



Butte County Library

County Librarian's Report
For the Library Advisory Board

May through August 2016

Administration – Mel Lightbody, County Librarian

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- BOS passes library budget in June which included new Monday hours and mornings for the Chico branch and added library assistants and ½ time outreach librarian.
- RFID project enters its second phase of actually tagging books and items with radio frequency identification tags in preparation for RFID implementation. Full implementation should be finished by January of 2017.
- Library hires 3 full time library assistants for the Chico branch: **Nicholas Campbell, Joseph Rodgers, Andrea Liao**. They began in September of 2016.
- Library hires a new full time Senior Library Assistant for children's in Paradise. Welcome to **Paula Tarrant**, formerly extra help.
- Library hires/promotes two masters-degreed librarians, **Kimberlee Wheeler** and **Lindsey Lipski**. Special congrats to Wheeler for completing her degree this spring.
- The LAB's own **Heidi Mitchell** is now a permanent full time employee.

Literacy – Heather Tovey, Literacy Specialist.

May

- Thanks to Music and Movement pt2 grant from our local First5, Literacy Services constructed a County-wide concert series with well-known Chicago musician/early childhood specialist Jim Gill. A total of 632 children/adults attended and heard our message regarding the services available through Literacy Services. Literacy Services also utilized staff from the branch libraries whenever possible to introduce Jim Gill with a friendly, familiar face from their local story time.
- Butte County Library's Literacy Specialist provided assistance in hosting an Adult Learner Leadership Institute (ALLI) in the Bay Area. Our neighbors at the Shasta Public Library will host this incredible State Library conference for adult learners in the Spring of 2017. Butte County Library hosted ALLI in 2015.
- 2 members of the Literacy staff (**Heather Tovey** and **Siobhan O'Neill** along with **Susie Serrano** of the Paradise branch) attended a training to become Touchpoints Community Level Trainers for the State Library. This is a statewide effort to enhance and inform public libraries and their connections with families and young children.

June

- Thanks to Music and Movement pt2 grant from our local First5 and the cooperation of staff at the branch libraries, we were able to offer a Kindergarten readiness celebration (KinderGo; a library playshop) at all 6 of the Butte County Library branches. Carefully chosen activities and materials to use throughout the summer months were selected for families who would soon send their child off to Kindergarten. With the help of our branch libraries we welcomed a total of 187 children/adults to our 1.5 hour KinderGo playshops.

July

- July 9th we hosted Tutor Training in our office at the Oroville Branch Library. The next Tutor Training is scheduled for October 15th.
- Trivia Bee for Literacy is scheduled for October 28th at the Sierra Nevada Brewery, Big Room.

Chico Branch – Brenda Crotts, Branch Librarian

- Summer Library program Numbers :
 - 0-5: **220**
 - 6-13: **423**
 - 14-18: **34**
 - 19-49: **12**
 - 50 and up: **20**

Wonderful programs throughout the week and a special program on Saturday with a guest – such as Humane Society dog adoption. There was a magic show paid for by CFOL and An end of summer bike parade after children decorated their bikes. Adult movie programs were an added feature. Our other programs continued throughout summer – coloring, Sunday movies, book discussion, and Spanish language book and events discussion programs.

- 4 amazing UpwardBound students helping us through the summer activities.
- Veteran Financial Coaching program was held for veterans.
- We were interviewed and invited to be part of an LSTA Grant California Listens: Digital Storytelling. The library did outreach to attract participants in 2 day training session to be held September 7 & 8.
- June 27th County BOS voted to increase the Chico hours to be open 7 days and 14 additional hours.

July

- Let the tagging begin!

Trained on 7/19 and began full force with two mobile tagging machines to tag the entire branch collection on 7/20. Completed project in 3 weeks, except for media.

- Our newest library school graduate, **Kimberlee Wheeler**, interviewed and promoted from Senior Library Assistant for Children’s Services in Chico to Children’s Librarian for Chico Branch.

- Tagging continued through the height of SLP.

August

- Summer Library Program is put to rest until June 2017. Children's staff are taking vacation. Children's regular programming is also on vacation for the month of August. J programs will begin anew after Labor Day on Tuesday 9/6.
- **Oliver Allen, Sarah Vantrease & Brenda Crotts** interviewed LA applicants for 3 positions in Chico to assist once the new hours begin. We also identified several applicants interested in becoming extra help for the library. Three full time LA staff will begin in Chico on 9/6/16 – same day as our new hours begin!! We welcome **Nicholas Campbell, Andrea Liao** and **Joseph Rodgers** to team Chico.
- August 23 Wheeler, Allen & Crotts attended a training sponsored by CSL on Veteran volunteer recruitment and retention. Lots of ideas for all categories of volunteers.

Oroville Branch, Sarah Vantrease -- Branch Librarian, Assistant Director

- Library Assistant **Meybel Van Wagenen** retired at the end of June. Chico Library Assistant **Regina Griffiths** transferred to the Oroville branch to take her place permanently, and Senior Library Assistant **Thu Tran** ably and enthusiastically stepped into planning and leading Preschool Storytime.
- Branch Librarian **Sarah Vantrease** attended the Harwood Institute for Outward-Focused Public Innovation; she also completed the Butte County Leadership Academy, working on a special project for developing more energy-efficient facilities in the County.
- The branch held 13 special programs for May, Mental Health Awareness Month, drawing 78 attendees, and circulated 100 new mental health-related library materials for a total of over 400 check-outs.
- The branch participated in community events:
 - Boys and Girls Club Graduation Resource Fair
 - Central Middle School Family Fun Night
 - Juneteenth Celebration
 - Oroville Hospital Auxiliary Guest Speaker
 - With Friends of the Library in Oroville and Literacy Services, hosted a Chamber of Commerce "Coffee Connection" at the Oroville Branch
 - Berry Creek Berry Festival
 - Berry Creek Rancheria Back to School Fair (with Literacy Services)
- The 2016 "Read—For the Win!" Summer Reading Program for all ages...
 - Featured fun events:
 - Ballet Folklórico de Chico (sponsored by OFOL)

- Hip Hop Dance class taught by Oroville instructor Randal Edwards (sponsored by OFOL)
- Four fitness & nutrition classes taught by Butte County Public Health educator Lori Hungerford
- Two Junior Giants “Strike Out Bullying” Workshops presented by Monica Mirola from the Feather River Recreation and Parks District
- Nine preschool programs with music, stories, puppets, crafts, and movement presented by **Meybel Van Wagenen** and **Thu Tran**.
- Included diverse participants:
 - 65 early learners (ages 0-5)
 - 80 elementary school-aged children
 - 95 middle and high school students
 - 53 adults
- Provided free, brand-new books to 285 kids and teens at the end of the summer.
 - 241 of these indicated they had read (or listened to) at least 5 books during the summer, an important statistic for preventing summer learning loss.
 - Books were provided through a Literacy grant, community donations and the OFOL.
- The branch librarian, with the help of staff and volunteers, reviewed the entire library collection in preparation for RFID tagging, also replacing outdated or worn items using Library and OFOL funds.
- The building was retrofitted with 100% LED lighting.

Gridley, Biggs, Durham – Cynthia Pustejovsky, Branch Librarian

LAB report for Biggs, Durham, Gridley –

- Gridley had crafts and other activities for children at Relay for Life.
- The three branches promoted You Mind Matters. Gridley had eight programs with presenters from various mental health and wellness agencies.
- **Christy Cooke-Williford**, Durham staff, and Durham Friends had a craft booth at Durham’s Parade and Picnic.
- Gridley had 7 first grade and 7 kindergarten end-of-school year class visits.
- Gridley had a Jim Gill concert, 65 people attended.
- Durham and Gridley hosted poetry workshops with Susan Wooldridge.
- Gridley staff volunteered to help with Red Suspenders Day dinner.
- Gridley branch and other members of Hispanic Resource Council, a coalition of various agencies, are planning Dia del Campesino, Farmworkers Day. This is an annual health and social services fair for the community. Dia del Campesino will be held 1-5pm Sunday, September 25 at the Gridley branch.

- The three branches had Kinder-Go programs for parents and soon to be Kindergartners to promote school readiness.
- Gridley staff participated with other area service providers in two Wellness Roundtables to discuss how we can continue to provide and determine the services that families need and want, and the best ways to provide information.
- The three branches had Summer Reading programs.

Paradise Branch – Susie Serrano, Branch Librarian

Summer 2016

- 391 children and teens participated in the Summer Reading Program and they read the equivalent of 3,900 books
- **Rhoda Boyd** created a mini golf night in the library for families related to Summer Reading theme Read for the Win
- **Karen Rigby** participated in Paradise Party in the Park events promoting the library
- **Paula Tarrant** was hired to take over Youth Services full-time
- Library staff continue to work as a team to tag books & prepare for the RFID conversion.