



COUNTY OF MONTEREY

# CAO Weekly Report

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- > Youth Center art shared at peninsula gallery
- > County librarian makes hall of fame
- > Benefits fair draws big crowd

## SPECIALREPORT



*Artwork done by youth incarcerated at the Monterey County Youth Center now takes center stage at the Pacific Grove Art Center.*

## County Notes

- > Did you know the Cooperative Extension has an [extensive list of drought tolerant plants](#) for those gardening projects?

## Youth Center Artist Share Their Work with Community

**The Probation Department's Arts as Healing in Juvenile Justice Program at the County's Youth Center continues to break ground for the young men held there.**

This nationally recognized program, a collaboration between the Probation Department and the Arts Council for Monterey County, is designed to improve outcomes for incarcerated youth through the arts and arts learning. Program Director Linda Pedrazzini Hevern and her team of Arts Council teaching artists provide specialized classes that help incarcerated youth find new direction and develop their unrealized potential.

The results of this latest program are a series of paintings which are beautiful on their own, but also served as a skill-building project giving youth knowledge, appreciation, and a reverence for the natural world around them.

You can see the results for yourself - 19 of the works of art are now on display at the Pacific Grove Art Center.

"I hope that this exhibit of the art produced by our young offenders at the Monterey County Youth Center helps the public realize that offenders can grow and change," says Chief Probation Officer Marcia Parsons. "For some of these young men, the key to success and, therefore rehabilitation, is in the arts."

The exhibit, "Nature Though Watercolor: Arts as Healing in Juvenile Justice," will be on display through October 27<sup>th</sup>. For art center location and hours, visit <http://www.pgartcenter.org/>.



*Youth Center Director Jennifer Butz talks with an attendee at the exhibit's opening reception.*

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## First Librarian Inducted to Hall of Fame

Monterey County's first Librarian, Anne Hadden, traveled to every corner of the county during her 16- year tenure here in the early years of the last century. And now, more than 50 years after her death, she is taking one last step - into the California Library Association's (CLA) Hall of Fame.

It's an honor most think she'd be pleased about.

"I am thrilled that Anne Hadden is being inducted into the California Library Hall of Fame," says County Librarian Jayanti Addleman. "She was a pioneer in the field and all her beliefs and principles still hold true to this day. She set very high standards for library service in Monterey County and inspires us to follow in her footsteps."

In fact, CLA is a group Anne knew well, serving as its 2<sup>nd</sup> District President in 1921 while working to establish Monterey's many libraries.

The induction ceremony will take place in November.

*Anne Hadden.*

While Hadden is most known now for her dedication to creating the county's library system, she was renowned in the field. She was invited to the Pan-Pacific Expo in San Francisco where she spoke to an international crowd about library services in Monterey County, of which she said, "It is through this office that the remotest hamlets of our county are supplied with books . . . and opportunities of studying the best authors and highest authorities on all subjects . . . afforded those whose environment would otherwise debar them from these advantages."



*This iconic photo of Hadden traveling by burro to bring books to the county's remote communities shows the rigors of her job in the early 1900s.*

She was also acquainted with luminaries of her time. A writer herself, she was a friend of John Steinbeck and in her collection of papers there is correspondence with such luminaries as Clara Barton and Oliver Wendell Holmes.

You can read more about Anne Hadden's life and accomplishments [here](#).

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## Employee Benefit Fairs Are Happening

**With all the fun of the Employee Giving Campaign, don't forget that Open Enrollment will get underway next week.**

While perhaps not as much fun as a fundraising tostada bar, Open Enrollment is a very important event each year during which county employees can review their benefit options and make important choices. Benefit fairs and information sessions are used to share information about benefits. The first of the benefit fairs took place this past Wednesday at the Life Building in Salinas, which is home to the Department of Social Services.

Organizers say the desire for information brought out plenty of employees.



Interested employees make their way through the many information tables at this week's Benefits Fair in Salinas.

"The event was very successful with about 200 employees coming out to get information about their 2017 health insurance options and pricing, the new prescription drug plan, vision and dental benefits," says Department of Social Services Human Resources Analyst Marcie Castro.

Employees were able to ask questions of Human Resources staff about optional insurance, flexible spending and speak to representatives from Employee Wellness and the Employee Assistance Program. allU.S. Credit Union and Empower Retirement

shared how to take advantage of their services, along with many other vendors. Also on hand to answer questions and talk about their work were the United Way and some of the many charitable organizations supported through the Employee Giving Campaign.

If you did not get to this event, never fear! Another Benefit Fair is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Government Center.

Here is a list of providers who will be at the next Benefits Fair:

AFLAC	Charles Nechtem Group (EAP)
UNUM	EPO
MetLife	Kaiser Permanente
CalPERS	NMC
Pacific Health Alliance Vision Service Plan (VSP)	Flexible Benefit Administrators
Empowerment Retirement Services	VA Office
Human Resources Benefits Division	In-Shape
Monterey County Employee Wellness Program	YMCA
allU.S. Credit Union	Optum