



LIBRARY CONNECTIONS

FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY THRU MARCH 2022

From pastures to pines, connecting you to the world of ideas...

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS (VISION 2020 and Beyond)

- ✓ **Improve county residents' reading habits:** One of the earliest connections our youngest residents develop to the library is visiting the library for storytime. This program helps young boys and girls understand how to interact with books, increase print awareness, expand their vocabulary, and provides social interaction with each other. In February, all branches began to offer a weekly storytime again for children ages 0-5 years old. Sonora Main Library increased the number of storytimes in March through adding back the Wednesday morning storytime.
- ✓ **Encourage lifelong learning:** January, February, and March were busy days in the Children's Room. February was National Oral Health Month and the Storytime boys and girls received visits from the Superintendent of School office with their Smile Keepers Program. Erika Hagstrom-Dossi demonstrated good dental practices for the young children and Tuolumne County Public Health brought a mouth model for the preschoolers to practice brushing teeth. ATCAA continued their program *Growing Great Kids* parenting program with visits to Sonora Main in February and March. Finally, Sonora Main Library had special guest story readers participate in February with a partnership between CalFire and Tuolumne County Fire. The boys and girls loved being fire fighters for the day. In March, Sheriff Bill Pooley read to the young residents and were treated to a visit from one of the patrol cars.
- ✓ **Improve facilities for community engagement:** The Sonora Main Library Meeting Room is once again available for public use. With the lifting of the mask mandate and the county wide drop in COVID-19 cases, Tuolumne County Library was able to allow groups to reserve the room and use it for their meetings and other events. Sonora Main Library is again able to utilize the facility. The first event the library is sponsoring is a special Book Talk adult program featuring three local authors. This event will be held April 30th from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Janey Gregory, Marle Hewett, and Susie Williams will be discussing their new books, *Fast Hewie*, *Age of Freedom*, and *Adventures at 1000 AGL*.

SELECTED PERFORMANCE MEASURES	January	February	March
Visitors	3,015	3,725	4,462
Total Circulation	8,922	8,659	10,333
Children attending programs	57	90	151
Reference questions answered	710	546	623
Public access computer use	672	710	813
Items in collection	76,624	76,117	75,584
Card holders	31,279	31,371	31,473

BEST PRACTICES

- ✓ **Fundraising/Friends of the Library Activities:** Friends of the Tuolumne County Library applied for and received a special grant from Sonora Area Foundation and the Tuolumne County American Rescue Plan Act for Early Childhood Learning Stations. These all in one computers are preloaded with learning games and activities for preschoolers through the primary grades. Sonora Main Library, Groveland and Tuolumne Branches each received these child safe



The joyful heart of county life—Vision 2020