**Report from the County Librarian**

Friends of the Calaveras County Library – February 14, 2024

**Staff:**

Paula Gonzalez is our new Friday/Saturday staff member for the Arnold Branch Library. However, during her process with HR, it was discovered that she is a PERS recipient and, as such, cannot be a permanent employee. We have hired her as extra-hire and will try to work on a solution until we can no longer keep her as such.

Phil Guttierrez has submitted his letter of retirement. His last day on the job is February 13. The recruitment for his replacement has been posted and circulated. In the interim, we have brought on Kari Carpenter as an extra-hire. She is the former Literacy Division leader in Amador County Library. She will attend orientation on February 26th and be ready to get to work.

**Bookmobile Activity:**

We have begun our service RRF, bringing the Bookmobile there each Wednesday as there are several community activities going on each week that day. Maria may do a craft or STEAM project with the children or adults while there.

We have arranged to bring the BKM to Foothills adult living center in Angels Camp every other Monday beginning January 12th.

Service to Mountain Ranch has not begun as Friday is the best day there and we have no staff to drive on Fridays.

I will speak with a young man who passed the interview process for another position to see if he is interested in the extra-hire Bookmobile position.

**Parks Pass Grant:**

We have been approved for 8 new Adventure backpacks available to us for free from the State Library, one for each site. Hoping to get them soon.

StoryWalks –

**West Point:** Ronnie, Nalatie and Ed (Giddens-volunteer extraordinaire) completed the Story Walk on the fence at the West Point Branch. Nalatie has been contacted by the Calaveras Enterprise for information about it.

**San Andreas**: This installation is almost complete. Go and take a look!

**Murphys:** Planning, Building and the Park Committee have all approved the installation. Facilities will move ahead with this installation as soon as materials are purchased and Facilities has time – weather permitting.

**New Lake Hogan:** We have not heard from staff at Lake Hogan. Nalatie has written to report that we have 3 volunteers ready to work on the project once approvals are complete on their end.

Nalatie and I completed our budget modification to reallocate money not used for trips to other items. **We have included the labor for the installations**, additional backpacks and many lovely books for all branches.

Programming related to the topics of outdoor and conservation will begin in March. Ronnie will be teaching the kids about water and trees with lots of fun experiments.

**Adult craft classes:** Adult crafts in February featured a Valentine’s Day appropriate project. Attendance has been fairly good. No more adult crafts will be forthcoming during the winter.

**MOU additions:** I have received the MOU with all modifications approved. I have copies for your to look at and approve today. Then I will route it for approval from HR, Admin and County Counsel. Once approved, I will take it to the BOS for approval.

**LATL grant:** The grant has been approved and the check should be coming soon. We will order some of the preliminary items soon.

**ZIP books:** I have submitted the mid-year report for the ZIP book program and observed that we are underspending this money. Please utilize this amazing grant so we can use up all our allotment of $12,872. We will be doing some additional advertising of this on FaceBook and with a CEP letter.

**Summer Reading 2024:**

Nalatie and I have begun ordering books. We are estimating 1200 children this year, based on previous year’s numbers and annual increases. We will be buying lots of books and will very likely go over my budget…, but we are happy that the program is so popular!

6800