

Tuolumne County Library and Recreation Newsletter

December 2024

Standard Park Sports Complex—Winter Wrap-Up

The Standard Park Sports Complex partnered with the Sonora Sunshine Rotary Club to host the 3rd annual Tuolumne County Field of Honor from November 8th—11th. The Rotary Club displayed 200 flags which were dedicated in honor or in memory of Veterans, active military members, new recruits, and first responders. All proceeds benefited local Veterans, first responder programs, and to help further the event each year.



The Tuolumne County Recreation Department is excited to announce that the playground has been fully restored from last year's flooding! Practices for the Bill Meyer Winter Recreation League will begin in December and run until mid-February. Touch Rugby will continue to be held at the Standard Park Sports Complex on Tuesday nights, from 6:00pm—8:00pm. Signups for rugby are still available at www.tcrecreation.com or in person at either the Standard Park Sports



Complex or the Tuolumne County Recreation Department Office located inside the Sonora Main Library.

To sign up for any of the Tuolumne County Recreation Department program's go to www.tcrecreation.com and then click "Online Registration" in the upper left-hand corner. For questions and additional information about programs at the Standard Park Sports Complex you can call the park at (209) 533-2678 or contact the Tuolumne County Recreation Department Office at (209) 533-5663.

Friends of The Library

Friends of the Library Wish Holiday Cheer to All Community Supporters

Friends of the Groveland Library—Toys for Tots Donation

We're thrilled to announce that the Friends of the Groveland Library donated over 60 books to the annual Toys for Tots Christmas toy drive in the Groveland area! A big thank you to everyone who contributed.

Tuolumne City Friends of the Library—Santa Sale and

Crochet Club Sale

Get ready for some holiday fun! Our annual Santa Sale is happening this month. For just pennies, kids can shop for gifts for their loved ones. Plus, the Crochet Club is hosting a sale and silent auction featuring handmade items like hats, blankets, and stuffed animals.

High Country Friends—Upcoming Events

The John Bagnall's Centerpiece Workshop has been postponed until spring 2025. The new date will be announced when the details are finalized. The High Country Friends of the Library will have their next meeting on January 15th at 2:00pm at the MiWuk Library to plan exciting events for 2025.

Book Nook

Don't forget to visit our Book Nook at the Sonora Main Library. Our volunteers are ready to help you find the perfect book or gift.

FOTCL Board News

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent fall Book Sale! Your generosity helps to support our libraries and their valuable programs. Generous donations are providing for library needs not covered by the County. This is our highest priority!

The yearly general meeting of the FOTCL is coming on Tuesday, January 28th at 2:00pm. Mark the date and plan to review this past year and our goals for 2025.

We hope you have a wonderful holiday season! Your support of the library is the best gift!



Tiny Tots—New Session

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November wrapped up Session 2 and what a session it was. We celebrated fall by tasting apples, playing with pumpkin pie scented playdough, and raking leaves. We also had a delicious Fall Feast and made a thankful trail mix that was shared by all. The Union Democrat brought us our new banner for being voted **Best Preschool of 2024**, which was proudly hung on our gate for all to see. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Tuolumne County for supporting Tiny Tots and for voting us Best Preschool.

December is the start of Session 3. For this session the children will be making many wonderful surprises for their families. We'll practice Christmas songs and, who knows, if the children sing loud enough Santa might hear and visit! We'll be making edible gingerbread houses and enjoying hot chocolate with marshmallows, of course, to wrap up December. This is a magical time for all and at Tiny Tots we plan to enjoy every minute.

We hope you and your family have a fun and safe holiday season.



Twain Harte Branch Library

With the holidays approaching, December will be a busy month at the Twain Harte Branch Library. Our Friday Storytime will include a day to celebrate Hanukkah and another Friday to celebrate Christmas. We'll also have a Friday Storytime dedicated to the holidays and the Winter Solstice, during which we will make shrink art holiday decorations. The kids love to watch their artwork shrink from big-to-little in a matter of seconds. Storytime is every Friday at 10:30am and all are welcome. As an exciting addition for the older children the Twain Harte Branch Library has a new Virtual Reality (VR) headset that will be available for use during the library's open hours.

We have Adult Game Day every Wednesday at 2:30pm, and if children come into the library, they are welcome to play. All adults are welcome to come and join in on the fun, play the group's regular games, and introduce new ones. Please call or visit the library if you're interested in coming to Game Day.

Due to the Tuolumne County Public Library holiday closures our monthly STEM program will be on the third Thursday, December 19th at 3:30pm. As always, if you have an interest in volunteering at the Twain Harte Branch Library, please come visit us or call us directly at (209) 586-4501.



Contact the Tuolumne County Public Library at
(209) 533-5507
Or Visit Your Local Branch to Inquire Today!
Sonora, Tuolumne, Twain Harte and Groveland

Recreation 2024 Year in Review

This past year the Tuolumne County Recreation Department had a blast hosting both new and old programs for our community. We started this year off with the goal in mind to bring more programming to the county. Overall, we wanted to really emphasize water safety, get kids moving, and most of all have fun with our programs! It is safe to say we reached our goals and look forward to expanding on them in the coming year.

During 2024 we hosted a variety of programs for kids, adults, and seniors, emphasizing physical and mental health. We focused on encouraging growth and engaging with fellow community members like the days prior to the pandemic. Our programs ranged from Yoga for Seniors to youth sports camps, swim lessons for all ages, a competitive swim team, art classes, children's movement classes, and much more. Our department was determined to build on existing programs and bring new ones to the table, that together, could reach as many community members as possible. We couldn't do it without our amazing staff, volunteers, coaches, contractors, and support from the community. It takes a village to make an impact and we greatly appreciate the help and support of our amazing team.

As we look towards 2025, we plan to continue expanding our Activity Guide and bring more programs to the community while building on the activities we already offer. Whether you are looking to learn a new skill, get active, meet new people, get certificated in First Aid/Lifeguarding, or give your brain a workout; the Tuolumne County Recreation Department has a program for you, and we can't wait for you to join us! Please reach out to us at (209) 533-5663 if there are any programs you would like to see provided. If you have a skill or passion that you would like to share your knowledge of you can reach out as we would love to work with you! We hope you enjoy your holidays, have a great end to your 2024. We look forward to seeing you in 2025!

Halloween Party at Sonora Main Library



We had a full house at our Halloween Party on October 31st at the Sonora Main Library. On that day, kids and grownups were dressed up to go trick-or-treating at our library! The children were excited to see our funny puppet show presented by our Children's Librarian. After the show, children made pumpkin crafts and went

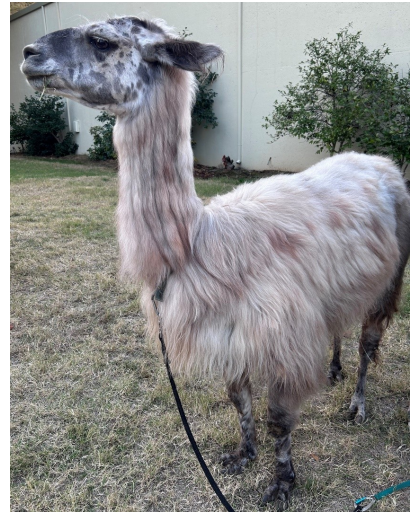
trick-or-treating around the library where candy was passed out by the library staff and members of the Sheriff's Department dressed in their best costumes!



Groveland Youth Center—Santa & Cookie Sale

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Groveland Youth Center has been on some wild adventures this last month. Our kids joined in on the De-Stress Fest that was put on by the Tuolumne Me-Wuk Indian Health Center. Attendees were able to visit with therapy dogs, make personalized buttons, join in a community mural painting, and stylized gorgeous flower crowns! On top of all that, our kids received therapy journals to assist with writing their feelings down and teen coloring books to help relax. We spent some time in the silent disco era and enjoyed watching the younger kids battle it out in the martial arts ring. Since this was just the first series, our kids are pumped knowing there will be more events like this to follow!



We also walked over to the Groveland Branch Library to do the STEM project. The participants built cars out of popsicle sticks, straws, and a fan! While I don't think this car can get us to work, it was fun watching our youth learn about propelled motors, and the structure of their vehicles.

Groveland Youth Center will host its last fundraiser of the year this December! The kids excitedly prepped for the Santa & Cookie Sale, and enjoyed tasting the tester cookie boxes. We spent a day decorating our sugar cookies with royal icing and sprinkles. The kids are excited for their parent's support in this event, and they love the idea of decorating cookies at home without waiting for the cookies to bake. Our Santa & Cookie



Sale is scheduled for December 7th from 11:00am—2:00pm. The

decorate your own cookie boxes consist of nine cookies of three designs, three piping bags of icing, and two cups of sprinkles. Our favorite man of the North Pole is coming too! Santa Claus will be here to do photos for our families that will be printed for take home keepsakes. Our event is being held at the Groveland Community Resilience Center and we are hoping to do this event for years to come. We thank everyone who donated and poured support into our event. For any questions regarding the Santa & Cookies Sale or Groveland Youth Center, please call Donica at (209) 962-7263.



Jamestown Youth Center—Holiday Cheer

It's hard to believe Christmas and New Year's are right around the corner. This December we will be spreading holiday cheer at the Jamestown Youth Center with mini stockings and ornaments for participants to bring home along with enjoying some favorite holiday movies such as *Elf*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Home Alone*, and *Rise of the Guardians* during our Movie Nights on Fridays and hot cocoa Saturdays. We will continue to have FNL on Tuesdays, excluding December 24th and 31st since we will be closed for the holidays. Craft days have moved to Thursdays with Good Eats due to Jamestown Youth Center being closed Wednesdays to

keep the Tuolumne Youth Center partially open. Saturday, December 7th we will be assisting with the Groveland Youth Center's holiday event, Santa's Cookie Sale. The following Saturday, December 14th is Jamestown's 10th annual Breakfast with Santa fundraiser.

Please join us at Jamestown Community Hall, to show support to the youth of Tuolumne County and enjoy an all you can eat pancake buffet for just \$10 a person! Tickets available at the door or online through December 13th at www.tcrecreation.com.

Jamestown Youth Center Presents Our 10th Annual

Breakfast With Santa

December 14th, 2024 9am-11:30am

Jamestown Community Hall, 18250 Main Street, Jamestown CA

Silent Auction - Photos w/Santa - Door Prizes

All you can eat pancake buffet!

sprinkles—syrops - chocolate chips - fresh fruit - whip cream and more

Tickets: \$10.00 each

Ticket includes access to pancake buffet, juice or coffee and one side of bacon

All proceeds benefit Jamestown Youth Center and Tuolumne County youth programs.

Tuolumne County Recreation Department

Tickets available at the door or
at www.tcrecreation.com




Tuolumne Youth Center Closure

The Tuolumne County Recreation Department will unfortunately have to close the Tuolumne Youth Center until further notice due to staff shortages the county is facing. We are very sorry for the inconvenience. We sincerely hope we are able to get the Tuolumne Youth Center back up and running for the children and teens of Tuolumne as quickly as possible. Please reach out to us at (209) 533-5663 with any questions.



The Sonora Main Library hosted a Blue Zones Project healthy cooking demonstration in October, where visitors had the opportunity to sample a Mexican Minestrone or a Pumpkin Apple soup. Over 50 people got to enjoy these delicious soups. If you missed the event, Blue Zones along with CalFresh and Public Health will be doing another demonstration on December



5th at 11:30am at the Sonora Main Library. The Blue Zones Project® engages people in activities that change mindsets and habits to inspire a higher level of health and happiness.

On December 11th from 2:00pm—6:00pm the Sonora Main Library will host a Winter Wonderland Family Fun Day. The library will provide snacks, games, and fun for the community. The event is free and open to the public.

The Mornings at the Movies will continue every Friday in December. At 10:00am in the library meeting room, selected films will show for all patrons. Titles that may appear on the big screen include *It's a Wonderful Life*, *White Christmas*, *Dr. Suess's How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *Home Alone*.

The Craft Cart will roll out on December 18th for some Beaded Snowflakes. The Craft Cart will be open from 1:00pm—5:00pm and is open to everyone. If you have any Craft projects or program suggestions for the library, please let the staff know.

Tuolumne Turkey Trot

What an amazing event we had this year! With the Tuolumne Youth Center currently being open part time, our community was unsure if this event was being held, but the 45th annual Tuolumne Turkey Trot was a huge success. We had kids from Summerville Elementary and Mother Lode Christian School walk to Jerry Whitehead Field to participate. The stands were filled with parents, family, and friends to watch and cheer on our runners. This year, we were able to partner with Friday Night Live who assisted us during the event. After their runs, the kids were rewarded with a cup of cocoa and a snack. The Tuolumne Turkey Trot wouldn't be possible without our sponsors, so we would like to extend a huge thanks to Diestel Turkey Ranch, Black Oak Casino, Save Mart, Safeway, and Tuolumne Market. Year after year, the ongoing support doesn't go unnoticed. Also, thank you to all the kids who participated! This is a huge event that the Tuolumne County Youth Centers put on that helps so many families and we are so glad to be a part of it. Happy Holidays to all!

What's Happening in December?

Library and Recreation Programming

Mobile Library

East Garden Apartments

Tuesday, December 3rd and 17th 10:00am—11:00am

Willow Springs Clubhouse

Tuesdays and Thursdays, December 3rd, 5th, 10th, 12th, 17th, 19th, 26th, and 31st 3:00pm—4:00pm

Don Pedro Market

Wednesdays, December 4th, 11th, and 18th
10:00am—11:00am

Mi-Wuk Community Center/Library

Fridays, December 27th 11:30am—12:30pm

Crystal Falls Association

Saturdays, December 7th, 21st, and 28th
10:00am—11:00am

Jamestown Community Hall

Saturdays, December 7th, 21st, and 28th
1:00pm—5:00pm

Columbia State Park

Tuesdays, December 10th 10:00am—11:00am

Tuolumne Senior Apartments

Fridays, December 6th and 20th 10:00am—11:00am

Jamestown Preston Lane Apartments

Fridays, December 6th and 20th 11:30am—12:30pm

49ers Church

Fridays, December 6th and 20th 2:00pm—3:00pm

Recreation Programs

Yoga for Seniors: Ends December 17th *Sonora Senior*

Center, Tuesdays 9:30am—10:30am (Ages 60+)

Tiny Tots Session 3: December 2nd—January 23rd

Sonora Youth Center Monday—Thursday

9:00am—12:00pm (Ages 3-6)

Jamestown Youth Center Breakfast With Santa:

December 14th 9:00am—11:30am *Jamestown Community Hall*, Tickets \$10.00

Groveland Youth Center Santa and Cookie Sale:

December 7th 11:00am—2:00pm *Groveland Community Resilience Center*

TUOLUMNE YOUTH CENTER: Closed Until Further Notice Due to Staff Shortages

Sonora Main Library

Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays @ 10:30am—Children's Storytime and Crafts

Tuesdays @ 1:00pm—Scrabble

Fridays @ 10:00am—Mornings at the Movies

Fridays @ 1:00pm—Checkers, Dominoes, and Chess

Saturdays 3:00pm—5:00pm—Technology Help Time

Thursdays, December 5th and 19th @ 3:00pm—

Friday Night Live Kids/Club Live

Thursdays, December 5th and 19th @ 4:00pm—Friday Night Live

Wednesday, December 11th @ 2:00pm—Winter Wonderland Family Fun Day

Tuesday, December 17th @ 11:30am—Book Club:

Into the Water by Paula Hawkins

Wednesday, December 18th @ 1:00pm—Craft Cart: Beaded Snowflakes

Saturday, December 21st @ 2:00pm—STEM at the Library

Thursday, December 26th @ 4:00pm—Teen Advisory Council

Tuesday, December 31st @ 2:00pm—

Friends of the Tuolumne County Library Meeting

Twain Harte Branch Library

Fridays @ 10:30am—Children's Storytime and Crafts

Wednesdays @ 2:30pm—Adult Game Group

Thursday, December 26th @ 3:30pm—STEM at the Library

Tuolumne City Branch Library

Tuesdays @ 2:00pm—Crochet Club

Tuesdays 3:00pm—5:00pm—VR Headset Play Time (Ages 10+)

Fridays @ 10:30am—Children's Storytime and Crafts

Friday, December 13th @ 10:00am—Book Club:

Sunday's Silence by Gina B. Nahai

Wednesday, December 18th @ 3:30pm—STEM at the Library

Friday, December 13th @ 6:00pm—Tuolumne City Christmas Parade

Groveland Branch Library

Fridays @ 10:30am—Children's Storytime and Crafts

Friday, December 6th @ 2:30pm—STEM at the Library

Friday, December 13th @ 2:00pm—Book Club

Tuesday, December 19th @ 10:00am—Quilter's Group

**ALL COUNTY FACILITIES CLOSED FOR
HOLIDAYS DECEMBER 24th and 25th**