New Year, New Books at Roseburg Library Aurora Ropp and Kris Wiley for The News Review

Roseburg Public Library regularly adds new books to the collection, including these recently published titles that we recommend.

Picture Book

"Plus One" written and illustrated by John Hare shows that you can find friends where you do not expect.

Agnes is a young girl who has recently moved to a new town and invites girls at school over for tea. One of those invitations is found by Dave.

On the day of the party, Dave is the first person to show up. He is turned away because he did not bring a plus one, a friend. Dave repeatedly shows up at the door with different friends such as a cactus, lizard, snake, puppy and mom. Agnes sees Dave playing with all his friends after being turned away from tea, and she asks to join in the fun.

In the end, girls do show up for tea, and Agnes invites Dave to join. Friends can be found anywhere when you are willing to be kind. A fun story to be shared with children ages 3-8.

Middle Grades

"Shark Teeth" by Sherri Winston features 12-year-old Sharkita, who is determined to keep her family together now that her mother is sober. That's a lot of responsibility for a girl, but Kita has experienced the alternative: She and her two siblings were sent to different foster care homes the last time their lives spun out of control.

Although her mom starts this new phase with good intentions, Kita can't help but see the sharks in the water. A couple of adults at her school also see Kita's precarious situation, but their efforts aren't enough to avert the inevitable crisis.

"Shark Teeth" tackles serious subjects with compassion, and Kita is a winning protagonist. I recommend it for fans of "Fighting Words" by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley and "Paper Things" by Jennifer Richard Jacobson.

Young Adults

Oregon author Megan Lally's debut novel, "That's Not My Name," is an edge-of-the-seat thriller that I recommend for fans of April Henry's books and "Stolen" by Lucy Christopher.

There are two storylines. One involves a teen girl who wakes up in the middle of nowhere with no idea how she got there. A police officer picks her up and reunites her with a man who produces identification saying her name is Mary and claims to be her father. Why can't she remember him?

Then there is Drew, who is suspected of killing his missing girlfriend, Lola. Drew can't stop the rumors, but he can do everything in his power to find Lola.

The plots converge in a heart-pounding, realistic conclusion.

All of these books are available at the library. Place holds at roseburg.biblionix.com, or contact library staff at library@cityofroseburg.org or 541-492-7050 for assistance.

This Month's Youth Programs

10:15 a.m. every Wednesday – Storytime with Aurora

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10 a.m. Tuesday, March 5 – Grab-and-go craft kits while supplies last

3 p.m. Wednesday, March 6 – Artist exploration for K-5th graders

3-4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 7 – Teen drop-in hangout

3-5 p.m. Tuesday, March 12 – Maker space time for all ages

4-4:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 13 - Club de Idioma Español | Spanish Club for 4th through 8th graders

3:30-5 p.m. Thursday, March 14 – Building & Legos for all ages

10 a.m. Tuesday, March 19 – Grab-and-go craft kits while supplies last

3-4 p.m. Wednesday, March 20 – STEAM program for elementary students

3-5 p.m. Thursday, March 21 – Teen volunteer hours

4-5 p.m. Tuesday, March 26 – Kids spring break activity

3:30-5 p.m. Wednesday, March 27 –Building & Legos for all ages

4-4:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 27 - Club de Idioma Español | Spanish Club for 4th through 8th graders

4-5 p.m. Thursday, March 28 – Seasonal kids crafts