

Arnold Library News

Vol 1 No 5 October 2020



"Something wicked this way comes."
William Shakespeare



You are Invited!

Friends of the Arnold Library Annual Meeting

Tuesday, October 6th 10:00 a.m.

via Zoom

An informational, informal, meet-and-greet!

Find out about your local Friends of the Arnold Library

Who we are, what we do.

Special Guest – Calaveras County Poet Laureate Conrad Levasseur

To get the link to the meeting, send an email to

ArnFOTL@yahoo.com

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NEWS

LIBRARY MURAL PROJECT

Arnold Schoolchildren Resume Work on Giant Ceramic Mural for Library

The schoolchildren of Arnold have resumed – via Zoom – work on their ceramic tiles for the large-scale mural that will grace the west-facing side of the Arnold Branch Library.

Earlier this year, before Hazel Fischer Elementary School closed due to the pandemic, kindergartners through fifth grade drew pictures of local flora and fauna, and then created nearly 200 clay tiles based on their drawings. The tiles were then fired at Quyle Kilns in Murphys.

All that was left to do before school closed was color and glaze their tiles.

To keep the momentum going on the mural despite the pandemic, the new Hazel Fischer Principal, Dr. Raymond Fausel, contacted parents to offer their children an opportunity to meet with artist Robyn Slakey via Zoom and complete their artwork.

“I’m excited about this creative art project that the children and the community can take pride in over the years,” said Dr. Fausel. “I was happy to be able to facilitate picking up where the kids left off before the pandemic and complete the project online.”

The children met in September according to their grades in the last school year and, as Mrs. Slakey held up their tiles, they told her what colors they wanted her to paint them. The painted tiles will now be painted and glazed, fired again and assembled into the giant mural, which is expected to be completed by early next year.

“Frankly, as a hands-on children’s art teacher for 40 years, I didn’t know what to expect doing art via video,” said Robyn Slakey, the local retired artist who is leading the project. “I was surprised how much fun it was to work with the children over Zoom. Their tiles were identified on the backs, so as I held them up to the camera, the child who created it spoke up and told me what colors to use. These children are not only creative – they’re resilient, always an important attribute of artists!”

Last January the Arnold Friends of the Library spearheaded the creation of the 17-by-two 1/2-foot ceramic tile mural in four panels representing the four seasons of Arnold. The children’s ceramic tiles, which will frame the panels,

reflect the seasons and attractions Arnold has to offer – from the Sequoias, snow and dogwood blooms to Calaveras Big Trees State Park, mountains, bears and frogs – and, of course, books!

The brainchild of Arnold's county Supervisor Merita Callaway, the mural is being funded by The Arnold Friends of the Library, along with a grant from the Calaveras Community Foundation. It will be Arnold's first large-scale work of outdoor art – created by the children of Arnold.

Successful Reopening of Arnold Library!

The Arnold Branch Library re-opening at the end of July was a great success – dozens of book lovers came in on opening day.

Masks and social distancing are required now and hand sanitizer abounds, with only five patrons at a time allowed to make sure the Library remains a safe place to go during the pandemic. "There have been no complaints or pushback on anything," says Fran. "And our new self-service book check-out has worked surprisingly well."

The Library is open from Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Library asks you limit your visit to 20 minutes.

Curbside pick up is also still available. Find your books on our online catalog and place a hold. You will need your library card number and PIN – or call the library at 209-795-1009, and they will be happy to place a hold for you; they will notify you via email (or phone if you do not have email) when your hold is ready for pick up. Please wear your mask and observe social distancing when picking up items on hold.

"Word is getting around," says Fran, "and we are seeing more and more returning patrons each day."

CORNER BOOKSHOP

The current pandemic has caused The Friends of the Arnold Library to cancel its Labor Day book sale. As a result of this and the cancellation of the Memorial Day sale we have a great supply of used books for sale in our Corner Book Shop.

Loren Hilden, our donation coordinator, has chosen some books to highlight this month. They will be available for sale and displayed on the table in the corner bookshop. Small paperbacks are 50 cents each or 3 for \$1.00, hardcover and trade paperbacks are \$1.00 each. Cookbooks and coffee table books are \$1.00. Correct change required. All proceeds benefit the Arnold Branch Library.

Loren's book picks for October:

HILLBILLY ELEGY by J.D. Vance
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BUDDHA AND HIS TEACHINGS
edited by Samuel Bercholz and Sherab Chodzin Kohn
THE YEAR OF LIVING DANISHLY by Helen Russell
HOPE NEVER DIES by Andrew Shaffer
WHAT'S THE BEST MOVIE TRIVIA BOOK? by David Fickes
INTERESTING STORIES FOR CURIOUS PEOPLE by Bill O'Neill
THE ROOM ON RUE AMELIE by Kristin Harmel
A LOVE UNEXPECTED by Jo Ann Brown
THE GREAT CHOLESTEROL MYTH by Jonny Bowden and Stephen Sinatra
EMPIRE OF MUD by J.D. Dickey
FEAR Trump In The White House by Bob Woodward
THE SNIPER AND THE WOLF by Scott McEwen
A GUIDE TO THE SEQUOIA GROVES of California by Dwight Willard
THE ENDURING GIANTS by Joseph H. Engbeck Jr.
LEGENDS ROCK by Marjorie Galen and Gordon Matthews

We are accepting limited donations at this time.

Bring donations to the library during open hours: Wed-Th-Fri-Sat 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Let us know you are here and bring the donations to the back of the building. Since we have not been able to have book sales in 2020, we are running low on storage space so are accepting a limited number of donations, one bag or box per visit. Please do not bring multiple boxes of donations. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

DID YOU KNOW?

KANOPY STREAMING SERVICE

There are so many amazing services offered by the Library. This month, we're focusing on Kanopy, a streaming service which is at the top of the list for value in library offerings. It is like Netflix, Amazon or Hulu but without the subscription fees! All you need is your library card to access thousands of movies and TV shows in addition to documentaries and programming on the arts, business, education, global studies and languages, health, media and communications, sciences, social sciences and instructional films and lessons.

Kanopy also has a great section for kids called Kanopy Kids. It features videos of some favorite books, like "Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus", "Giraffes Can't Dance" and "Corduroy". A great resource for parents and teachers. You can stream Kanopy on your tablet, PC, phone or even your smart TV if configured properly. What a great resource for entertainment and learning.

Your access to Kanopy is funded by the Calaveras County Friends of the Library and is totally free to you!

To access Kanopy, go to **www.library.calaveras.gov**.

- Click on Catalogs and Renewals at the top of the page
- Select Catalog Plus
- Select Kanopy

The first time you access Kanopy you will be asked for your library card number and PIN. After that you access it seamlessly when you click on Kanopy. (If you don't have your card or PIN handy, give the Arnold Branch Library a call and Fran or Bonnie will be happy to provide that info for you.) We hope you enjoy this free service from your Friends of the Calaveras Library. See link below to donate to the Arnold Friends and help fund important services like this.

WHAT I'M READING

A MOST BEAUTIFUL THING

A MEMOIR

ARSHAY COOPER



A MOST BEAUTIFUL THING: The True Story of America's first all-Black high school rowing team by Arshay Cooper

What happens when you are a Black teenage young man attending an all-Black high school on the west side of Chicago where all the guys are mad for basketball and football, and you walk into the cafeteria for lunch one afternoon and there is a white female with a long boat recruiting for crew members? Oh, and you can't swim!

You join the team of course! This is exactly what

happened in the early 1990s to Arshay Cooper and his friends at Manly High School. Mr. Cooper was different from the other young men in his neighborhood and school. He was quiet and meditative. He wasn't any good at basketball and football made him feel like an animal attacking another human being. He wanted to attend college, become a chef, overcome the horrible circumstances he was surrounded by, and be successful.

Mr. Cooper's story is inspiring and depressing, uplifting and heartbreaking, hilarious and sad. More than anything, it is the story of overcoming overwhelming odds. It is a story of a bunch of misfits who managed to rise above the intense poverty, drug addiction, shootings, alcoholism, and gangs of their community. They were ridiculed by the other students and in some cases had to lie to their parents about what they were doing after school because many of the parents had a deep fear and mistrust of all white people and did not want their sons involved with anyone who was white....coach or not. They did not want their sons involved in a "white man's sport".

This band of misfits, this group of school outcasts surmounted enormous odds to form a new family....a safe family....they became a team....a crew team. They learned that they could no longer be just an individual but someone who was part of a team. The boat wouldn't float through the water properly if one of them was out of step, out of rhythm, out of sync. They had to conquer deep fears....fear of the water and the fear of being with white people. This is the story of a group of young men who overcame such tremendous odds and brought fame, glory, and honor to their school, and most of all, respect for themselves. This is the story of some of the bravest young men you will ever read about. Mr. Cooper writes using the language of the streets. It can be blunt and crass....but it is real. Readers will find themselves rooting for every person in this story.

Lorraine Dowling, Library Patron

NEW TO THE BOOKSHELF

Fiction

THE SUMMER GUESTS by Mary Alice Monroe (2019)

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Beach House series, this novel is about the bonds and new beginnings that are born from disasters and how, even during the worst of circumstances—or perhaps because of them—we discover what is most important in life.

THE MIDDLEMAN by Olen Steinhauer (2018)

Steinhauer's next sweeping espionage novel traces the rise and fall of a domestic left-wing terrorist group. Told from the individual perspectives of an FBI agent, an undercover agent within the group, a convert to the terrorist organization, and a writer on the edge of the affair, this is a tightly wound thriller, and an intimate exploration of the people behind the politics.

For our mystery lovers

THE SUMMER HOUSE by James Patterson (2020)

When seven murder victims are found in a small town, the homicide investigation shakes a small-town sheriff to her core in James Patterson's tense thriller.

THIS STORM by James Ellroy (2019)

January '42. L.A. reels behind the shock of Pearl Harbor. Local Japanese residents are rounded up and slammed behind bars. Massive thunderstorms hit the city. A body is unearthed in Griffith Park. The cops tag it a routine dead-man job. They're wrong. It's an early-warning signal of Chaos.

THE FORGOTTEN PLACE by Charles Todd (2018)

#10 of the Bess Crawford series. Though the Great War has ended, Bess Crawford finds herself caught in deadly circumstances on a remote Welsh headland.

Non-fiction

If you still can't get enough political discussion –

OUR BROKEN AMERICA by Jackie Gingrich Cushman (2019)

Discover what is needed to save America from the looming menace of fake news and political polarization.

Or a change of pace

FUNNYMAN: Mel Brooks by Patrick McGilligan (2019)

A deeply textured and compelling biography of comedy giant Mel Brooks, covering his rags-to-riches life and triumphant career.

SUCCESSFUL AGING: A Neuroscientist Explores the Power and Potential of Our Lives (2020)

Inspires a powerful new approach to how readers think about our final decades, and it will revolutionize the way we plan for old age as individuals, family members, and citizens within a society where the average life expectancy continues to rise.

BOOKS I WISH I HAD READ SOONER

If you are like most avid readers you probably have more books on your shelf or nightstand than time to read them. I bet some of those books may have been there for a very long time. Once you opened them though, you wondered why you waited so long and you were richly rewarded. Or, as you were perusing the stacks at the library, you grabbed something you didn't mean to pick up and it turned out to be one of your best reads. These are the moments I cherish.

The book that waited so long on my own bookshelf was "All the Little Live Things" by Wallace Stegner, published in 1967. I bought it at a used book store and its cover was so tattered it almost fell off. But that just made it all the more desirable. It stayed on my shelf for years because it didn't look like it would be as compelling as other things I was reading at the time. And it did have a rather forlorn look about it. But I finally opened it and once I got started, I couldn't wait to turn each page.

I'm a Wallace Stegner fan but this book is very different from his others which focus mostly on the American West (e.g., "Angle of Repose", "Crossing to Safety" and "Big Rock Candy Mountain"). This book was written in a more contemporary time and follows a retired couple as they encounter trespassers and friends encroaching on their idyllic piece of land. Set in California, this is a beautiful novel that treats you to the Stegner feel without the Western theme.

But now it's your turn! We'd love to hear from you about your favorites:

- What book did you finally get to that you wish you had read sooner?
- Why did it take so long to begin?
- What made it so rewarding?

Email your responses to our newsletter (address below). Your response may be included in the next newsletter and you too, could be a contributor to our ever so fun newsletter!

Lisa Applegate, Board Member

WORTH REPEATING

StoryTime: This enchanting program for preschoolers continues. Access it from Brittany's Facebook page: [Brittany's FB Page](#) or directly at: storytimewithbrittany.com
Password: storytime

Zip Books: If the library does not yet have a copy of an interesting new book you can get a free one delivered to you at no cost. More information at: <https://forms.calaverasgov.us/Library#gsc.tab=0>

Past Newsletters: may be found at:
<https://library.calaverasgov.us/Information/Newsletters#gsc.tab=0>

THE LAST WORD

Canceling the September book sale was a difficult decision for the FOTAL Board. Our book sales are one of our largest revenue builders during the year. Please keep the Library in mind as you plan your giving dollars during the year. We want to continue to be able to offer all of the wonderful things you have come to expect from your community library.

This newsletter is from the Friends of the Calaveras County Library, Arnold Chapter, aka Friends of the Arnold Library, which is a volunteer group providing support to the Arnold Branch Library through bi-annual giant book sales, children's programming, fundraisers and community outreach. The Friends of The Calaveras County Library is a tax exempt (501.c3) charity.

Join the Arnold Branch of Friends of the Calaveras County Library at <https://www.friendsofcclibrary.org/membership-form> indicating Arnold as your branch. If you wish to make a direct donation to the Arnold Branch, checks may be made out to: "Friends of the Arnold Library" and sent to the address below.

To be removed from this mailing list,
click on "Unsubscribe" below.

Friends of the Arnold Library

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