

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Patrick S. Blacklock County Administrator

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World Book Night 2013

(Woodland, CA) – On April 23, staff of the Yolo County Library were among 25,000 volunteers from Berkley to Boston and Sitka to Sarasota giving away half a million free books in more than 6,000 towns and cities across the country. To participate in this effort, Yolo County Library staff volunteered their time to distribute 340 free books to clients and staff of the Yolo County Department of Employment & Social Services.

World Book Night U.S. is an ambitious campaign to give free, specially-printed books to light or nonreaders across America. Volunteer book lovers, such as employees of the Yolo County Library, help promote reading by handing out free copies of beloved books to those without means or access to printed books. Library staff also took this opportunity this year to promote 211 Yolo, a referral service and database for services related to housing, healthcare, counseling, recreation, mental health, senior services, legal matters, rehabilitation and education, to name a few, along with information about the Yolo County Library's literacy program, Yolo Reads.

"The volunteer book givers are wonderful, generous and passionate people," said WBN US Executive Director Carl Lennertz. "World Book Night is not a random giveaway, but a focused attempt to reach people in communities who would benefit from the gift of a book. Our volunteers give of their time and energy to seek out those in need, one by one. It is a very specific and personal act of kindness—the sharing of a book with someone you don't know—and we hope that more will hear about this and apply next year to be book givers themselves."

"Yolo County Library staff, with the support of our partners in the Yolo County Department of Employment & Social Services, are pleased and proud to have volunteered in this World Book Night U.S., effort," said Yolo County Librarian Patty Wong. "We enjoyed spreading the love of reading, person to person, by handing out books to light and non-readers."

For more information about World Book Night, contact: Sara Ferguson, Yolo County rural libraries branch manager, (530) 666-8086 or <u>sara.ferguson@yolocounty.org</u>. For more information about the Yolo County Library, visit: <u>www.yolocountylibrary.org</u> and also 'like' the Yolo County Library on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/yolocountylibrary.org</u>.

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Picture: Yolo County Library volunteers Anne Bressler, Sara Ferguson and Chris Crist during World Book Night, April 23, 2013