



The public is invited to CFOL Board meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, 6:30 PM at the Library.



Vote YES on Measure H to Keep Butte County Strong!

Brenda Crotts, CFOL President

You know libraries matter and we thank you for your membership and understanding of the value of a library to a community.

I have vivid memories of failed ballot measures and slim budget years during my 41 years of librarianship in Butte County. Friends held bake sales and other money-making activities to generate funds for the county so their branch could be open another two weeks.

Our trouble dates back to the thrifty supervisors who only spent what funds were available without raising taxes. Butte has the seventh lowest per capita tax revenue in California. How was the budget balanced? By making cuts year after year.

Now we are at the point of again facing additional cuts to the General Fund Departments, including sheriff, fire and library. Previous reductions have severely cut county services. Butte County libraries have been cut 351 hours since 2020 and the few remaining staff work several branches.

We have a choice! Vote YES on H a one cent per dollar sales tax increase, or accept the reality of having perhaps one library open one hour a day, one day a week, or no library open and only online access to e-services.

The reality of what happens if Measure H fails—serious negative effects in Sheriff, Fire and Library services. It is up to voters in Butte County to decide.

The Chico Library Welcomes the Community to Family Activities

Cynthia Pustejovsky, Branch Librarian

The Chico Branch was a busy place this summer. These programs are hosted by professional staff and frequently funded by CFOL!

In June, 36 programs were presented with an attendance of 787 children, 67 teens and 828 adults. July saw similar activity with 38 programs and 775 children, 69 teens and 793 adults in attendance. The ever-popular **NorCal Bats** visited again this year, and **Chicken Lips**, a new program, was introduced (this is a musical program for the family that encourages singing, dancing and just acting silly. It received a very warm welcome).



With the start of school, things slowed a little in August, 17 programs with 284 children, two teens and 323 adults participating. During **Library Card Sign-up Month** in September, Chico issued 320 new library cards, and a few dozen were replaced.

Pumpkin painting! Saturday, October 27. This program was so popular the last few years, Chico and Oroville Branches decided to use a reservation system to be sure there would be enough pumpkins this year. Chico has five one-hour sessions with forty participants each.

For **Teentober**, Chico had a Black-Light Boogie program. Teens listened to music while creating a painting that glowed under black-light. Pizza and other refreshments were served. Chico also hosted a **Murder Mystery Teen Lock-in**.

Ugly Art is a new adult program coming in December. This program will provide art supplies for adults to create whatever comes to mind, in a non-judgmental, positive environment. Each month will feature a different material (acrylic, water color, pastel, etc.), or technique (stippling, chiaroscuro, etc.). There will be limited instruction in technique; the goal is to have the participants enjoy creative expression without worrying about whether or not they created “good” art. Ugly Art will happen 3:00-4:30pm the third Saturday of the month. First program is December 7.

Family Movie Afternoon is 2:00pm the third Saturday of the month. November 16 the feature will be “Fantastic Mr. Fox”; December 21 movie will be “Frozen”. This is a sing-along; participants are invited to wear costumes.



Your Book Sale Dollars at Work

Nancy Leek, CFOL Vice-President and Jennifer Ellingson, CFOL Treasurer

The Friends of the Library weekly Book Sale is our major fundraiser. Proceeds from the sale go to support the library. Every person working at the book sale is a volunteer.



Where do your book sale dollars go? Together with membership dues and donations, these dollars purchase library books, magazine subscriptions, craft supplies, and much, much more.

In the first nine months of 2024, CFOL has spent:

- \$33,592 on library books and digital media
- \$772 on magazine subscriptions
- \$5739 on library programs, including the Summer Reading Program

If you checked out a book from the library this year, or read a magazine, or borrowed an e-book or audiobook, or brought your child to story time or another fun event, or participated in a library

sponsored book club, then however you used the library, the Chico Friends of the Library Book Sale made it possible.

Your donations and your purchases supply the library with new books and fill it with fun activities. We just want to say how much we appreciate everyone’s contribution—both large and small. We are careful stewards and so grateful for our giving community!



Membership

Merle Burbridge, Membership Chair

As you surely know, in a few days the future of the Butte County Library system will be decided by Butte County voters. The November 2024 ballot includes Measure H, to raise sales tax within Butte County by one cent per dollar over its current rate.

This one cent increase will provide funding for the county Sheriff’s department, Fire department, and libraries, as well as a few other county services. Without the funds, drastic cuts are just about certain. It is likely that the County will fund only one library branch, that would even be online only.

Should the sales tax increase Measure H pass, current library hours will, at the least, be maintained, and increased hours and services are likely.

Allocation of the funds is entirely within the purview of the Board of Supervisors. Showing community support for our libraries is absolutely crucial. One way to make your support visible is to join your Friends of the Library.

Chico Friends of the Library serves as a robust cross section of the community expressing the need and desire for access to library resources and services. When you join CFOL, you strengthen that advocacy. Your CFOL Board of Directors asks that you join CFOL and that you help keep our libraries open by voting YES on Measure H. To join CFOL, please visit our website www.chicolibrary.org/support-the-library. Membership envelopes are also available at the library and at the Saturday book sales.

+-----+
 | This coupon admits you, a Chico |
 | Friends of the Library member, to the |
 | **“First Friday” Members-Only Book Sale** |
 +-----+



Chico Library History—40 Years Ago

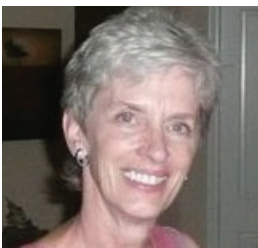
Linda Elliott, CFOL Historian

One impressive Chico native, Dorothy Hill, supported the Chico Branch of the Butte County Library and Chico by preserving local history. In 1984 she was featured in the Chico E-R with some of the stories noted below:

“During one interview, Mrs. Hill heard about a Chico man and his father who used to collect rattlesnakes in the early 1900s and sell them to the Chinese for \$2.50 per reptile. The Chinese would then pickle the snakes in alcohol and sell the mixture as a cure for rheumatism.”

“Thadeous Kern was a young dare-devil obsessed with the skies. During the early days of aviation, he built his own airplane and could often be seen soaring over chico. Eventually his obsession cost him his life when one of his homemade aircrafts crashed.”

As Mrs. Hill notes in the article: “History as people remember it is not always extremely accurate... Dates and facts change a little with age. But the taped stories provide the flavor of the times and the individual’s impressions of what was going on. It is history the way the person chose to remember it.”



Little Free Library Report

Elizabeth Berghold, CFOL Board

Christine MacShane graciously consented to paint another Little Free Library for us! This charming box is at Rotary Park on Broadway. Stop by, when you’re in the neighborhood, and check it out! Joe Steck kindly built the new box for us. Many thanks to both of you!!

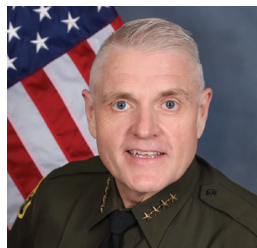
I had an interesting conversation with a woman pushing a stroller, when I was at Baroni Park LFL. I had discovered that there were no books for kids, so I informed this woman, who was passing by, that there soon would be a section of books for kids of all ages. She confessed that she had never used a LFL, because SHE DIDN’T KNOW WHAT



New Little Free Library by Christine MacShane

THE RULES ARE! So I explained it to her. Take a book and someday return a book! It’s that simple! One could return the same book or a different book.

When I checked all 11 LFLs this month, they were stocked fairly well. A couple were stuffed to the point they were not accessible and some need kids’ books, but overall, well cared for. Many thanks to the unsung heroes who are the stewards of these LFLs.



Sheriff Gives Reasons to Support Measure H

Sheriff Kory L. Honea

Letters to the Editor, Chico Enterprise-Record, October 15, 2024

I have been the Sheriff of Butte County for over a decade and had plenty of dilemmas to contend with. A dilemma is a situation demanding a choice between two very challenging alternatives, both presenting drawbacks and negative consequences.

We are facing just such a dilemma. That is, vote to increase local sales tax by 1% or deal with drastic cuts to public safety and the virtual evisceration of our libraries. After careful consideration of the consequences, I believe the better alternative is to vote to maintain public safety services and fund libraries.

That’s why I support Butte County’s Measure H. I didn’t come to that decision lightly. I recognize the burden a sales tax increase places on everyone and I abhor that. However, given all we have been through in the past few years, we simply cannot withstand a reduction in public safety services. Nor do I want what would amount to the practical loss of our libraries.

Passing Measure H will enable Butte County to maintain crucial public safety services, by ensuring we have enough sheriff’s deputies, prosecutors, and firefighters. These brave public servants play a vital

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role in keeping our neighborhoods safe. Without this funding, their ability to protect us would be severely compromised and our communities would be in significant danger.

Furthermore, Measure H will allow us to maintain our libraries, which are community hubs that foster literacy and provide numerous resources to children and adults alike.

Please join me in voting Yes on Measure H.

Chico Branch Library Hours

(530) 552-5652
1108 Sherman Ave
Chico, CA 95926

Tuesday: 10:00am-6:00pm

Wednesday: 10:00am-6:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am-6:00pm

Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm

Closed Sunday and Monday

Book Sale Schedule

All Events in the Chico Library Meeting Room

NOVEMBER

FIRST FRIDAY, Members Only: Nov 1, 3:00-4:30pm

Saturdays 9:00-11:30am, Nov 2, 16, 23

NO SALES ON NOV 9 OR NOV 30

DECEMBER

FIRST FRIDAY, Members Only: Dec 6, 3:00-4:30pm

Saturdays 9:00-11:30am, Dec 7, 14, 21

NO SALE ON DEC 28

JANUARY

FIRST FRIDAY, Members Only TBA

Saturdays 9:00-11:30am, TBA

Elizabeth Quivey: Newsletter Design
Keith Herritt: Newsletter Editor