



Friends of Shasta County Libraries
www.ShastaFOSCL.com

The Open Book

**Friends of Shasta County Libraries in Redding
Winter 2024**



Our Mission Statement

**The Friends
of Shasta County Libraries
Promotes, Supports,
and enhances
Shasta County's Library
Programs, resources and partnerships with the community**

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Friends of
Shasta
County
Libraries

1100 Parkview Ave
Redding CA 96001

**2024-2025
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Means

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Shasta County

Libraries

Redding Library
Director of Library
Services:
Jared Tolman,
Director
1100 Parkview,
Redding 96001
Monday-Thursday 10
a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday-Saturday 10
a.m.-6 p.m.
Sundays 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Branches

Anderson
3200 W. Center St.
Anderson CA 96007
530-365-7685
Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m.-6
p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Burney
(Intermountain)
37038 Siskiyou St.,
Burney CA 96013
530-335-4327

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Apologies to TR: Speak Softly and Carry a Big Toolbox

Anyone who has worked on an engine or pounded a nail knows a rule. The rule is: Use the proper tool for the job.

People question the need for brick-and-mortar libraries since the Internet exists. The library contains the Internet, as one of many library tools. Which is larger: the massive Internet or the Shasta County Library, which contains and provides the Internet?

Among the infinite varieties of *reading* are topographical maps, books, faces, musical notes, animals, a poker hand, crowds, clouds and the Self.

In this issue of The Open Book, we review two Robert Sapolsky books. One, **Determined**, is an argument based on science, which I 'read' by ear, the other, a memoir, which I "read" by sight.

When **Determined** became available in the Library's Libby application, I listened avidly. Scientific explanations require concentration. Focus is not always easy, whether for human nature or for passing through Nature. A pleasant voice recites the paper text. Where the text mentions documentation, attachments, footnotes, illustrations, or graphs, the screen does not display them...yet. Some subjects are perhaps too intricate to make sense in audio format.

Hearing the audiobook was not the proper tool for 'understanding.' One might need to read with the eyes to better argue against Sapolsky's conclusion that human beings lack Free Will. Sapolsky's surprising thesis is that what one does next is down to biology, quantum mechanics, chemistry, heritage and experience, and not to free will. That thesis provokes the urge to refute. I want to find his assertion weak but am not sure that I am able to.

After auditing **Determined**, I listened to Dickens's **A Tale of Two Cities**, about the horrors of the French Revolution, and to a BBC dramatization of Orwell's **Homage to Catalonia**, about the Civil War in Spain. Both books are in Libby. Narratives are easy to digest in audio.

We know that we do not read 'enough.' We are greedy for more, just like a billionaire. We will not live long enough to read all the books in our personal--or public--library. Seen from a broad perspective, humanity is a reading, thinking organism. We question things.... or we do not. Considering how brief is our time on Earth; the Shasta County Library is a universe in which to be lost in thought and to see the far horizon.

What good fortune we inherit! *Speak softly and carry a Big Toolbox.*

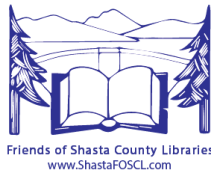
Thank You.

Ray Van Diest, President



HOLIDAY CLOSURE DATES

President's Day	Feb 17 th	Independence Day	July 4 th
Memorial Day	May 26 th	Labor Day	Sept 1 st
Juneteenth	June 18 th	Thanksgiving	Nov 27 th , 27 th
	Christmas	Dec 24 th , 25 th	



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Friends of Shasta County Libraries (FOSCL)

THANK YOU to all members who have renewed their memberships during the 4th quarter of 2024. We very much appreciate your renewals!

FINALLY, when it comes time to renew your membership again (or for any interim gifts you may wish to make) you will be able to do so online. No checks - no stamps - just sign in to our website at www.friendsofshastacountylibraries.org - click on the "Become a Member" icon which takes you to our membership page - and then just select your options. We will still send you the "time to renew" letter that you've been receiving in the past and will include our "remit" envelope for those of you who choose to stay with our old system. However you choose to renew, we are glad to have you on board helping us help our libraries. If you have questions about the new web system, call our Membership Chairperson, Jan Filomeo, at 530/547-5684. And **THANK YOU** for your support.

4th Quarter

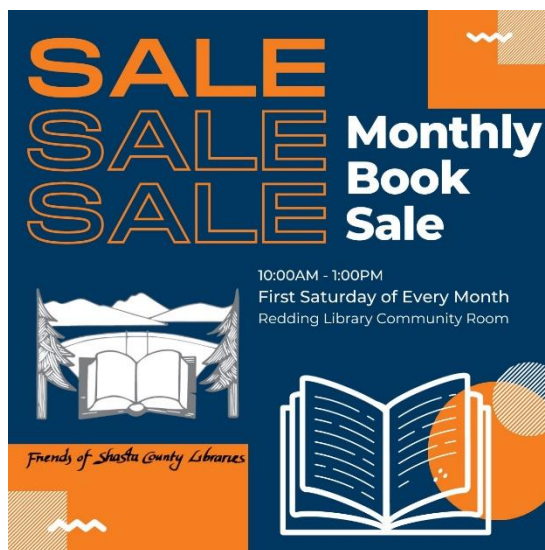
Adams, Robert
 Alvord, Terrance
 Applegate, Mari Kae Ennis
 Bartle, Dave
 Boes, Lorraine
 Brockett, Burt
 Brodmerkle, Pauline
 Chambers, Carolyn
 Doty, Linda
 Duffy, Kim
 Eastside Road Self Storage, Romane
 Ebe, Eda

Eberhart, George
 Freeman, Leonice
 Grantham, Jan
 Graves, Theresa
 Hamilton, Barbarah
 Harris, Daryl
 Johnson, Miriam
 Keyes, Jean
 Lund, Dorothy M.
 Mandel, Douglas K.
 Mandere, Ernest
 Martin, Robert
 Wittmann, Will

Mautz, Marty
 McManus, Diane
 Mercer, Carol
 Mitchell, James H.
 Morrison, Robert
 O'Neill, Janet
 Reginatto, Carol
 Roberti, Polly
 Scholfield, Sha-Nee
 Swanson, Lynn
 Trumbull, Gillian
 Urlic, Katherine



This year's Giving Tuesday was a huge success. Thanks to the Community Foundation of the Northstate (CFNS), and the following sponsors Umpqua Bank, Five Star Bank, Fall River Brewing Company, AGT CPAs & Advisors, Mechanics Bank, Frozen Gourmet, Inc; Plumas Bank, Cornerstone Community Bank, O2 Employment Services, Berryvale Natural Foods Grocery & Cafe, Golden Valley Bank; Campbell, Clark & Vienneau Attorneys At Law, Black Bear Diner, Redding Rancheria, PacifCorp, Enjoy Magazine, CFNS Board of Directors, and all of our donors. The total donated amount was \$13,900.00 from 42 donors! Because of you we surpassed our goal of raising \$10,000 for the Summer Reading Program. The FOSCL Board truly thanks each one of our donors from the smallest to the largest. It's because of your generosity that we met and surpassed our goal! We want to thank Carol Skill, Jeff and Nancy Finck, Carolina Girimonte, Christiane Johnson, Lizbeth Brower, Fred and Nancy Pepper, Mary Rickert, Allan Craig, Janet Filomeo, Bebe Palin dedicated to Karol Wollaston, Ashley Dickison, Mari Ennis-Applegate, Frances Cole-Boyd, David Morris, David Palin dedicated in memory of Bill and Rose Palin, Matthew Wells, Cheryl Cruse, Sherry Frahm, Keith Henderson, Robert Madison, Penny Harris, Debra Kittrick, Eden Simon, Cathy Stone, Holly Burke in memory of Malcolm Hill, Diane Hawthorne, Catherine Low, Dale Ammerman, David Bish, William Carlson, Kathleen Gullede, Ina C. Licker in memory of Al and Muriel Weissberg, Michelle and Martin Streeby, Tammy Douse, Deborah Stokes, Ray Van Diest, and several anonymous donors! Thank you to all our donors that gave generously above and beyond what we could have even asked! Thank you on behalf of the FOSCL Board. Sincerely, Fred Pepper, Giving Tuesday Team Captain.



VOLUNTEER PICKS

DETERMINED, A SCIENCE OF LIFE WITHOUT FREE WILL by Robert M. Sapolsky, c2023. Available in the Shasta County Library's Libby application, and on the shelf. [There is a waiting list.] One struggles to say something intelligent about this intelligent book. The book seems to say it all. Sapolsky has done a lot of cogitating and evidence gathering; his book deserves to be held and read. Listening to the audiobook, as this writer did, does not do it justice. The auditory experience is, on balance, an unsatisfying effort to comprehend. The author refers to footnotes and diagrams that accompany the printed book. Sapolsky's thesis is that free will is a convenient fiction, an unattainable goal. He presents arguments from the realms of biology, quantum physics, nature, nurture and behavior, among many, to bolster the argument. Halfway through the book, Sapolsky discusses the implications of this theory for public policy, the law and other areas of civil and uncivil activity. It is unsettling to consider these ramifications. Readers may choose not to believe him but the amount of detailed evidence the author cites seems overwhelming. Sapolsky argues that life is determined by regressive states of existence and experience. The reasoning is sharp and detailed. It is a book in which one may recognize oneself, and Humanity. Maintain your illusions; do not read this book.

A PRIMATE'S MEMOIR: A NEUROSCIENTIST'S UNCONVENTIONAL LIFE AMONG THE BABOONS by Robert M Sapolsky, c2001. Sapolsky spent decades travelling to Kenya to observe baboons in the wild. He gave members of the baboon troop Old Testament names, documented relationships among them, tranquilized individuals using the ancient technology of blow guns, drew samples of tissue and blood for scientific analysis, endured hot summers among the Kikuyu and Masai hunter gatherers and farming tribes on the savannah, and he teaches at Stanford University.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES, by Charles Dickens. The French Revolution comes dramatically and vividly alive. 'It was the best of times; it was the worst of times...' That famous first paragraph.

THE STAMPEDE: TALES OF THE FAR WEST by 'Powder River' Jack H. Lee, an old-time cowboy. The poetry is occasionally doggerel, but there are vivid descriptions and drawings of cowboys, animals and adventures in olden days. Copies are scarce. The Title Page [and its verso] does not mention a copyright date. The stampede is over a century old. If you've a soft spot for cowboys, Stampede is something to look for....

THE LONE RANGER AND TONTO FISTFIGHT IN HEAVEN by Sherman Alexie, c1993. Honestly, I read this book because of its title. Dark short stories feature First Nations comedy and tragedy, resentment and humor, reservation characters and life. The short story 'Indian Education' is funny and poignant. The book's observations come from a Spokane and Coeur d'Alene Native American author. The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven is lighter reading than Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee. Both books are available in the Shasta County Library. I stole one of Mr. Alexie's jokes and got a few laughs. I cannot tell that joke here. Find it yourself by reading the book.

Bookstore

Our Bookstore volunteers are:

Alice Facer, Ashley Dickison, Judy Keniston, Sandy Larsen, Nancy Randall, Teresa Rust, Laurie Ramirez, Jill Hill, Christine Licker, Laurie Bish, Sharyn Sala, Annalisa Becker, Louise Hansen, Catherine Jackson, Cheryl McKinley, Debbie Garcia, Fred Pepper, Sue Grudem, Elena McNamara, Ray Van Diest, Ruth Blitz, Diane Hillerman, Marylou Webb, Carol Mercer, Dale Ammerman, and Hannah Smith.

Bookstore manager: Christiane Johnson

Our faithful patio sale sorters are Ray Van Diest and Elena McNamara.

If you are 18 years of age and older, friends of the Redding Library are always looking for volunteers. We especially need help in our Bookstore located in the library. If you are interested in helping with our endeavors, please call (530) 245-7265 and leave your name and number. You may also stop by during library hours and ask for a Volunteer application. We can use assistance in general office work, internet, contacting members, or making signs and banners.

Bookstore Revenue:

Patio Sales:

October	\$1,976.70
November	\$1,543.44
December	\$2,842.76

\$ 951.00
\$1,032.00
\$ 775.50



Redding Library Phone Numbers

Customer Service	245-7250
Reference Desk	245-7252
Children's Department	245-7253
Friends of the Library Bookstore	245-7265
California Relay Service	1 or 1-800-735-2922

The Open Book
 Newsletter of the Friends of Shasta
 County Libraries

Open Book Staff
 Dale Ammerman

Regular Contributors
 FOSCL President- Ray Van Diest

Internet address for Shasta Public
 Library:
www.shastalibraries.org

Friends of Shasta County Libraries
 website:
www.friendsofshastacountylibraries.org

Please enter my membership in the Friends of Shasta County Libraries in Redding and Anderson:

Benefactor__\$500+ Patron__\$125 Donor__\$75 Sponsor__\$50

Member (Family)__\$25 Individual__\$20 Student/Senior__\$20

Name(s) _____

—

Address _____

—

Phone(s) _____

—

Email (for newsletters, etc.) _____

Please leave this application with your check (payable to FOSCL) at the Bookstore Desk, or mail to:

FOSCL, 1100 Parkview Ave., Redding CA 96001