

CheckItOut!

Summer 2010

*Summer
Reading*



Newsletter of the Solano County Library, serving the cities of Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville, and Vallejo



*Solano Teen
May Poetry*



Audio Books
for the
Family
Road Trip

**Insider
Tips**
for Using
Your Library



Insider Tips

for Using Your Library



Use Online "Holds"- It's Kind of Like Netflix (but free)

We think you will always find something good to read or see at the library, but the hottest titles go fast. When you hear about a book or movie you want, reserve a copy at solanolib.com or at 1-866-57ASKUS.

You'll have access to the collections in the eight libraries in the Solano County Library system as well as nine more in the Solano Napa and Partners (SNAP) consortium. We'll shoot you an email when they're on the "holds shelf" and you have seven days to pick them up.

If you're browsing and borrowing – good for you! Here's a few ways you can step up your library experience.



Have Your Kids "Read Away" Their Fines

We hate for kids to be shut out of borrowing books because they've racked up fines on their library cards. We know they aren't always 100% responsible for late fees because they rely on adults for transportation. Kids and teens under 18 can ask for a Read Away Fines voucher at the Customer Service Desk to get started.



Sign-up for DVD E-Mail News

Find out what's new on DVD at your library and be among the first to place your hold. Works for books too – we send monthly updates about Cookbooks, Mysteries, Romance, Non-Fiction, Audio, Business and more.



Have Someone Else Entertain Your Kids (for free)

The Friends of the Library do their bit for parental sanity by sponsoring professional entertainers each week in the summer. All we ask in return is that your kids borrow some books (also free) and read.



Use Super Search

Beyond the eight branches that make up Solano County Library and the nine additional libraries of Solano, Napa and Partners (SNAP) is the North Bay Cooperative Library System (NBCLS), a consortium of public, academic, school and special libraries within the seven counties of the North Bay. Use your fingertips to order what you can't get from SNAP - you'll find Super Search at the bottom of the online catalog pages.

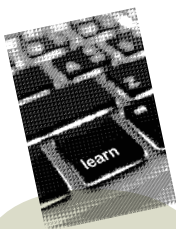
**If Google Can't
Answer It –
We Can (Or we'll
scorch our key-
boards trying)**

Reference isn't for sissies. Solve your easy questions on the Internet and save the hard ones for the detectives disguised as librarians. We answer questions by phone and email too.



Related to #6 but Different: Ask a Librarian

You will make their day. Just like teachers, doctors and firefighters, librarians chose a helping profession and they want to help you. Depending on their specialty, librarians are trained in child development, adolescent learning, information systems and all manner of reading recommendations. Ask. You won't be sorry.



8 Take a class, meet an author, learn a language, fix up that resume

These little gems require no more commitment than an hour of your time. Computer classes are taught in up-to-date computer centers in library branches. Language courses and expert career help are delivered through our virtual branch, solanolibrary.com



Friend Us!

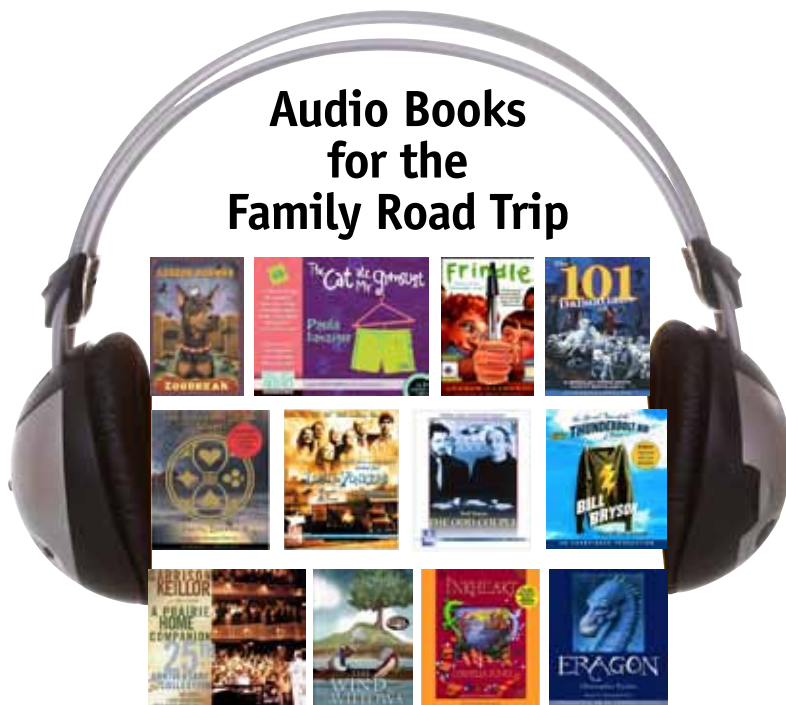
9 Family Road Trip? Put on a Book – They'll Hush Up

Tired of debating whose turn it is to sit up front? An audio book on the road gives your family a shared and (relatively) peaceful experience.

10 "Read" Hands-Free with Audio Books

Commuters know that recorded books are the antidote to boring miles and crazy drivers. Books on CD are expensive and rarely discounted like their print counterparts, so it's worth a visit to the library to get your favorites. The Library buys recorded versions of popular titles as soon as they are available—place your hold (see #1) and you're on your way. You can also download audio books directly from solanolibrary.com.

Audio Books for the Family Road Trip



Youth humor that works for adults too

The Cat Ate My Gymsuit, by Paula Danziger
Frindle, by Andrew Clements
Zoobreak, by Gordon Korman

Family classics read by outstanding narrator Martin Jarvis

101 Dalmatians, by Dodie Smith
The Wind in the Willows, by Kenneth Grahame

How about a play? Try one of these by Neil Simon and presented by L.A. Theatre Works

Lost in Yonkers
The Odd Couple (starring Nathan Lane)

Easy to stop and start with these two master storytellers

The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid, by Bill Bryson
Prairie Home Companion (25th anniv.ed.), by Garrison Keillor

Engrossing fantasies

Inkheart, by Cornelia Funke
The Looking Glass Wars, by Frank Beddor
Eragon, by Christopher Paolini

Compiled by Terry Jacobsen,
 Supervising Librarian

SPRINGSTOWNE LIBRARY, VALLEJO

Magic Dan

Thur. June 17 • 10:30 a.m.

Pirate Party

Thur. June 24 • 10:30 a.m.

Bubbles and Balloons Day

Thur. July 1 • 10:30 a.m.

Fratello Marionettes

Thur. July 8 • 10:30 a.m.

Daffy Dave

Thur. July 15 • 10:30 a.m.

Wildlife Associates

Thur. July 22 • 10:30 a.m.

Hawaiian Luau

Thur. July 29 • 10:30 a.m.

Music Oklin Bloodworth

Thur. August 5 • 10:30 a.m.



RIO VISTA LIBRARY

Magic Dan

Wed. June 16 • 3 p.m.

Shark Ocean Adventure

Wed. June 23 • 11 a.m.

Rainbow Fish Craft

Wed. June 30 • 3 p.m.

Make and Take Crafts

Wed. July 7 • All day

Swazzle Puppets

Wed. July 14 • 3 p.m.

Eric Herman Music

Wed. July 21 • 3 p.m.

Zun Zun Music

Wed. July 28 • 3 p.m.

Sand Bracelet Craft

Wed. August 4 • 3 p.m.

Sealife Songs with Sandi and Stevie

Wed. August 11 • 3 p.m.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY, VALLEJO

Magic Dan

Wed. June 16 • 10:30 a.m.

Music with James K.

Wed. June 23 • 10:30 a.m.

Python Ron

Wed. June 30 • 10:30 a.m.*

Bonnie Lockhart's Sing-Along Songs

Wed. July 7 • 10:30 a.m.

Swazzle Puppets

Wed. July 14 • 10:30 a.m.*

Magician Gerald Joseph

Wed. July 21 • 10:30 a.m.

Zun Zun Music

Wed. July 28 • 10:30 a.m.

Music with Oklin Bloodworth

Wed. August 4 • 10:30 a.m.

California Puppets

Sat. August 11 • 10:30 a.m.

*All shows are in the Joseph Room.
Latecomers will be seated at times that are
convenient for the performers.*

**Best for ages 6+*



VACAVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY- CULTURAL CENTER

Owen Baker-Flynn:

Magic, Fire-Eating & Fun

Wed. June 16 • 3:30 p.m.

Ocean Adventures

Wed. June 23 • 3:30 p.m.

Make Your Own Flag Day

Wed. June 30 • 10:30 a.m.

Caterpillar Puppets

Wed. July 7 • 3:30 p.m.

Eric Herman:

Singer & YouTube Favorite

Wed. July 14 • 3:30 p.m.

Water Day

Wed. July 21 • 10:30 a.m.

The Magic of Timothy James

Wed. July 28 • 3:30 p.m.

James K: Sing Along and Jump Along

Wed. August 4 • 3:30 p.m.

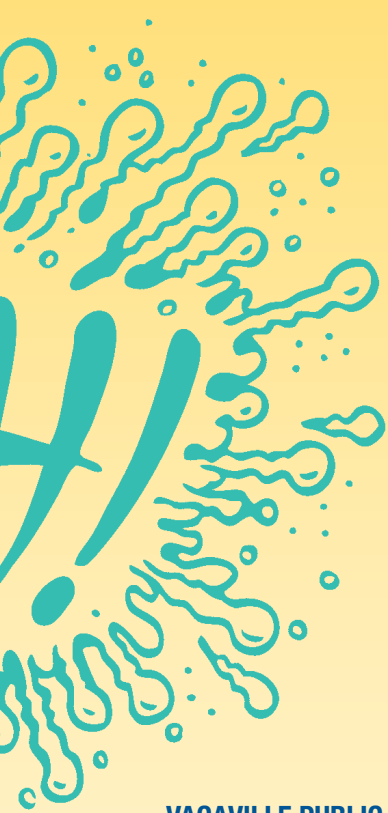
Chalk Day

Wed. August 11 • 10:30 a.m.

Check out

solanolibrary.com

*for news about
summer reading fun for
teens and adults!*



VACAVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY-TOWN SQUARE

Python Ron

Thur. June 17 • 4 p.m.

Colibri Latin American Music

Thur. June 24 • 4 p.m.

Splash Madness!!!

Thur. July 1 • 4 p.m.

Heather Rogers, Magician

Thur. July 8 • 4 p.m.

The Magic of Gerald Joseph

Thur. July 15 • 4 p.m.

Nick Barone Puppets

Thur. July 22 • 4 p.m.

Library Chef

Thur. July 29 • 4 p.m.

Medieval Costume Design

Thur. August 5 • 4 p.m.

FAIRFIELD CORDELIA LIBRARY

Puppet Art Theater

Tues. June 15 • 3:30 p.m.

Inspired Silliness with Owen Baker-Flynn

Tues. June 22 • 3:30 p.m.

Sandi & Stevie's Sea Life Songs

Tues. June 29 • 3:30 p.m.

Wild Things

Tues. July 6 • 3:30 p.m.

Swazzle Puppets

Tues. July 13 • 3:30 p.m.

Magic Dan

Tues. July 20 • 3:30 p.m.

Zun Zun Music

Tues. July 27 • 3:30 p.m.

Gerald Joseph Magic

Tues. August 3 • 3:30 p.m.

Python Ron

Tues. August 10 • 3:30 p.m.



FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER

Ocean Adventures

Wed. June 16 • 3:30 p.m.

Python Ron

Wed. June 23 • 3:30 p.m.

Adam Miller Music

Wed. June 30 • 3:30 p.m.

Eric Herman Music

Wed. July 7 • 3:30 p.m.

Jewelry Crafts

Wed. July 14 • 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Kids can come in anytime before 4 p.m.

Suncatcher Craft

Wed. July 21 • 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Kids can come in anytime before 4 p.m.

Pictures/Placemat Craft

Wed. July 28 • 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Kids can come in anytime before 4 p.m.

Water Awareness Activities

Wed. August 4 • 3:30 p.m.

Mainly Stampin' Craft

Wed. August 11 • 3:30 p.m.

SUISUN CITY LIBRARY

Germar the Magician

Wed. June 23 • 10:30 a.m.

The Hipwaders

Wed. June 30 • 10:30 a.m.

The Fratello Marionettes

Wed. July 7 • 10:30 a.m.

Drummm

Wed. July 14 • 10:30 a.m.

Ane Rovetta:

Artist, Storyteller and Naturalist

Wed. July 21 • 10:30 a.m.

Raymond Victor: Music and Fun

Wed. July 28 • 10:30 a.m.

Magic Dan

Wed. August 4 • 10:30 a.m.

Daffy Dave

Wed. August 11 • 10:30 a.m.

**Brought to You
by the Friends
of the Library**

Two Paths, One Destination: *Two Very Different Literacy Students' Road to Literacy*



Andre James and Veronica Barajos could not have grown up more differently. As a teenager, Andre lived in a juvenile detention facility refusing to even attend the classes there. He spent many days in isolation. At age thirteen, Veronica was working in a shoe factory in Mexico. At fifteen, she was married and moving to the United States. These very different pasts have led to the same future. Both Veronica and Andre are adult learners in the Library's Adult Literacy Program. Here they are both gaining reading and writing skills.

Andre says he started getting into trouble in the 11th grade. He is honest about his struggles to live productively, "I've been to almost every prison in California. The judge told me if I see you in here again you'll get 15 or 25 to life. It woke me up. (I asked myself) do you want to spend all your life in prison or do you want to live? I wanted to live. So, I had to make a change."

For Andre that change came in going back to school to get his GED and entering the Library's Adult Literacy Program. "I could read a little bit, but not that good. I wanted to tighten up my reading and spelling."

Andre is proud of his reading improvements. He now reads the newspaper daily and has read *A Lesson Before Dying*, by Ernest J. Gaines. Andre is focused on his goals and while reading and writing are still challenging, he feels he has the support of his family and his tutor. "My tutor is hard. I'm turning 46 this year and she is 23. I should be teaching her," he jokes. "I think of her as my mentor. She pushes when she has to push and I respect that."

Andre feels he had street smarts, but now he has left that life behind. His changes have made him feel he is truly living.

"I lived on the other side and now I'm here and it is nice. It's a big difference. Now I spend time with my family and friends and I enjoy myself. After I get my GED, I plan to go to community college. I want to study accounting. My dream is to come back and help someone else like they helped me."

Changing in order to reach your dreams is something Veronica Barajos is also familiar with. Looking at Veronica one would never guess her humble beginnings and the challenges she has endured. She remembers vividly working in the shoe factory, "I put my hands in smelly chemicals, with no gloves on."

When Veronica married her American husband and moved to the United States she was afraid. She saw her co-workers in a Salinas, CA nursery being taken by "La Migra," government officers that enforce immigration. Even though she had a green card, Veronica still carried the fear of being taken away. It was then she decided to get her citizenship. Her swearing-in ceremony held a shadow over it as she recalls seeing others celebrate with their families. Her husband had passed away four months prior.

Veronica is a very brave woman. She is focused on her goals. She is raising three children as a single parent. She recently read the book, *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan and was moved. Esperanza's experiences with immigration, discrimination and poverty mirrored Veronica's life.

"I know how it feels when doors are closed. We can learn a lot and appreciate people no matter what their dresses look (like). If I didn't pass through where I have been in my life, I wouldn't be the same person that I am now," Veronica adds thoughtfully.

Andre and Veronica are two students representing many adults working to change their lives by reading better. If you are interested in volunteering and making a difference in your community, please contact the Literacy Office, at literacy@snap.lib.ca.us or 707-784-1526.

By Anika Johnson, Literacy Program Assistant

Sunset

The ocean breeze slowly blows
As the tired sky turns to gold
The mountains are glared by
the rays of the sun Showing
it time to end the fun As the
waves slowly reach the shore
Streetlights flash and cover
the floor The sun creeps lower
in the sky It will soon be time
to say goodbye As the ocean
floods the setting sun We
know the night has begun
~ Meelina G.

The Weather Has Changed

She glides across the silver bridge at night.
The lake is calm; the trees make little sound.
The sky is clear; the moon is full and white.
Yet nature in her thoughts cannot be found.
She dwells on matters darker than the sky.
She thinks of power, riches she might own,
Of people who for her would gladly die.
And though her name throughout the land is known,
And though her wealth exceeds that of others.
She contemplates not on what she thus owns.
Tis' clear her mind is not her own mother's!
She makes up her mind and soon the wind groans.
The weather has changed; the calmness has died
For sadly she has chosen the Dark Side.
~ Esther S.

Untitled

The lush green hills and valleys of my motherland; the stillness of the mid-morning had been encompassed by the fog. There was an absolute silence, only disrupted when the wind lazily swept past the leaves of grass. The silence sounded as if the gods themselves were whispering into my ear, that one day my heart will have a home. I breathe in tasting the morning dew, the vitality of the land. I smell the freshness of the air, and the far off wildflowers. I glance once more at the beauty of the land, and just for one second, the war and chaos in my mind ceases in the presence of her beauty, she is my mother, she is the emerald isle.

~ Anthony A.



THE MAZE

Going through the maze we wind
Leaving evil far behind, but
Evils' not what you thought
For its breath isn't very hot
No fangs or fur to speak off
Nor red eyes the size of hives
there are many all around
With free will they obey none
With deference they shall shun
Some crave the best
Some hate the rest
You can never tell
Soon you'll learn you can't escape
What lies inside
You must abide
~ by Patch M.

*Solano Teen Magazine
is an online publication
featuring short stories,
articles, reviews, art and
photography from teen
contributors.*

*Read more at
solanolibrary.com*

The Rose

A delicate rose
Escapes from its deadly bush
And travels the wind.
~ Radiance H.



Poetry Page

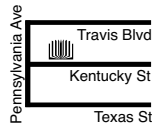
1-866-57-ASKUS

2 7 5 8 7

FAIRFIELD CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

1150 KENTUCKY ST
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

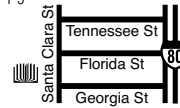
MON-THU: 10-9
FRI-SAT: 10-5
SUN: 1-5



VALLEJO- JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY

505 SANTA CLARA ST • VALLEJO, CA 94590

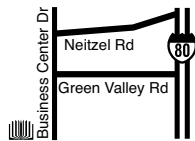
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TUES & THU: 10-6
FRI & SAT: 10-5
SUN: 1-5



FAIRFIELD CORDELIA LIBRARY

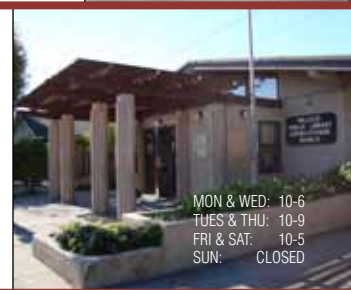
5050 BUSINESS CENTER DR
FAIRFIELD, CA
94534

MON & WED: 10-6
TUES & THU: 10-9
FRI & SAT: 10-5
SUN: 1-5



VALLEJO-SPRINGS- TOWNE LIBRARY

1003 OAKWOOD AVE
VALLEJO, CA 94591



MON & WED: 10-6
TUES & THU: 10-9
FRI & SAT: 10-5
SUN: CLOSED

SUISUN CITY LIBRARY

601 PINTAIL DR.
SUITE 280
SUISUN CITY, CA 94585

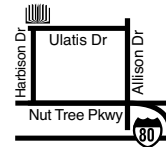


MON & WED: 10-6
TUES & THU: 10-9
FRI & SAT: 10-5
SUN: CLOSED



VACAVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY- CULTURAL CENTER

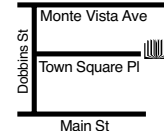
1020 ULATIS DR • VACAVILLE, CA 95687



MON-THU: 10-9
FRI-SAT: 10-5
SUN: 1-5

VACAVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY- TOWN SQUARE

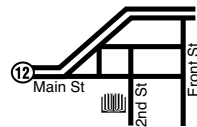
1 TOWN SQUARE PLACE
VACAVILLE, CA 95688



RIO VISTA LIBRARY

44 S. 2ND STREET
RIO VISTA, CA 94571

MON & WED: 10-6
TUES & THU: 10-9
FRI & SAT: 10-5
SUN: CLOSED



SOLANO COUNTY LIBRARY
"Unlock the doors to your mind"

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