with a co-worker, a trip to a museum across the country, or even just looking at any object or materials we have on hand." The staff does try to incorporate upcoming holidays, anniversaries, local events, or just anything they think might pique someone's interest with the displays. She admits that the ideas are limitless. Her hobbies of paper crafting, party planning, and crocheting are often useful.

The eye-catching displays, which have included handcrafted dresses and a very large shark, are often made of recycled items. The dresses were created alongside Lidia Ontiveros with outdated encyclopedias and then embellished with beads, ribbon and glitter. The shark was made out of cardboard DVD cases. Heather says the library is a great place to find lots of unique materials. "We use bottles, tape rolls, corrugated cardboard, paperboard, newspapers and anything else that might fit with the display we're working on." ■



## Discover (continued from Page 1)

Book Fairs have been taken in books rather than cash. The books are then reinvested in our children's future through library programs like Día De Los Niños/Libros (Children's Book Day) and Summer Reading Challenge – an investment that returns smiling faces, a successful transition to kindergarten, and strengthens the parent-child bond. This April, 500+ books, one per child, were available to be taken home. One little fellow referred to his as a "forever book" that never has to be returned. That's a good return on our investment!

Children and adults can browse and even read a few pages while deciding on what to buy. Children who choose their own books are more likely to become life-long readers. Our spring book fair gives families a chance to stock up for summer reading at grandma's, on vacation, or right at home.

How's that for a return on our investment? If you want to invest more, please check out the Scholastic Book Fair in person May 11-16 or online May 10-23. Thank you for your support. ■



**Thank you, Carmen!** Board member Carmen Pedrioli was honored during the March general meeting for her years of service on the FOML Board of Directors. Carmen will exit the board at the end of June, but definitely plans on continuing to volunteer at FOML events including the used book sale, scholastic book sales and the FOML-Modesto Library Halloween event for preschoolers. Hint: she dresses as a witch. ■

**SCHOLASTIC**

# BOOK FAIR

**EVERYONE'S WELCOME!**

**NEW BOOKS for kids and the young at heart!**

**May 11 - 16, 2022**

**Wed. 1 - 6 p.m.**

**Thu. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

**Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Mon. 12 - 7 p.m.**

**MODESTO LIBRARY AUDITORIUM**  
1500 I STREET

Online Shopping <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/modestopubliclibrary>

May 10 thru 23

Sponsored by **ModestoLibraryFriends.org**

Info: (209) 996-1531

# Yarn Garden offers countless discoveries

The latest project of Yarning with Friends is the most ambitious yet—an 8 foot-by-10-foot garden mural that welcomes people as they enter the Modesto Library. Ten knitters and crocheters were involved, led by Ellen Dambrosio – who put in more than 100 hours alone. In total, these crafters put in 300 to 400 hours.

Their creation is attracting attention, as hoped. Children are invited to play “I Spy” and find and count details in the mural, such as the number of dragonflies and snails and special features such as Steve the Snake and a four-leaf clover.

The mural went up April 8 and is expected to remain up through the summer. Meanwhile, the yarn artists are talking about their next project—maybe something tied to the Fourth of July?

Members of Yarning with Friends offer free monthly classes to those who want to learn to knit or crochet or to improve their skills. Classes are held the first Monday of each month from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in the library’s new MakerSpace. Details can be found on the group’s [web page](#). ■







May 17 deadline

## Calling artists of all ages

Are you artistic? Maybe you just like to doodle? Whatever your level of drawing may be, you now have an opportunity to create a bookmark that will be copied and made available to library patrons.

The contest is under way through May 17. All ages may enter the contest with

categories for elementary, teen, and over 18. You may submit your art in person (take it to the Children's department) or by email to [contest@stanlibrary.org](mailto:contest@stanlibrary.org).

What a great way to add your touch to a reader's favorite books. Start your drawing. We can't wait to see the wonderful, creative artists among us. ■



## Membership director sets high goal

By Ellen Dambrosio  
Membership Director

I was very excited last year that we set a new record of 181 dues-paying members. It's great that the library has more official "Friends" than ever. But we can't stop increasing our membership; the library needs even more Friends this year.

We have fewer paid members on April 1, 2022, than we did on April 1, 2021. That worries me. If you are able to support the organization financially, I invite

you to show just how much you care about the Modesto Library by renewing your Friends membership today—if you haven't already.

**Paying by check?** Fill out the form on this page, and mail it to the address provided. Or select the Offline Donation button at <https://modestolibraryfriends.org/join/> to skip the paper form and just send a check.

**Paying online?** It's easy to pay [online](#). If you've already renewed, consider

asking someone you know who values libraries to join the Friends this year and help us meet our 2022 goal of 200 members. With your help, I know we can do this! ■

### MEMORIAL DONATIONS

John Sereno made a donation in memory of Ronald I. Koftinow

### NEW MEMBERS

Tom Arnold, Sarah George

## Join the Friends Today!

Friends of the Modesto Library provides funds to enhance the programs and services at the Modesto Library. Dues are paid on a calendar-year basis (Jan. 1-Dec. 31). Please select a membership level and indicate the amount of your donation.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for giving us your email. It reduces our expenses and lets us keep in touch.

We publish the names of new members in our quarterly newsletter. [If you prefer your name NOT be printed, please check this box .](#)

Join FOML:

New Member  Renewing Member  Returning Member



Sign me up for

- Reader (\$25 - \$49) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Storyteller (\$50 - \$99) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Novelist (\$100 - \$249) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Bestseller (\$250 - \$499) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Classic (\$500 - \$999) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Epic (\$1,000 and above) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment:  cash  check # \_\_\_\_\_

If paying by check, make payable to FOML. Provide information on form, then mail to:

Friends of the Modesto Library  
P.O. Box 4565  
Modesto, CA 95352-4565

You can also go to [modestolibraryfriends.org/join/](https://modestolibraryfriends.org/join/) to pay with PayPal or a credit card.



# Annual meeting highlights

The Friends of the Modesto Library annual March membership meeting was chock full of interesting information. The highlights:

**Guest Speaker:** C. Donald Ahrens, retired Modesto Junior College professor of meteorology, talked about both the hurdles and satisfaction in publishing textbooks. Most of his local presentations are about weather and climate; this was the



Denise presides

first time he had been asked to talk about the writing and publishing process.

Interested in the weather since age 5, Don wrote his first textbook, "Meteorology Today", at the request of his students. He researched publishing companies at the library and then wrote letters that included several proposed chapters.

The first edition, published in 1982, included only black and white photos. More recent editions are filled with color photos and graphics. Don said one of his challenges in dealing with publishers was the turnover in editors and his insistence on using a very capable illustrator with whom he worked well.

He taught at MJC for 35 years before retiring and is now a popular speaker among local groups, especially on topics of climate change.

**President's Report:** Denise Nordell talked about the past, present and future and emphasized the positives of all three. While COVID caused some limitations, FOML is stronger organizationally and financially.

Fundraisers, including book sales and the Barnes & Noble book fairs, reaped more than \$8,500. The Friends also has stepped into advocacy – keeping our local elected

leaders up to date on the value of the library. And we have added fun and color to the library with the creations of Yarning with Friends. **(See story on Page 5).**

Officers and new board members for 2022-23 start their terms July 1, and we will have more about them in the summer issue.

## **Library Manager Report:**

Chris Moreno had the exciting news that children's Story Hours are back (though with limited capacity) and that sales tax revenue, which provides 90% of the library system's funding, is on a good track for the 2022-23 budget. Increased revenue is likely to go to a HVAC upgrade and the book budget.

The library continued to find ways to serve the community even during COVID. For instance, the library's free Wi-Fi service is available in the parking lot seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Chris' funding requests to FOML for the coming year include fish for the new aquarium (which we bought), a flatbed photo scanner, laptop computer and supplies for the Makerspace, funding for a Harry Potter event in December and materials for the Juvenile Justice Center book club. We'll write more about these items and programs in coming issues. ■

## Committee explores fundraising

**By Maria Hernandez**  
*Fundraising Committee Chair*

A new committee has been introduced to the Friends of the Modesto Library to fundraise and help support the needs of our local library. The fundraising committee consists of members Anne Britton, Pat Glattke, Maria Hernandez, Kathy Sniffen, and Tamara Walski.

The committee is meeting to discuss ideas on both the how-to and what-for aspects of fundraising. Currently the members are brainstorming and meeting with library staff on what their needs are and how the committee

can help raise funds for projects and programs. FOML is looking towards providing funds for projects and equipment that supports the library's strategic priorities.

Some of the ideas include: digitizing newspaper articles, maintenance and renovation of the library and a fun project for a literary garden in the portico. The committee is excited to begin the work to search and apply for funds to help our Modesto library with their needs. If you'd like to join our committee or have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to email me at maria.mdrh@gmail.com. ■

**DO YOU LOVE  
ADVENTURE?  
CRAVE  
EXCITEMENT?  
DELIGHT IN  
HARD WORK?  
ENJOY WORKING WITH  
OTHERS?**



**FOML needs a volunteer  
to lead next year's USED  
BOOK SALE.**

**Interested? Call Pat  
Glattke at (209) 985-7156  
to learn more**



# SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

It's time to gather all the books you've been wanting to read, find a comfortable spot and start your summer reading journey through the Stanislaus County libraries.

This year's theme is "Read Beyond the Beaten Path". Intrigued to begin your reading path? Let's get started.

The program will run from May 17 through Aug. 2. It is open to all ages. Readers between 0 and 17 will track every day that they read or are read to for at least 30 minutes. This earns the readers tickets that enter them in

free prize drawings. Each participant who finishes all 30 days will receive a book prize, while supplies last!

Readers over 18 also are invited to join the summer reading challenge. They are asked to read books and write a short book review for each book. It can be as short as a sentence or two. For every book completed, readers will be issued a virtual badge and ticket which puts you into a drawing for free prizes!

This summer's reading program will be done through the reading platform Beanstack.

Visit the Stanislaus County Library website [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org)

to sign up through Beanstack (it's easy).

Enjoy reading together or on your own. All reading counts! ■



## Registering for Beanstack

Participating in the summer reading program and several other reading programs sponsored by the Stanislaus County Library involves using Beanstack. It's easy to register for this free program:

- Go to [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org)
- At the top of the page, click on "E-RESOURCES" to see a drop-down menu.
- Click on the last item on the list—Reading Challenges – Beanstack.
- Locate the summer reading program information and click on register on Beanstack.
- Create an account. You may register as a family or as an individual. Check the box at the bottom if you want to receive emails for book recommendations. Sign into your Beanstack account after completing each 30 minutes or after completing each book to start collecting badges and tickets for prizes.

**Need help? Next time you visit the library, ask any of the librarians and they will help you get registered.**

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## *A listicle of library e-resources*

A **listicle** is newly coined work for a piece of writing or other content presented wholly or partly in the form of a list! Are you ready to use this listicle to learn about a few of the best e-resources available to you?

1. **Digital Magazines:** Free magazines such as Good Housekeeping, Gardening, Bon Appetit, Traveler, Esquire
2. **E-books and Audio Books:** Using the Cloud Library you have access to free e-books on any device.
3. **E-Resource Tutorials:** Videos on how to use all the e-resources
4. **Language Learning:** Duolingo (free gamelike program to learn 30+ languages; Hello Talk (native speakers for over 100+ languages; Busuu (teaches reading, writing, speaking, and listening)
5. **Readers Corner:** Personalized reading recommendation lists; free websites for e-books; book club in a box list; newly acquired books
6. **Career Pathways:** Supports a variety of workforce development platforms
7. **Digital Movies, Music, TV:** Uses Hoopla to give free access to audio books, comics, e-books, movies, TV shows, music. No need for the internet.

All these resources can be found through [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org) and clicking on e-resources at the top of the menu.