

# Friends of the Yolo Branch Library

## Our Efforts This Year

October 2014 through September 2015

### Worked with Yolo County Library to Address Yolo Branch Library Building Needs

- Supported the County Library in their request for funding from the Yolo County Board of Supervisors for architectural work.
- Participated in selecting architectural firm.
- Developed list of key elements.
- Began working with architect on alternatives and design.

### Provided Funding for Summer Learning Events

- The Mad Scientist  
Family fun learning about science, including the surprisingly loud Dinosaur-in-a-Can, the Glowing Electric Pickle, and a kid-created thunder storm.
- The Bubble Lady  
Magical fun with bubbles, filled with learning about how bubbles are created, how warm and cool air affect them, and best of all when they pop.
- “Dilly Dally” the Clown  
The children had tons of fun seeing balloon sculptures being made and then learning how to make them – all the time learning about types of balloons, air, stretch and popping.
- Print Making  
In three sessions, our youth learned three different ways to make prints, which can also be done at home. Creative talents emerged as each child explored making art to take home.

### Supported the Teen Program throughout the Year

With the Friends of the Davis Branch Library, provided funding for food and materials for monthly “Teen Takeover” nights. Teens work with library staff to plan activities. This year, the teens learned about their strengths, discussed career goals, used Little Bits Maker Boxes to create electric circuits to form working sirens, lights, fans, etc. and then teach younger youth, explored ways to make different types of rockets – to name just a few.

### Installed Little Lending Libraries

With generous financial support from the Davis Friends of the Library, coordination by the Yolo County Library staff, and construction/installation by Northern California Construction Training school in West Sacramento, Little Lending Libraries were installed in Yolo, Zamora, and Dunnigan. In addition, Spanish books have been provided to a fourth Little Lending Library set up in the store at the Camper’s Inn in Dunnigan.

### **Installed a Picnic Table at the Library**

Beginning with the suggestion of Esther Vasquez, the Friends undertook installing a picnic table under the olive tree on the library grounds. The kit was purchased by Sharon Hallberg, the Teen group worked with Mel Bolinder to assemble the table, several younger youth worked with Mick & Meg Sheldon to apply the base paint and then the communities' youth decorated it with their hand prints and signatures. It's now a great place for groups to gather and community members to sit while connecting to the library's internet.

### **Co-Sponsored the Spring Celebration with Cache Creek High School**

For the second year, the Friends co-sponsored a spring celebration for local youth and families. The Cache Creek High School youth put on a wonderful Easter egg hunt, followed by a wide variety of fun games. The Friends donated many of the supplies, provided each youth with a free book, and sold refreshments. More than 100 youth participated.

### **Participated in Library Events**

The Friends also participated in events sponsored by the Library. The Friends supplied snacks and worked with youth to create bookmarks at the Dia de los Ninos in April.

### **Explored Grant Funding**

- Prepared an application to the Arrata Brothers Foundation to expand learning events beyond the summer months to the full year. Although unsuccessful, the application prepared will make it easier for us to apply to other organizations.
- Identified two other potential funding sources. Grant applications will be prepared this fall.

### **Received a Several Special Donations**

- Holy Rosary's Young Ladies Institute donated funds to purchase books selected to engage the interests of Yolo Branch youth.
- Apple Computer donated funds in recognition of Jillian Zeidner's volunteer time spent preparing the Arrata Brother's grant application. (Jillian is an employee of Apple who has freely given her time and knowledge to the Friends for more than a year.)

### **Participated in County-wide Efforts**

Attended the First Annual Literacy Symposium to contribute our thoughts on the needs in small rural communities and learn how we might assist in this effort.

**Check our website frequently for news of upcoming events & activities**

<http://www.friendsofyololibrary.org/>