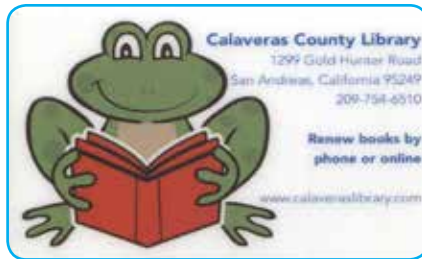


# The Focus

Calaveras County  
**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

## Get a Library Card MONTH

We are happy to announce the launching of a new library card, just for kids ages 6-18. As you may remember, we launched a card for children ages 0-5 at the end of last year through a joint project with First 5 Calaveras. Since we launched the card, we have registered well over 250 children who now have their very own library card to check out books. Our hope is they will become lifelong library users as they remember their first experience with their Froggie Card.



But each time I registered a young child who had an older sibling along, the older child looked on with envy as their brother or sister got a cool new card and all they could get was the boring old adult card. SO, we made a plan. We now have a card for all kids! When a child outgrows his 0-5 card, he can advance to the Kids' Card and keep using that until he gets his own adult card at 18.

Yes, it's a lot of cards!! But the success of the Froggie card encouraged us to get something special for the older kids and teens. This new card will distinguish them from the younger children and from adult users. Parents still need to sign the registration form to guarantee materials, but the card can be used only by the child or teen.

**We hope you will encourage your kids, grandkids and neighborhood kids to get to the Library to see what we have for them!**

**They will get a prize if they register in October!**



Calaveras County  
Friends of the Library  
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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

**Join us at our Annual Meeting  
- Oct 18, 5 pm Murphys Hotel  
TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE  
Contact Mary Hultgren  
maryhultgren@gmail.com**

**Friends who read, are Friends indeed!**

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT - Bob Dean



Bob Dean

This isn't Ben Franklin's library anymore. When I cut my teeth on books, both literally and figuratively, libraries were pretty much what Ben Franklin envisioned. They were a source of the world's knowledge. Historically, before Ben, this knowledge was available only to those who could afford the time, wealth and connections to acquire and accumulate this knowledge.

Libraries have been considered the great equalizer. They made knowledge available to everyone. And as you know; "knowledge is power." Why is it that when a government, or for that matter corporations or any group, wants to limit the power of the people to question decisions, they ban the books, close libraries and distribute disinformation?

From a philosophical perspective, we need libraries if for no other reason than to provide a neutral point of reference as a foil for any excess or differing opinion in our society. From a practical perspective we need libraries to provide the tools to enable any user to develop skills, ferret out knowledge, escape from the mundane and engage in social dialog.

This is our 21st century library. The pursuit of knowledge is nothing new. It's how we do it that's new. We now have limitless access to all the world information. How do we access it? We go to the library. We use the computers free of charge and when we have a problem navigating the World Wide Web who do we ask for help?

The librarian.

*Continued on page 7*

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Dean, President  
Pru Starr, Vice President  
Shirley Huberty, Treasurer  
Jackie Wietrick, Secretary

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Diane Jarvi - Angels Camp  
Richard Raso - Arnold  
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Bob Dean - Mokelumne Hill  
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Charnette Boyland & Karen  
Eggleston - San Andreas  
Jackie Wietrick - Valley Springs  
Pru Starr - West Point

### STAFF

Mary Cole - Membership and  
Promotion, *the Focus* - Editor  
Amber Rack - Webmaster

## FROM YOUR LIBRARY COMMISSION - Kate Garrahan

The Library Commission has had a busy spring and summer working with County Librarian **Nancy Giddens** to inform the public of the services available throughout the county at our eight branch locations. Members of the Commission, working with the various Friends of the Library groups, had an interactive booth at the Calaveras County Fair. We also participated in several community and school activities along with library staff to ensure students, parents and younger children know the location of their closest branch. Many patrons received their very first library card and are now able to access materials and participate in the inter-branch loan programs. Seeing the delight of young and old when they discover some of the incredible services offered is truly rewarding.



Kate Garrahan

We continue to work on forming plans and partnerships with agencies within county government to provide the best service possible. Most notable was the decision of the Board of Supervisors to approve funding the contract for technology services which will enable the installation of Cenic Broadband at four of our branch locations. This project is in process currently and once complete will bring much needed services throughout the county.

We applaud the incredible vision, hard work, and dedication of our County Librarian, Nancy Giddens. She has been a phenomenal addition to the library and our county. We look forward to our continuing collaboration with her to improve and promote the best library system we can provide to the public.

## FROM YOUR LIBRARIAN - Nancy Giddens

### HOPES FOR THE NEAR FUTURE!

With the passing of the 2017/18 budget, a generous anonymous donation, a grant from First 5 Calaveras, a grant from the State Library, and the funds provided to us from Calaveras County, we are going to be able to do wonderful things for our Library system.

The anonymous donation, given in honor of **Sally Tuttle**, is making possible exciting changes and additions to our children's and young adult areas in San Andreas Central Library. We will be adding two children's learning stations, a LEGO table, materials for art and building projects, giving the furniture a face-lift and more. We will be expanding, updating and improving our Parenting area. We are creating a special space for our teens with café tables, two designated computers with work space, floor seating, and lots of new materials and opportunities just for them!

The First 5 Grant will allow us to hire a specialist to work with our young children. They will be creating learning kits to be used in our libraries and for outreach to home school and child care homes. We will be doing training of parents and care-givers in teaching and encouraging STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) with our youngest learners. Lots of programs will provide opportunities for learning and having fun.

The grant from the State Library is allowing us to move ahead with our plan to install **HIGH SPEED BROADBAND** in San Andreas Central Library and the Angels Camp, Murphys, Arnold and Valley Springs branches. We have been given \$90,000.00 to purchase the hardware we need to be connected to Cal-REN (California Research and Education network), a network dedicated to schools and libraries. We are anticipating very high speed access for our patrons inside and outside the library.

With our improvements in San Andreas, we think we will have great space to offer to our children and young people HERE. I have had a couple of great conversations with students at Calaveras High School who are helping me with plans for the creation of their space here. But what about Bret Harte students? Although we will have broadband in Angels Camp, the branch there is too small to give them much space for their group work and certainly not enough to add a couple of computers just for them. SO, we approached the Board of Supervisors and asked them to consider increasing their support to the Angels Camp branch so we can move to a larger space. THEY HAVE AGREED! We are in the first steps of getting a contract together for renting a larger space just down the way from our current location. We will almost double our current space and will be able to provide designated spaces for children and young adults. Great days are ahead of us in Angels Camp!

### LINK+

Have you used it yet? If not, you are missing out on a great resource! What IS LINK+, you ask? It is our new FREE interlibrary loan system which connects us to 70 library systems and almost 9,000,000 items. Yes, that is nine million.

I get to work the desk in San Andreas on Saturdays from 10-2. A couple of weeks ago a young lady came in and asked if we had a study book for a certification test for becoming a phlebotomist. We didn't. Surprise. BUT, LINK+ had it. We ordered it for her from Sacramento, it came the following Wednesday, she picked it up on Thursday and had it in time to study for her test. (I don't know if she passed or not, but at least she was prepared!) Last week, a gentleman came looking for The History of Algorithms. We found it on LINK+. He is now enjoying the book. I guess...

How does it work? Go to: <http://library.calaverasgov.us/>. You will see some boxes: elibrary (our catalog), LINK+, Requests, and others. **Choose LINK+.** **Type in the name of the item you want**, or if you don't know it, choose advance search and you can search by author or subject. Find the book you want and request it. Don't forget to pull down and **select your home library** when you put in your information. Also, if you owe fines, you have to pay them first. ☺

The book will be ordered, arrive at the Central Library and then be delivered to you at your branch. Usually books come **within a week**, but of course it depends on where it is coming from. San Diego takes longer than Stockton. You will have four weeks to read the book and get it back. Renewals are possible, but not automatic.

Your Library has a great brochure on this amazing service which explains everything perfectly! **Ask for one today.**



Nancy Giddens



## Branch Locations & Storytime Schedule

### ANGELS CAMP

426 N. Main Street  
736-2198

Fridays @ 10:30 am

### ARNOLD

1065 Blagen Road  
795-1009

Fridays @ 10:30 am

### COPPEROPOLIS

Lake Tulloch Plaza #106  
785-0920

Thursdays @ 1:00 pm

### MOKELUMNE HILL

8328 Main Street  
286-0507

Fridays @ 10:00 am

### MURPHYS

480 Park Lane  
728-3036

Tuesdays @ 10:30 am

### SAN ANDREAS

1299 Gold Hunter Road  
754-6510

Wednesdays @ 10:30 am

### VALLEY SPRINGS

240 Pine Street  
772-1318

Thursdays @ 3:00 pm

### WEST POINT

54 Bald Mountain Rd.  
293-7020

Call Library for times

## OUTREACH - formerly PAC



Richard Raso

The original PAC (Public Awareness Campaign) has completed its initial purpose - to establish new systems that the set of committees could use to be more effective in their individual processes. Those committees are Fundraising, Membership and Outreach. The latter will come from the PAC, while the other two will have new members. Some people have stepped forward to chair these, but we can all use additional people to assist and help guide the process.

Even though our name is changing, we will continue to follow its mission - "To heighten awareness of the Calaveras Library System," with a vision of increasing the numbers of people using the libraries, and to help Calaveras County become

nationally recognized as having a Top 10 Rural County Library System helped by the Friends of the Library.

We will do this by publicizing and participating in the branch and county-wide events. We will provide articles and information to our local papers, as well as publish *The FOCUS* newsletter and maintain our Facebook page and website. And provide speakers to local groups to educate the public in the offerings of our library system.

In particular is the installation of Broadband in four of our branches, where we will help publicize this with flags and/or banners that announce it is coming!, then it is here!

In support of the Adult Education program, we are including Adult Education articles in our quarterly newsletter.

Since our last newsletter, the Outreach committee continues to build on our initial work. Here is our list of activities -

1. We have completed our second participation in the County Fair as a County-wide Library system. After the completion of the four day event, we discovered the librarians had enrolled over 80 people for new library cards. Last year, our first time at the fair, we had enrolled only some 25 people.
2. We have found a monitor which works for use in Power Point presentation at our events. These events will range from presentations by our speakers to a visual presentation at the Fair or a local events like the Copperopolis Chili contest.
3. We are planning our next year's list of events we want to participate in. If you have any suggestions please contact me at [rkraso2473@gmail.com](mailto:rkraso2473@gmail.com).

Finally, if you would like to help our County Library system by serving on a committee (Outreach, Membership or Fundraising) please contact Mary Cole at [yourtype@goldrush.com](mailto:yourtype@goldrush.com).



Outreach Chairman, Richard Raso

# BE PREPARED WITH HELP FROM THE LIBRARY

## Gardening Workshop

**October 14th, 2017**

11 am

**at Arnold Library**

Learn about gardening in the Arnold area with native & drought-resistant plants.

This workshop, led by Master Gardener **Claudia Beymer**, will focus on design basics, as well as plant recommendations.

**Space is limited -  
Contact the branch to register!  
795-1009**



Celebrate Friday the 13th by Seeing the movie

## DAY OF THE ANIMALS

(1977)

(filmed in beautiful Murphys)

Upstairs in Murphys Library

**October 13, 2017**

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Begins promptly at 7:00 pm

Snacks and drinks provided!

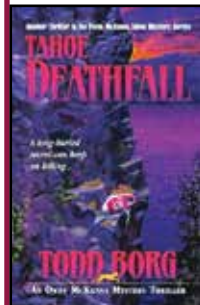
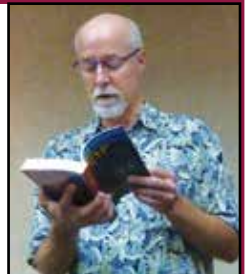


Wednesday, October 18, 2017

1:00 pm

## TODD BORG

You are invited to attend a Murphys Library Event with Todd Borg, author of the Tahoe series of mystery books.



There is no cost to attend this free event but seats are limited and you must have a ticket.

See or call Kris Loving (728-3036) to reserve your seat.

# SCARY STORY PARTY NIGHT!

SAT., OCTOBER 28 5:30 TO 7:30 PM

**SAN ANDREAS LIBRARY**

**WIN Prizes for the Best Kid's Costumes, Best Story, Best Picture**

**PICK-UP ENTRY FORM AT LIBRARY & RETURN BY OCTOBER 21!**

*Cookie Walk, Games, Crafts, Goodies for Sale, Book Give-away!*

FRIGHTENING TALES TOLD BY STORYTELLER CLAUDIA TONGE

☆ **FREE FUN FOR EVERYONE!** ☆

Brought to you by the Friends of the Library of SA/MTN Ranch

## BOOK REVIEW by Suzanne Murphy

***Britt-Marie Was Here*** by Fredrik Backman  
Publish date: 2014 by Washington Square Press

***“I want someone to know I’m here.”***

Britt-Marie’s life turns upside down when her husband takes up with another woman, and she is forced to find a new place to live and a job. Though this may be a familiar situation, Britt-Marie’s predicament has further complications—she has spent her life arranging the cutlery drawer and cleaning everything, including the bed mattresses, with baking soda. She compulsively gives other people advice on how they should arrange their lives as well. While a person like Britt-Marie could make us throw up our hands in exasperation, author Fredrik Backman handles such a prickly character with gentle humor and sets her on a journey that changes her in remarkable ways.

First, she has to find employment, but her life of making the home for her family perfect has left her little time for developing marketable

skills. Her interview with the girl at the unemployment office is a hilarious fiasco as Britt-Marie misunderstands that 5:00 is closing time for businesses, and she offers well-meaning but unwelcome advice on the girl’s hairstyle. “I suppose it’s modern,” Britt-Marie tells her, letting the reader know what she thinks of modernity.

She finally lands a job as a recreation center caretaker, but only as long as it remains open. The center will be closing down soon, along with the rest of the town of Borg, a community built along a road, “the kindest possible thing” that can be said about it. Her arrival in Borg includes a soccer ball shot to her head and the explosion of her car. She meets, in rapid order, the people who haven’t yet abandoned the town, perhaps because they are abandoned themselves. And what a motley crew it is: a spectacularly bad soccer team, men with beards and caps who spend a lot of time drinking coffee in the pizzeria cum post office and car workshop, whose proprietor

goes by the name of Somebody. This rough and tumble group, passionate about soccer, assumes that Britt-Marie has arrived to be the soccer coach.

Author Backman has a deft touch with irascible characters—as in his earlier stories, *A Man Called Ove* and *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She’s Sorry*.

It is a pleasure to meet them, these characters who just don’t fit comfortably in society for a variety of reasons. They arrive smack dab in impossible situations, surprised by where they find themselves. Or as Britt-Marie whispers, “I’m here.”



***What’s going on in your library?***

***Read a great book lately?***

***Share your stories here.***

To contribute to The Focus, send your events, reviews, stories and photos with the subject line of FOCUS to [calaverasfotl@gmail.com](mailto:calaverasfotl@gmail.com).

*Editor reserves the right to decline or modify all stories to fit.*

**Thank You for being a Member of Friends of the Library of Calaveras County**

*For up-to-the-minute news about all of our library branches, be sure to:*

- check out our website **calaverasreads.com**
- and like us on facebook at **Calaveras County Friends of the Library**

**Not a member yet? You can find an application under the Membership tab so you can join today!**

Mary Cole,  
Membership & Promotions Staff



## BOOK CLUB CALENDAR

Children's Storytime	See schedule on page 4		All Branches
Moke Hill READS Book Club	First Tuesday each month 7:00 pm	<b>Oct. 3</b> - "The Girl With Seven Names," by Hyeonseo Lee	Mokelumne Hill Branch
Book Club	Third Tuesday each month 3:30 pm	<b>Sept 19</b> - "Last Child in the Woods," by Richard Louv	Valley Springs Branch
Under the Covers Book Club	Fourth Thursday each month 2:00–4:00 pm	<b>Sept 28</b> - "Pilate's Wife," by local au- thor Antoinette May	Murphys Branch
San Andreas Book Club	Fourth Thursday each month 10:30 am - noon 5:00–6:30 pm	<b>Sept 28</b> - "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen	San Andreas Branch

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

*continued from page 2*

Some of us are fortunate enough to have computers which save us a trip to the library but many of us do not so the library is an invaluable resource. When the power goes down, where can we access our informational tools?

The library.

We now have services like e-books which allow us to get our reading material, both books and magazines, without making a trip to the library.

But it's still the library.

Many of us haven't a clue about developing the tools that our new electronic world has given us. Where do we go to find out how to use those tools? The library. As an added bonus we get to learn these new skills from none other than our kids. What a turn around. Imagine, an adult learning from a kid! What a novel and exhilarating thought.

Our libraries support a literacy program which enables some of our fellow citizens the opportunity to develop the skills we take for granted. Because of technology we can do a lot of this remotely.

And still the library.

We still check out books as well as DVDs and other forms of entertainment. I can say from my own experience that there is nothing more heartwarming than to see a young mother with a gaggle of kids check out a stack of books.

Libraries have more than a history. They also have a future.

Numerous groups make use of the library's facilities. Last week the library hosted a Bonsai exhibit. There will be more of this sort of thing to come. Genealogy groups, medical support groups, gardening groups, stamp clubs, book clubs all use the library's facilities. There will be more to come. Soon the County's newest agency, the Resource Conservation District will begin hosting a monthly lecture series called "Living in the Foothills." One more example of how the library does more than just provide books. What's more; multiply this by eight — the number of our branches — and you'll get a sense of how extensive our library services are.



Imagine our communities without libraries. I can't. Not now, not ever. Stay tuned, it's only going to get better.

*Thank you for your support.  
Bob Dean*