October 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

Please visit our website for the latest information about our hours of service: https://yolocountylibrary.org/new-open-hours

Due to public health mandates, employees and patrons, including children aged 2 and older, must wear face coverings while in the library.

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

Human Resources Updates

We have completed the recruitment to fill a part-time Library Assistant vacancy with the Archives and Records Center. We hope to share good news about this recruitment soon.

Celebrate Latinx Heritage Month with a Free Alebrije Art Project

Create your own Alebrije creature using Rainbow Magic Scratch Off Paper. This is a fun project where you can use your imagination to create colorful imaginary creatures.

Pick up a kit at one of our library branches today!
Library Programs and Storytimes

Check out the October calendar for our virtual programs.

Storytimes are back in Esparto! Bring your little ones every Wednesday and Saturday at 10:30 a.m. for fun books, songs, dances, and activities.

Wednesday
Storytimes will be at the Esparto Community Park and the last Wednesday of each month will be held at Lucy’s Café and Farm Pantry in Esparto.

Saturday
Storytimes will be held in the Esparto Regional Library’s parking lot.

Please contact Toni Mendieta for more information.
Censorship Divides Us.” The Top 10 Most Challenged Books of 2020 List (yolocountylibrary.org/banned—books) includes titles that address racism, share Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) stories, and center on LGBTQ+ characters.

“This year’s theme reflects the many divides our country has faced within the last year. We are still witnessing our nation divided between Black Lives Matter and Blue Lives Matter, immigrant children divided from their parents at the nation’s borders, Asian Americans brutally attacked and accused of being the coronavirus rather than Americans, and COVID-19 dividing us all into isolation. We need books to help us understand and process what is going on in the minds of each side of these divisions,” said Youth Services Librarian, Katrina Laws-Ewald. “Banned Books Week is a way for all of us in the book community to build awareness of the detrimental social affects that censorship causes, and the power of books to foster empathy and understanding. The library has a responsibility to provide materials that reflect ideas in all facets of our world in an open-minded, nonjudgmental, welcoming environment.’’

Banned Books Week was launched by the American Library Association’s Office of Intellectual Freedom in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores and libraries. It celebrates the value of free and open access to information while highlighting current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community — librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

Everyone is encouraged to learn more about Banned Books Week here: https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/banned.

Individuals are encouraged to stop by any of the Yolo County Library branches to view displays, borrow and read challenged and banned books during the week of September 26 - October 2, 2021.

Please contact Margaret Pelrine for more information.
Yolo County Library will virtually screen the timely documentary, *Not If, But When: Wildfire Solutions*, on Monday, October 4 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. A discussion by director, Radu Sava, and co-director, Rebekah Hood-Sava, will follow.

Individuals can access the screening using the following Zoom information:

- **Zoom Meeting ID:** 717 8716 7061
- **Zoom Passcode:** 8niYbT
- **Zoom Direct Link:** [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71587167061?pwd=TzdZNis5SkIJTjFGTGJndjZNU1Yxdz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71587167061?pwd=TzdZNis5SkIJTjFGTGJndjZNU1Yxdz09)

California is burning at a rate of more than a million acres every year. This 40-minute film delves into the controversial world of wildfire solutions with their pros and cons and their successes and challenges. The film includes expert interviews, drone footage, historical data and maps.

Scientists working in the Sierra Foothills explain why wildfires are increasing and what can be done from a place of optimism. Interviews include staff from the California Office of Planning and Research, UC Berkeley’s Central Sierra Field Stations, U.S. Forest Service – Tahoe National Forest, CAL FIRE, South Yuba River Citizens League, Yuba Water Agency and Camptonville Community Partnership.

“By highlighting solutions to address and reconcile that California is both forested, inhabited and shaped by human interference, our film showcases innovative solutions that include the Sagehen Forest Project, the Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative and the North Yuba Forest Partnership”, said film producer Radu Sava.

Recommended viewing for anyone interested in current fire dangers, the film is informative and encouraging. By proposing solutions, the film reduces fear and engages communities into
learning more about wildfires so they can become participants in efforts to find actions and solutions.

Awards and screenings include: 2020 Official Selection for the Wild & Scenic Film Festival, 2020 Official Selection for The Earth Day Film Fest, 2020 Official Selection for the International Wildlife Film Festival and Winner of Best Environmental Visions Film at the 2020 Sacramento Film Festival.

This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Davis Library.

Please contact Joan Tuss for more information.

Yolo County Archives Participates in Virtual Sacramento Archives Crawl

The Yolo County Archives will be hosting a talk by Floyd Shimomura with Emily Masuda.

The talk will discuss the ways in which Archives, the preservation of historic documents by families, and the dissemination of history through sharing, have helped to preserve the story of the Japanese American community of Winters.

Join us via Zoom @ 11am on Friday October 8th. Please contact Heather Lanctot for more information.
Groundbreaking Ceremony Kicks Off Construction of the New Yolo Branch Library on September 14, 2021

In a socially distanced, outdoor event on September 14, 2021, Yolo County celebrated the groundbreaking for the new Yolo Branch Library in the town of Yolo, California.

The ceremony included a Land Acknowledgement by Mr. Laverne Bill, Director of Cultural Resources, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation and speeches from Ms. Cecilia Aguiar Curry, California State Assembly, District 4; Mr. Jim Provenza, Chair of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 4; Mr. Angel Barajas, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 5; Ms. Rebecca Wendt, Deputy State Librarian, California State Library; Ms. Sue Alves, President, Friends of the Yolo Branch Library of Yolo; and Mark Fink, Yolo County Librarian and Chief Archivist.

The new Yolo Branch Library, a 4,000 square foot facility, will offer:

- Welcoming, dedicated spaces for children, teens, and adults
- A large community meeting room for local gatherings and special programs
- Quiet spaces and study rooms
- Free Wi-Fi, more public use computers, as well as a networked copier and printer
- An updated collection of library materials in English and Spanish
- Easier access to library services in an ADA accessible building
- A covered outdoor activity area, seating, picnic areas and activity lawn

“The new Yolo Branch Library is a reflection of the community,” said Mark Fink, Yolo County Librarian. “Thanks to the amazing work by the Friends of the Yolo Branch Library, Yolo County Library staff, and residents from Yolo, Zamora and Dunnigan, we are celebrating this milestone today.
Fink noted, “residents frequently refer to the Yolo Branch Library as the living room of the community. It has been paramount for us to maintain this quality in the library’s design, while incorporating new and innovative ways to deliver services that are responsive to community interests and needs.”

The new Yolo Branch Library was designed, with extensive involvement from local residents and library staff, by Doug Davis, a Principal Architect with WMB Architects, located in Sacramento, California. After a competitive solicitation process, Broward Builders, Inc., based in Woodland, California, was selected as the general contractor for the project. Construction is expected to last one year.

The former Yolo Branch Library served the community for more than a century. A new facility was deemed necessary to address substantial structural and safety issues, make the building ADA accessible, expand library services, and provide a large meeting room for library and community events. Funding sources for the project include the County of Yolo, Yolo County Library, the Friends of the Yolo Branch Library of Yolo ($40,000), and donors from Dunnigan, Yolo, Zamora and the surrounding communities ($110,000).

Individuals can view the groundbreaking ceremony on Yolo County Library’s YouTube Channel.

Yolo County Now Offers 24/7 Online Access to Historic Collections

To increase access to the Yolo County Archives (YCA) and Yolo County Historical Collection (YCHC), the County recently unveiled its new digital asset management system. This platform contains digital reproductions and information about Yolo County’s historic records and objects. Individuals are encouraged to start exploring by visiting: https://yc-ais.axiellhosting.com/

The following video tutorials are available on the Library’s YouTube Channel to learn more:

- Introduction to the Axiell Platform
- Conducting a Simple Search

Using simple, advanced, and expert search options, this platform allows users to search thousands of records from both YCA and YCHC simultaneously or each collection independently. The records include textiles, documents, furniture, ephemera, county records,
photographs, maps, blueprints, and more. There are thousands of digitized photographs available to view and new digital content will be added over time.

“We’re excited to make our collection accessible online so residents can take the initiative to learn about Yolo County’s history and legacy when it fits their needs and schedules,” noted Heather Lanctot, the Yolo County Archives and Records Center Coordinator.

The Yolo County Archives is the official repository for Yolo County records. The collection dates from 1850-present and has records from various Yolo County agencies/departments and donations from families, community members, and local businesses. The materials include records, maps, blueprints, photographs, bound volumes, manuscripts, newspapers, yearbooks, and secondary sources in the form of published books and articles.

The Yolo County Historical Collection consists of historic objects from the 1830s -1930s, and illustrates what life was like for early Yolo County residents. The collection includes textiles, agricultural equipment, paintings, ephemera, photographs, archaeological items, tools, ceramics, household items, furniture, and personal items.

In January 2019, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors awarded the Yolo County Library a Technology Innovation Grant of $99,900 to purchase a digital asset management system. YCA and YCHC collaborated with the Department of Finance to conduct a competitive solicitation process to select a vendor offering a digital asset management system that was most aligned with the County’s needs. The successful bidder, Axiell, helps institutions share culture and knowledge, and their customers are libraries, museums, archives, schools, publishers and retailers in 55 countries.

Please contact Heather Lanctot or Iulia Bodeanu for more information.