



STANISLAUS COUNTY LIBRARY

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Stanislaus County Library & Stanislaus Literacy Center join the *Read for the Record* Campaign

On Thursday, Sept. 20, children and families are invited to Stanislaus County Libraries for a special reading of the children's classic "The Story of Ferdinand" in a nationwide effort to break the world record for reading the same book to the most children on a single day. The record was set last year, when more than 150,000 children, 2,350 in Stanislaus County, heard "The Little Engine That Could" in libraries, schools, community centers and homes throughout the nation. The purpose of this record-breaking event is to build awareness for the importance of reading aloud to young children. Preliminary results will be announced Friday, Sept. 21 on the "Today" show.

Local celebrity readers will present the story at various times on Thursday, Sept. 20 at all county libraries. At the Modesto Library, the story will be read as follows:

- noon, Stanislaus County Supervisor Dick Monteith
- 12:30 p.m., Modesto Mayor Jim Ridenour
- 4 p.m., Assistant Police Chief Mike Harden of the Modesto Police Department
- 5 p.m., Modesto Fire Chief Jim Miguel
- 5:30 p.m., Superintendent Tom Changnon, Stanislaus County Office of Education
- 6:30 p.m., presented in Spanish, as part of the regularly scheduled Cuentos en Español

Children will receive "The Story of Ferdinand" activity packets to complete at home. Families are also invited to take pictures with the library's bee, crafted by the Tuolumne River Woodworkers Association.

Read for the Record is a campaign of Jumpstart, a national organization founded in 1993 at Yale University, to help preschool children build language, literacy and social skills that are critical for their future success in school. For tips on making the most of your reading experience with your child, a short instructional video by The Today Show's Matt Lauer is available at www.readfortherecord.org.

Read for the Record is sponsored by Pearson Publishers, American Eagle Outfitters, Sodexo, Hanna Anderson, Hyatt Hotels and Resorts, Penguin Books, and Toys "R" Us. Locally, the event is sponsored by The Modesto Bee. For specific times and details of Read for the Record activities throughout Stanislaus County, please visit www.stanislauslibrary.org.

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