



## Mendocino County Library Advisory Board

### **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, July 17, 2024**

#### **MEETING LOCATIONS:**

In-Person at: 499 E Laurel St, Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Online at:

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### Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 277 815 902 716

Passcode: kVrx9Q

**Microsoft Teams** [Need help?](#)

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Agendas and attachments available at <https://www.mendolibrary.org/about/library-advisory-board/lab-agendas-and-minutes>

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes from the May 15, 2024, meeting
4. 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 on the approved Agenda.

5. County Librarian’s report
6. Administrative Services Manager’s updates

- a. Branch 6-month Statistics
  - b. Branch Budgets
  - c. Collection/programs budget
  - d. Capital Investment updates
7. Fort Bragg Branch Librarian report – Dan Hess
8. Unfinished Business:
  - a. LAB member bios, optional photo, few lines about why on LAB
  - b. Updates on Friends of the Libraries Outreach
  - c. District Updates
9. New Business
  - a. Letter/Request from the Friends of the Fort Bragg Library regarding possibility of a future loan on Measure O funds for the Fort Bragg Library expansion
10. Next Meeting, September 18, 2024, at Coast Community
11. Announcements and Comments, Adjournments

Attachments:

- Minutes
- Branch Statistics
- Branch Budgets
- Collection/programs budget
- Fort Bragg Branch Report



Minute Meeting Notes  
5-15-24

# Mendocino County Library Advisory Board

Library Advisory Board Minutes from Round Valley Branch Library and virtually from Coast Community Branch Library on 5-15-24

**Members Present:** Lew Chichester, Michael Schaeffer, Olga O'Neill - Vice Chair, Michele Savoy - Chair, Carole Poma, Linda Thornquist Stumpf, Mellisa Hannum – Acting County Librarian, and virtual: Roseanne Wetzel – Recording Secretary, Susan Sher, Larry Riddle

**Guests Present:** Pat Sobrero - Library Technician and representing Round Valley Branch, Lily Rojo – Department Application Specialist, and virtual: Barbra Chapman – Acting Director

1. Call to Order at 1:01 PM by Michele
2. Motion by Michael Schaeffer to amend agenda for emergency remote attendance (emergency health: Roseanne Wetzel)
  - a. Agenda amended approval motion 1<sup>st</sup> by Carole, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry. Approved
3. Motion to approve previous minutes: 1<sup>st</sup> by Lew, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Olga. Approved
4. Public Comment:
  - a. Lew discussed 3<sup>rd</sup> district having 3 libraries now and trying to visit each library every 2 months. Lew asked Laytonville staff if they had anything they wanted the LAB to know: Laytonville would like to be open more hours. Currently open Wed, Thu, and Sat, staff would like to be open Tues-Sat (2 additional days).
  - b. Pat is the seed librarian at Round Valley Public Library.: Mentioned the seed libraries are doing 'exceedingly' (Roseanne's term) well and are partnering with other organizations within the county. Pat wanted to plant a seed in the LAB's mind: please earmark money from the library budget for the seed libraries so each Branch Library has sufficient funds allocated to their seed libraries.
5. County Librarian/Director Report: Mellisa Hannum: Congratulations given by the LAB to the new County Librarian/Director & Branch Manager of Coast Community Library, Mellisa!
6. Acting Director's Report: Barb Chapman
  - a. New Budget: 40% split for sales tax includes starting with a projected \$2 million in the capital investment account but will have total at end of fiscal year. Discussed



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there is no \$\$ for Fort Bragg for new projects due to the State shortfall, but as the state had already paid (via CA State Library) for the Willits renovations, there IS funding for Willits. Increase from property taxes, which is set aside for the library, (can see in the FY 24-25 document)

**ACTION for Barb:** Michele requests a more detailed report breakdown of overall report with actuals and broken down further to detail each branch and admin costs.

b. Grants: **EmPOWERing Access:** Received! Will receive 4 privacy booths (delivered and installed for Fort Bragg, Willits, Ukiah and Coast), 50 solar chargers, 3 fix it tech tool kits, & planning events. **Lunch at the Library:** partnering with local school districts and providing library related activities at Fort Bragg, Ukiah, Willits, Coast and Round Valley. **Coast Tech Grant:** still waiting to hear back due to a hiring freeze. **Zip Books:** opened for next fiscal year!

Willits Roof: Olga discussed with John Haschak that next fiscal year budget has Willits Roof in it for County Facilities, & it will happen.

7. Pat read the Round Valley Public Library Branch Librarian's report written by Josh Bennett who could not attend.
8. FOL Outreach Committee: Michele discussed what Ukiah Library has been doing & others discussed what their FOL groups are doing as well. Michele asked if anyone would like to join the committee. No one agreed to join at this time.

**Action for Agenda:** Keep this on future agendas as informal CKI on what FOL groups are doing.

**Action Request from Michael:** Regarding the Fort Bragg Library and expansion project, requesting Fort Bragg Library/FOL write a proposal to the LAB re funding allocation designated. Placed on the next agenda to discuss when in Fort Bragg. Also, should consider Community Projects re grants.

Ukiah Library Mural to be done by Dell Linney.

9. By-Laws: Olga and Barb
  - a. Most changes to Secretary position as well as Membership. Concerns brought forth re the wording of the membership section regarding appointing from other districts, but wording was accepted as-is.
  - B. Resolution was amended to match the By-Laws.
  - c. **Motion by Michele to approve the By-Laws and Amended Resolution, 1<sup>st</sup> by**



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## Mendocino County Library Advisory Board

Michele, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rosie. Approved

Action for Rosie: Rosie will look into whether Michele and Rosie can switch district representation due to living in each other's districts. Will reach out to specific Board of Supervisors.

10. ACTION for Michael and Linda: LAB Bios for Library website: Get done by next meeting
11. a. Adhoc Committee Group with Ukiah City Members: Michele, Susan, Rosie, Michael. Susan discussed jurisdictional issues with city vs county. City does have 2 grant writers that could potentially work on grants together with the committee for the Ukiah Feasibility Study and Ukiah City's involvement. The Ukiah Feasibility Study has already been approved and budgeted for, in the next fiscal year.
  - b. Toshiba- need 3 (Willits, Round Valley and Coast), each estimated to cost \$8,194. Michael motioned to approve the 3 Toshiba purchases, Olga 1<sup>st</sup>, and Carol 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved
  - c. Line staff from the branches are meeting & discussing steps for working on reclassification and higher pay increases for all positions to help with retention of staff. Rosie recommended working with administration who is currently working on 2 positions being reclassified (branch managers and senior library technicians) and offer assistance.
  - d. Susan discussed changing meeting times to 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays due to conflict with City of Ukiah meetings. We won't be able to change this for the next meeting- but it will be on the agenda to change future meetings. Rosie dovetailed and requested a discussion about date/time changes for meetings generally due to meetings being during the middle of the week and middle of the day and this means most working adults are not eligible to apply for board positions, leading to a lack of diverse board representation and is inequitable. Rosie would like this addressed for future year meetings. Michele was amenable and asked this be put on the Agenda.

ACTION for Agenda: LAB Meeting Schedule Discussion

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024: Fort Bragg Library 1-3 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 2:45 PM by Michele



**Minute Meeting Notes**  
**5-15-24**

# **Mendocino County Library Advisory Board**

Agenda for Next Time:

1. FOL Outreach Checkin
2. Fort Bragg Library Expansion: Fort Bragg Library/FOL Proposal to the LAB for Funding Allocation
3. LAB Meeting Schedule Discussion

## DOOR COUNT



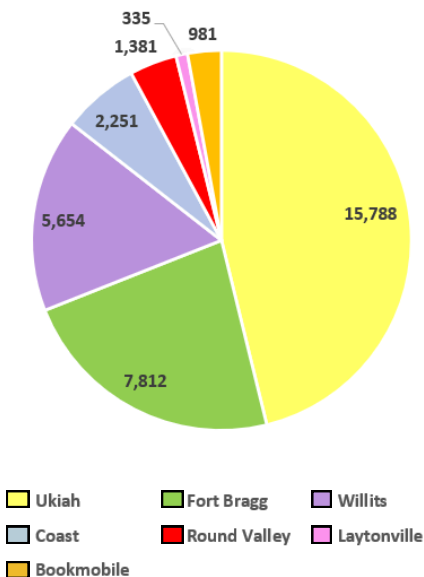
DOOR COUNT	24-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	24-Apr	24-May	24-Jun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Half
Ukiah	11,172	12,100	13,463	8,793	8,784	9,170	63,482
Fort Bragg	6,304	5,881	6,624	5,875	5,970	6,305	36,959
Willits	4,925	5,096	5,122	5,183	5,067	4,717	30,110
Coast	2,944	3,051	3,427	3,516	3,176	3,216	19,330
Round Valley	2,145	2,406	2,436	2,973	2,469	2,431	14,860
Laytonville	413	643	495	637	613	623	3,424
Bookmobile	399	274	352	415	396	302	2,138
<b>Total Door Count</b>	<b>28,302</b>	<b>29,451</b>	<b>31,919</b>	<b>27,392</b>	<b>26,475</b>	<b>26,764</b>	<b>170,303</b>

## CHECKOUTS



CHECKOUTS	24-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	24-Apr	24-May	24-Jun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Half
Ukiah	14,278	13,323	13,906	12,438	12,733	12,174	78,852
Fort Bragg	12,472	11,024	11,482	11,032	11,209	10,407	67,626
Willits	6,968	6,210	6,222	5,801	5,975	5,331	36,507
Coast	2,316	1,942	1,899	1,800	1,977	1,977	11,911
Round Valley	2,167	1,847	1,969	1,650	1,681	1,678	10,992
Laytonville	719	772	701	563	653	546	3,954
Bookmobile	2,432	1,439	1,586	1,584	1,413	1,244	9,698
<b>Total Checkouts</b>	<b>41,352</b>	<b>36,557</b>	<b>37,765</b>	<b>34,868</b>	<b>35,641</b>	<b>33,357</b>	<b>219,540</b>

Total Patrons: 34,202



## PATRONS



NEW PATRONS	24-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	24-Apr	24-May	24-Jun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Half
Ukiah	161	238	145	136	169	115	964
Fort Bragg	69	89	68	80	98	102	506
Willits	42	56	35	38	36	49	256
Coast	13	15	33	22	25	24	132
Round Valley	12	12	6	9	10	10	59
Laytonville	12	14	10	10	10	10	66
Bookmobile	2	2	1	2	3	2	12
<b>Total Patrons</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>1,995</b>

## STAFF



STAFF - ALLOCATED	STAFF FTE	EXTRA-HELP
Ukiah	9	4
Fort Bragg	5.5	3
Willits	6	2
Coast	2	2
Round Valley	2.5	2
Laytonville	1	0
Bookmobile	2.2	0
Operations and Administration	5.3	0
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>13</b>

STAFF HOURS	STAFF FTE	EXTRA-HELP	TOTAL
Ukiah	8,133.93	895.5	9,029.43
Fort Bragg	4,355.25	837	5,192.25
Willits	5,282.75	517.75	5,800.5
Coast	1,815.80	567	2,382.8
Round Valley	2,138.25	263	2,401.25
Laytonville	636.75	0	636.75
Bookmobile	1,153	0	1,153
Operations and Administration	4,927.43	0	4,927.43
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>28,443.16</b>	<b>3,080.25</b>	<b>31,523.41</b>

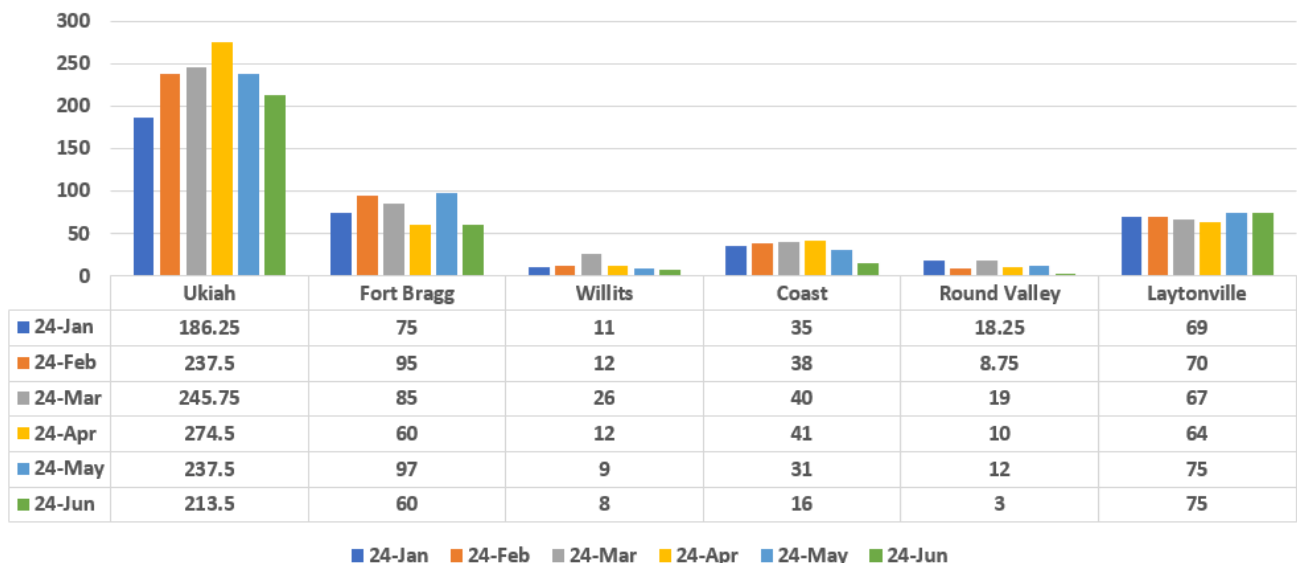
County Librarian Mellisa Hannum's time is split between Coast and Admin.  
Laytonville receives oversight and help from Willits staff.

## VOLUNTEERS



VOLUNTEERS	24-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	24-Apr	24-May	24-Jun	AVG / MONTH
Ukiah	34	40	40	39	36	36	38
Fort Bragg	20	35	22	15	25	20	23
Willits	2	4	6	3	3	3	4
Coast	6	6	6	6	6	5	6
Round Valley	6	4	3	4	2	1	3
Laytonville	26	14	11	12	12	13	15
<b>Total Volunteers</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>88</b>

Volunteer Hours: 2,637





**LIBRARY BUDGET BY BRANCH FY 2024-2025**

Object	Account Name	UKIAH	FORT BRAGG	WILLITS	COAST	ROUND VALLEY	BOOKMOBILE	LAYTONVILLE	OUTREACH	TOTAL
	TOTAL REVENUES	-2,272,903	-1,161,007	-826,817	-281,883	-212,565	-186,279	-54,824	-54,564	-5,050,841
	TOTAL SALARIES & BENEFITS	1,133,559	829,706	664,761	302,230	286,520	251,519	87,525	83,971	3,639,792
862060	COMMUNICATIONS	12,672	8,800	5,696	3,032	6,093	2,798	1,404	1,407	41,902
862090	HOUSEHOLD EXPENSE	68,900	18,500	34,500	650	1,025	160	200	50	123,985
862101	INSURANCE-GENERAL	17,279	11,069	7,372	4,061	4,802	3,028	2,252	1,547	51,410
862120	MAINTENANCE-EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	20,000	0	2,000	22,000
862130	MAINT-STRC IMPR & GRN	26,000	19,000	38,000	0	0	0	0	0	83,000
862150	MEMBERSHIPS	672	431	287	158	187	118	88	60	2,000
862170	OFFICE EXPENSE	3,407	2,681	2,287	1,313	1,352	609	718	531	12,900
862185	MEDICAL & DENTAL SVCS	672	431	287	158	187	118	88	60	2,000
862187	EDUCATION & TRAINING	869	672	415	363	375	97	135	24	2,950
862189	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	152,579	55,461	36,940	38,350	36,560	15,173	11,283	7,754	354,100
862190	PUBL & LEGAL NOTICE	504	323	215	119	140	88	66	45	1,500
862194	A-87 COSTS	123,494	79,108	52,690	29,027	34,318	21,642	16,094	11,060	367,432
862210	RNTS & LEASES BLD GRD	0	0	0	0	32,464	0	17,484	0	49,948
862227	SOFTWARE-LONG TERM	1,849	1,184	789	435	514	324	241	166	5,500
862228	SOFTWARE-SHORT TERM	34,343	22,000	14,653	8,072	9,544	6,018	4,476	3,076	102,181
862229	SOFTWARE-MAINTENANCE	1,344	861	574	316	374	236	175	120	4,000
862230	INFO TECH EQUIP	32,358	20,728	13,806	7,606	8,992	5,671	4,217	2,898	96,276
862239	SPEC DEPT EXP	63,163	41,545	28,664	17,145	19,725	13,536	10,840	5,383	200,000
862250	TRNSPRTATION & TRAVEL	1,108	796	580	412	455	16,177	281	1,090	20,900
862253	TRAVEL & TRSP OUT OF COUNTY	4,681	1,077	717	2,395	2,467	2,295	219	1,151	15,000
862260	UTILITIES	53,000	19,350	31,230	14,505	940	0	0	0	119,025
	TOTAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES	598,895	304,016	269,700	128,117	160,513	108,086	70,259	38,422	1,678,009
	TOTAL REVENUES	-2,272,903	-1,161,007	-826,817	-281,883	-212,565	-186,279	-54,824	-54,564	-5,050,841
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,732,455	1,133,722	934,461	430,347	447,033	359,605	157,784	122,393	5,317,801
	TOTAL FUND USE/CONTRIBUTION	-540,448	-27,285	107,645	148,464	234,468	173,326	102,960	67,830	266,960

**PERCENTAGES TO DIVIDE EXPENSES**

Revenue - population of service area	0.45054	0.23040	0.16403	0.05584	0.04195	0.03552	0.01087	0.01087
Expenditures - collection formula	0.33610	0.21530	0.14340	0.07900	0.09340	0.05890	0.04380	0.03010

**All Branch Expenses Before System Distribution**

Object	Account Name	SYSTEM	UKIAH	FORT BRAGG	WILLITS	COAST	ROUND VALLE	BOOKMOBILE	LAYTONVILLE	OUTREACH	TOTALS
	<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>-5,019,671</b>	<b>-11,350</b>	<b>-4,500</b>	<b>-3,460</b>	<b>-1,600</b>	<b>-2,000</b>	<b>-8,000</b>	<b>-260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-5,050,841</b>
861011	REGULAR EMPLOYEES	716,283	865,920	658,261	550,570	239,321	212,145	204,617	52,647	60,003	3,559,768
861012	EXTRA HELP	40,000									40,000
861013	OVERTIME REG EMP	10,000									10,000
861035	CO CONT WORKERS COMPENSATION I	30,024									30,024
	<b>TOTAL SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>	<b>796,307</b>	<b>865,920</b>	<b>658,261</b>	<b>550,570</b>	<b>239,321</b>	<b>212,145</b>	<b>204,617</b>	<b>52,647</b>	<b>60,003</b>	<b>3,639,792</b>
862060	COMMUNICATIONS	32,050	1,900	1,900	1,100	500	3,100	910	0	442	41,902
862090	HOUSEHOLD EXPENSE	0	68,900	18,500	34,500	650	1,025	160	200	50	123,985
862101	INSURANCE-GENERAL	51,410	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	51,410
862120	MAINTENANCE-EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,000	0	2,000	22,000
862130	MAINT-STRC IMPR & GRN	0	26,000	19,000	38,000	0	0		0	0	83,000
862150	MEMBERSHIPS	2,000	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	2,000
862170	OFFICE EXPENSE	2,700	2,500	2,100	1,900	1,100	1,100	450	600	450	12,900
862185	MEDICAL & DENTAL SVCS	2,000	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	2,000
862187	EDUCATION & TRAINING	800	600	500	300	300	300	50	100	0	2,950
862189	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	257,600	66,000	0	0	18,000	12,500	0	0	0	354,100
862190	PUBL & LEGAL NOTICE	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,500
862194	A-87 COSTS	367,432	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	367,432
862210	RNTS & LEASES BLD GRD	0	0	0	0	0	32,464	0	17,484	0	49,948
862227	SOFTWARE-LONG TERM	5,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,500
862228	SOFTWARE-SHORT TERM	102,181	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102,181
862229	SOFTWARE-MAINTENANCE	4,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,000
862230	INFO TECH EQUIP	96,276	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	96,276
862239	SPEC DEPT EXP	32,000	52,408	34,655	24,075	14,617	16,736	11,651	9,438	4,420	200,000
862250	TRNSPRTATION & TRAVEL	3,000	100	150	150	175	175	16,000	150	1,000	20,900
862253	TRAVEL & TRSP OUT OF COUNTY	5,000	3,000	0	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	1,000	15,000
862260	UTILITIES	0	53,000	19,350	31,230	14,505	940	0	0	0	119,025
	<b>TOTAL SERVICES &amp; SUPPLIES</b>	<b>965,449</b>	<b>274,408</b>	<b>96,155</b>	<b>131,255</b>	<b>51,847</b>	<b>70,340</b>	<b>51,221</b>	<b>27,972</b>	<b>9,362</b>	<b>1,678,009</b>
	TOTAL REVENUES	-5,019,671	-11,350	-4,500	-3,460	-1,600	-2,000	-8,000	-260	0	-5,050,841
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,761,756	1,140,328	754,416	681,825	291,168	282,485	255,838	80,619	69,365	5,317,801
	TOTAL FUND USE/CONTRIBUTION	-3,257,915	1,128,978	749,916	678,365	289,568	280,485	247,838	80,359	69,365	266,960

# Collection and Program Budget FY 24-25

## Average of Categories

Cardholders 6 months		
BKM	1097	3.3%
Coast	2147	6.4%
Fort	7439	22.3%
Round	1380	4.1%
Ukiah	15132	45.4%
Willits	5509	16.5%
Laytonville	350	1.1%
Outreach	254	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33308</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

BKM	5.89%
Coast	7.90%
Fort	21.53%
Round	9.34%
Ukiah	33.61%
Willits	14.34%
Laytonville	4.38%
Outreach	3.01%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Circulation 6 months		
BKM	10874	5.1%
Coast	11998	5.7%
Fort	63539	30.1%
Round	11201	5.3%
Ukiah	75925	35.9%
Willits	34083	16.1%
Laytonville	3262	1.5%
Outreach	500	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>211382</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Poverty level Census			
BKM	25	16.2%	
Coast	14.04	9.1%	
Fort	14.03	9.1%	
Round	29.77	19.3%	
Ukiah	17.73	11.5%	
Willits	11.45	7.4%	
Laytonville	23.05	15.0%	
Outreach	19	12.3%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>154.07</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

Population of Service Area Census		
BKM	2000	2.1%
Coast	7904	8.4%
Fort	18608	19.8%
Round	2775	3.0%
Ukiah	44742	47.6%
Willits	14478	15.4%
Laytonville	2470	2.6%
Outreach	1000	1.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>93977</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Size of Collection CSL Stats			
BKM	4143	2.6%	
Coast	15524	9.9%	
Fort	41477	26.4%	
Round	23601	15.0%	
Ukiah	43392	27.6%	
Willits	25453	16.2%	
Laytonville	2700	1.7%	
Outreach	1000	0.6%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>157290</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

## Library Collection & Programs Fiscal Year 2024-2025

			Percent	2025
			100.00%	200,000
<b>Branches</b>			<b>84.00%</b>	<b>147,000</b>
<b>Ukiah</b>			<b>33.61%</b>	<b>52,408</b>
M1A	Mendo Ukiah Adult		50.00%	26,204
M1J	Mendo Ukiah Juvenile		30.00%	15,722
M1Y	Mendo Ukiah Young Adult		20.00%	10,482
<b>Fort Bragg</b>			<b>21.53%</b>	<b>34,655</b>
M2A	Mendo Fort Bragg Adult		70.00%	24,258
M2YO	Mendo Fort Bragg Youth		30.00%	10,396
<b>Willits</b>			<b>14.34%</b>	<b>24,075</b>
M3ALL	Mendo Willits All		100.00%	24,075
<b>Coast</b>			<b>7.90%</b>	<b>14,617</b>
M4ALL	Mendo Coast All		100.00%	14,617
<b>Round Valley</b>			<b>9.34%</b>	<b>16,736</b>
M5ALL	Mendo Round Valley All		100.00%	16,736
<b>Bookmobile</b>			<b>5.89%</b>	<b>11,651</b>
M6ALL	Mendo Bookmobile All		100.00%	11,651
<b>Laytonville</b>			<b>4.38%</b>	<b>9,438</b>
M7ALL	Mendo Laytonville All		100.00%	9,438
<b>Outreach</b>			<b>3.01%</b>	<b>4,419</b>
M8ALL	Mendo Outreach all		100.00%	4,419
<b>Countywide</b>			<b>16.00%</b>	<b>32,000</b>
			<b>Percent of Total</b>	
M8E	Mendo Programs		29.00%	9,280
M13E	Mendo LT & BOCD - ALL		28.00%	8,960
M14E	Mendo Materials/Processing		18.00%	5,760
M15E	Mendo Spanish Books		18.00%	5,760
M16E	Seed Library Supplies		7.00%	2,240
			<b>100.00%</b>	<b>200,000</b>

\$3,000 to each Branch first (except Outreach)

Using Collection size instead of Door Count

## Fort Bragg Branch Report

Fort Bragg Library has expanded its reach this year, engaging with a wider range of people in the community than we have in prior years.

We resumed monthly story times at Headstart. We increased our presence in the schools by doing pop-up library programs during the free school lunch program available to Fort Bragg Unified students. Children's Librarian, Kim Doyle, attended Literacy Night and gave prizes to all. Librarian Dan Hess gave prizes and promoted the library at a back-to-school physicals event held at Mendocino Coast Clinic. In spring, we saw over 400 kids at a community helpers event on Big River Beach in Mendocino, where Dan teamed up for storytelling with State Parks Ranger, Krista Pelican. This event was called Read with a Ranger. The stories were somewhat overshadowed in popularity by the Coast Guard helicopter landing on the beach!

The library was at Earth Day in April, Neighborhood Night Out in August and Fort Bragg's Trunk or Treat in October, with over 400 families attending each event. Because the crowd was so large, Fort Bragg's Police Chief urged Dan to stop taking photos. We speeded up our station but kept snapping pix! The sharing & viewing of our Halloween albums pushed our Facebook account over 2200 followers.

Twice a month, we meet our neighbors and visiting tourists at Farmers Market in downtown Fort Bragg. And we continued to sponsor and award prizes for the annual Paul Bunyan Kiddie Parade at Labor Day, where the Police Activities League donate a bicycle for the grand prize winner each year.

Our summer programs last year and this year drew large crowds to the meeting room, where magicians, puppeteers and live-animal educational programs combine with the magic of reading. The motto is come for a program and stay for the books! We add an incentive with wonderful prizes purchased by the Friends of the Library, including ice cream coupons, swim passes, coloring books, fun toys and free books! Summer's hardly over before it's Fall Carnival, our biggest party of the year with games, costume parade and sweet treats for our families. Throughout the year we promoted STEM programs through partnerships with Noyo Center for Marine Science and Sinister Science programs for school-age kids.

All year long we have kids crafts and adult crafts, tapping into the artistic sides of our patrons. We have monthly open mic poetry with around 20 people attending on average. The adult book club has grown to about 35 members with around 20 readers attending each month's lively discussion.

February 2024's book was Lady Tan's Circle of Women by Lisa See. We were honored to have the author do a free guest lecture via ZOOM with our branch. The talk was moderated by Fort Bragg patron, Denise Lee, and celebrated the historic Kwan Tai Temple in Mendocino and Chinese-American culture during lunar new year.

The patrons continue to give rave reviews to our eMaterials, the sharing of materials between our three counties, and the breadth and currency of new books available to readers. They like the changing displays and appreciate new ideas and cultural experiences these displays convey. Above all, patrons express appreciation for attentive staff members. Kim Doyle continues to

## Fort Bragg Branch Report

excel as our youth librarian, with new programs up her D&D Dungeonmaster sleeves. Amie McGee, crafter extraordinaire and raconteur, provides great service to patrons. Peggy McGee, the master of all things behind the scenes, creates order from the chaos of weekly deliveries and new books. John Teller is an ace at mending and repairing well-loved material. Valerie Stump is back with us and brings public service expertise gained from working in the city's code enforcement office. She also has an MLIS degree and excellent library skills.

We're happy to report that we've hired two new staff members: Sarah Feretti and Marina Tavelli. They both grew up in Fort Bragg and attended local schools and are already valued members of our tight-knit team. Of course, we miss Jennifer Johnson, Michael Brito, Nik Robalino and Vicki Wellspring who were very well-liked by our patrons and staff. They are following their dreams, which is what the library is all about.

A final word of recognition must go to our fabulous Friends. Their financial generosity is outstanding and represents a lot of hard work and sales savvy! They held amazing fundraisers for the ongoing library expansion project. The sheer amount of work they do and their sensitivity to the library's needs are unparalleled. If recognition from above and beyond could be granted, Friends of the Fort Bragg Library would get a gold star!

Dan Hess, Branch Librarian