

### City Council Reduces Funding to Our Library

~Mary Wahl

We THANK THE CITY COUNCIL for its funding of the Chico Branch of the Butte County Library for the last 12 to 13 years.

We do understand that tough decisions have had to be made in the last two years. But we are very disappointed that the Chico City Council chose to reduce library funding to \$75,000 in fiscal year 2014-2015 (*down \$25,000 [25%] from \$100,000 in fiscal year 2013-2014*) at its budget meeting on Tuesday June 17th, despite recommendations from the Council's Finance Committee and library staff to continue funding at the same level.

The result of the loss of these funds is that the library may face reduced hours by the end of 2014.

A major argument offered for cutting library funding was that it had not been cut before. This is not true. The City of Chico cut its funding of the library by more than \$71,000 in fiscal years 2009-2010 (\$40,000) and 2012-2013 (\$31,828).

We as Friends of the Chico Library fight every year for funding for this important resource. CFOL President Diane Friedman's Letter to The Editor in the *Enterprise Record* (Sunday, July 22) contained significant facts and arguments supporting CFOL's contention that the Chico library provides important services and resources for Chico citizens of all ages and all economic levels and is available for the benefit of everyone in the greater Chico area. It is appropriate that the city support our Chico Branch Library, the largest and busiest of the Butte County libraries.

Chico citizens use their library—how much is indicated by the following recent statistics *for just the month of May*:

Total card holders: 49,785  
Checkouts and renewals: 52,220  
Library visits: 31,123  
Reference questions: 2,705  
Public internet sign ups: 2,600

New patrons: 509  
Pre-school program attendance: 1,293  
School-age program attendance: 270  
Volunteer (bless them all!) hours: 1,360

Where else can Chico get this kind of return for money spent?

Your city council members who voted to maintain the \$100,000 funding for the Chico Branch were Mark Sorensen and Sean Morgan. Ann Schwab and Mary Golf voted to reduce library funding by 50%. A compromise was reached when Scott Gruendl, Sorensen, Morgan, and Goloff voted to reduce funding by 25%. Schwab, Tami Ritter, and Randall Stone voted no. Stone voted no on all motions for funding for the library and did not enter the discussion.

Remember: The library may have to cut its open hours by the end of 2014 if the \$25,000 is not restored to its budget. We urge you to contact your city council members to encourage them to continue their support of the Chico Branch Library by restoring the \$25,000.



### Chico Branch Happenings

~Brenda Crotts

The Chico Branch Library has been busy during the months of April, May, and June with patrons enjoying the library's materials and programs.

Children's programs are so popular that the regularly scheduled programs, each offered twice on their scheduled day, have been held in the library's meeting room to accommodate the numbers of little ones and parents attending each session.

Lydia and her team have reorganized the children's room for a better flow as the children grow and their interests and uses of the room change.



**“Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.”**

~Lady Bird Johnson

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— *Chico Branch Happenings, continued*

In the teen area, Lydia and Leslie have made significant changes to accommodate computers for teens. Leslie also expanded the number of Manga titles and the display area for the popular collection. Our next change will be to increase the teen area space later in the summer.

The public computer area will expand to provide more space and privacy for users, with new computers arriving near the end of July.

In the adult non-fiction area we are weeding, lowering shelves, and shifting the collection. The end product will be more space on shelves for face-out display. Very tall books will lie on the lowest shelves.

Reference is being weeded, with many titles moving to the circulating collection. Moving a large section of reference shelving later this summer will make the footprint of the reference area smaller, resulting in more space beyond the reference area to host public programs. A microphone stand contributed by Chico Friends of the Library will be useful for those programs.

Programming this spring included a popular poetry-writing program, Poets and Writers and California Humanities, which was sponsored by CFOL. Animé, a movie genre popular with preteens and teens, has been added to our Movie Licensing USA license. Our very first Animé showing had an attendance of 22! Regular movie showings on Thursday or Sunday afternoons are drawing 20 to more than 30 people per showing. We have alternated new release animated films with popular blockbusters.

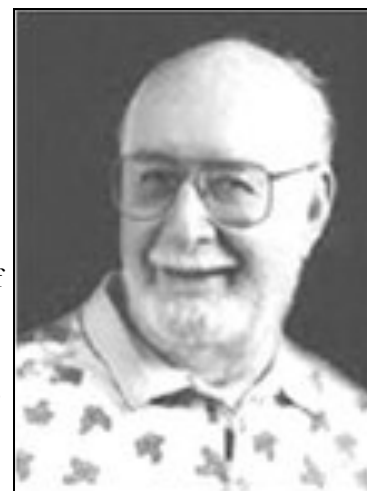
Infopeople's week-long grant-writing program in the library's meeting room this spring was attended by library and nonprofit staff from northern California. Several Butte County Library staff are now ready to assist in the writing of grants to improve library services or to aid the various Friends of Library or Library Advisory Boards in their pursuit of grants. In June the library hosted another popular Infopeople grant which brought to each branch a new iPad and staff training on making better use of the iPad in the library.

A big thank you to CFOL as just about everything mentioned above would not be possible without their support. And a big thank you to the volunteers who contribute more than 1,300 hours each month, tirelessly assisting branch staff in making library use valuable to their community.



## In Remembrance of Gerald Davis

As a young boy growing up in Pittsburg, California, Gerald learned that the public library was an incomparable source of both entertainment and education—and you couldn't beat the price! Having an unlimited supply of reading material was such a boon, as money was always tight in his single-parented family of four.



After marrying a nice Chico girl who also appreciated the library, Gerald passed his lifelong love of reading to all three of his children. His daughter fondly remembers leaving the house early on Saturday mornings, so Mom could sleep in, and driving with her brothers to what was then the Chico Public Library on 2nd and Salem. Climbing those pink stone steps, with Dad's hand firmly in hers, always felt like the beginning of a great adventure.

Jerry read to his children regularly, and more importantly, he read *in front* of them, always modeling the great joys to be found in a good book—and in fact, all three children are today voracious readers.

In his later years, he devoted many volunteer hours to keeping the Chico Library open consistently. In 2002, Gerald took on the position of Financial Advisor to the Chico Friends of the Library (with his wife, Susan, serving as Treasurer), and he continued in this position until his death in May 2014.

Even during the final weeks of his life, Jerry thought about the library a great deal; one of the last pieces he wrote was an impassioned plea to the Board to spend its accumulated Building Fund in a number of concrete and creative ways.

Gerald loved the library, and he loved his library colleagues. He always spoke highly of the caliber of the staff and volunteers of the Chico Library. He developed a warm and collegial relationship with the two bank tellers who received the library book sale deposit every Monday morning for twelve years. Truly, his work with the library was one of the sustaining forces in his life.

He will be missed.

**"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child." ~Dr. Seuss**



Would you like to increase your contribution to Chico Friends of the Butte County Library? It's easy! During the Annie B's Community Drive (*August 1 through September 30*), the donation you make will be supplemented with a percentage grant from North Valley Community Foundation (NVCF).

Gifts must be made on behalf of Chico Friends of the Butte County Library and mailed to NVCF. In addition to checks, donations may be made on line at [www.nvcf.org](http://www.nvcf.org) or at our website [www.chicolibrary.org](http://www.chicolibrary.org). NVCF can also accept gifts of stock, real estate, and other property with value. We receive 100% of these contributions plus a portion of the \$100,000 in grant funds. To make a donation to CFOL that will be supplemented by funds from Annie B's, you must do the following.

**Make your donation starting August 1, but no later than September 30 at 5pm. Make checks payable to:**

**Annie B's / Chico Friends of the Butte County Library**

Send your check to:

North Valley Community Foundation  
3120 Cohasset Road, Suite 8  
Chico, CA 95973

Donate on line: Visit [www.nvcf.org](http://www.nvcf.org) or [www.chicolibrary.org](http://www.chicolibrary.org) for details.

Questions? Call NVCF Annie B's Coordinator, Sara Nelson, at 591-4161.

## Save the Date!

~Marian Milling



We've all heard the expression "Save the Date." Well, Saturday, October 18, 2014, the date of CFOL's annual Fall Festival is one you'll want to reserve!

This family-friendly—and free—Fall Festival is held on the lawn of the Chico Branch of the Butte County Library from 11 am to 2 pm.

The Festival is really for everyone who loves the library and includes food, music, and games. A cakewalk and book ex-

change for children are part of the fun. The Alice Peake Experience band will be there once again and so will Papa Murphy's pizza wagon.

Fall Festival started over ten years ago when the Friends wanted to celebrate the community's support of the library. It has grown from there.

We know it's a season away, but please put the 2014 CFOL Fall Festival on your calendar now: Saturday, October 18, 11 am to 2 pm. Hope to see you there!

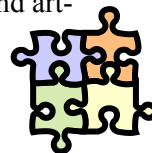


*Live musicians from the July 2nd Lunchtime at the library*

## Lunchtime @ the Library

**July 16th & July 30th  
11:30 am to 2:00 pm**

Come and enjoy lunch at the library. Local food trucks will be on hand for good eats along with live music and art-work and crafts for the kids.



**Have you purchased your CFOL "Love Your Library" puzzle yet?**



**This coupon admits you, a Chico Friends of the Library member, to the "First Friday" Members-Only Book Sale on August 1st, September 5th & October 3rd**



Sales are held on the first Friday of the month before the first public Saturday sale each month.



## New Books Available because of your generous dona- tions!

- Build Your Own Adobe* by Paul & Doris Aller
- Life on Mars: Creating Casual Luxury* by Mar Jennings
- The Loudest voice in the Room: How the Brilliant, Bombastic Roger Ailes Built Fox News – and Divided a Country* by Gabriel Sherman
- Quick and Nimble: Lessons from Leading CEOs on How to Create a Culture of Innovation* by Adam Bryant
- A Life in Men: a novel* by Gina Frangello
- Water 4.0: the Past, Present, and Future of the World's most vital resource* by David L. Sedlak

**Chico Friends of the Butte County  
Library**

**P.O. Box 6952  
Chico, CA 95927**

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## **Coming Events**

- \* The regular **Book Sale** is open every Saturday, 9 to 11:30 AM at the Chico Branch Library, 1st and Sherman. This is our primary fundraiser.
- \* **First Friday Members-only Book Sale**, August 1st, September 5th, and October 3rd; 2 to 4 PM at the Chico Branch Library, 1st and Sherman.
- \* The **CFOL Board Meetings** are the 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7PM at the Chico Branch Library, 1st and Sherman.
- \* **Lunchtime at the Library** is on July 16th and July 30th from 11:30AM to 2:00PM at the Chico Branch Library.
- \* Save the Date for the **Fall Festival** on Saturday, October 18th from 11:30AM to 2:00PM.

See the CFOL calendar online at <http://chicolibrary.org/index.php/cfolgooglecalendar>  
See the Butte County Library online at <http://www.buttecounty.net/bclibrary>