



NEWSLETTER

November 2023

Web: Modestolibraryfriends.org Email: Info@Modestolibraryfriends.org



Great books at great prices for gifts, donations, yourself

Who needs a book? Children, teens, adults. Everyone can use a book. The Friends' Scholastic Book Fair will be **Nov. 8-13** in the basement auditorium. It offers new, low-cost and high-quality books for all ages -- toddlers through grandparents.

Through the fair, FOML earns points to purchase books that are given away through various library programs.

You may want to buy for a family member or friend or give books to one of the local agencies for their "wish lists." Books make great gifts for teachers, birthdays, holidays, trips or a Little Free Library in the neighborhood. Sale hours:

Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 8 and 9 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(The library will be closed Friday, Nov. 10 for Veterans Day)

Saturday, Nov. 11 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 13 – Noon to 7 p.m.

An eWallet option lets your loved one shop for themselves when you set up an account for them at <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/modestopubliclibrary>

The fair's online shopping option runs a little longer, Nov. 8-21.

Big Renovation Project Will Upgrade AC, Lighting, Security

We're excited to learn that Stanislaus County will receive \$9.97 million from the California State Library as part of \$172 million in facility improvement grants going to 34 libraries around the state. We asked Stanislaus County Librarian Sarah Dentan and Facilities Manager Marco Sepulveda to tell us more.

Q: Briefly, what will this money be used for?

A: The money will be used to address some critical renovation needs at the Modesto Library. The scope is intended to address asbestos concerns above the ceiling, address accessibility issues in the children's story time room, install new acoustic ceiling tiles, and to provide for LED lighting upgrades, HVAC modernization, construction of new spaces and to address security concerns.

Q: Will local dollars be put into this project as well?

A: Yes, we will be using local dollars on the project as the state grant requires a 50 percent match by the local library. The project is going to have a total budget of roughly \$18 million, broken down as follows:

\$9.9 million in grant funds

\$4.1 million in special funds allocated by Board of Supervisors

\$3.96 million in sales tax revenue

\$35,000 in other grant sources.

Q: Is this money only for the Modesto Library or for branch libraries too?

A: The State Library grant funding is only for the Modesto Library.

Q: What is the timeline for the project?

A: The initial schedule estimates the 30% design package will be complete in

April 2024 and construction is anticipated to commence in November 2024 with completion by November 2026.

Q: Is the Modesto library going to be closed to the public while this work is being done?

A: Yes, the nature of this work is such that we will need to be closed to the public during construction.

Q: Where and how will people be able to check out books and use computers and attend activities such as Children's Story Time?

A: The library is committed to providing library services in Modesto. We hope to secure a downtown location for temporary services that will hopefully include hold pick-ups, access to computers and printing, and story time.

Q: How will the Modesto Library be different – inside and outside – when the project is finished?

A: This renovation focuses on the interior. When the doors reopen, we hope to invite the public into a warm and welcoming environment, with improved layouts for flow and safety, updated shelving plans, and a much-needed facelift while preserving the feel of the library that we love so much.



Thanks to Dittos for printing our newsletter.

CrabFest '24 to Benefit Friends

For more than 20 years, a community-minded group of friends has organized a CrabFest and designated local non-profits to benefit. The 2024 crab feed, to be held Feb. 10, will benefit Friends of the Modesto Library. The event has the potential to be a major source of funds for us. Please consider supporting it one of these ways:

Dessert auction: Pam and Cande are coordinating the dessert auction. Call 209-380-5543 to donate.

Donate raffle items: Themed baskets or individual items (goods or services). Call Pat at 209-985-7156 or use the sponsor form on our website.

Business sponsorship: Most sponsor levels also include event tickets. Use the sponsor form on our website.

Placemat ad: \$125 for a business card size. Copy needed by Feb. 1. See sponsor form.

Make a monetary donation

Purchase tickets: \$75 per person or \$575 for a table of eight. Act fast, as tickets go quickly. Tickets are not available at the door. Tickets are available by visiting McHenry Bowl, 3700 McHenry Ave. or calling 209-571-2695. Ask for Stacey or Lisa.



Friends, from left, Isa Wiechmann, Judy Pierce, Sue Conner and Linda Owen got sticky hands preparing goodies for the Staff Appreciation Party, part of National Friends of Libraries Week in October.

President's Message

There Are So Many Ways to Help

Can you feel it? The long slow summer days are behind us, and the familiar autumn acceleration has begun. That goes for Friends of the Modesto Library, too, as we gear up for a busy Fall season, which includes two book fairs and preparations for a huge fundraiser early in 2024.



Details are in this newsletter; we hope you'll support our efforts in any way you can... volunteer, donate, share the news!

Fall also means National Friends of Libraries Month, which we celebrated with multiple events including a staff appreciation party, farmers market booth and sponsorship of library programs, all to demonstrate our love for the library.

-- Denise Nordell

More Items for Your Calendar

Dec. 9 and 10: Barnes & Noble Fundraiser – One of our easiest fundraisers and a great opportunity to take our message to the community, especially readers. FOML volunteers distribute coupons to customers as they enter the store, and Barnes & Noble donates a portion of each sale to FOML. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Isa at 209-380-3839.

Mark Your Calendar: The annual Friends' Used Book Sale will be Saturday, May 4. We will start accepting book donations in January or February. As always, books should be in good shape and no textbooks or magazines. Watch for more information in the next issue of this newsletter or on our website.

Our new treasurer: Board member Julie Saugstad has agreed to serve as treasurer of FOML. Thanks to Pat Glatke and Donna Flanders for filling in for the last several months.

Every year we partner with **Opera Modesto** for their "Story Into Song" event, which promotes literacy through a creative twist on well-known books and authors. This year's story is a mystery -- "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Fallen Giant." A hint: Jack is accused of killing a giant, whose body is found at the base of the famous beanstalk. The performances will be Jan. 13, 14 and 20 at the State Theatre. For more information: www.operamodesto.org.

Next Up for Yarning with Friends

Yarning with Friends' summer art installation was popular with young and old alike. At least 15 crafters knitted and crocheted items typically found at a farmers market and created a "yarners market" display in the lobby. It featured a colorful assortment of vegetables, fruits, eggs, and flowers. Find photos on Instagram [@yarningwithfriends](https://www.instagram.com/yarningwithfriends).

The group's next project is a child's bookshelf, which went on display Nov. 4. If you're interested in participating in future projects, contact Ellen at membership@modestolibraryfriends.org.