**Report from the County Librarian**

Friends of the Calaveras County Library – October 12, 2022, Calaveras County Library, San Andreas

**Staff:** We are fully staffed…

**ZIP books:** We have received the agreement for our ZIP book allotment from the State Library. Unfortunately, there were requests for 1.4 million and the governor allotted 1 million only. Therefore, cuts had to be made. We asked for $18,000.00 but received $12,728. We have spent as predicted for July and August – roughly $1500/month, so we may have to slow things down a bit to make the grant last.

**Bookmobile: The continuing sad saga…**

I drove the Bookmobile to Mobility Works of Sacramento on September 7th so the lift could be fixed while I was away on vacation. When I returned to work on September 26th, I saw that it was not in its parking spot. I learned that Mobility Works had not called for a pick-up. I called and was told that they had to order a part and it had not yet come. They promised to call me when it was ready. I called again last week, but they did not return my call. I called on October 11th and was told the part has not yet come and they will call me. I contacted TechOps and asked them to please follow up with Mobility Works. They did and were told that everything should be fixed by next week.

**Outreach media staff:** Amber is still doing a great job on our Facebook page, updating it regularly.

Jennifer Carreiro has worked with San Andreas staff to create several posters about our digital resources. (I will show these to you in the meeting.) She is doing a good job and improving well. We will ask her to attend various branch activities, such as the San Andreas Halloween event, to take pictures for Amber to post on Facebook.

**Toy Lending Grant:** Kristina Bridges, designee as purchaser for the grant, has chosen the toys. She is waiting for word from the grant provider as to whether or not we can purchase bags or bins to hold the toys for circulation.

**Community Engagement Platform:** We will receive training for this addition to our SirsiDynix database on October 26th. We will receive information about the installation of this platform after our training. This will enhance our ability to advertise programs and services.

**Community events:** I spoke at the West Calaveras Rotary on September 29th.

That same day the county held a Health Fair for employees to learn about health benefits the county offers. We had a booth because we add to the mental, emotional and educational health of our county. I had a special Healthy Living Through the Library flyer and gave away free books, pencils and bookmarks.

On October 8th, I was asked to host a table at the Valley Springs United Methodist church which hosted a community event to bring people together again after COVID. I had flyers, registration forms and free books.

**Niche Academy:** Niche Academy is a company which offers free webinars to Librarians and library staff. I have enjoyed many helpful webinars from them over the years. They also sell an Academy which offers wonderful resources for patrons, staff and has materials for use which have been produced by other library systems, as well as space for us to post our own digital programs. The offerings to patrons are particularly interesting to me as they are trainings for using various digital resources, library services and more. I am attaching the proposal they have given me.

Several staff and I are looking closely at this service to see if it is something we should try to get. I will keep you posted.

**Calaveras Veterans Services:** At various meetings I have attended lately regarding services to seniors in our county, I have become better acquainted with the gentlemen who work with veterans in our County. This is a group I have long wanted to serve better in our county. I met with the program director on Friday, October 7th to discuss what we have to offer and how we might help them. They are in need of a laptop computer so vets who come to their offices can access databases we offer, databases available from the government for vets and access online services and forms they need. They have internet, but no computer. Might this be something FOTCCL would be interested in helping them with? We have begun a great partnership with them and I would really like to help them if we can.

**Upgrade in Copper branch:** CalTel has upgraded the free internet service they provide for us in the Copper branch library, giving us fiber and 1G of data. Pretty amazing!

**Book purchased:** On October 4th I met with the agent who formerly provided books for us from Gumdrop books. He is no longer working with them and had a large number of sample books to sell - $2.00 for a hardback and $.50 for a paperback. I purchased $420.00 worth of books. Almost all of these will be distributed among the branch libraries, especially those who do not have a subscription to Junior Library Guild.