

THINGS TO DO

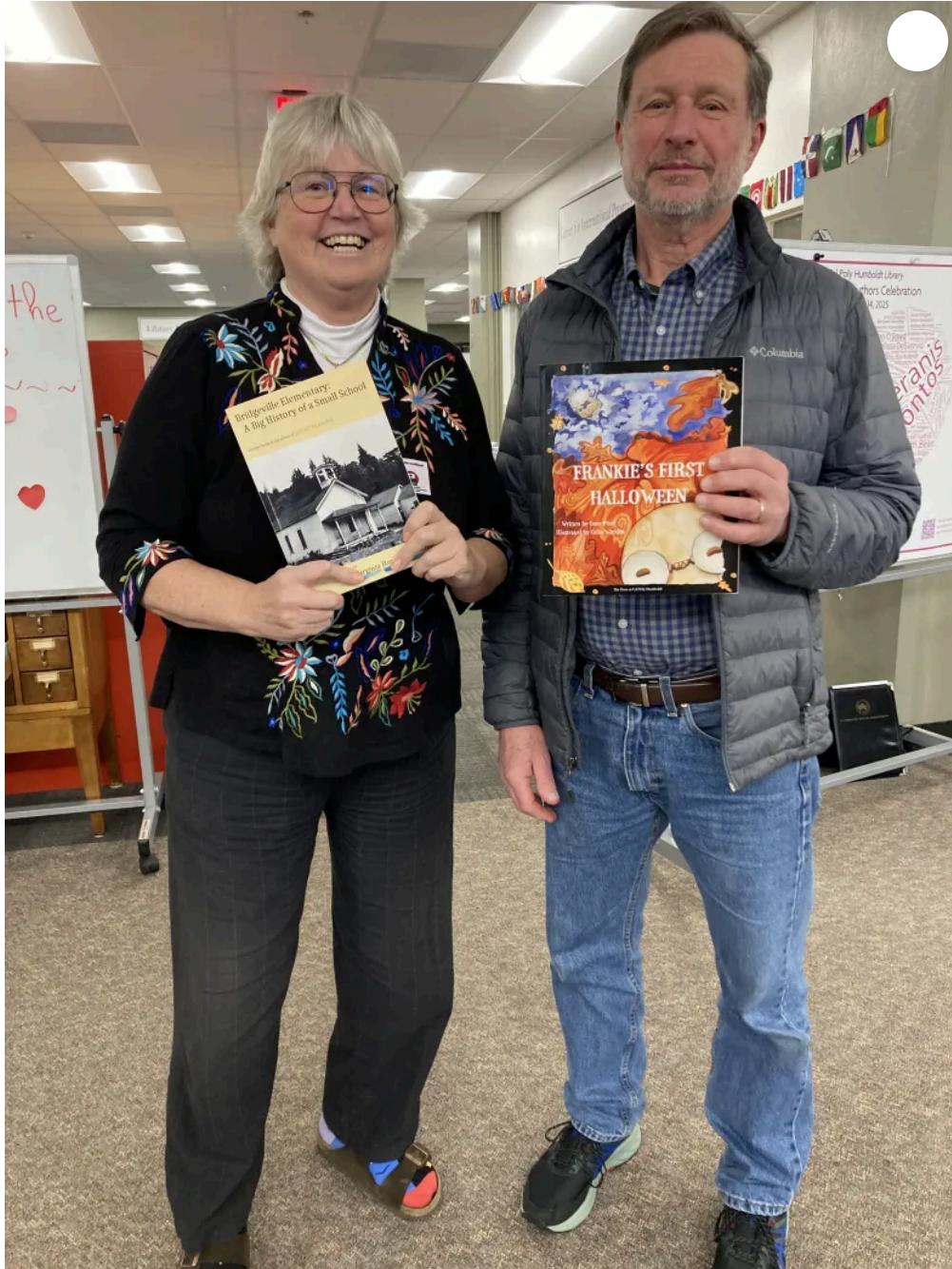
Celebrating authors at Cal Poly Humboldt

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Authors Virginia Howard Mullan and Tony Pitre hold their books, “Bridgeville Elementary: A Big History of a Small School” and “Frankie’s First Halloween,” respectively. (Submitted)

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Cal Poly Humboldt recently held its 11th annual “Authors Celebration,” acknowledging 16 of their 507 local authors who published a new work during 2024.

The celebration began with master of ceremonies Cyril Oberlander, library dean, giving a Wiyot land acknowledgement and Provost Jenn Capps and Publisher Kyle Morgan delivering introductory remarks. Audience members learned that 13% of Cal Poly Humboldt’s students published in 2024 and that authored works were downloaded over 1.4 million times over that time.

Close to 100 readers and writers gathered together at Cal Poly Humboldt to learn about the campus’ myriad publications, including books, journals (Toyon and Osprey), papers (El Leñador and The Lumberjack), and periodicals (Humboldt Journal of Microbiology and CSU Journal of Sustainability and Climate Change). Professor Mark Wilson explained how student publishing translates into employment opportunities and educational engagement. El Leñador was congratulated as the only bilingual newspaper in Humboldt County. In addition, local authors shared pieces from their current works.

Aside from a buffet of both healthy and decadent treats, the intergenerational attendees received free reading stickers and books — many of which were handed out as trivia contest prizes. The featured speaker was Tony Pitre talking about his new book “Frankie’s First Halloween.” Other highlighted works were “The Sauntering” by Zev Levinson, “The ABC’s of Gratitude: The Power of Focusing on the Good” by Sharon Ferrett, “Evaporation” by Claire Hsu Accomando, “My Friend Petunia” by first-time author Norma Allman at age 93, and “Bridgeville Elementary: A Big History of a Small School” by Virginia Howard Mullan. Kathleen Mercury and Amy Clare accentuated the integrated nature of computer games and online experiences with reading.

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