



## *Mendocino County Library Advisory Board*

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### NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mendocino County Library Advisory Board (“LAB”) will hold its regular Board Meeting at:

**1:00 P.M. - Wednesday, May 19, 2021**

#### **Via Zoom**

Due to COVID-19 the LAB meetings will be conducted virtually and not available for in person public participation (pursuant to State Executive Order N 29 20). The public may participate digitally in meetings by sending comments to [libtechservices@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:libtechservices@mendocinocounty.org), or may register for the Zoom meeting in lieu of personal attendance at:

<https://mendocinocounty.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkfuGtqjsjE9cmRryu3bLaGIM1v-O-5hbG>

All email comment must be received by 8:00 A.M. the morning of the meeting in order to be published online prior to the meeting.

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions and Welcome
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the Minutes from the March 17, 2021 meeting
5. Public Expression

Note: The Library Advisory Board welcomes public and government participation at its meeting. Items can be added to the official agenda up to 72 hours in advance of the meeting date and time. For items not on the Agenda, comments within the jurisdiction of the Board shall be limited to three minutes per person so that everyone may be heard. No more than ten minutes will be devoted to any non-agenda subject. No official action on non-agenda items will be taken by the LAB at the meeting where presented. Individuals wishing to address the Board under Public Expression are welcome to do so throughout the meeting at the appropriate points in the approved Agenda.

6. Library Director’s report
  - A. Generators
  - B. Build Back Boldly State Proposal
  - C. Going Fine-Free
  - D. Library Hours
  - E. Budget Including pre-Measure A and post-Measure A Charges
  - F. Branch Reports
  - G. Next FY Proposed Budget
7. 2021 Library Advisory Board Report

8. Subcommittee
  - A. Measure A—Michael, Janice, Lynn
  
9. Unfinished Business
  - A. Updates from Working Groups to Improve the Library
  - B. District 1 Open Seat
  - C. By-Laws: Schedule review for July meeting
  
10. New Business
  - A. Resolution to support Build America’s Libraries Act
  
11. Next Meeting, July 21, 2021, at 1:00 with focus on Ft. Bragg Library
12. Announcements and Comments

Attachments:

LAB Minutes of March 17, 2021

Director’s report

Memo on generators

Proposed new branch hours

YTD budget report

Pre- and Post-Measure A charges

Newspaper articles

FY 21/22 proposed budget

2021 Library Advisory Board Report

**Mendocino County Library Advisory Board  
Minutes of March 2021  
Via Zoom**

**Meeting called to order:** 1:04 by Chair Lynn Zimmermann

**Introductions:** Deborah Fader Samson – New County Librarian expressed appreciation for joining the Mendocino’s Library system with such a self -motivated and dedicated staff. She looks forward to working together and supporting them in reaching their potentials.

**Members Present:** Shawn Haven, Mo Mulheren, Olga O’Neill, Larry Riddle, Michael Schaeffer, Carolyn Schneider, Lynn Zimmermann

**Members not Present:** Janice Marcell

**Others Present:** Barbra Chapman, Admin Services Manager, Deborah Fader Samson, County Librarian (CSA Director)

**Approval of the Agenda:** M. Schaeffer moved with amendment of adding bylaws, S. Haven, 2<sup>nd</sup>, carried

**Approval of 11.18.20 Minutes:** C. Schneider moved, L. Riddle 2<sup>nd</sup>, carried

**Public Expression:** None

**Library Director’s Report:**

**A. Library Re-opening written statement**

All branches will require social distancing, masks and frequent sanitizing, but blueprint for each branch will ensure addressing unique needs

Restrictions will gradually and strategically lessen as country moves through tiers with the in-house programs being the last

**B. YTD Budget – B. Chapman**

- Fewer expenses because unfilled positions, but hiring will begin
- CENIC group – slower to get connections started, but timeframes for spending funding was extended
- Large capital improvements such as Willits roof repairs still need to happen
- Barb asked that LAB let her know what documents are needed for May workshop with the Board

**C. Branch Report - Round Valley – Josh Bennett**

- Curbside Service use is steadily increasing
- Partnering with other community entities and individuals - interviews, book news
- Seed library doing well
- Challenging in parts of February with no connection to County internet server
- Partnership effort including Friends group and United Way for propane generator and tank to address PSPS events and other power outages
- Working with museum with History Project Slam targeting middle and high school
- Zoom story time
- Hosting fire safety – programs and funding
- Best place for more information is RV Public Library Facebook

**D. Updates from working groups to improve libraries**

Fort Bragg - Carolyn

- Actively seeking input from community for ideas and desires for expansion
- Wondering about A-87 and depreciation expenses and technical repairs

Laytonville Satellite - Shawn

- MOU completed; contractor 3 weeks -1 month out
- Received some furniture from Willits Branch

Ukiah – Lynn

- Needs assessment in progress
- Fort Bragg shared a county map that was helpful in showing library service areas – Lynn will share with all members
- Analysis of data, particularly population projections

Willits – Olga

- Library could use a refresh
- Roof repair still needs to happen
- Concern that Willits does not have a children's librarian – Deborah reported that the position is in the new budget proposal

**Subcommittee on Measure A** – Lynn and Michael reported; Janice Marcell also part of this committee

- Gathering resources – Friends Groups will be important
- Petition campaign will begin December 2021 – June 2022 to be on Fall ballot
- Goals and Reasons for ¼ cent – 40% for capital investment and 60% for operating costs
- Only need a simple majority vote to pass
- Planning well ahead of Measure A sunset; Measure B will sunset by then
- Looking at ideas for ensuring equitable distribution of funding

### **Unfinished Business**

Joint Meeting with Board of Supervisors scheduled for May 24, 2021 -LAB will have opportunity to finalize at meeting on May 19

Annual LAB Report to the Board of Supervisors – Chair L. Zimmerman will work on draft and send to members for review

Trends and projections of continuing increase in A-87 costs – Still many questions, Zimmermann and M. Schaeffer will continue to get more information – item for May 24 workshop

Request for updated total contributions to each FOL for LAB Annual Report to Board of Supervisors – Members to send L. Zimmerman this information for report

### **New Business**

Next year's proposed budget in progress – Barb and Deborah are reviewing needs and funding

Building American Library Act- Bills in U.S. Congress have been introduced to address needed upgrades in the nation's library infrastructure. The American Library Association (ALA) is a good source for more information.

By-laws -Brief discussion of origin and process to change; Olga will send out a copy for all members

### **Announcements and comments**

**Next Meeting LAB Scheduled for May 19, 2021 at 1:00 via Zoom**

**Meeting with BOS May 24 at 1:00**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2021.05.19

### A. Generators

### B. Build Back Boldly

#### SENATE DEMOCRATS "BUILD BACK BOLDLY" PUBLIC LIBRARY PROPOSAL: A "Once-A-Generation" Funding Package Being Elevated at State Capitol

The California State Senate Democrats have unveiled a massive new funding package that they are proposing as part of this year's 2021-22 State Budget negotiations. Entitled, "[Build Back Boldly: Senate Democrats Budget Priorities for 2021-22 and Beyond](#)," the proposed plan capitalizes on the state's larger than anticipated budget surplus, combined with the financial benefits of the federal relief package. "Build Back Boldly" lays out a roadmap in the areas of health and welfare, public education, and the environment, etc. for a "once-a-generation opportunity for California to make bold transformative progress as the economy rebounds from the COVID-19 crisis."

Included in the Senate Democrats' "Build Back Boldly" proposal, is a "**Public Libraries Package**" which includes a very significant \$1 billion for Public Library Infrastructure and Technology investments. The plan reads as follows:

#### **\*\$1 Billion for Public Library Infrastructure and Technology Investments**

- Fund public library facilities upgrades and modernization projects
  - Expand broadband deployment and public access to libraries through new fiber optics and technology investments.
  - Procure new technology devices (IPADs, Tablets) for library users to "check out technology" and for hotspot lending programs.

A second piece of the Senate Democrats' proposal reads: "**Eliminate library debt and provide ongoing sustainable funding for Public Libraries.**" The goal of this part of the Plan is to eliminate library patron fines and fees for overdue books. The Senate Democrats feel that these fines and fees tend to disproportionately affect those who can least afford to pay them. Recently the Senate Budget Committee asked CLA to launch a quick survey, in order to get a sense of the fines/fees from 2019 as well as the approximate number of total fines/fees owing "on the books" at the public library. The State Librarian also conducted a survey on this issue, as well as the infrastructure needs of public libraries, in order to assist the Senate Budget Committee.

The Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance will soon be reviewing the Public Library Package and State Librarian Greg Lucas is expected to testify. While the Assembly and the Governor will also have to weigh in on the Public Library Plan, CLA is encouraged and appreciates the leadership of the Senate Democrats. The 2021-22 State Budget must be passed by the legislature and sent to the Governor by June 15.

### C. Going Fine Free

\$35,000 on average is worth its weight in lost staff time and community good will. All the branch managers agree. We would like to stop charging late fees now.

#### **D. Change of Branch Hours**

- To save money
- Now would be the best time as we re-open from COVID. We just would re-open to the proposed hours. (Attached.)

#### **E. Collection Development Policy**

#### **F. Library Branch Reports**



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO  
Cultural Services Agency  
Library - Museum - Parks

DEBORAH FADER SAMSON  
Cultural Services Agency Director  
County Librarian

880 N. Bush St.  
Ukiah, CA 95482

Email: [faderd@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:faderd@mendocinocounty.org)  
Websites: [www.mendolibrary.org](http://www.mendolibrary.org)  
[www.mendocinocounty.org](http://www.mendocinocounty.org)

Office: (707) 234-2873  
Fax: (707) 463-6951

Board of Supervisors  
501 Low Gap Rd.  
Ukiah, CA 95482

Esteemed Members of the Board,

I would like to request that \$580,000 of the \$22,000,000 PG&E settlement be spent to purchase and install permanent generators for the Coast Community, Fort Bragg, Laytonville, Ukiah, and Willits Branches of the Mendocino County Library.



Historically, our Library branches have served as cooling centers in the stifling summers, warming centers in the bitter winters, and a source of calm and information for the residents of our County in times of disaster and hardship. We have provided N-95 masks during local fires, bottled water when functioning as a cooling center, and Wi-Fi, allowing residents to have access to needed information during outages in surrounding areas.

Due to the scattered location of the branches throughout the County, they make ideal locations for communities to gather in the event of more Public Safety Power Shutoffs, earthquakes, storms, etc. It is vital in such dire times for residents to be able to charge their devices, access emergency information, and stay in contact with relatives near and far.

meager budget does not allow for such purchases. Each Library branch could remain functioning for their communities with the addition of an on-sight generator. Funding generators for the Library branches would be an investment towards a more disaster-resilient community, and benefit our residents.

The Board of Supervisors recommended in 2019 that all branches have generators, but our

Sincerely,

Deborah Fader Samson  
Cultural Services Agency Director  
County Librarian

### Library Hours

Coast Commur	2006			2020			Proposed 2021			
	Open	Closed	Total	Open	Closed	Total	Open	Close	Total	
Monday	12:00	6:00	6	12:00	6:00	6	0:00	0:00	0	
Tuesday	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	6:00	8	
Wednesday	10:00	8:00	10	10:00	8:00	10	10:00	6:00	8	
Thursday	12:00	8:00	8	12:00	8:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	
Friday	12:00	6:00	6	12:00	6:00	6	10:00	6:00	8	
Saturday	12:00	3:00	3	12:00	3:00	3	10:00	5:00	7	
Sunday	0:00	0:00	0	0	0	0	0:00	0:00	0	
	Total		41			41			40	
<b>Fort Bragg</b>										
Monday	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	
Tuesday	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	10:00	7:00	9	
Wednesday	12:00	8:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	10:00	7:00	9	
Thursday	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	10:00	7:00	9	
Friday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	6:00	8	
Saturday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	
Sunday	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	
	Total		38			42			42	
<b>Ukiah</b>										
Monday	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	
Tuesday	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	10:00	7:00	9	
Wednesday	10:00	8:00	10	10:00	7:00	9	9:00	7:00	10	
Thursday	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	9:00	7:00	10	
Friday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	6:00	8	
Saturday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	6:00	8	
Sunday	0:00	0:00	0	10:00	5:00	7	0:00	0:00	0	
	Total		40			48			45	
<b>Willits</b>										
Monday	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	
Tuesday	10:00	8:00	10	10:00	7:00	9	10:00	7:00	9	
Wednesday	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	10:00	7:00	9	
Thursday	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	7:00	9	10:00	7:00	9	
Friday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	6:00	8	10:00	6:00	8	
Saturday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	
Sunday	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	
	Total		40			42			42	
<b>Round Valley</b>										
Monday	10:00	5:00	7	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	
Tuesday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	
Wednesday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	
Thursday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	7:00	9	
Friday	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	
Saturday	12:00	3:00	3	10:00	5:00	7	10:00	5:00	7	
Sunday	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	0:00	0:00	0	
	Total		38			35			37	
GRAND TOTAL			197				208			



**LIBRARY BUDGET FY 2020/2021**

<b>OBJECT ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>REVISED BUDGET</b>	<b>YTD as of 5/14/21</b>	<b>YTD % used</b>	<b>Notes</b>
821500 SALES & USE TAX	-2,140,000	-1,906,301	89%	Measure A funds
824100 INTEREST	-34,954	-10,748	31%	
825496 STATE LIBRARY GRANT	-85,341	-85,341	100%	CENIC grant
826370 LIBRARY SERVICES	-30,885	-9,189	30%	Fine revenue and Bookmobile stops in Sonoma
827600 OTHER SALES	-8,000	0	0%	Photocopy fees
827707 DONATION	-800	-713	89%	Donations to MCL
827802 OPERATING TRANSFER IN	-1,379,826	-1,379,826	100%	Property Tax from Assembly Bill 3027 in 1992
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>-3,679,806</b>	<b>-3,392,118</b>	<b>92%</b>	
861011 REGULAR EMPLOYEES	1,603,207	1,145,901	71%	
861012 EXTRA HELP	50,000	12,905	26%	
861013 OVERTIME REG EMP	20,000	6,612	33%	
861021 CO CONT TO RETIREMENT	469,535	344,297	73%	
861022 CO CONT TO OASDI	88,409	63,440	72%	
861023 CO CONT TO OASDI-MEDIC	22,303	16,238	73%	
861024 CO CONT TO RET INCREMEN	85,102	63,221	74%	
861030 CO CONT TO EMPLOYEE INS	206,581	147,208	71%	
861031 CO CONT UNEMPLOYMENT II	4,033	4,033	100%	
861035 CO CONT WORKERS COMPEN	73,561	73,561	100%	
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>2,622,732</b>	<b>1,877,417</b>	<b>72%</b>	
862060 COMMUNICATIONS	244,187	25,291	10%	Phone and data lines
862090 HOUSEHOLD EXPENSE	125,000	37,465	30%	Janitorial & garbage - all branches
862101 INSURANCE-GENERAL	35,164	35,164	100%	
862120 MAINTENANCE-EQUIPMENT	15,000	2,777	19%	Equipment maintenance (incl. Bookmobile)
862130 MAINT-STRC IMPR & GRN	30,000	26,237	87%	Building maintenance
862150 MEMBERSHIPS	1,200	1,767	147%	CLA, ALA, ARSL
862170 OFFICE EXPENSE	35,000	28,589	82%	Office supplies including paper and toner
862185 MEDICAL & DENTAL SVCS	2,500	200	8%	Pre-employment physicals, screenings
862187 EDUCATION & TRAINING	3,000	3,384	113%	Classes
862189 PROF & SPEC SVCS-OTHR	250,000	145,910	58%	Sonoma, Delivery, IS support, Security guard, NeoGov
862190 PUBL & LEGAL NOTICES	2,000	797	40%	Classified ads for job postings
862194 A-87 COSTS	514,440	519,993	101%	
862210 RNTS & LEASES BLD GRD	39,000	25,347	65%	Round Valley, Laytonville MOU
862230 INFO TECH EQUIP	30,000	11,307	38%	Computer replacements & software

862239	SPEC DEPT EXP	300,000	133,189	44%	Library collection materials and databases
862250	TRNSPRTATION & TRAVEL	20,000	5,747	29%	Bookmobile gas and maintenance, mileage
862253	TRAVEL & TRSP OUT OF CO	4,000	0	0%	Hotel, airfare, per diem conferences/trainings
862260	UTILITIES	77,000	51,351	67%	Water, sewer, electricity, gas, etc.
Total Services & Supplies		1,727,491	1,054,515	61%	
864370	EQUIPMENT	0	0	0%	
865802	OPERATING TRANSFER OUT	73,000	0	0%	
	Revenue Total	-3,679,806	-3,392,118	92%	
	Expense Total	4,423,223	2,931,931	66%	
	Budgeted Reserves Use	743,417			
	Reserves at FY start	1,202,866			

**County Expenses Charged to Library Pre- and Post-Measure A**

<b>Object</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>FY 09-10</b>	<b>FY 21-22</b>
862062	Microwave	\$0	\$6,770
862189	Prof. Services - IS Staff Billing	\$0	\$25,000
862194	A-87 Costs	\$0	\$519,993
862230	Info Tech Equip - Enterprise	\$0	\$72,671
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$624,434</b>

*Notes:*

FY 21-22 is based off of previous fiscal years' billings, or actual invoices. Other billings such as custodial and facility maintenance were charged before Measure A was passed, so are not included.

# The Willits News

## Willits Library to begin phased-in reopening



The Willits Library will begin a partial reopening on March 29.

By Jaclyn Luna | The Willits News

PUBLISHED: March 22, 2021 at 8:49 a.m. | UPDATED: March 23, 2021 at 10:35 a.m.

After being closed to the public for one year, the Willits Library will begin a phased-in reopening March 29, as long as Mendocino County remains in the Red Tier for Coronavirus. During Phase 1, residents will be allowed to enter the library on a limited basis.



Branch Librarian Nicole Bird with 'Hedgie' and 'Goldie' that were made during a Facebook Live broadcast of Nicole's Test Kitchen STEAM Addition.

Branch Librarian Nicole Bird said, "We are happy to have people back for our limited services. We really missed seeing the public and we thank everybody for their patience, and hope they will come and see us."

Bird explained the staff is still working out the details, and exact days and times will be announced soon. However, the plan is to open the library to the public at 25% capacity (approximately 12 people at a time) for Browse and Go, two afternoons a week.

Photocopiers and printers will be available. Patrons can print up to ten pages at no cost, and then print for 10 cents per page. Patrons should bring a flash drive in order to print. Computers and bathrooms will not be available in Phase 1 and the lounge area has been temporarily removed to discourage patrons from lingering. There will not be in person meetings in phase one either. The seed library is also available, just in time for the spring planting season.

To promote COVID safety, the library will have smaller air purifiers throughout, in addition to the air filters in the HVAC system. Staff will also increase cleaning. Additionally, patrons will be asked to use hand sanitizer upon entrance before they browse library materials. Masks must be worn in the library at all time.

Bird said that the re-opening plans are in adherence to guidelines from the Mendocino Department of Public Health and requested that patrons respect the guidelines.

On the three days the library is not open for Browse and Go, library staff will continue to offer the curbside pickup service from 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Patrons can request materials either online or by calling the library and schedule a non-contact pickup time after they have been notified that their materials are ready.

The book and movie drop boxes are now open 24 hours, 7 days a week and will remain the method of returning borrowed materials. Materials are quarantined in the drop boxes for approximately three days before being returned to the shelf. Free WiFi is available from 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. daily which patrons can access from the parking lot.



Thea Cohen helps out at the Willits Library (Photos by Jaclyn Luna)

The Willits Library will continue with its virtual programs. They have continued to post Facebook Live videos and are currently hosting three different series. Nicole's Test Kitchen STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) Addition is aimed at children and Nicole's Test Kitchen Craft Addition is aimed at families or adults. Julie Castillo and Giselle Delotch host 'Make it, Own it, Work it' which is aimed at teenagers and is DIY.

An interesting upcoming virtual program from Will Minor is a tutorial showing how to grow mushrooms on a log. Castillo is working on a community involved spring awakening mural that patrons can color flower petals to add to the creation.

Bird said the library has been working on more joint projects with the Mendocino County Museum and recently posted a link to the museum's virtual exhibit Albatross: Life on the Wind and Sea.

Follow the library on Facebook to stay up to date on news and virtual programs. The Willits

# Poet Laureate Committee - Melissa Eleftherion Carr chosen as Ukiah's next Poet Laureate

April 1, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Page: 3 | Section: Features

198 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1610, grade level(s): >12

The Poet Laureate Committee of Ukiah is pleased to announce that Melissa Eleftherion Carr has been chosen as Ukiah's next Poet Laureate. Carr, already well-known as head librarian at the Ukiah Library, will be introduced on April 25, at the virtual UkiaHaiku fest that the Ukiah Poet Laureate Committee is holding this year.

Carr becomes Ukiah's ninth Poet Laureate, succeeding Roberta Werdinger, part of whose two-and-a-half-year term was served under lockdown due to Covid-19. Werdinger adapted to this challenge by formulating an online poetry course and other virtual events that became borderless, redefining community and locality in a rapidly changing world.

Established by the City Council in 2001, the Poet Laureate position underscores the importance the City of Ukiah places on the arts as an integral part of a dynamic, healthy community. The position honors poets living and working in the Ukiah area. As laureate, Carr will work with the Poet Laureate Committee to heighten public awareness of poetry, produce the annual UkiaHaiku Festival and other events, and be available to local schools and other organizations for readings and presentations. She will be officially ushered in as Poet Laureate at the Ukiah City Council meeting on April 7.

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## Ukiah Library - Everyone invited to play Earth Day Bingo

April 16, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Author: Ukiah Daily Journal staff | Page: 2 | Section: News

189 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1280, grade level(s): 11-12

The Ukiah Library is encouraging community members of all ages to get outside and enjoy our beautiful planet with the help of a special Earth Day Bingo Card. Bingo cards are available starting today.

The premise is simple: get Bingo and return your Bingo Card to the library. Staff will enter your name in a raffle for one of five available \$10 gift certificates to the Nook Artisan Gelato on School Street in downtown Ukiah.

While the event is for all ages, achieving Bingo becomes progressively more difficult the older you are. Children up to age 12 need only fill one row in any direction, and teens ages 13-18 will need to complete two rows in any direction. Adults ages 18-plus will need to complete the entire Bingo card in order to be entered into the prize raffle.

Bingo cards must be returned to the library no later than Friday, April 30 to be eligible for the prize raffle.

Library staff will randomly select and notify raffle winners between May 3-7. Limit one Earth Day Bingo Card per participant.

For more information, contact the Ukiah Library at (707) 463-4490.

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## Health - Ukiah Library hosts programs for Mental Health Awareness Week

May 11, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Page: 3 | Section: Features

184 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1380, grade level(s): >12

The Ukiah Library will host Mental Health Awareness Week May 10-14 from 4 to 5 p.m. for ages 12-18 on Instagram Live@thehideoutteens\_mendoLibrary.

This past year has taken a toll on everyone. Despite this setback, it does not prevent you from self-care. The Ukiah Library is pleased to begin our annual Mental Health Awareness Week for teens. During this time the focus will be on emotional wellness tips, discussing the negative stigma associated with mental health, and a chance to order your very own You Got This Self Care Package.

The Self Care Package includes:

- Mood Tracker Journal supplies
- Pen
- Candle
- Mini bouncing ball
- A gift card from Schats
- Mini bottle of bubbles
- A mini packet of tissues
- Self Care Menu
- A small packet of bubble wrap to pop away your worries

This package is for teens only. There is a limited amount of them available, so order yours today. If you would like to order one, please contact the Ukiah Public Library at 707-463-4490 or email Mendocino.County.Library@gmail.com.

The events will be held on Instagram @ TheHideoutteens\_Mendolibrary and at Tik Tok as Mendocino\_library.

## Ukiah Library - Take-home Mother's Day card kits available

April 22, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Page: 3 | Section: Features

142 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1380, grade level(s): >12

The Ukiah Library invites children, ages 3-12, from our community to celebrate some of our Ukiah seniors this Mother's Day! Participants are invited to pick up one of the Take-Home Mother's Day Card kits and mail it to one of the residents at Mountain View Assisted Living & Memory Care.

Each kit comes with a card, all necessary materials for decoration, a sheet of instructions, and an envelope with postage and the address for Mountain View Assisted Living & Memory Care. A limited number of kits are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Distribution of the kits began Monday.

Swing by the library to pick up your kit during open hours between 1 to 5 p.m. weekdays, or call (707) 463-4490 to schedule a curbside pick-up. There is a limit of one kit per participant.

For more information, contact Samantha White, the Ukiah children's librarian, at (707) 234-2865 .

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# Coronavirus - Ukiah Library patrons enjoy limited reopening - Curbside pickup also available three days a week

April 10, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Author: By Lili Adkins Special to the UDJ | Page: 12 | Section: News

671 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1350, grade level(s): >12

More than a year ago, the Ukiah Library closed its doors to patrons. Given the risks of the coronavirus pandemic, it was deemed unsafe for the popular center to remain open for bookshelf explorations or community events. On Tuesday, March 30, the library finally reopened its doors to the public.

At this time, in accordance with statewide safety protocols, the library is still operating with limited services. It is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Patrons are asked to keep their visits short. Curbside pickup is available three times a week by appointment: Monday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The library is accepting returns as well, which are quarantined before being placed back on the shelves. Although the public computers are not currently available, patrons have the opportunity to use the copy machine or ask the staff to print something for them. Standard safety protocols such as limiting capacity, wearing masks, and social distancing have also been implemented.

As well as adhering to these in-person regulations, the library will continue offering its virtual programs and events. Included in this list is the Social Justice Book Club, run by Branch Librarian Melissa Carr.

Carr notes that she established this club with a “book to action focus,” with the goal of “(putting) forth some sort of action to improve the community in any ways that we can.”

“We’ve read a lot of great books. The first that we read was Ibram X. Kendi’s “Stamped from the Beginning.” We also read “Me and White Supremacy” by Layla Saad. This month we’re reading “Silent Spring” by Rachel Carson.”

The Social Justice Book Club meets every first Thursday at 7 p.m. on Zoom and is only one of many virtual events hosted by the library.

“Another program that I do is the LOBA Poetry Series,” Carr says. “Right now we’re doing strictly an open mic, where people can come and read poems of their own and poems of others.”

The LOBA Poetry Series is hosted on the last Thursday of each month at 7 pm. Zoom links to join this and the Social Justice Book Club can be found on the library’s website and Facebook page.

In addition to these adult-oriented events, the library also offers online programs for children and teenagers in its efforts to involve the entirety of the Ukiah community.

“This pandemic has been hard on everyone, but for young adults this hits them on another level,” says Teen and Tween Services Librarian Katrina Griffiths. “Isolation can be brutal for young folks; it is extremely important for them to know they are not alone.”

To combat the challenges of isolation for teenagers, Griffiths has established several online platforms to reach Ukiah youth and to connect them with the library.

She routinely hosts programs on Instagram Live, where teens can watch Griffiths try new science experiments or make book recommendations.

“One of the most engaging was a Foodie Finds event, the Tik Tok Layer Quesadilla,” she laughs. In Foodie Finds livestreams, Griffiths demonstrates how to make a variety of snacks and treats. “It was based on a Tik Tok sensation video how to make a multi-layered quesadilla.”

Even though these virtual meetings do not offer the same personal connection that in-person events do, Griffiths wants Ukiah teenagers to know that the library is supporting them through these difficult times.

“Teens are super busy these days, the main idea is to let them know the library is here for them,” she says. “The bright side of all of this is exploring new avenues to say hi and share stories.”

Hosting virtual events and managing curbside pickup services have kept the library’s staff busy for the last year. In fact, several librarians were temporarily deployed to administer COVID-19 tests and take temperatures at county buildings.

“We’ve been here, we just haven’t had our doors open to the public,” Carr says.

The Ukiah Library has had a year unlike any other. Its reopening to the public represents a hopeful future for the community as a whole.

## **Library Take-and-Make - Learn to make eye pillow masks to help with sleep**

May 6, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Page: 3 | Section: Features

127 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1280, grade level(s): 11-12

Join the Ukiah Library in a little self-care. Learn how to make an eye pillow mask to help with soothing sleepy-time dreams and feeling extra fabulous when heading to sleep. We provide the materials and you provide the patience.

Pre-order your eye pillow mask Take-and-Make package and pick it up from the Ukiah Library using a scheduled curbside service or during our open hours. Pick-ups for this Grab-and-Go experience will continue while supplies last. Please, only one eye pillow mask package per household.

This program is free of charge, for all ages, sponsored by the Ukiah Valley Friends of the Library and the Mendocino County Library. For more information or to request your eye pillow mask Take-and-Make package please contact the Ukiah Library at 707-463-4490 or [Mendocino.county.library@gmail.com](mailto:Mendocino.county.library@gmail.com).

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## **Zoom - Ukiah Library to host Social Justice Book Club on May 6**

April 7, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Page: 3 | Section: Features

91 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1150, grade level(s): 9 10 11-12

The Ukiah Library is hosting a Social Justice Book Club on Thursday, May 6 at 6 p.m. The club will take place on Zoom. Join for monthly discussions of thought-provoking books through a social justice lens.

Registrants will be encouraged to pursue positive actions to uplift their respective communities.

Social Justice Book Club will recur throughout the COVID-19 pandemic on the first Thursday of each month. Please email Melissa Carr at [carrm@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:carrm@mendocinocounty.org) or call 234-2862 to sign up for the Book Club. All registrants will receive an email invite to participate via Zoom.

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# Coronavirus - Ukiah Library reopens to public - Limited services offered two afternoons a week

March 30, 2021 | Ukiah Daily Journal (CA)

Author: By Jody Martinez udjjm@ukiahdj.com | Page: 1 | Section: News

695 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1580, grade level(s): >12

Today is a momentous day in the history of Mendocino County.

After a year of closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukiah Library, at 105 N. Main St., is reopening its doors this week for limited in-person services on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, beginning this afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m.

During the past year, library staff have continued offering many services to the community, from virtual programs online, to curbside pickup of books and other library materials by appointment, to an extensive online collection of e-books, audiobooks, films and music recordings that is available 24/7 at no charge to all county residents who have a library card.

Today, however, will be the first

time in a year that anyone other than staff (and perhaps an occasional repair person) will be welcomed inside the library building itself. The initial reopening is happening because of Mendocino County's return to the COVID-19 'red tier' on March 14, which allows more businesses and other services to partially reopen.

If Mendocino County were to return to the most restrictive 'purple tier,' the library's reopening plans will be delayed, so let's all work hard to keep that from happening.

As of now, the library will be open to the public four hours (1 to 5 p.m.) on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Due to the need for social distancing, not everyone can go inside at once. Facial coverings will be required, and there will be no seating or restrooms available for use at this time.

There also will be no computers available for use for the time-being, although if you want to have a copy made you can do that, but be sure to observe the markings and arrows on the floor at all times while inside the library. And if you wake up feeling crummy, stay home and read a book there until you feel well again.

Library staff described the two-day-a-week reopening as a time for a short "grab & go" visit, so don't plan to spend the entire afternoon. But do plan to peruse the shelves and choose a few books to read, music to listen to and/or movies to watch at home while you wait for increased library services to return.

All it takes to check-out items — either at the library itself or from its website — is a library card, and if you don't have

one of those you can probably get one during your visit. All you need to do is complete a short form of basic info and show some ID. Library cards don't cost a penny, and the entire process can likely be completed in about five minutes.

Following is more information from the County of Mendocino about activities that are permitted under the state of California's 'red tier,' which Mendocino County qualified for as of March 14, and has successfully maintained for more than two weeks now:

- Grocery Stores: May now admit 100% capacity.
- Retail: May now admit a max of 50% capacity.
- Shopping Centers: May now admit a max of 50% capacity.
- Museums: May now have indoor activities with a max of 25% capacity.
- Places of Worship: May continue to have indoor activities with a max of 25% capacity.
- Movie theaters: May now have indoor activities with a max of either 100 people or 25% capacity, whichever is fewer.
- Gyms: May now have indoor activities with a max of 10% capacity.
- Restaurants including Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries serving meals: May now have indoor activities with a max of 100 people OR 25% capacity, whichever is fewer.
- Wineries, Breweries, Distilleries (where no meal is provided): May continue to operate outdoors with the following modifications: Patrons must make reservations and sit at tables, staying for a max of 90 minutes, and all serving of alcoholic beverages must end at 8 p.m.
- Bars (where no meal is provided): Must remain closed.
- Long-Term Care Facilities: May restart in-person visits, while carefully maintaining specific COVID-19 precautions, such as COVID-19 screenings for both residents and visitors, facial covering usage, etc. Please contact the facility before going in person and review the state's guidance concerning Long-Term Facilities here: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-22.aspx>

For a detailed overview of business-specific mandates, visit: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID19CountyMonitoringOverview.aspx> (Under "Risk Criteria" — "specific tier based on risk-based criteria")



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NEXT YEAR BUDGET DETAIL REPORT

P 1  
bgnyrpts

PROJECTION: 20221 2021-2022 BUDGET

ACCOUNTS FOR:  
LIBRARY

	VENDOR	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	2022 DEPARTMENT
LB 821500 - SALES & USE TAX				-2,311,200.00 *
MEASURE A SALES TAX		1.00	2,311,200.00	-2,311,200.00
8% increase from budgeted				
2020 amt.				
LB 824100 - INTEREST				-30,000.00 *
LIBRARY FUND INTEREST		1.00	30,000.00	-30,000.00
LB 826370 - LIBRARY SERVICES				-10,000.00 *
FINES & FEES		1.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00
LB 827600 - OTHER SALES				-4,000.00 *
COPY AND PRINT CHARGES		1.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00
LB 827707 - DONATION				-1,000.00 *
DONATIONS		1.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
LB 827801 - GRANT REVENUE				-5,000.00 *
		1.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
LB 827802 - OPERATING TRANSFER IN				-1,407,423.00 *
PROPERTY TAX - ESTIMATE		1.00	1,407,423.00	-1,407,423.00

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NEXT YEAR BUDGET DETAIL REPORT

P 2  
bgnyrpts

PROJECTION: 20221 2021-2022 BUDGET

ACCOUNTS FOR:  
LIBRARY

LB	VENDOR	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	2022 DEPARTMENT
861011 - REGULAR EMPLOYEES		1.00	1,488,245.00	1,623,859.00 *
PER AUDITOR		1.00	39,885.00	39,885.00
POSITION CHANGES		1.00	95,729.00	95,729.00
3.5 LIBRARY ASSISTANTS				
861012 - EXTRA HELP		1.00	35,000.00	35,000.00 *
EXTRA-HELP				
861013 - OVERTIME REG EMP		1.00	25,000.00	25,000.00 *
OVERTIME				
861021 - CO CONT TO RETIREMENT		1.00	481,367.00	538,879.00 *
PER AUDITOR		1.00	24,384.00	24,384.00
POSITION CHANGES		1.00	33,128.00	33,128.00
3.5 NEW LIB ASSISTANTS				
861022 - CO CONT TO OASDI		1.00	81,366.00	90,408.00 *
PER AUDITOR		1.00	3,753.00	3,753.00
POSITION CHANGES		1.00	5,289.00	5,289.00
3.5 NEW LIBRARY ASSISTANTS				
861023 - CO CONT TO OASDI-MEDIC		1.00	20,767.00	22,391.00 *
PER AUDITOR		1.00	387.00	387.00
POSITION CHANGES		1.00	1,237.00	1,237.00
3.5 NEW LIBRARY ASSISTANTS				

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NEXT YEAR BUDGET DETAIL REPORT

P 3  
bgnyrpts

PROJECTION: 20221 2021-2022 BUDGET

ACCOUNTS FOR:  
LIBRARY

	VENDOR	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	2022	DEPARTMENT
LB 861024 - CO CONT TO RET INCREMENT		1.00	68,793.00	75,986.00 *	
PER AUDITOR		1.00	3,050.00	68,793.00	
POSITION CHANGES		1.00	4,143.00	3,050.00	
3.5 NEW LIBRARY ASSISTANTS				4,143.00	
LB 861030 - CO CONT TO EMPLOYEE INSURANCE		1.00	191,052.00	245,653.00 *	
PER AUDITOR		1.00	27,101.00	191,052.00	
POSITION CHANGES		1.00	27,500.00	27,101.00	
3.5 NEW LIBRARY ASSISTANTS				27,500.00	
LB 861031 - CO CONT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE		1.00	5,495.00	5,495.00 *	
PER AUDITOR CONTROLLER				5,495.00	
LB 861035 - CO CONT WORKERS COMPENSATION I		1.00	67,372.00	67,372.00 *	
PER AUDITOR CONTROLLER				67,372.00	
LB 862060 - COMMUNICATIONS		1.00	10,000.00	253,187.00 *	
PHONE LINES		1.00	128,909.00	10,000.00	
NON-RECURRING COST FOR ROUND VALLEY CIRCUITS		1.00	60,448.00	128,909.00	
NON-RECURRING COST FOR LAYTONVILLE CIRCUITS		1.00	44,830.00	60,448.00	
1ST YEAR ANNUAL COST FOR BRDBND (E-RATE FUTURE)		1.00	9,000.00	44,830.00	
WILLITS WIRING UPGRADES-PUBLIC PROJECT				9,000.00	

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NEXT YEAR BUDGET DETAIL REPORT

P 4  
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PROJECTION: 20221 2021-2022 BUDGET

ACCOUNTS FOR:  
LIBRARY

LB	VENDOR	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	2022 DEPARTMENT
862062 - COMM MICROWAVE		1.00	6,770.00	6,770.00 *
COUNTY-WIDE MICROWAVE				6,770.00
862090 - HOUSEHOLD EXPENSE		1.00	80,000.00	126,000.00 *
COUNTY JANITORIAL & SUPPLIES		1.00	16,000.00	80,000.00
ROUND VALLEY CLEANING		1.00	24,000.00	16,000.00
COAST CLEANING		1.00	6,000.00	24,000.00
WASTE DISPOSAL				6,000.00
862101 - INSURANCE-GENERAL		1.00	41,675.00	41,675.00 *
PER AUDITOR				41,675.00
862120 - MAINTENANCE-EQUIPMENT		1.00	10,000.00	10,000.00 *
BOOK MOBILE/VAN MAINTENANCE				10,000.00
862130 - MAINT-STRC IMPR & GRN		1.00	25,000.00	25,000.00 *
WORK ORDERS FOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE				25,000.00
862150 - MEMBERSHIPS		1.00	8,500.00	8,500.00 *
CLA, ALA, NORTHNET				8,500.00
862170 - OFFICE EXPENSE		1.00	35,000.00	43,000.00 *
OFFICE SUPPLIES, MAILING, OFFICE FURNITURE, PAPER		1.00	8,000.00	35,000.00
ESTIMATED LEASE FOR COPIERS				8,000.00

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NEXT YEAR BUDGET DETAIL REPORT

P 5  
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PROJECTION: 20221 2021-2022 BUDGET

ACCOUNTS FOR:  
LIBRARY

LB	VENDOR	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	2022 DEPARTMENT
862185 - MEDICAL & DENTAL SVCS		1.00	2,000.00	2,000.00 *
PRE EMPLOYMENT PHYSICAL				2,000.00
862187 - EDUCATION & TRAINING		1.00	2,000.00	2,000.00 *
EDUCATION AND TRAINING				2,000.00
862189 - PROF & SPEC SVCS-OTHR		1.00	25,000.00	226,000.00 *
INFORMATION SERVICES BILLING ESTIMATE		1.00	70,000.00	25,000.00
SECURITY GUARD		1.00	70,000.00	70,000.00
NORTHNET - MATERIAL DELIVERY		1.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY - ILS - ADD LAYTONVILLE		1.00	71,000.00	71,000.00
862190 - PUBL & LEGAL NOTICE		1.00	1,000.00	1,000.00 *
ADVERTISEMENT FOR STAFF RECRUITMENT				1,000.00
862194 - A-87 COSTS		1.00	519,993.00	519,993.00 *
PER AUDITOR				519,993.00
862210 - RNTS & LEASES BLD GRD		1.00	26,000.00	42,000.00 *
EST RENT ROUND VALLEY BRANCH LIBRARY RENT		1.00	26,000.00	26,000.00
EST RENT LAYTONVILLE STATION		1.00	16,000.00	16,000.00

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MENDOCINO COUNTY PRODUCTION v11.3  
NEXT YEAR BUDGET DETAIL REPORT

P 6  
bgnyrpts

PROJECTION: 20221 2021-2022 BUDGET

ACCOUNTS FOR:  
LIBRARY

LB	VENDOR	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	2022	DEPARTMENT
862230 - INFO TECH EQUIP		3.00	2,000.00	102,971.00 *	6,000.00
3 NEW STATIONS (LAYTONVILLE) SOFTWARE/EQUIPMENT		11.00	1,300.00	14,300.00	
STAFF REPLACEMENT PCS		1.00	72,671.00	72,671.00	
ENTERPRISE CHARGES - IS		1.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT					
862239 - SPEC DEPT EXP		1.00	200,000.00	200,000.00 *	200,000.00
BOOKS, MATERIALS, PROGRAMS & ONLINE CONTENT					
862250 - TRNSPRTATION & TRAVEL		1.00	15,000.00	20,000.00 *	15,000.00
BOOKMOBILE MILEAGE		1.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
STAFF MILEAGE					
862253 - TRAVEL & TRSP OUT OF COUNTY		1.00	2,000.00	2,000.00 *	2,000.00
HOTEL, AIRFARE & PER DIEM FOR CONFERENCES & TRAINING					
862260 - UTILITIES		1.00	75,600.00	75,600.00 *	75,600.00
WATER, SEWER, ELECTRIC, GAS					
865802 - OPERATING TRANSFER OUT		1.00	55,000.00	55,000.00 *	55,000.00
UKIAH ENTRANCE CEMENT AND BOOKDROP					

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MENDOCINO COUNTY PRODUCTION v11.3  
 NEXT YEAR BUDGET DETAIL REPORT

P 7  
 bgnyrpts

PROJECTION: 20221 2021-2022 BUDGET

ACCOUNTS FOR:  
 LIBRARY

		VENDOR	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	2022 DEPARTMENT
LB001	LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION				
LB	862060 - LB001 COMMUNICATIONS				
	Willits rewiring project & racks-grant		1.00	21,000.00	21,000.00 *
	0		1.00	.00	.00

GRAND TOTAL 745,116.00

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Barbra Chapman \*\*

## Mendocino County Library Advisory Board 2021 Annual Report

### *Introduction: A Year Unlike Any Other*

Like everything else in our experience during the last fifteen months, library operations have been framed by the impact of public health restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been almost two years since a Library Advisory Board Annual Report was presented to the Board of Supervisors. The last in-person meeting of the Library Advisory Board took place in January, 2020. At that time, the calendar for the six yearly meetings was approved as per custom. The LAB met on the first three of these dates in March, May and July on ZOOM in an ‘information only’ format - no actions were taken nor were minutes recorded. Then, in September, 2020, formal meetings resumed with the agenda posted 72 hours in advance and public access made available to the ZOOM meetings. The Library Advisory Board welcomed Library Director, Deborah Fader Samson, on January 25, 2021. The Library Advisory Board welcomed Larry Riddle as the Pt. Arena City Representative in January, 2020. The District 1 seat has been open since January, 2021.

On March 17, 2020, all library branches closed their doors in accordance with pandemic-related public health guidelines. During this period, services to patrons continued in the form of on-line requests and programs, to-go activity kits, and curbside pickups. Notice of these services was regularly posted on social media.



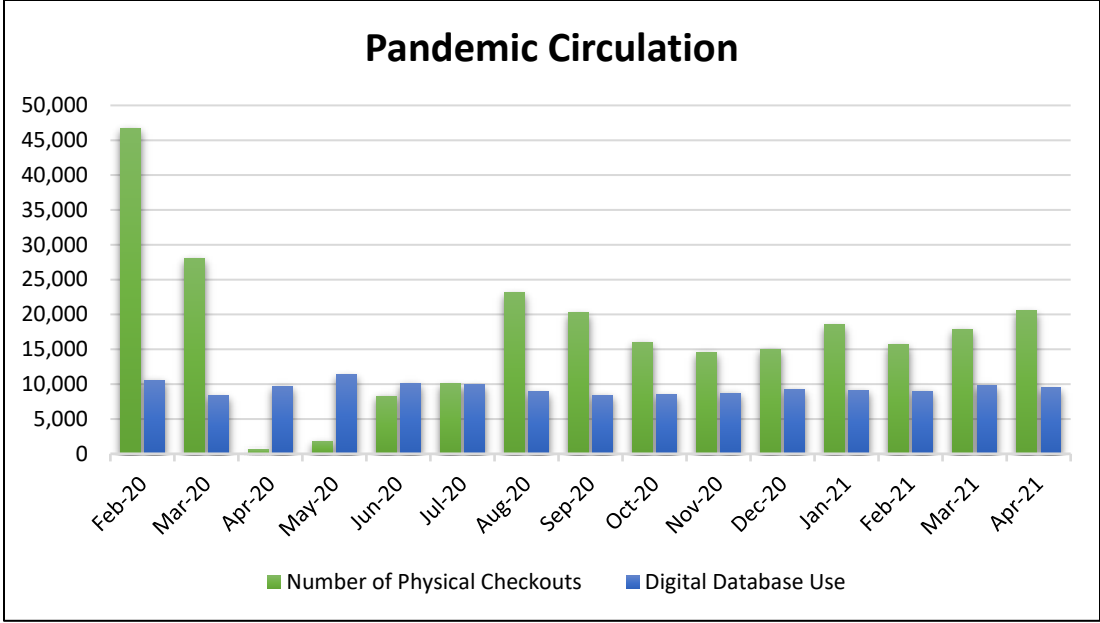
COVID-19 LIBRARY RESPONSE HOURS			
According to Webapps Time Sheets			
Employee	Total Hours	Hourly Cost to LB	Estimated Total Cost
1	373.00	\$53.42	\$19,926.83
2	103.00	\$31.75	\$3,270.67
3	3.50	\$47.61	\$166.63
4	34.25	\$56.74	\$1,943.36
5	177.75	\$23.34	\$4,148.22
6	510.00	\$13.61	\$6,943.41
7	50.00	\$57.50	\$2,874.81
8	201.00	\$29.02	\$5,833.67
9	102.00	\$36.25	\$3,697.97
10	92.00	\$56.95	\$5,239.81
11	37.00	\$99.23	\$3,671.55
12	177.75	\$51.82	\$9,210.36
13	6.00	\$27.55	\$165.30
14	79.50	\$28.87	\$2,294.85
15	234.25	\$30.35	\$7,109.40
16	80.00	\$38.28	\$3,062.08
17	142.00	\$22.58	\$3,206.79
18	5.00	\$13.61	\$68.07
19	471.25	\$40.95	\$19,297.81
20	171.25	\$31.73	\$5,433.44
21	168.75	\$34.84	\$5,879.69
22	53.50	\$21.14	\$1,131.24
23	92.75	\$41.13	\$3,814.53
24	1209.18	\$31.96	\$38,644.21
25	15.75	\$34.68	\$546.27
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>4,590.43</b>	<b>\$954.93</b>	<b>\$157,580.97</b>

Library employees served in pandemic-related tasks and positions as re-directed by the County, under the provision that they support county-wide emergencies. We ask for reimbursement of \$157,580 to the library budget for their hours of service in this capacity, from FEMA and the general fund.

On March 29, 2021, the libraries began opening to the public, two afternoons a week at 25% capacity for short grab and go visits.

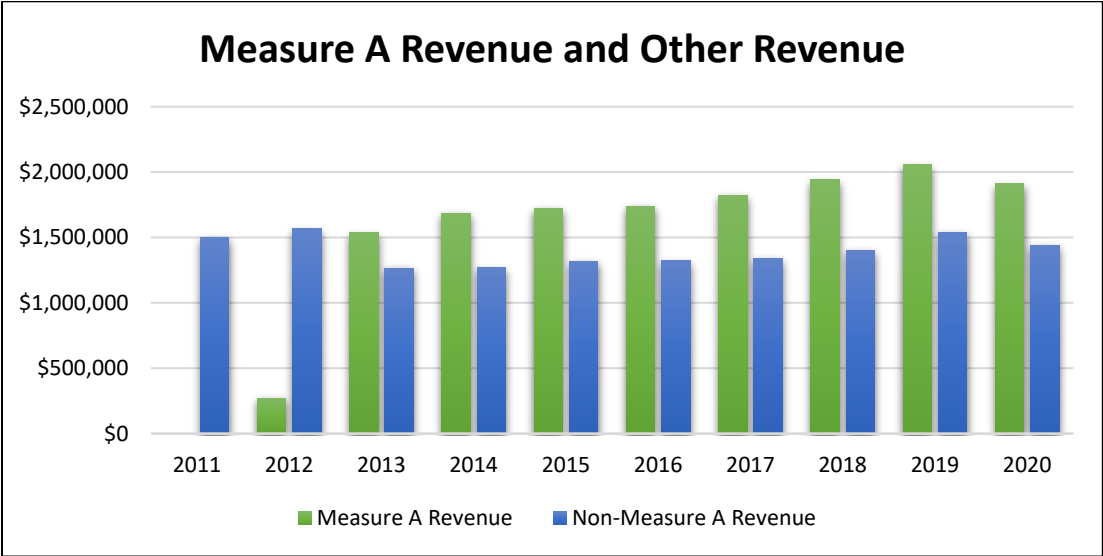
On April 22, the library branches began operating five afternoons a week at 50% capacity for up to 45 minutes. And on May 18, libraries plan to open five days a week, 6

hours a day, at 100% capacity for up to one hour visits with some outdoor programming. The libraries will continue to require masks and social distancing. Data shows that patronage, county-wide, is trending up towards pre-pandemic levels (*see graph next page*).

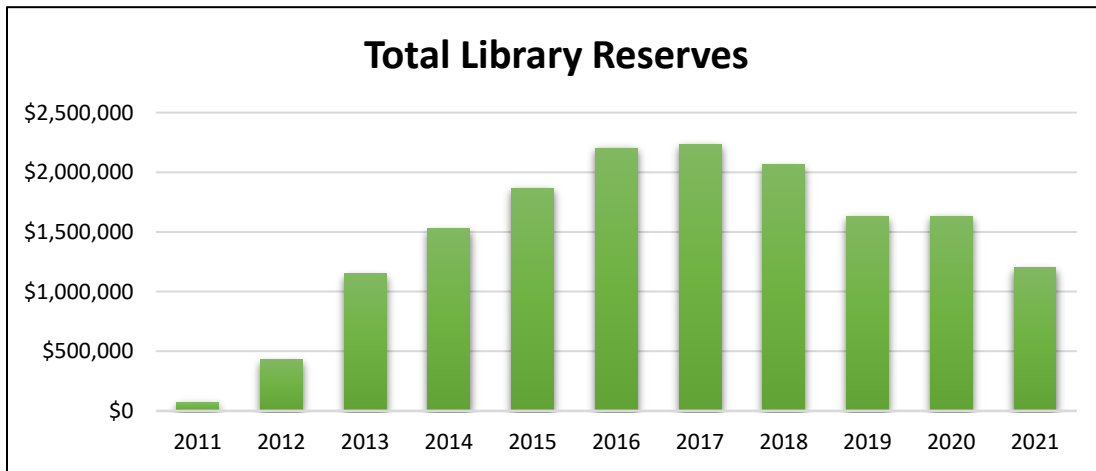


*Budget*

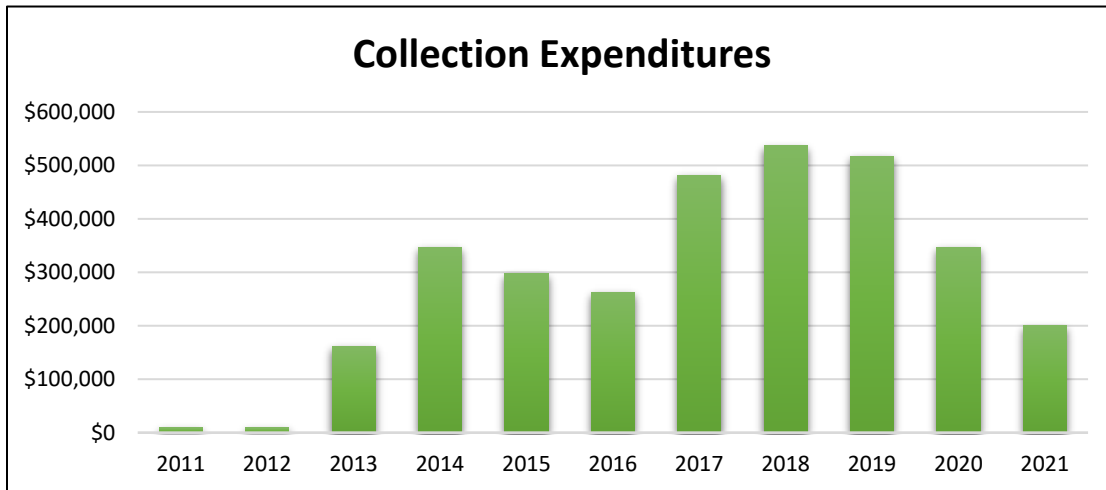
The Mendocino County Library system would look very different today had it not been for the passage of Measure A in 2011, with an overwhelming 73% of the vote. Funding from Measure A has meant that all branches and the bookmobile remain open; a materials budget exists; libraries are well staffed and children’s librarians have returned!



Today, a decade later, the current operating budget shows that reserves that peaked in 2017, have declined dramatically since then.

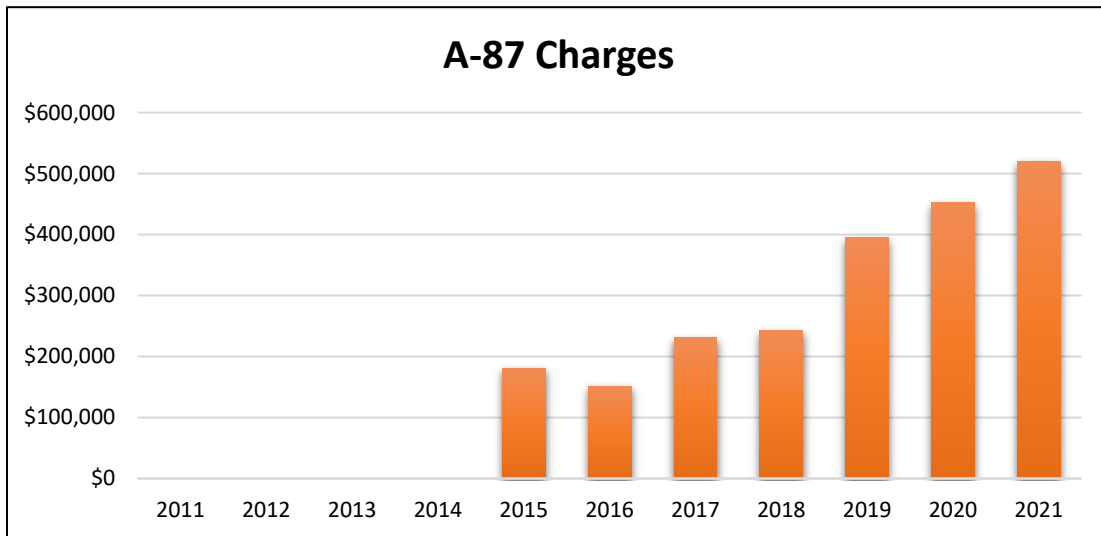


The allocation for collections has declined in the last two years as well.



Contributing factors appear to be routine and deferred maintenance costs and A-87 costs. The A-87 charges have increased significantly from year to year. As we consider this, the question

arises: are A-87 capital improvement and depreciation costs being incorrectly charged to the library budget?



To address these concerns, we advise the Board of Supervisors to recommend the formation of an ad hoc committee, composed of members of the Board of Supervisors, the Library Advisory Board and County staff.

Historically, the County has had no mechanism in the library budget for capital improvements. Recognizing this, the *Mendocino County Library Strategic Plan* was developed by the Library Advisory Board and presented to, and approved by, the Board of Supervisors at their last joint meeting in 2019. The three goals of the plan are:

1. Develop a capital improvement fund dedicated to the long term capital improvement of all the library facilities in Mendocino County.
2. Develop a long term plan for the improvement or replacement of the Ukiah Library.
3. Develop long range plans for all branches and future branches.

### *Renew Measure A 2022*

As citizens as well as Library Advisory Board members, we are moving forward with a community-driven initiative to renew and extend Measure A in perpetuity by an additional 1/8 of one cent, for a total of 1/4 of one cent, in November, 2022. If adopted, the revised Measure A will dedicate 80% of the new revenue, or 40% of total revenue, to capital improvement expenses.

As pandemic-related restrictions allow, we plan to hold meetings in every community in the county to roll out the proposal to renew Measure A in 2022; to raise public awareness, and to gain support. We will encourage citizens to join with us to gather signatures to put the initiative on the ballot in November 2022, and then work together with us to pass the measure with the same success that Measure A achieved in 2011.

### *Friends of the Library and the Working Groups to Improve Libraries*

The role of the Friends of the Library in Mendocino County cannot be overstated. The primary purpose of these citizen groups is to support their branch library by raising funds. County-wide, their collective efforts have exceeded \$2,500,000 over the last several years. A few highlights follow to illustrate the tremendous impact of their efforts.

The Coast Community Branch Library building in Pt. Arena and the Round Valley Library building in Covelo, were both purchased outright by their FOLs. The Friends of the Coast Community Library provide the branch building, maintenance, and capital improvement free to the county, including a \$500,000 seismic retrofit in 2016. The Friends of the Round Valley Library rent the building to the County and provide maintenance and capital improvements. The Friends of the Long Valley Library have raised over \$70,000 in the last five years to realize their goal of establishing a satellite library in Laytonville.

When the Board of Supervisors approved the *Mendocino County Library Strategic Plan*, they recommended that every branch form a Working Group to improve their Library. Their purpose was to identify long-term capital improvement needs. Predictably, members of the branch FOL and the Working Group are often the same citizens in each community.

In the following section, you will find a summary of the work each group has undertaken to support and improve their library, written by a member of their Friends of the Library.

**The Coast Community Branch Library** by Nancy Ruth Morin, FOCCL & Larry Riddle, Pt.  
Arena City LAB

Two of the six stated purposes of the Friends of Coast Community Library are to support and maintain a public library that is available free of charge, for Point Arena and the surrounding community and to initiate, support, and cooperate with the Mendocino County Library system in developing library programs, services, and facilities for the community.

Fundamental to these is the maintenance of a space that is functional and comfortable in which the collections can be housed and programs can be offered. To this end, FOCCL raised the money to purchase and renovate a building, which they now own and provide to Mendocino County for the Coast Library at no charge. The building is historic: it was erected in 1928 and is at least the third building on that site. The previous buildings were all lost to natural disaster (earthquake) and unnatural disaster (fire in in mid-1920s). Our building is approaching its centennial and we hope it will still be here and open for library patrons during its bicentennial.

We have recently raised and spent close to \$500,000 for a seismic retrofit that we hope will preclude any future earthquake damage. We have also been discussing the possibility of installing an expensive fire suppression system and are currently scheduled to spend about \$30,000

to replace the roof on our annex, which is where the library workroom is located. All of this has been and/or is being done entirely through the support of the community.

FOCCL Board and members are fervent advocates for the library. They have been indefatigable in their willingness to pitch in and do whatever work needs to be done. FOCCL is alert to the needs of the community and continuously seeks ways that it can most appropriately help to meet those needs.

**The Fort Bragg Branch Library** by Janice Marcell, FOFBL and District 4 LAB representative

Both the Friends of the Fort Bragg Library and the Finance and Fundraising Committee meet monthly via ZOOM or in a hybrid format, following pandemic restrictions. Over the last several years, we have successfully fundraised and purchased the lot adjacent to the library in order to construct an expansion. Fundraising was suspended in 2020 due to the pandemic. However, other means of fundraising outreach were implemented, including an online book sale, appeals for donations, and the marketing of a \$1,000 Club whose total approaches \$80,000. The Fundraising Committee created Financial Advisor brochures that were distributed locally to asset management firms so that their clients have the option of donating to our library or its expansion. The FOFBL received a substantial bequest of \$475,000 from a former dedicated library volunteer in January, 2021.

A current endeavor is the creation of a Features List. This bilingual questionnaire will be published in the local newspaper and invites community input on features that citizens would like to see in the new, expanded library. Once community responses are received, the FOL and

Finance Committees will present them to the architectural firm. They will then develop a cost estimate and create a fundraising package for the expansion endeavor. Both the Friends and the Finance and Fundraising Committee collaboratively enhance the goals for improving the library.

The Working Group to Improve the Ft. Bragg Library also meets monthly. Information on how to improve the various aspects of the library expansion project are shared from the groups mentioned above, the Library Advisory Board, and the Measure A 2022 campaign. A service map was obtained by Branch Librarian Dan Hess from Russell Ford of the Planning and Building Department. It shows the designated service areas of each library in the County.

**The Long Valley Satellite Library** by Shawn Haven, President, LVFOL and District 3 LAB

Construction has begun on the library store front. We are so excited and thank everyone who has supported this project. We continue our collaboration with Healthy Start with monthly Grab-N-Go craft bags for kids and participation in their Summer Program, providing reading and literacy materials to approximately 60 elementary and middle school students. Book loans, a weekly Book Club, and provision of internet access to some students and writers are on-going. Traffic at the Book Room has not yet returned to pre-COVID levels, but we are seeing more customers taking home more books.

**The Round Valley Branch Library** by Lew Chichester, Vice President, FORVL

Despite the library facilities here in Round Valley being closed to the public for the majority of the past year, branch staff have found ways to serve the public and have remained visible on social media, with COVID-safe programming on ZOOM and local radio station KYBU 96.9. Highlights this year include a weekly ZOOM story time for preschool-aged kids, a weekly radio program for tweens, teens, and adults (“Reading Radio”), a writing workshop facilitated by



local poet Michelle Peñaloza, and a presentation on wildfire preparedness by the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council and Sherwood Firewise Communities. Additionally, the Seed Library distributed over 3,000 packets of seeds to our community in 2020 during a national seed shortage caused by panic-buying during the pandemic and has distributed an additional 2000+ seed packets so far in 2021. The Seed Library resumed their open air “Planting Parties” in March and is looking forward to its Seed and Seedling swap in mid-May. Finally, branch staff have served library regulars and new patrons alike with curbside service, which has included an impressive variety of new books and movies, as well as board games and seeds.

The major capital improvement on our library facility this last year has been the purchase and installation of our backup generator which was primarily financed with two grants from the United Way of the Wine Country and the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, plus generous contributions from the local organization, WARM Foundation, and numerous community members.

The Friends of the Round Valley Public Library also provided much needed Wi-Fi to the library. While our organization has supplemented the connectivity provided by the County Library, technology and communication infrastructure remains vulnerable and at times insufficient compared with that offered at other library branches in the County. For example, for the entire month of February 2021, staff at the Round Valley Branch struggled to provide programs and services without internet connection to the County network in Ukiah. For this period, staff members worked without access to shared files, including documents used for administration of the branch. Staff were also cut off from timesheets, branch statistics, and program files. During this time, branch staff relied on the Wi-Fi provided by the Friends in order to provide basic services to the community.

**The Ukiah Branch Library** by Michele Savoy, UVFOL President and Lynn Zimmermann, District 2 LAB

The Ukiah Valley Friends of the Library had its first meeting in over a year on April 21, 2021, due to the pandemic restrictions. Prior to the pandemic, the UVFOL collaborated with the Working Group to Improve the Ukiah Library to raise funds for a needs assessment of the library building. Funding for the cost of the needs assessment, \$20,000, was made possible with a \$10,000 donation from the UVFOL and \$2500 contributions from each of the following: County of Mendocino; City of Ukiah; Mendocino County Sheriff; Mendocino County District Attorney's Office (asset forfeiture funds from the latter two.)

In January, 2021, the Friends of the Ukiah Library Branch contracted with Arch/Nexus to provide a needs assessment of the building, built in 1970. The needs assessment includes an analysis, recommendations, and a cost estimate. Two ZOOM meetings have taken place with the Arch/Nexus team; data has been collected and a written analysis will be presented upon completion at the second quarter, or mid-summer.

In the last three years, The UVFOL has raised funds totaling \$48,000. This revenue has augmented the reserve and supported a wide range of pre-pandemic programs including: children's programs, teen programs, Library Teen Leadership Council, family programs, and adult programs including The Yokayo Seed Project, which provides educational seminars and a growing collection of local heirloom seeds. An outdoor Book Sale will take place June 5th.

**The Willits Branch Library** by Olga O'Neill, WFOL and City of Willits LAB representative

The Willits Library Branch Working Group's first meeting was on 1/11/20 and since that time we have not formally met. We had identified many needs, some of which the County had planned to address, but thus far only the HVAC system has been improved. During 2020 the branch was awarded a grant for Maximizing Learning Spaces and the Willits Friends Group supplemented the grant funding for the architect. Willits Library has implemented what they could at this time including purchasing furniture paid for by The Friends of the Willits Library. The Working group had also identified possible partners and collaborative efforts to pursue. The list of improvements includes: a new roof, HVAC, painting, and carpet, among many others.

**The Bookmobile** by Michael Schaeffer, District 5 LAB member

The Bookmobile coped well with the COVID emergency. Dave and Hunter were able to get back on the road and deliver holds and a selection of other materials early and safely. All service was outside and masked. Bookmobile circulation was high. We look forward to the restoration of full services and being able to go on board again.

*In Conclusion*

All branches of the Mendocino County Library System served as an anchor in their communities during the year of library closures. During this period, library staff provided innovative programs and services to patrons, and emergency services to citizens, as re-directed by the County.

During this period of time, the Library Advisory Board and the Renew Measure A 2022 Planning Committee continued to meet on ZOOM. The Friends and Working Groups of the Library met on ZOOM, as members were able, and planned for programs for patrons and ambitious capital improvements for facilities, for the time when the libraries would re-open.

The library budget shows a significant decrease in reserves. Allocations for library collections have also decreased in recent years. At the same time, A-87 charges to the library budget have increased significantly. To address these concerns, we advise the Board of Supervisors to recommend the formation of an ad hoc committee, composed of members of the Board of Supervisors, the Library Advisory Board, and County staff.

As both citizens and Library Advisory Board members, we are planning for a community-driven effort to renew Measure A in 2022. If adopted, the revised Measure A will dedicate 80% of the new revenue, or 40% of total revenue, to capital improvement expenses.

On behalf of the Library Advisory Board, I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary work of the Library staff in extraordinary times, and the impressive volunteer efforts throughout Mendocino County, to build, maintain, and enhance free public libraries in their communities.

*Submitted by Lynn Zimmermann, Chair of the Mendocino County Library Advisory Board*

# **MENDOCINO COUNTY LIBRARY COLLECTION POLICY**

## **LIBRARY MISSION**

The mission of the Mendocino County Library is to enrich lives through free and equitable access to materials and programs centered on education, culture, and entertainment.

## **Intellectual Freedom**

Collection development policies should be guided by the principles of intellectual freedom, which stems from the First Amendment of the Constitution that affirms citizens' right to hold beliefs and to express them. Freedom of speech and freedom of the press also apply to its counterpart, the right to unrestricted ACCESS to the expressions and beliefs of others.

## **Role of the Public Library**

Public libraries play a unique role in the preservation of democracy by providing an open, nonjudgmental institution where individuals can pursue their interests and gain an understanding of diverse opinions. Libraries must continue to play an essential role in safeguarding the intellectual liberty of the public and they must recognize, understand, and support freedom of access.

## **Purpose of policy**

- To guide library staff in the selection of materials
- To inform the public about the principles upon which selections are made
- "Selection" refers to the decision that must be made either to add materials to or to retain materials already in the collection.

## **Objectives**

- To maintain a well-balanced and broad collection of materials for information, reference, and research.
- To support the democratic process by providing materials for the education, enlightenment, and entertainment of the community.

## **Responsibility for Selection**

Although many people contribute to the selection process by recommending resources for the library in an advisory capacity, the responsibility for coordinating and making final decisions rests with the library professional staff.

## **General Principles**

Materials to be added to the collections of the Mendocino County Library are selected on the merits of a particular work in relation to the needs, interests, and demands of this community.

- Responsibility for children's reading rests with their parents or legal guardians. Selection should not be inhibited by the possibility that books may inadvertently come into the possession of children.
- Selections should be made on the basis of whether the book presents life in its true proportions, whether characters and situations are realistically presented (except for Fantasy and Science Fiction genres), and whether the book has literary merit.
- Based on the services the public library is expected to perform, it is our responsibility to provide circulating, reference, and research materials for both the diverse general public of the community as well as students at all levels of formal and informal education.

## **Specific Principles**

- Contemporary significance or permanent value
- Accuracy
- Authority of Author
- Relation of work to existing collection
- Price, format, and ease of use
- Scarcity of information in subject area
- Availability of material elsewhere in the community
- Popular demand

## **SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

**Adult Non-Fiction:** Chief points considered are readability of material, authenticity of factual matter presented, quality of writing, cost, and format, existing library holdings, and suitability of material to the community. Nonfiction may be excluded for inaccurate information, lack of integrity, sensationalism, intent to incite hatred or intolerance, and text material of too limited or specialized a nature.

Titles are selected on the basis of the content as a whole and without regard to the personal history of the author. Important books of all persuasions should be carried. In no case is any book included or excluded merely because of the race or nationality, or the political or religious views of the writer. In the case of controversial questions, variety and balance of opinion are sought whenever available.

**Adult Fiction:** Selection is made with reference to one or more of these criteria:

- It should contribute positively to an individual's awareness of self, community, and social heritage.
- It should contribute to the value of the library's collection as a whole by representing all types and styles of literature.
- It should provide pleasant reading for recreational and creative use of leisure time.
- Serious works which present an honest aspect of life are not necessarily excluded for frankness of experience.

**Children's Materials:**

The first objective in selecting children's materials is to encourage children's joy of reading and in being read to. Books are selected which offer adventure of mind and spirit to the growing child, cultivating an appreciation of literature both oral and written and encouraging the creative use of leisure time by developing an inquiring mind. Special attention is given to works of use and value to parents, teachers, and other adults working with children.

The public library does not provide basic texts or materials needed in quantity for school work; it accepts as its responsibility the provision of supplemental materials of varied kinds to enrich the resources available to the individual student and teacher.

**Special Collections:**

The library collects and preserves documents primarily of local importance. Books of particular historical value will be collected by the Mendocino County Museum and not within the purview of the public library.

**Magazines and Newspapers:**

Basic popular, general information, and scholarly magazines are selected to supplement the book collection bring book information up to date, and fill in those areas where book resources are weak, inferior, or non-existent.

Newspapers are selected to meet reference and research needs of patrons, to provide current information, and to satisfy casual interest in current events. Local and national newspapers are supplied upon sufficient demand and within budget and space limitations.

**Non-Book Materials:**

The library recognizes the importance of non-book materials both as a supplement to its book collection and to its concept of service. Within budget limitations CD's, DVD's, e-books and e- audio books, streaming services, and online databases will be purchased in accordance with the criteria previously outlined for adult and children's materials.

**Gifts:**

Gifts accepted by the Mendocino County Library are judged upon the same basis as purchased materials. They are considered with the explicit understanding that such

factors as duplication, lack of community interest, processing costs or inadequate shelf space may prevent their addition to the collection or permanent retention on the shelves. Gifts are accepted with the understanding that the library, if it cannot use them, may at any time dispose of them in any way it sees fit. No conditions may be imposed relating to any gift accepted by the library. Donors must be willing to assign proper and legal title, which can include copyright and literary rights, to all gift books, manuscripts, and other materials which have significant monetary value.

The library does not assess the value of materials and therefore does not provide that information for tax exemption purposes. However, upon a donor's request, the library supplies a receipt listing the number and general type of materials accepted.

Original works, crafts, artifacts, furniture, and items large enough or of a nature to be considered permanent and non-circulating must be referred to Library Administration before final acceptance is given. Labels may be affixed to gift items indicating the donor and related information helpful to the patron or person whom the gift honors.

### **Memorials:**

The Library welcomes funds to be used for the purchase of memorials. A thank-you note is sent to the donor, and the family of the person honored is notified. If requested, memorial materials may carry a gift plate showing the name of the person honored.

### **LABELING OF MATERIALS:**

In order to permit free and convenient access to library materials, the library endorses an open shelf policy. Therefore, no materials shall be either removed from open shelves or kept in a restricted area because of their controversial nature or because they are more suitable for one age group than another because of their subject matter, viewpoint, or the possibility that they might be opposed to by certain individuals or groups.

Library materials are not marked or identified in such a way as to indicate approval or disapproval, and materials are not sequestered, except for the purpose of protecting such materials from damage or theft.

Responsibility for children's reading and viewing materials rests with their parents and legal guardians. Selection of materials for the adult collection is therefore not influenced by the possibility that children may obtain materials which some parents might consider inappropriate.

### **COLLECTION MAINTENANCE AND WEEDING**

Materials are withdrawn regularly in accordance with the criteria for selection. Replacements are based on the same principles.

Stolen or mutilated materials will be replaced when deemed necessary to the maintenance of a well-rounded collection. Materials of marginal importance may not be replaced.



## **Responsibility**

Responsibility for the selection of library materials falls under the jurisdiction of the County Librarian. Since no one person is fully qualified to determine the reading needs of all persons in all sections of the community, responsibility for materials selection may be delegated to staff members by the County Librarian, who has the authority to implement the policy. Suggestions from patrons are always welcome and given serious consideration. Problems in material selection are referred first to the Branch Supervisor and then to the County Librarian.

The Library attempts to follow the guidelines of The American Library Association, which recommends that annual withdrawals average about 5% of the total collection so that a library can maintain an up-to-date and inviting collection. Lack of demand, obsolete or erroneous information, and poor condition of material are the main reasons for discarding. Standard titles of lasting value (unless they are replaced by newer copies) and materials of special local interest will not be discarded.

- Gift materials will be subject to the same standards for inclusion and weeding as purchased materials.
- Archival material in great demand (e.g., County Annual Report) will be kept for two years. Historical documents are available at the Mendocino County Historical Society and by contacting the County of Mendocino Executive Office.
- Valuable old books and other materials which do not fit within the guidelines of the collection may be withdrawn and suitably disposed of by the County Librarian.

## **Reconsideration Procedure**

An important obligation of a public library is to reflect within its collection differing points of view on controversial topics. The Mendocino County Library does not advocate particular beliefs, nor does the selection of an item imply an endorsement of the author's viewpoint.

Comments from members of the reading public about the collection or individual items in the collection provide librarians with useful information about the interests and needs that may not be adequately met by the collection. The Library welcomes expression of opinion by customers, but will be governed by the Collection Development Policy in making additions to or deletions from the collection.

Customers who request the reconsideration of library materials will be asked to put their request in writing by completing and signing the form entitled "Request for Reconsideration of Library Material." (Attached).

Upon receipt of a formal written request, the County Librarian will appoint an ad hoc committee from the professional staff including, but not limited to, the selector for the subject area of the item in question and one Branch Manager. The committee will make a written recommendation to the County Librarian, who will then make a decision regarding the disposition of the material. The County Librarian will communicate this decision and the reasoning behind it, in writing, to the person who initiated the request for reconsideration within one month of the initial request.

## **REVISION OF COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

The Collection Development Policy is subject to review and needed revision every five years. Individual portions of the policy may be reviewed or added as needed.

## **AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION FREEDOM TO READ STATEMENT**

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

Most attempts at suppression rest on a denial of the fundamental premise of democracy: that the ordinary individual, by exercising critical judgment, will select the good and reject the bad. We trust Americans to recognize propaganda and misinformation, and to make their own decisions about what they read and believe. We do not believe they are prepared to sacrifice their heritage of a free press in order to be "protected" against what others think may be bad for them. We believe they still favor free enterprise in ideas and expression.

These efforts at suppression are related to a larger pattern of pressures being brought against education, the press, art and images, films, broadcast media, and the Internet. The problem is not only one of actual censorship. The shadow of fear cast by these pressures leads, we suspect, to an even larger voluntary curtailment of expression by those who seek to avoid controversy or unwelcome scrutiny by government officials.

Such pressure toward conformity is perhaps natural to a time of accelerated change. And yet suppression is never more dangerous than in such a time of social tension. Freedom has given the United States the elasticity to endure strain. Freedom keeps open the path of novel and creative solutions, and enables change to come by choice. Every silencing of a heresy, every enforcement of an orthodoxy, diminishes the toughness and resilience of our society and leaves it the less able to deal with controversy and difference.

Now as always in our history, reading is among our greatest freedoms. The freedom to read and write is almost the only means for making generally available ideas or manners of expression that can initially command only a small audience. The written word is the natural medium for the new idea and the untried voice from which come the original contributions to social growth. It is essential to the extended discussion that serious thought requires, and to the accumulation of knowledge and ideas into organized collections.

We believe that free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture. We believe that these pressures toward conformity present the danger of limiting the range and variety of inquiry and expression on which our democracy and our culture depend. We believe that every American community must jealously guard the freedom to publish and to circulate, in order to preserve its own freedom to read. We believe that publishers and librarians have a profound responsibility to give validity to that freedom to read by making it possible for the readers to choose freely from a variety of offerings.

The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution. Those with faith in free people will stand firm on these constitutional guarantees of essential rights and will exercise the responsibilities that accompany these rights.

We therefore affirm these propositions:

1. *It is in the public interest for publishers and librarians to make available the widest diversity of views and expressions, including those that are unorthodox, unpopular, or considered dangerous by the majority.*

Creative thought is by definition new, and what is new is different. The bearer of every new thought is a rebel until that idea is refined and tested. Totalitarian systems attempt to maintain themselves in power by the ruthless suppression of any concept that challenges the established orthodoxy. The power of a democratic system to adapt to change is vastly strengthened by the freedom of its citizens to choose widely from among conflicting opinions offered freely to them. To stifle every nonconformist idea at birth would mark the end of the democratic process. Furthermore, only through the constant activity of weighing and selecting can the democratic mind attain the strength demanded by times like these. We need to know not only what we believe but why we believe it.

2. *Publishers, librarians, and booksellers do not need to endorse every idea or presentation they make available. It would conflict with the public interest for them to establish their own political, moral, or aesthetic views as a standard for determining what should be published or circulated.*

Publishers and librarians serve the educational process by helping to make available knowledge and ideas required for the growth of the mind and the increase of learning. They do not foster education by imposing as mentors the patterns of their own thought. The people should have the freedom to read and consider a broader range of ideas than those that may be held by any single librarian or publisher or government or church. It is wrong that what one can read should be confined to what another thinks proper.

3. *It is contrary to the public interest for publishers or librarians to bar access to writings on the basis of the personal history or political affiliations of the author.*

No art or literature can flourish if it is to be measured by the political views or private lives of its creators. No society of free people can flourish that draws up lists of writers to whom it will not listen, whatever they may have to say.

4. *There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*

To some, much of modern expression is shocking. But is not much of life itself shocking? We cut off literature at the source if we prevent writers from dealing with the stuff of life. Parents and teachers have a responsibility to prepare the young to meet the diversity of experiences in life to which they will be exposed, as they have a responsibility to help them learn to think critically for themselves. These are affirmative responsibilities, not to be discharged simply by preventing them from reading works for which they are not yet prepared. In these matters values differ, and values cannot be legislated; nor can machinery be devised that will suit the demands of one group without limiting the freedom of others.

5. *It is not in the public interest to force a reader to accept the prejudgment of a label characterizing any expression or its author as subversive or dangerous.*

The ideal of labeling presupposes the existence of individuals or groups with wisdom to determine by authority what is good or bad for others. It presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. But Americans do not need others to do their thinking for them.

6. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians, as guardians of the people's freedom to read, to contest encroachments upon that freedom by individuals or groups seeking to impose their own standards or tastes upon the community at large; and by the government whenever it seeks to reduce or deny public access to public information.*

It is inevitable in the give and take of the democratic process that the political, the moral, or the aesthetic concepts of an individual or group will occasionally collide with those of another individual or group. In a free society individuals are free to determine for themselves what they wish to read, and each group is free to determine what it will recommend to its freely associated members. But no group has the right to take the law into its own hands, and to impose its own concept of politics or morality upon other members of a democratic society. Freedom is no freedom if it is accorded only to the accepted and the inoffensive. Further, democratic societies are more safe, free, and creative when the free flow of public information is not restricted by governmental prerogative or self-censorship.

7. *It is the responsibility of publishers and librarians to give full meaning to the freedom to read by providing books that enrich the quality and diversity of*

*thought and expression. By the exercise of this affirmative responsibility, they can demonstrate that the answer to a "bad" book is a good one, the answer to a "bad" idea is a good one.*

The freedom to read is of little consequence when the reader cannot obtain matter fit for that reader's purpose. What is needed is not only the absence of restraint, but the positive provision of opportunity for the people to read the best that has been thought and said. Books are the major channel by which the intellectual inheritance is handed down, and the principal means of its testing and growth. The defense of the freedom to read requires of all publishers and librarians the utmost of their faculties, and deserves of all Americans the fullest of their support.

We state these propositions neither lightly nor as easy generalizations. We here stake out a lofty claim for the value of the written word. We do so because we believe that it is possessed of enormous variety and usefulness, worthy of cherishing and keeping free. We realize that the application of these propositions may mean the dissemination of ideas and manners of expression that are repugnant to many persons. We do not state these propositions in the comfortable belief that what people read is unimportant. We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours.

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This statement was originally issued in May of 1953 by the Westchester Conference of the American Library Association and the American Book Publishers Council, which in 1970 consolidated with the American Educational Publishers Institute to become the Association of American Publishers.

Adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council and the AAP Freedom to Read Committee; amended January 28, 1972; January 16, 1991; July 12, 2000; June 30, 2004.

*A Joint Statement by:*

[American Library Association](#)  
[Association of American Publishers](#)

*Subsequently endorsed by:*

[American Booksellers for Free Expression](#)  
[The Association of American University Presses](#)  
[The Children's Book Council](#)  
[Freedom to Read Foundation](#)  
[National Association of College Stores](#)  
[National Coalition Against Censorship](#)  
[National Council of Teachers of English](#)  
[The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression](#)

**Mendocino County Library  
Request for Reconsideration of Material**

Request initiated by (your name): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you represent:

\_\_\_\_\_ Yourself

\_\_\_\_\_ An Organization (name): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Another Group (name): \_\_\_\_\_

Title of material for reconsideration: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

1. To what in the work do you object? Please be specific; site page number(s).
2. Did you read/ view/ listen to the entire work? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If not, what parts have you read/ listened to?
3. What do you feel might be the result of someone reading/ viewing/ listening to this work?
4. In your opinion, is there anything good about this work?
5. Are you aware of judgments of this work by literary critics? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
6. What would you like the library to do about this material?
7. In its place, what work would you recommend that would convey the same picture and perspective on the subject?

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Mendocino County Library Branch Reports

### Coast Community Branch

Julia Larke of the Coast Community Branch of the Mendocino County Library recently obtained a \$500 grant from ELF through the Southern California Library Consortium and their branch held an online bilingual reading of an ancient Argentinian folk tale for día de los niños, día de los libros on April 30 where two local Poets Laureate recited a traditional Argentinian folk tale in both English and Spanish for 30 school age children and their adults. Bilingual books were purchased and given out to the community to encourage cross cultural learning.

### Fort Bragg Branch

The Fort Bragg Branch of the Mendocino County Library has seen its daily gate count vary from 130 to 180, including patrons using morning curbside and those entering the building in the afternoons. The children's playground across the street has generated a lot of family traffic through our doors since we reopened. Our origami expert created a take-away butterfly craft for all ages and many people exit with a sample in their hands and paper to fold their own butterfly. Ocean Wave quilters hung tie-dyed quilts at the entrance of the library for the first time in a year. All ages are pleased to be back inside.

The library was honored to receive a gift copy of *The Art of Discovering Whales* by local artist, Larry Foster. Larry created the life-sized whale models kids climb on at Lawrence Hall of Science and near the Monterey Bay Aquarium. The book is a great addition to the slew of books we display each year at Whale Week!

In April we've celebrated poetry month in many ways: Daniel Barash performed a virtual shadow puppet show based on children's nursery rhymes. This is posted on our Youtube channel for the last half of April and is free to view, thanks to the generosity of Friends of the Fort Bragg Library. The prompt for Poetry Workshop challenged poets to see spring with new eyes. We are recording these original Wildflower Poems (via Zoom) for a film to be shown on our channel. The film will feature coastal wildflowers interspersed with voices and faces of local writers.





## Laytonville Branch

Construction has begun on the Laytonville Satellite Branch at 44960 N. Hwy. 101, Unit 4 in Laytonville.







### **Round Valley Branch**

The Round Valley Branch partnered with the Round Valley Tribal Youth Council U.N.I.T.Y. to present the Seed Library at the Farmers' Market for Earth Day.



### **Ukiah Branch**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and the Ukiah branch is giving out Take-and-Make packages to create self-care eye pillow masks for adults. They are also handing out Teen kits with craft supplies to create a Mood Tracker Journal, a candle, a Schat's gift card, and a packet of bubble wrap to pop away anxiety.

### **Willits Branch**

Nicole Bird, Branch Manager, will be giving the report orally at the meeting.