August 2021 Report

Mark Fink, County Librarian and Chief Archivist

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory and homelands of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. For more information, visit: https://yochadehe.org.

I've highlighted a few noteworthy items occurring this month at Yolo County Library. This report is intended for local Friends of the Library groups, Library Foundation and Library Advisory Board members. We are grateful for your time, talent and financial support!

Library Service Updates

COVID-19 cases are on the rise again in Yolo County. The health and safety of our community and staff is our highest priority. **Library patrons and staff, including children aged 2 and older, must continue to wear face coverings while in the library.**

Arthur F. Turner Community Library

Open Hours: Monday/Tuesday 12-6 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday 12-7 p.m., Saturday 2-5:30 p.m.

Curbside Hours: Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Clarksburg Branch Library

Open Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. & 2 – 5:30 p.m., Wednesday 3-6 p.m.

Curbside Hours: Thursday 2-5 p.m.

Esparto Regional Library

Open Hours: Monday 2 -7 p.m., Tuesday 12-7 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Curbside Hours: Monday 2 -7 p.m.

Knights Landing Branch Library

Open Hours: Tuesday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. & 2-7 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-Noon & 1-6 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-5:30 p.m.

Curbside Hours: Wednesday 4-6 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library

Open Hours: Monday 2-8 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.- 6 p.m., Friday 12 – 5:30 p.m., Saturday 2-5:30 p.m.

Curbside Hours: Wednesday 6 – 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Winters Community Library

Open Hours: Monday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday 12-8 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday 4-8 p.m., Saturday 1-5 p.m.

Curbside Hours: Thursday 12-3 p.m.

Yolo Branch Library

Open Hours: Tuesday 1:30-5:30 p.m., Wednesday 3-7 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1:30-5:30 p.m., Saturday 1:30-5:30 p.m.

Curbside Hours: Thursday 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Yolo County Archives – Schedule an Appointment Today

The Yolo County Archives is to the public by appointment, on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Appointments are limited to 2 patrons for 2 hours and must be made 3 business days in advance so that staff can pull materials and prepare.

To make an appointment contact us at archives@yolocounty.org or (530) 666-8010.

Human Resources Updates

We are concluding the recruitment for a full-time Librarian at the Arthur F. Turner Community Library in West Sacramento and look forward to sharing news soon about this position.

We will be scheduling interviews for a part-time Library Assistant for the Archives and Records Center later this month.

Library Virtual Programs

Check out the July calendar for our virtual programs.

Summer Reading Program Continues Through August 14

Yolo County Library's virtual Summer Reading Program (SRP), themed *Reading Colors Your World* ends August 14.

This year's theme, *Reading Colors Your World*, focuses on color and the many ways that reading can expand our world through kindness, growth, and community. It encourages participants to get creative, try new things, explore art, and find beauty in diversity.

All participants who register for the SRP at: https://yolocountylibrary.org/summer/ will receive a free book and themed activity bag and everyone who completes their summer reading challenge by earning 1,000 points will receive a free book and prize, plus an entry into a final drawing for additional prizes. In addition, adults who complete the SRP challenge can choose to have up to $10.00 in late fees that accrued before April 1, 2021 removed from their account in place of their finisher prize.

The Summer Reading Program is free and sponsored by the Yolo County Library Foundation and our generous Friends of the Library groups.

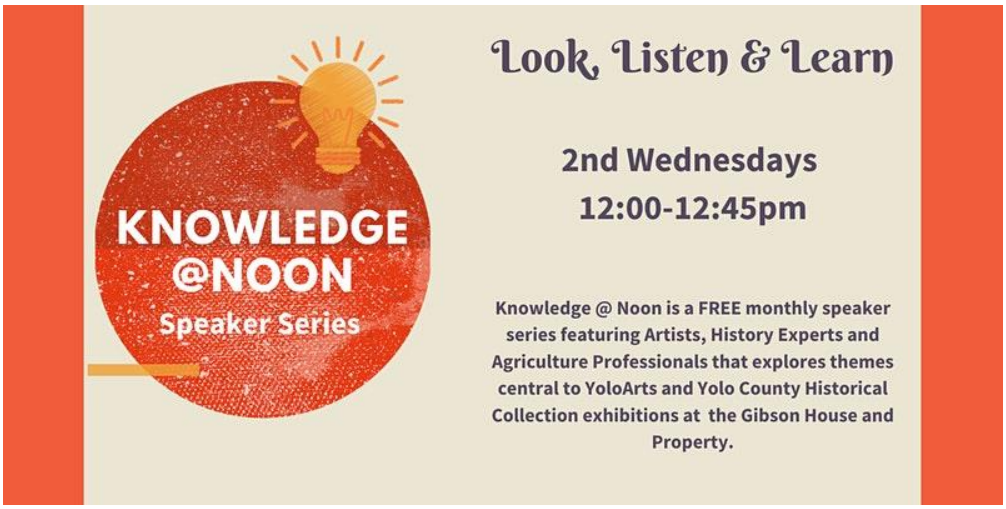
For more information or to sign up, visit your local Yolo County Library branch or: https://yolocountylibrary.org/summer.

Board of Supervisors Approves Construction Contract for the new Yolo Branch Library

The County completed the rebid process for the new Yolo Branch Library construction contract and on July 27, 2021 the Board of Supervisors awarded the construction contract of $3,575,000 to Broward Builders.

Call for Public Art for the New Yolo Branch Library

The Call for Public Art Proposals ended in mid-July. YoloArts received 28 proposals that will be reviewed by the Yolo Branch Library Public Art Committee in September.



Knowledge @ Noon: Murals in the Making, A Discussion with Jose Arenas

Wednesday, August 11 at 12:00 p.m.

This is an online event brought to you by YoloArts and the Yolo County Historical Collection.

Jose Arenas will present a talk about the collaborative and empowering aspects of the mural-making process, and current Taller Arte del Nuevo Amanecer (TANA) community projects. Arenas will share recent creative collaborations by TANA staff and affiliated artists. He will discuss various collaborative strategies used in his Mexican & Chicanx Mural Workshop course at U.C. Davis, including recent and past community mural examples in the area. Also, he will share mural design transfer methods like the grid, projection, and other iterative techniques like tracing.

Also check out the YoloArts YouTube Channel which includes the *Collections Revealed* video series with Museum Curator, Iulia Bodeanu, highlighting items that are part of the Yolo County Historical Collection.

Yolo County Library Works with Community Partners to Launch a Three-Year Community Health Status Survey

The Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency, in partnership with Dignity Health, Sutter Health, CommuniCare Health Centers, and Winters Healthcare has launched a 3-year Community Health Status Survey.

Yolo County Library is helping with the effort by making print copies of the surveys available and serving as a drop off point for completed surveys at all branch locations.

Please help us spread the word to our residents and communities.

This survey is intended to capture residents' input on the most important health issues and health barriers that face our community today. The results from this survey will help guide future work in ensuring that all residents have access to the basic resources needed to feel safe, healthy, and to thrive.

The survey is for anyone in Yolo County, and is anonymous. Residents can enter to win a $100 grocery gift card at the end of the survey, and winners will be announced in early September 2021. We will collect surveys at all of our branch libraries through August 25, 2021.

Here are the links to the online surveys:

- **ENGLISH: https://bit.ly/3qpWHE3**
- **SPANISH: https://bit.ly/3j8v14U**
- **RUSSIAN: https://bit.ly/3j3sI3f**

Yolo County Library, Archives, Records Center and Historical Collection Goals, Strategies and Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

Archives

Goal #1: Ongoing Collection Preservation (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Review and process backlog of accessions and donations.
- Develop priorities and digitize collections for increased preservation.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

- Processed four collections of backlogged material.
- Tracked down donors and completed accession paperwork for six collections that were missing documentation.
- Processed 382 of the 540 boxes of records from the Board of Supervisors as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities Preservation Assistance Grant for Smaller Institutions.
- Staff will recruit and hire an intern when pandemic restrictions have lessened.

Goal #2: Ongoing Collection Development (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Grow an Oral History program and archival collection that better represents our community.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

- Completed 50% of the "The Stories and Voice of the Women of Yolo County" oral history project.
- Supported the community led *Historias de Familias* project. Community members are collecting photographs, ephemera, and interviews with the Latinx community in Yolo County for inclusion in the Archives.
- Working with an author to research and collect information about early Yolo County African American residents.

Goal #3: Increase Collection Access (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Complete data cleanup and migration of records into digital asset and content management system.

- Make digital and digitized collections available online via digital asset and content management system.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21
- Completed data cleanup and migration of records to new digital asset management system.
- Some digital content will be available to the public by June 30, 2021.

Yolo County Historical Collection

Goal #1: Complete Collection Review Process (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21
- Finish the evaluation, accession and deaccession of the Yolo County Historical Collection.
- Recruit and train volunteers to assist with the Yolo County Historical Collection review and preservation process.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21
- Reviewed 7,600 of 10,000 items.
- Recruited and trained three interns and four volunteers who worked on collection preservation and review, and exhibit research and install.

Goal #2: Provide Outreach and Education (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21
- Provide circulating education kits aligned with public school curriculum standards.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21
- Three physical kits were created (Victorian Etiquette, Native American History and Culture, Agriculture).
- The physical kits were converted to digital kits for teachers and parents.

Goal #3: Achieve Financial Sustainability (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21
- Secure long-term funding to keep the Yolo County Historical Collection viable and accessible to the public.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21
- Researched and applied for two project-based grants; however, these grants were not awarded.

Records Center

Goal #1: Collaborate with County Agencies (Safe Communities)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Increase promotion of Records Center services to County agencies.
- Finalize updates to records retention schedules for Library, Human Resources, CAO and the Agriculture Departments.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

- Developed a Records Center pamphlet that outlines its services.
- Completed Agriculture Department records retention schedule.
- Human Resources Department records retention schedule is 90% complete.
- Library Department records retention schedule is 90% complete.
- County Administrator records retention schedule is 75% complete.

Library

Goal #1: Identify and Meet Community Needs (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Finalize and implement Library's new strategic plan.
- Continue exploring the expansion of library services in South Davis.
- Construct a new Yolo Branch Library.
- Add a makerspace at the Stephens Davis Branch Library.
- Expand the number of residents served by the Yolo Reads program.
- Expand ESL materials, classes and conversation clubs at all branch libraries.
- Partner with HHSA to expand employment resources and services at branch libraries.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

- Conducted three surveys – a customer survey (Patron Survey), a survey of Library staff (Staff Survey), and a set of interviews with Yolo County community organization leaders (Community Leaders Survey) –to gather information about library service priorities.
- Survey offered in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Russian and 2,346 individuals completed the Patron Survey.
- Staff survey completed by 47 employees.
- Completed 24 community leader interviews.
- Completed an Executive Summary, Analysis and Findings of the survey data and posted it on the YCL website.
- Findings were presented to YCL staff in January 2021, and to the Yolo County Library Advisory Board in February 2021. From these reports, a first draft of a five-year strategic plan was written. Five virtual workshops were held with staff to review the plan in 2021.

- Strategic Plan to be finalized by June 30, 2021.
- Conducted extensive outreach on community needs and priorities for the South Davis Library and Community Center.
- Collected stakeholder feedback about a new South Davis Library and Community Center.
- For the South Davis Library and Community Center, the Yolo County Library Advisory Board and Library staff participated in facilitated conversations about the project design.
- City of Davis provided input for the South Davis Library and Community Center project via email in 2021.
- Conceptual renderings of the South Davis Library and Community Center were completed and shared them with stakeholders and community members.
- Funding sources for the South Davis Library and Community Center are being explored.
- Funding plan for new Yolo Branch Library approved by the Board of Supervisors in December 2020.
- $150,000 was raised by the Friends of the Yolo Branch Library and local residents during the 2020 Yolo Branch Library Capital Campaign.
- Drafted a plan to create a makerspace at the Stephens Davis Branch Library.
- Provided free tutoring to adults who want to improve their reading, writing, spelling, and grammar skills. Thirty-seven active tutor/learner pairs met online weekly.
- Offered a virtual weekly ESL conversation group.
- Migrated an ESL class at the Winters Community Library to an online environment.
- Renovated the Esparto Regional Library, creating an updated welcoming facility for all residents.
- Renovated the Knights Landing Branch Library, creating an updated welcoming facility for all residents.
- Received increased annual funding from the City of West Sacramento for the Arthur F. Turner Community Library, updated flooring, upholstery, public restrooms and outdoor patio.
- Partnered with Yolo County Elections Department for the Youth Empowerment Summit in April 2021.
- Partnered with the Yolo County Elections Department, redeployed staff to serve as poll workers and ballot box delivery drivers in October and November 2020.
- Partnered with Yolo County to provide virtual and in-person information about the 2020 United States Census.
- Partnered with Stories on Stage Davis and the Winters Friends of the Library to offer a virtual author event with Reyna Grande in April 2021.
- Partnered with the Yolo County Nonprofit Leaders Alliance to offer a series of webinars on information, resources and advice about COVID-19 in 2020.

Goal #2: Foster Staff Development (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Provide inclusion and diversity training.

- Develop and implement strategies to enhance succession planning efforts.
- Provide staff training to support early literacy, family strengthening and youth development.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

- Adopted and began using a Land Acknowledgement statement for programs and events, email signatures, social media and other digital public relations material, and print correspondence.
- Staff participated in the California Libraries Cultivating Race, Equity, and Inclusion (CREI) Initiative hosted by the California State Library.
- Created a Racial Equity Case Statement and committed to making racial equity a priority for the Yolo County Library.
- Drafted a comprehensive plan to assess the structural aspects of our organization through a racial equity lens.
- Supported staff pursuing associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees so they may become eligible for future promotional opportunities.
- Supported transfer and internal promotional opportunities that align staff strengths, interests and experience when there are hiring opportunities.
- Six employees enrolled in Touchpoints in Libraries, a seven-week course that includes 22 hours of online training followed by 6 one-hour reflective practice sessions.

Goal #3: Provide Early Childhood Education (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Map pathways highlighting Library resources and programs for children that enhance their ability to read at grade level by 3rd grade.
- Offer bilingual programs and resources for parents, caregivers and families to promote school readiness.
- Partner with local organizations to leverage services and resources to promote early literacy.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

- Purchased new digital content resources – Ready Rosie and TumbleBooks - to make early literacy resources more accessible to parents, caregivers and children.
- Subscribed to Ready Rosie tools to leverage video modeling, family workshops, professional development opportunities, and mobile technology to create more early literacy learning opportunities for young children.
- With support from the Yolo County Library Foundation and a Buck Education Grant from the Yolo Community Foundation, purchased subscription to TumbleBook Library, a database of 1,100 children's eBooks for grades K-6, and includes animated, talking picture books, read-along chapter books, National Geographic videos, nonfiction books, playlists, as well as books in Spanish and French.

- Received funding from California Library Literacy Services and the Yolo County Library Foundation to provide free books and early literacy training for parents and caregivers to model reading behaviors for children and to create literacy rich environments at home.
- Received funding from the California State Library for a Bilingual Backpacks = Mochilas Bilingües project that created culturally-relevant themed storytime kits featuring materials in English and Spanish for use by caregivers, daycare providers, and families with young children.
- Administered outcome surveys which showed that 100% of respondents reported that through Bilingual Backpacks = Mochilas Bilingües they became more aware of the bilingual/Spanish language resources and services provided by Yolo County Library.
- Received grant funding to create Learning2GO STEM Kits to provide equitable access to hands-on STEM information and tools for low-income students and families. The Kits introduce young elementary school-aged children and their families, including the BIPOC populations traditionally underrepresented in the STEM workforce, to STEM subjects and possible career pathways.
- Partnered with First 5 Yolo to offer workshops using the Every Child Ready to Read methodology for Friends, Family and Neighbor (FFN) caregivers.
- Partnered with First 5 Yolo to develop a "Crafts-2-Go" project. Created take home craft activities for families to pick up during curbside service. Craft kits provided activities for parents and caregivers to help enhance early literacy activities with their children. 2,500 kits were distributed biweekly from February to May 2021.
- Partnered with the Yolo County Office of Education to host three virtual meetings with educators in Yolo County school districts to identify early literacy collaboration and information sharing opportunities.
- In collaboration with the Yolo County Office of Education and local school districts, the Library provided 100 families with WiFi hotspots to use for distance learning for the 2020-21 school year. This project was made possible with CARES Act funding from Yolo County.

Goal #4: Increase Access to Library Resources (Thriving Residents)

Strategies for FY 2020-21

- Evaluate results of the Student Success Initiative in the Esparto Unified School District and explore expansion to other school districts.
- Pursue a one gigabyte fiber broadband connection at the Clarksburg Branch Library.

Accomplishments for FY 2020-21

- Continued Student Success partnerships with the Esparto Unified School District and the Winters Joint Unified School District. Every student in both school districts can access library resources with their student identification number.
- Vendor working on the design plan to route a one gigabyte fiber connection to the Clarksburg Branch Library.