

What's new at the Library?

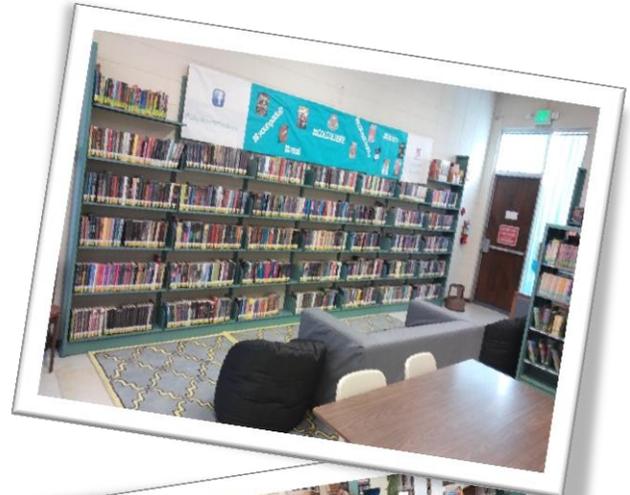
DEEP CLEANING PREPS NEW PROGRAMS

Some of you may have noticed that the Colusa Branch Library, located at 738 Market Street, was closed to the general public from December 19-26. Speculations about the closure from regular library patrons varied from "all employees are taking a vacation" to "the library needs a good scrubbing." Well, a vacation it was not, as all Colusa Branch employees were as busy as ever at the branch for the duration of the closure, assisting with the construction of new furniture, organizing a new floorplan for the Children's and Young Adult sections, reading shelves, and yep, you guessed it, scrubbing the floors.

"Libraries are constantly changing to meet the needs of the general public and the various communities they serve," stated County Library Director Stacey Costello. "In order for us to keep up with the 21st century needs of Colusa County,

and library trends in general, some rearranging needed to be done, and we could think of no better time than the end of the year: new year, new start."

The changes will help facilitate a new partnership with Colusa CAPC and First 5 Colusa that will bring a new Family Resource Center (FRC) to the Colusa Library on January 23. The FRC will host weekly playgroups for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers and will offer parenting, nutrition and other educational workshops and programs. To register your child for the playgroups, stop by the Colusa Branch.



The Williams Branch Library is currently open:
 Tu (12-5pm)
 W (1-6pm)
 Th (12-5pm)
 Sa (10am-2pm)
 To contact, call 473-5955

Williams Branch Library

BRANCH SPOTLIGHT

Since 1916, the city of Williams has had a library at the center of the community. As was common practice in rural enclaves, the library was originally housed in various rented buildings throughout the city until it was incorporated into the County-wide library system. In 1961 the library's current home on the corner of E and 9th Streets was built and dedicated to Williams Township Justice of the Peace George B. Reckers. The Williams Branch Library has been a place of education and entertainment for young and old alike for over 100 years.

The newest face at the Williams Branch Library is Aricka Monroe, who has held the position of Library Assistant since November 2016. "The most rewarding thing about working in the Williams Branch Library is getting to know the people in the community," she stated. "I love when the kids come in and interact with one another in a positive manner." While the position of Library Assistant is new for Monroe, she has lived in Colusa County her entire life. "There is no better place to raise a family, enjoy the outdoors, or just get together with people who truly enjoy our simple pleasures. I wouldn't choose to raise my son anywhere else."

PERMANENT WEEKLY PROGRAMS



Spanish Storytime in Colusa
Wednesdays, 11:45am-12:45pm



English Storytime in Colusa
Thursdays, 6:30-7:30pm

FAST FACTS

67%

of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of 4th grade will end up in jail or on welfare.

8%

improvement in reading levels and test scores displayed in children who regularly use the library.

FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION

Contact Colusa Children's Librarian Lupe Ramos at 458-0711 or stop by the Colusa Branch Library.



Funky Junk Afterschool Program for children in grades 3-5 occurs every Wednesday from 3:30-4:30pm in Colusa.

Children's Corner

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Every Thursday night, from 6:30-7:30pm, children and parents gather at the branch library to experience a fun and wholesome night of singing, reading, and crafting...all free of charge. English Storytime at the Colusa Branch is nothing new, as it has been a popular program with the youth of the county for decades. Historically run through the school year, summer of 2016 saw a welcome change to the format of the program, making it a year-round occurrence. This was not only to give residents of Colusa County something fun to do one evening a week in a temperature-controlled environment, but a more educational cause was at hand. County Librarian Stacey Zwald Costello extended Storytime through the summer in order to stop the summer slide. "Research has shown that kids who participate in summer reading avoid the 'summer slide,' that can result in detrimental learning loss between school years," Costello stated. "Our library is committed to supporting lifelong learning and educational enrichment for all families." It is because of this commitment that Storytime will continue to be a part of permanent programming at the Colusa Branch. It is the hope of Costello that Storytime will be hosted at each of the branch locations on a regular basis to extend one of the most beloved traditions to all county residents.

As part of the mission of the Colusa County Free Library is to maintain and improve the lives of all county residents by providing information and resources, Spanish Storytime was added as a pilot program in the fall of 2016. Due to the success of the program at the Colusa Branch, it has become a part of permanent programming. Spanish Storytime targets children ages 0-5, and follows the First 5 California format of "Talk,

Read, Sing." Participants sign songs, read short stories and do thematic activities that help with story comprehension. Initially run Wednesdays from 11:45am-12:15pm, the overwhelming response from the community prompted the extension of the program through 12:45pm. To gain more information about Spanish and English Storytimes at the Colusa Branch, or to sign up as a volunteer reader, contact Ramos or stop by the Colusa Branch Library.

February 16 marks the beginning of English Storytime at the Stonyford Branch, led by Stonyford Branch Library Assistant Rashell Sanchez. Working with County Librarian Costello, Sanchez is excited to bring more programming to Stonyford, and this is evident in the fact that she will also be implementing the Raising A Reader Program at the branch library on March 4 at 10:00am. Storytime at the Stonyford Branch will occur every Thursday from 6:00-6:45pm. To find out how you can contribute to this new program, call 963-3722 or stop by the Stonyford Branch.

For library patrons who are looking for a weekly activity, a quick break, or some family fun, each of the seven branch library hosts a weekly craft for anyone to complete. Designed by AmeriCorps Member Alyna Hernandez, the easy to create crafts are set out for library patrons to put together independently at their leisure.

A special Storytime was held at the Colusa Branch Library on Tuesday, January 17 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. and was put on in partnership with First 5 Colusa, and AmeriCorps.

Staff Picks

Non-Fiction

Stacey Zwald Costello, *Library Director*
"Americans and the California Dream Series" by Kevin Starr

Alissa Morrow, *County Library Literacy Coordinator*
"Strapless" by Deborah Davis

Dee Taylor, *County Library Fiscal Analyst*
"The Diary of a Young Girl" by Anne Frank

Brenda Macpherson, *Williams Branch Librarian*
"Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand

Aricka Monroe, *Williams Branch Library Assistant*
"An Invisible Thread" by Laura Schroff

Fantasy/Science Fiction

Stacey Zwald Costello, *Library Director*
"A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle

Alissa Morrow, *County Library Literacy Coordinator*
"Jurassic Park" by Michael Crichton

Dee Taylor, *County Library Fiscal Analyst*
"Harry Potter Series" by JK Rowling

Brenda Macpherson, *Williams Branch Librarian*
"The Dark Tower Series" by Stephen King

Aricka Monroe, *Williams Branch Library Assistant*
"The Hobbit" by JRR Tolkien

Autobiography

Stacey Zwald Costello, *Library Director*
"Angela's Ashes" by Frank McCourt

Alissa Morrow, *County Library Literacy Coordinator*
"Eat, Pray, Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert

Dee Taylor, *County Library Fiscal Analyst*
"The Story of My Life" by Helen Keller

Brenda Macpherson, *Williams Branch Librarian*
"The Hiding Place" by Corrie Ten Boom

Aricka Monroe, *Williams Branch Library Assistant*
"Kindness of Strangers" by Katrina Kittle

Featured Program

FUNKY JUNK AFTERSCHOOL UPCYCLING PROGRAM

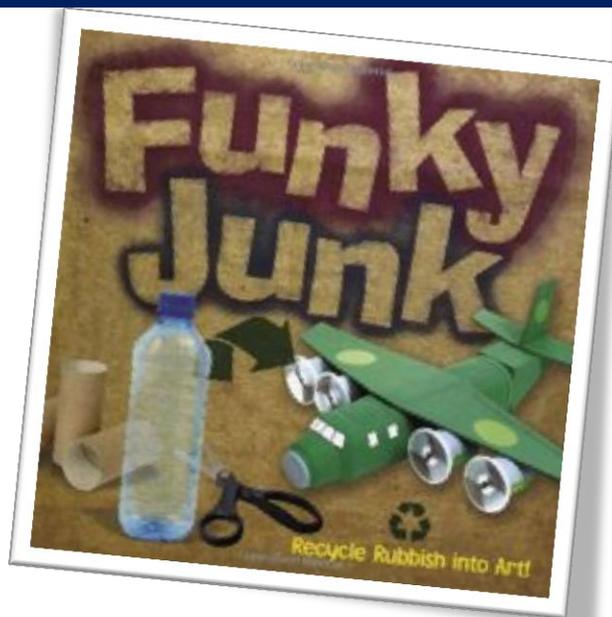
Who's ready to get funky? The Funky Junk Afterschool Program was implemented with great success on Wednesday, January 11 at the Colusa Branch Library. Through this fun, and innovative program, children in grades 3-5 learn the art of upcycling, recycling and repurposing ordinary items into artistic masterpieces.

While there has been a recent trend in repurposing everything from clothes to furniture to houses, upcycling for art's sake is nothing new. Reusing and recycling materials for creative purposes dates back to Marcel Duchamp's *Fountain* of 1917, wherein an entire art movement was based. These "Readymades" as Duchamp so eloquently named them, not only changed society's perception and definition of art, but also found a new use for what individuals had discarded in their trashcans.

The Funky Junk Afterschool Program seeks to not only get participants

to think outside of the box in terms of their artistic creations, but to also consider what kind of effect they are having on the environment. Due to their ages, partakers in the program have heard phrases such as "global warming" and "carbon footprint" since birth, and with more plastic than ever in the oceans, coordinators are hoping to not only provide a fun experience, but an educational one as well.

The Funky Junk Afterschool Program is currently running through March 22 at the Colusa Branch Library located at 738 Market Street. There is no registration required for the program, and prospective participants are encouraged to drop in during a session, occurring Wednesdays from 3:30pm-4:30pm.



All materials will be provided, and partakers need only bring their imaginations and creative thinking skills.

For more information about the program, contact Colusa Children's Librarian Lupe Ramos at 458-0711 or drop by the Colusa Branch Library.

Literacy Program Updates

COLUSA COUNTY FREE LIBRARY LITERACY PROGRAM

The Colusa County Free Library Literacy Program (CCFLLP) was established in 1986 by California Library Literacy Services (CLLS), through an effort spearheaded by Juliann Cheney, the program's first Literacy Coordinator. For over thirty years the CCFLLP has served more than 1,000 Colusa County residents in the improvement of their English reading and writing skills. Coordinated since 2015 by Williams-native Alissa Morrow, the program has been funded by CLLS, donations from the community, and the dedication of volunteer tutors.

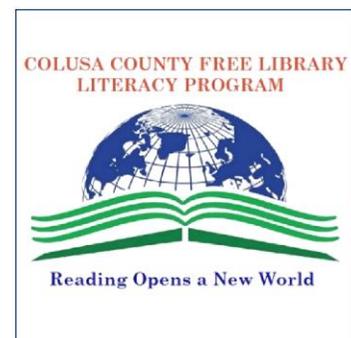
Tutors within the program dedicate a minimum of one hour per week with their assigned student not only in the sphere of education, but in the areas of community, family, and the workplace. Each session is goal-directed and student-centered, meeting the individual needs of each adult learner. After submitting a "Tutor Application and Matching Sheet" (available at all seven library branches), prospective tutors complete a two-hour training session with the Literacy Coordinator. At this training, volunteers learn about their role in the CCFLLP, become familiar with the one-on-one tutoring curriculum, and acquire contact information for their assigned student. Minimum requirements to become a tutor include that volunteers be over the age of 17 and have the ability to spend one hour per week tutoring their learner in a public space. Learners within the CCFLLP must be over the age of 16, not currently enrolled in school, and speak a basic amount of English, as the program does not offer ESL services (contact the Colusa County Office of Education at 473-1350 for free ESL instruction).

With a growing dependency on technology, free digital literacy classes are also available to adult learners, and the general public at large. These workshops occur year-round at all Colusa County Free Library branches, with two classes per month transpiring

at the main branch in Colusa, and six workshops per year happening at the other six branches. Content includes Computer Basics, Internet Safety, Online Library, Microsoft Office, and so much more. All computers and materials are provided, and no registration is necessary.

Twice a year, the Colusa County Free Library Literacy Program hosts the Raising A Reader (RAR) Program at six of the seven county library branches. This early literacy program is put on in partnership with First 5 Colusa and AmeriCorps in Arbuckle, Colusa, Grimes, Maxwell, Stonyford, and Williams. For ten weeks, children aged birth to 5 and their caregivers have the opportunity to experience First 5 Colusa's motto of "Talk, Read, Sing." An abridged Storytime involving the singing of nursery rhymes, reading of books, and the implementation of reading comprehension activities provides a model for families to establish their own reading routine at home. Parents and children are given a book bag filled with library books to take home, that they will then have the opportunity to trade in for a new bag at the next week's session. Registration for the spring session of RAR runs from January 25-March 8, and program sessions begin the week of February 27.

In addition to the Raising A Reader Program, the Colusa County Free Library Literacy Program gives away new and free books to children aged birth to 17 year-round. Between the months of July-December 2016, the CCFLLP hosted 13 book giveaways and gave out a total of 2,045 books. For the remainder of the 2016-17 Fiscal Year, book giveaways have been planned for the CCOE Family Fair in April, First 5 Colusa Community Baby Shower in May, and Williams Pioneer Day in June. Contact Morrow for more information.



CCFL Literacy Program Contact:

Alissa Morrow, *Literacy Coordinator*
738 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932
458-0373



Free Books?

The CCFL Literacy Program gives away new and free books to children aged birth to 17 at an average of 8 giveaways per year.



Adult Education Program

Free Digital Literacy Workshops and One-on-One Tutoring are available year-round at all Colusa County Free Library Branches.

Events Calendar

COLUSA COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

Ongoing Programs

Friends of the Library Meeting, Colusa*
2nd Monday of the Month, Noon-1pm

Cuentas: Spanish Storytime, Colusa
Wednesdays, 11:45am-12:45pm

English Storytime, Colusa
Thursdays, 6:30-7:30pm

Friends of the Library Book Club, Colusa
2nd Thursday of the Month, Varies

Children's Programs

Funky Junk Afterschool Program, Colusa
Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30pm, 1/11-3/22

Growing Start Infant Playgroup, Colusa**
Mondays, 9:00-10:00am, 1/23-5/22

Growing Start Toddler Playgroup, Colusa**
Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30am, 1/24-5/30

Growing Start Pre-K Playgroup, Colusa**
Wednesdays, 9:00-11:00am, 1/25-5/31

Family HUI Program, Colusa
1/26, 10:45-11:45am

Raising A Reader Program, 2/27-5/1**
Mondays, 9:15-9:45am, Grimes
Mondays, 10:30-11:00am, Arbuckle
Mondays, 11:45am-12:15pm, Williams

Raising A Reader Program, 3/2-5/4**
Thursdays, 10:00-10:30am, Colusa
Thursdays, 11:30am-Noon, Maxwell

Raising A Reader Program, 3/4-5/20**
Saturdays, 10:00-10:30am, Stonyford

Adult Programs

Tech Tuesday: Computer Basics
1/3, 1:30-2:30pm, Colusa
1/17, 2:00-3:00pm, Arbuckle
1/24, 2:00-3:00pm, Grimes
1/31, 2:00-3:00pm, Maxwell
2/7, 11:00am-12:00pm, Princeton
2/16, 2:00-3:00pm, Stonyford
2/21, 2:00-3:00pm, Williams

iPad Basics, Colusa
1/6, Vocabulary & Grammar, 2:00-3:30pm
1/13, Reading & Spelling, 2:00-3:30pm
1/20, Math & Writing, 10:00-11:30am
2/3, Citizenship & GED Prep, 10:00-11:30am
2/10, Vocabulary & Grammar, 10:00-11:30am

Tech Tuesday: Email Basics
1/17, 10:30-11:30am, Colusa

Tech Tuesday, Microsoft Word
1/31, 10:30-11:30am, Colusa

Tech Tuesday: Online Library
2/14, 1:30-2:30pm, Colusa

Tech Tuesday: Social Media
2/28, 1:30-2:30pm, Colusa

Tech Tuesday: Online Safety
3/14, 1:30-2:30pm, Colusa

Tech Tuesday: Software & Hardware
3/21, 2:00-3:00pm, Williams
3/30, 2:00-3:00pm, Stonyford

Tech Tuesday: Online Banking
3/28, 1:30-2:30pm, Colusa

<u>Branch Days/Times</u> Open/Close	
Colusa	
458-7671	
Mon	9:00 - 2:00
Tues/Thurs	10:00-8:00
Wed/Fri	10:00-5:00
Sat	10:00-2:00
Arbuckle	
476-2526	
Mon/Wed	1:00-6:00
Tues	10:00-3:00
Grimes	
437-2428	
Tues/Thurs	1:30-5:30
Wed	8:30-11:30
Maxwell	
438-2250	
Tues	1:30-6:00
Wed	1:30-6:00
Thurs	1:30-6:00
Princeton	
439-2235	
Tues	8:00-1:00
Wed	8:00-5:00
Stonyford	
963-3722	
Wed	1:00-6:00
Thurs	2:00-7:00
Sat	9:30-2:30
Williams	
473-5955	
Tue/Thurs	12:00-5:00
Wed	1:00-6:00
Sat	10:00-2:00

*Membership Required
**Registration Required

Branch Closures:

January 2, 14, 16
February 11, 13, 18, 20
March 31

For questions, comments, or concerns about this newsletter or any library programs or events, contact Newsletter Editors Stacey Zwald Costello (County Library Director, 458-0372) or Alissa Morrow (County Library Literacy Coordinator, 458-0373). Be sure to check out the Colusa County Free Library's website at <http://www.countyofcolusa.org/library>, Facebook page (@colusacountyfreelibrary), and Instagram account (@colcolibre).