

Tuolumne County Library and Recreation Newsletter

March 2025

STEM Fun at Sonora Main Library

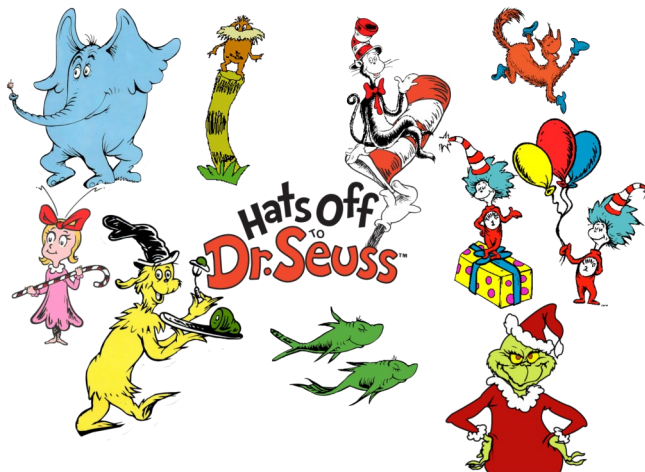
The Sonora Main Library's monthly STEM program on Saturday, February 15th was filled with young engineers constructing towers that could withstand the shaking of an earthquake simulator! The towers were made with spaghetti noodles and were more than two feet tall. Our children's librarian talked about the causes of earthquakes and how to safely protect oneself during an earthquake. Before the contest, our participants learned about vertical compressive forces (like the weight of a building on the earth) and horizontal lateral forces (like wind loads or earthquake loads)



to help them design their towers. Please join us for our exciting free STEM program on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 2:00pm at the Sonora Main Library, or check with your local branch for their program schedule.



Dr. Seuss Celebration



Dr. Seuss's books are celebrated by parents and teachers for fostering literacy with funny rhyming words, goofy illustrations, and charming characters. Helpful life lessons have been taught in his stories and they are well-loved by generations. His incredibly popular books have made fantastic movie adaptations too! In honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2nd, we will be celebrating his books with songs, crafts, and goodies. The Dr. Seuss celebration will be on Wednesday, March 5th, Thursday, March 6th, and Saturday, March 8th, at 10:30am at the Sonora Main Library.

Friends of the Tuolumne County Library

FOTCL Board

The annual meeting of FOTCL membership was held on January 28th. The agenda included a review of the current budget and planned goals for the current year. In addition to the members in attendance, Supervisor Ryan Campbell visited with information on the County budget and the continuing need to grow support for the library.

High Country Friends of the Library - Serving the Twain Harte and Mi-Wuk Libraries.

First, the High Country Friends of the Library want to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Board of Supervisors for sparing the Twain Harte Branch Library from closure in the 2025-26 budget. The community sends their grateful thanks!

We are currently planning our membership book sale for the last Saturday in June. There will be live music and with a renewal of your membership or a new membership, you will receive a free bag of books of your choosing.

Our next meeting is at 2:00pm at the Mi-Wuk Library on Wednesday, April 16th.

Friends of the Tuolumne City Branch Library

The Tuolumne City Friends continue with active Stitch and Book Clubs. Various community groups have requested additional handmade hats, so we fill their requests while also working on other projects. We welcome volunteers, especially during children's Storytime, Fridays at 10:30am.

FOTCL is most grateful for our membership and community's support!



Tiny Tots

February was a very busy month at Tiny Tots. We started the month off with a Valentine exchange and decorated heart shaped cookies. The families received a banner to decorate at home to represent them and the banners are starting to return, so our classroom is looking fantastic! The weather had been cold and wet, so we did lots of fun activities to get our energy out. We've been playing with our parachute and balloons, dancing with our scarves and ribbons, playing our musical instruments, and practicing fun yoga. We had our Mother Lode Coffee fundraiser which was a huge success. We can't thank all the families and community enough for their continued support.

March will wrap up Session 4 and the children will finish their Old MacDonald touch books. These books are made with several different materials like leather, felt, feathers, sand, and other items to make up our nine animals. Our school year is going by so fast! Soon, we'll be planning for graduation. Session 5 begins Monday, March 24th and Tiny Tots is so happy to say the session is completely full.

We have made some amazing Good Eats recipes provided by Public Health's CalFresh program and enjoyed some fascinating projects. The kid's favorite recipe was definitely the oven baked sweat potato fries. These fries had just the perfect combination of sweet and savory flavors. Our crystal creations STEM project was a hit as well! The kids witnessed firsthand the amazing power of science and grew their very own one-of-a-kind crystals.

In March we are looking forward to the 3rd annual Paint Party at Tuolumne Veteran's Memorial Hall. It will be held on Saturday, March 1st from 11:00am—1:00pm. For just \$30.00 a person you can create your very own spring themed masterpiece while enjoying tea, finger sandwiches and dessert. March 4th we'll be making Mardi Gras masks. We will then work on our Child Abuse Prevention Awareness posters over the upcoming weeks. Posters are due March 14th! Winners will be awarded a cash prize at the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 8th. Please reach out to the youth centers or Recreation Department for more information on the poster contest. Saturday, March 15th we will learn about traditional Irish dishes and prepare Americas traditional St. Patrick's Day dish, corned beef and cabbage.

Our first fieldtrip of the year is Saturday, March 22nd! We'll be hitting the road and heading up to Pinecrest for a fun filled day of sledding, hiking and a picnic lunch at the frozen lake. A signed permission slip and winter clothes are required for all participants to attend. Sleds and lunch will be provided. Swing by the Jamestown Youth Center to grab a permission slip! We are located at 10540 7th Street in Jamestown and are currently open Tuesday—Friday 1:00pm—7:00pm and Saturdays 9:30am—5:00pm.



Tuolumne County Public Library Literacy Services

The Adult Literacy Services are designed to help adult learners improve their reading, writing, math, technology, and other life skills. Interested adults, ages 18+ who are looking to earn a high school diploma can now enroll with Career Online High School (COHS) through the Tuolumne County Public Library. With scholarships provided by the California State Library we are now able to offer these services to more patrons. The online high school was created for busy, working adults and offers short, consumable lessons. COHS students receive support from certified instructors including a personal academic coach and can always access class materials for maximum flexibility. If you or someone you know may be interested in taking the next step towards completing a degree visit <https://ca.careeronlinehs.org/> to complete a short online survey and see if Career Online High School is the right fit.

Digital literacy has quickly become one of the most important skills for any adult to possess. The ability to use and understand technology is ingrained in our society, and for those who are struggling to develop their computing skills, it can be an uphill battle to find help. The Tuolumne County Public Library is here to assist! If you or someone you know is in need of assistance with technology we are still offering Technology Help Time every Saturday from 3:00pm—5:00pm. Bring your device to request assistance or get tutoring using one of our computers and let our volunteer help you with your digital literacy. We are also partnering with NorthStar Digital Literacy to offer assessments and online curriculum to interested learners who may already know the basics but want to learn more. You can access NorthStar's resources from your home computer and take personalized classes based on your skill level and need.

If you are interested in assisting with Adult Literacy Services, consider volunteering as a tutor and/or technology assistant. Thanks to our amazing volunteer tutors, individual and family lives are enriched. Literacy tutors currently focus on private one-on-one meetings where tutors and learners can work together at their own pace. Technology assistants are tutors specializing in digital literacy skills and volunteer a few hours a week using library computers to help patrons with common technology issues and instruct digital literacy learners in technology skills.

If you are interested in volunteering as a tutor or have questions about the literacy program, including COHS please email the literacy department at literacy@co.tuolumne.ca.us or call (209) 694-2727.

Tuolumne City Branch Library

While winter is typically a slower time of the year due to holiday season burnout, the Tuolumne City Branch Library experienced groundbreaking numbers in Storytime attendance. Despite the small size of the Tuolumne City Branch Library, our wonderful volunteers regularly bring a crowd with their excellent story telling and wonderful crafts that are both engaging and exciting. During one of our regular Storytimes, we reached a total of 42 kids and 20 adults, about two times the number that we normally receive on any normal Storytime event. In the month of January, we also had a field trip from the Motherlode Christian School, where 22 kids and 8 adults showed up for a Storytime and a scavenger hunt for origami animals! Despite Summer being a few months away, we are also planning our Summer Reading Club programs already, and we expect a sizeable number of kids and parents.

The Twain Harte Branch Library needs volunteers for our weekly Storytime and craft program on Fridays at 10:30am. We are losing our regular Storytime volunteer for a few months, and we always need new volunteers to read stories and help with crafts for the children. We appreciate the committed group of moms and grandparents who pitch in and read when necessary, however, we would love to have more dedicated volunteers join this tight-knit community and contribute their time. Volunteers can help by reading picture books and preparing simple crafts for the kids. New Storytime attendees are always welcome!

Several regular Twain Harte Branch Library patrons have expressed an interest in starting a new book club at the library. If you share this interest in a book club, would like to volunteer at Twain Harte Branch Library, or any have any other questions, please come visit or give us a call at (209) 586-4501.

Groveland Youth Center

We are keeping busy here at the Groveland Youth Center. Lately, we have been cooking a ton of Mexican food. Our kids favorite so far are the Birria tacos. We have also made fresh tortillas, which was fun and super messy. I love being able to teach our youth about new foods. There have been several meals we have made that our kids haven't even heard of, including Mole and Sopa de Fideo.

Friday Night Live has continued our partnership up here as well. While we were doing our meet ups on Saturday afternoons, we recently moved our group day to Thursday. We are always welcoming new kids to join.

The Jamestown and Groveland Youth Centers are taking on an annual event for the first time. The Youth



Centers
have

started the planning process for Touch a Truck. The event will be held at Standard Park on April 26th from 10:00am—1:00pm. Those young and young at heart will be allowed to touch, climb on, and ask questions about their favorite trucks in a safe, supervised environment.

Our hours are Tuesdays—Fridays from 1:00pm—7:00pm and Saturdays 9:30am—5:00pm. Please call the Groveland Youth Center at (209) 962-7263 with any questions.



Groveland Branch Library

The Groveland Branch Library has a great selection of fiction, non-fiction, and biographies for adults, young adults, and children. We also have an awesome selection of DVDs and audio books. With your library card, the entire collection of the Tuolumne County Public Library system is available to you by request.

The Library has three computers for public use and a fun children's computer with games for learning. On Fridays at 10:30am we offer Storytime for children ages 0 to 5. After Storytime we always have an easy craft for the little ones to make and take home. Parents can also enjoy meeting other parents with children the same age.

On the second Friday of the month our Library Lot Book Club meets at 2:00pm. Everyone reads the same book from the Book-in-a Box 49-99 selection, and then the group has a discussion. We'd love to have some new members to discuss our books with!

The Summer Reading Program is just around the corner! We will have special programs available on Wednesdays at 2:30pm starting on June 8th. Participants are given a reading log to track their reading through the summer to earn free books and can come to the library for weekly crafts and activities!

Spring Adult Softball League Begins

Don't miss out on our upcoming Spring Adult Softball Leagues! Registration for Spring Leagues will consist of Tuesday Night COED Wednesday Men's 50+, Thursday Men's and Women's, and Friday Men's Leagues. Team Managers can REGISTER ONLINE without a late fee until March 9th. After the 9th teams can register with a \$15.50 per day late fee until registration closes on March 16th. Opening Day is set for Tuesday, March 25th!

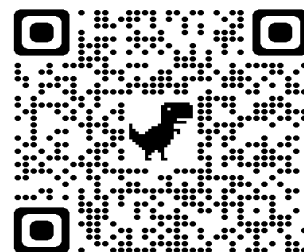
Spring Softball Schedule			
TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Competi- tive Coed ---- Recreation Coed	Men 50+ Draft League	Competitive Men ---- Recreation Men ---- Competitive Women	Competi- tive Men ---- Recreation Men

Summerville High School JV and Freshmen Baseball along with JV Softball games and practices will continue in March. Standard Park will also be home to Tuolumne County Girls Fastpitch games and practices all spring.

Touch Rugby will continue at the Standard Park Sports Complex on Tuesday nights from 5:30pm—7:30pm until March 11, signups are still available. Touch Rugby focuses on speed, agility, and builds fitness skills in a fun and low-impact team sport.

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

Scan For Program
Registration!



The Tuolumne County Recreation Department is kicking off Spring with a busy slate of activities and career opportunities! On March 11th, back by popular demand, is our Yoga for Seniors class that is held at the Sonora Senior Center every Tuesday from 9:30am – 10:30am. This class is hosted by long time Yogi, Hoyt Cory and is designed for yoga practitioners of all abilities including those who are trying it out for the first time. This class focuses on breath work and functional movement to “keep all the moving parts moving”. Registration is currently open on our website at www.tcrecreation.com.

During the week of March 31st – April 4th the Recreation Department will be very busy with multiple programs and opportunities, the first of which is our Spring Break Day Camp. This camp is held at Soulsbyville Elementary Monday – Friday from 7:30am – 5:30pm. Campers can expect to play fun games, create cool art projects, socialize with their peers, get to hear from some special guests, and so much more. This is a great opportunity for kids to have a fun and social time while parents are still at work during Spring Break. Registration for the camp is on our website as well as more information regarding the camp and the schedule for the week.

During this busy week we will also be hosting two amazing opportunities to jumpstart career paths. First, we have our annual Lifeguard training program at Sonora High School. During this training, participants will learn how to perform water rescue saves, scan and surveil the water, operate an AED, learn CPR and other lifesaving procedures needed to be a proficient and competent lifeguard. Once participants complete the course and pass the exam, they will walk away with a Lifeguarding certificate that will allow them to apply with the Recreation Department to work as a lifeguard at our pools.

The Recreation Department is also very proud to announce that through our partnership with the U.S. Forest Service we are able to offer the Basic 40 training program. This program is great for aspiring firefighters and those interested in a forestry career. Participants will work with U.S. Forest Service trainers to complete the training and earn their certificate as their first step into such an important and fun career path! More information as well as registration for these great opportunities can be found on our website, www.tcrecreation.com.

Lastly, we have also opened up registration for a new program with prominent yogi, published author, and child development teacher, Boclaire Vaughn. Boclaire has worked with our department for the last three years to offer many amazing programs. Registration is currently open for her new class, “Mommy and Me Walking Meditation”. This program will take place on Wednesday, April 2nd from 10:00am – 11:00am at the Standard Park Sports Complex. Families will work with Boclaire on breathwork, stress relieving techniques, functional movements, and other important tools for self regulation. She will work with the parents so they can use these skills and tools at home all while doing it enjoying the fresh air and soft grass. Visit our website, www.tcrecreation.com today and register for these amazing programs and opportunities before space fills up. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at our office with any questions at (209) 533-5663, we can’t wait to spend our Spring and Summer with you!

What's Happening in March?

Library and Recreation Programming

Mobile Library

East Garden Apartments

Tuesday, March 18th 10:00am—11:00am

Willow Springs Clubhouse

Tuesdays & Thursdays, March 11th, 13th, 18th, 20th, 25th, & 27th 3:00pm—4:00pm

Don Pedro Market

Wednesdays, March 12th, 19th, & 26th
10:00am—11:00am

Mi-Wuk Community Center/Library

Fridays, March 14th & 28th 11:30am—12:30pm

Crystal Falls Association

Saturdays, March 1st, 15th, 22nd, & 29th
10:00am—11:00am

Jamestown Community Hall

Saturdays, March 1st, 15th, 22nd, & 29th
1:00pm—5:00pm

Columbia State Park

Tuesday, March 11th & 25th 10:00am—11:00am

Tuolumne Senior Apartments

Friday, March 21st 10:00am—11:00am

Jamestown Preston Lane Apartments

Friday, March 21st 11:30am—12:30pm

49ers Church

Friday, March 21st 2:00pm—3:00pm

Recreation Programs

Yoga for Seniors: *Sonora Senior Center*, Tuesdays
March 11th—April 29th 9:30am—10:30am

Spring Adult Softball Registration: *Standard Park Sports Complex*, February 10th—March 16th

Basic 40 Firefighter Training: Forest Service, Monday,
March 31st—Friday, April 4th 8:30am—4:30pm

Lifeguarding Training Course: Sonora Union High School, Monday, March 31st—Friday, April 4th

Spring Break Day Camp: *Soulsbyville Elementary*,
March 31st—April 4th 7:30am—5:30pm

Sonora Main Library

Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays @ 10:30am:

Children's Storytime and Crafts

Tuesdays @ 1:00pm: Scrabble

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

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

Wednesday, March 19th @ 1:00pm:

Craft Cart: Pipe Cleaner Flowers

Saturday, March 15th @ 2:00pm: STEM at the Library

Tuesday, March 18th @ 12:00pm: Book Club: *The Tiger's Wife* by Tea Obreht

Thursday, March 20th @ 10:00am: Library Opening
Late for Staff Meeting

Tuesday, March 25th @ 2:00pm:

Friends of the Tuolumne County Library Meeting

Twain Harte Branch Library

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

Thursday, March 27th @ 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, March 14th @ 10:00am: Book Club—
Whiskey When We're Dry by John Larison

Wednesday, March 19th @ 3:30pm: STEM at the
Library

Groveland Branch Library

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

Friday, March 7th @ 2:30pm: STEM at the Library

Friday, March 14th @ 2:00pm: Book Club

Tuesday, March 18th @ 10:00am: Quilter's Group