



Agenda Item 6B

Pima County Public Library Advisory Board

DATE: July 9, 2008

TO: Library Advisory Board, Pima County Public Library

FROM: Nancy Ledeboer, Library Director

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR'S REPORT, June 2008

The highlight for June was the grand opening of the **Wheeler Taft Abbett. Sr. Library** on June 7th. With over 1200 people in attendance the opening was a huge success. The Abbett family turned out in force to support Mr. Abbett on his birthday and the community was excited to celebrate the new library. I would like to acknowledge **Branch Manager Sharla Darby** and her staff for ramping up to prepare for this grand opening celebration. Staff dealt calmly with an overwhelming demand for library cards and with problems associated with the opening day collection. The first story time had over 80 people in attendance. Over 650 people have registered for new library cards and new customers discover the library every day.

The phone system has been in operation at all libraries since May. The phone system directs information calls to **InfoLine**. The number of calls answered has almost doubled from the same time last year, from 3,838 calls in May of 2007 to 6,361 calls in May of 2008. Centralizing these calls provides customers responsive, reliable responses to information needs. The Main Library staff rotates in responding to calls and has adjusted staffing the InfoLine accordingly.

I attended the **County Librarian's** meeting in Flagstaff on June 5th. We welcomed **Dale Savage** to the group. Mr. Savage has been an employee of Pima County Public Library who recently graduated from the University of Arizona with his Masters in Library Science. He will replace Jana Ponce as the Director of the Parker Public Library and as the La Paz County Librarian. County Librarians discussed the future of statewide database purchases and agreed to work toward providing balanced offerings with less duplication and broader scope. I also received input on the type of legal questions they field which I shared with the Arizona State Bar Association's Consumer Education Task Force on June 16th.

In June the Board of Supervisors approved an IGA formalizing the Library's providing internships for library school students. We met with administrative staff from the School of Information, Research and Library Sciences (SIRLS) to discuss details of hiring, supervising and placing graduate assistants in libraries. The Library will fund up to 5 positions this coming year. SIRLS students will be employed by the University. They will be supervised by library staff and will assist with youth programming. Branch Manager Terry Rill will serve as the liaison between the library and SIRLS. Interviews will be held immediately so that we can place graduate assistants in libraries to assist with summer programming for youth.

July 2008
Library Director's Report

The Board of Supervisors also approved the lease agreement with Rancho Sahuarita so that we can set up an Express Library in the modular building that was formerly the Sahuarita Town Hall. Deputy Directors **Pat Corella** and **Melody Ballard** and I visited the building to make an initial assessment of how much work needs to be done in order to open this new temporary library facility. Work orders have been submitted and Facilities will begin work shortly.

On June 25th the Library sponsored an author presentation at the LOFT Theater featuring **Armistead Maupin**. The audience of over 400 people was entertained by Maupin's natural story telling abilities. He read from his latest book **Michael Toliver Lives** and discussed his desire to tell the story of gay men from his generation and their experiences of change since the 1970's. The Friends of the Library funded this program and Antigone Books supported the event by selling books for the author signings.

Plans for "Get Fit – Celebrate Healthy Living" are coming together. The committee has lined up a series of lectures, presentations and community partners for a two day event in September. The event line-up promises to have something for all ages to encourage exercise, nutrition and making healthy choices.

The Author Committee of the Tucson Festival of Books has confirmed 225 authors and has ramped up its efforts to begin working on scheduling author presentations. This is a community wide effort and the library is contributing its support through this committee. As Chair of this committee is it my goal to have all the author contracts completed by mid-September.

The Community Foundation of Southern Arizona has responded favorably to a request made on behalf of the Literacy Leadership Council to fund an Executive Director position and analysis that will build a foundation for the emerging Literacy Coalition. The members of the Tucson Area Literacy Coalition (TALC) support a merger that will lead to an evolution from the existing provider network to a broad community based literacy coalition dedicated to creating a 100% literate community through 100% community engagement. I attended the LEARN graduation ceremony and met with **Terry Sawma**, the new Director of Pima college Adult Education, to invite him to participate in the Literacy Leadership Council.

The Friends of PCPL are facing exciting challenges. They have purchased land adjacent to the book barn that they plan to convert to parking. As their online sales increase they are evaluating a new schedule for next year's book sales. The Foundation has formed a business advisory committee to focus on setting a fund raising goal for the year.

The Staff Strategic Planning Committee held its first meeting. Members were introduced to the process and discussed their role in listening to the community and creating a path for the future of the library. One June 25th I met with the Editorial Board of the Arizona Daily STAR to discuss the strategic planning process and our desire to hear from the community about how the library can continue to provide relevant and meaningful services to meet their needs.

Two long time employees retired at the end of June. **Harold Helies'** last day in the business office was Friday June 27th. **Joan Biggar**, Branch Manager of the Woods Library leaves the library after 28 years of service. While we are happy for these employees who are moving on to the next stage in life we are also hopeful that requests to fill some critical vacancies will be approved. Staff levels continue to drop with 19 permanent positions vacant, 40 intermittent positions and 11 staff out on long term medical leave.

Agenda Item 6C



DATE: July 2, 2008

TO: Library Board, Pima County Public Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Pima County Public Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Pima-Green Valley Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Arivaca Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Oro Valley Library
Pima County Public Library Foundation Board

FROM: Melody Ballard
Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Public Service Report for June 2008

AJO—Linda Lam

Children, Teens & Families:

The Summer Reading program at Salazar-Ajo is experiencing success at every age level. Neighboring San Simon Summer School in Sells, Arizona has made two visits to sign up readers for library accounts and the reading program. The Pima County Parks and Recreation TOTS group is also a huge participant in the Summer Reading program. Programs presented at Ajo this month included:

- The Arizona Desert Museum program Hunters and the Hunted lasted almost 2 hours.
- The Hobby Fair brought all ages to peek at what Ajoites do “behind their closed doors”.
- A teen challenged our pro Scrabblor to a game which lasted past the fair time.
- The Ajo Piecemakers (Quilters) will take advantage of the meeting space to hold their weekly “bees”.
- The book clubs and the Poetry and Writing group also drummed up interest from the attendees. All agreed – Ajo should have a monthly Hobby Club meeting where hobbyists can meet and keep in touch.

CATALINA – Karen Greaber

No report for June

CAVIGLIA-ARIVACA— Mary Kasulaitis

Visibility and Image

A travelog program on Nepal, featuring photos by Arivaca Clinic’s Dr. Don Smith and narrated by Julie Smith, was shown on June 7 to an enthusiastic and appreciative crowd.

Children, Teens and Families

Summer Reading Club is going full swing with an increase in the number of participants this year. June special programs were held at the Arivaca Community Center in conjunction with the Pima County Parks and Rec Summer Program. The kick-off program was Marge Pellegrino's Bug Book writing program with refreshments provided by Friends of the Arivaca Library. Other programs this month were KidzArt, Gwen Ray's puppet show, A Troll's Tale, and Ted Warmbrand singing about Our Planet is Our Home.

Community Partnerships

Arivaca Branch Library, in cooperation with Pima County Parks and Recreation's Family Night at the Arivaca Community Center, sponsored a viewing of the film, *Yes is Better than No*, produced as their Annual Film Project by the Digital & Film Arts program at Pima Community College. The film is an adaptation of the book of that same name by southwest author Byrd Baylor, who attended the event, as did Director David Wing and screenplay author, Michelle Graye. Prior to the film, a potluck dinner was held. The program was attended by over 65 people including members of the *No More Deaths* organization.

ECKSTROM-COLUMBUS— Terry Rill.

Children, Teens & Families:

- The Eckstrom-Columbus Library has close to 20 teen volunteers summer helping with the Summer Reading Club. One teen is also helping with our computer classes. His knowledge of computers and patient demeanor make him a natural for helping new computer users.
- We've had 3 special programs this month ranging from journaling for teens to art for the very young. The highlight of one of the programs was (very carefully) petting a Ringtail.
- Three summer school classes totaling sixty middle school kids visited the library last week.
- A new volunteer has started the Children's Discovery Group, a weekly program dedicated to discovering the magic in books and reading.

Visibility & Image:

Record numbers of people have been coming into the library this summer. Our gate count has increased to as many as 850 people per day and has remained steady throughout the week. The library is a cool place in more ways than one!

Community Partnerships:

- The English language classes sponsored by Literacy Volunteers of America are going well. 25 students have been attending on a regular basis and we hope to continue the classes in fall.
- We are continuing to be supportive of library school students who wish to intern or volunteer. We have a SIRLS student with us this summer gaining direct experience working with the public and Managing Librarian, Terry Rill is working with SIRLS Knowledge River project. She is coordinating graduate assistants who will work in branch libraries in the area of youth services.

DUSENBERRY-RIVER—Kathleen Dannreuther

Children, Teens & Families:

This summer teen librarian Kendra Davey developed a series of bi-weekly craft programs for tweens and teens ages 10 and up. Programs included duct tape crafts, Amigurumi Animals and working with optical illusions and making a Thaumatrope using discarded CDs. She also plans a Fit-for-Life program teaching teens how to Zumba.

Visibility & Image:

The River remodel is now complete and customers in wheel chairs can easily navigate the library. The majority of comments are very favorable—people really appreciate the openness of the space. We've added merchandizing furniture, so library materials are checking out like gangbusters.

EL PUEBLO— Frank De La Cruz

Children, Teens & Families: El Pueblo had three Summer Reading Program events in June. These programs included a visit by the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum which brought birds; juggler James Reid, and author Marge Pellegrino who read to kids and led them through a book-making craft. We are having our best children's Summer Reading Program in terms of participation.

Community Partnerships: On June 5 El Pueblo was visited by an English As a Second Language class. Frank De la Cruz gave the students a tour of the library and showed them the materials which can help with their studies. Most of the students took out library cards. On June 6 staff attended a breakfast at El Pueblo Neighborhood Center. A counselor from the Southern Arizona Center for Sexual Abuse spoke about employees' responsibilities to report sexual abuse and gave us information on resources.

EL RIO— Romaine Ahlstrom

No report for June

GEASA-MARANA— Nancy Lindeman

Children, Teens & Families:

Summer Reading Club is in full swing at Geasa-Marana with a variety of programs and more registrations so far than last year. This year, we have scheduled several programs on Saturdays to make good use of our new Saturday hours.

Visibility and Image:

Our new meeting space is coming in very handy lately for accommodating more people attending our Summer Reading Club programs and more community groups taking advantage of this library feature—one morning saw all three of our meeting rooms in use at the same time!

Community Partnerships:

Manager Nancy Lindeman assisted at the Grand Opening of the Wheeler Taft Abbett, Sr. Branch Library on Saturday, June 7th. From helping Marana Community Organizations set up table displays, to general crowd control, to slicing and serving Mr. Abbett's birthday cake, it was a very busy, very fun experience!

HIMMEL PARK BRANCH – Sarajeon Harwood

Children, Teens and Family

- Summer Reading Program activities have made Himmel Park Library a busy place this month. Children have been entertained by 'Double Play', Flute and tuba, and James Reid, Juggler with standing room only crowds. Our teens were treated to an art program. We have about 12 eager young teen volunteers helping with our summer reading program and a lovely One Step job corps intern.
- Schools are still visiting over the summer. Yo se Puedo, a camp for severely verbally and physically handicapped children and teens visited. The younger ones went to a special story time and the teens stayed in the library looking for books and practicing using their computer "talkers".
- Literacy Volunteers of Tucson are offering an English as a second language class on Tuesdays and Thursday s which began this month and will run until the middle of August.

Visibility and Image and Community Partnerships

- Managing Librarian, Sarajeon Harwood was invited to tour the Tucson Electric Power plant. We hope to be working with TEP in the fall to present programs on energy conservation and, possibly, an exciting addition to our circulating collection
- Outreach efforts include visits to preschools and camps to present stories and information on SRP as well as lending support to other PCPL staff for programs.
- Managing librarian Sarajeon Harwood attended the meeting of the Tucson's Birthday Celebration committee.
- Sam Hughes Neighborhood Association sent out a survey to its members as well as the members of 3 other associations in the area. They collated the results and typed up all the comments and sent them to me. Most of the comments were extremely complementary about the staff. If anyone would like a copy of the survey results, please let me know.

JOYNER-GREEN VALLEY— Amber Mathewson

Children, Youth and Families

- The Teen Reading Program *A Midsummer's Night Read* has attracted 200 teens which quickly surpassed the 168 total of last years entire program! 1100 children have signed up for the children's program *Catch the Reading Bug*. Michele White and Michelle Creston were able to get out to area schools to really promote the program this year which has made all the difference. Parents are thrilled to have this FREE program available to their children.
- 36 teens attend our Pizza Making Party, and June was the kick off for the Teen Fitness Boot Camp.
- Miss Michelle started a family Storytime on Tuesday evenings which is already averaging 45 attendees! This is a Storytime group that is intended to transition to the Sahuarita area with the advent of the express library facility.
- Two staff members and three volunteers were trained this month to begin the Reading Partners groups at the Green Valley Library bringing together adult reading mentors with children. In addition to Reading Partners, Green Valley also offers Read to Dog twice a week. Children love to come in and visit our literary pooches!

Community Collaborations & Visibility & Image

- Karen Greene coordinated the first ever volunteer fair in Green Valley. Individuals from local agencies in search of volunteers had tables in the library meeting room to enlist volunteers. Area organizations were very excited by this collaborative event and have asked that it be held again early in the year to attract our winter visitors.
- Managing Librarian, Amber Mathewson was inducted into the Green Valley Chapter of the Lions Club.

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER –

No report for June

JOEL D. VALDEZ MAIN LIBRARY- Karyn Prechtel

Children, Teens & Families:

- The Summer Reading program is in full swing in the Main Children's Room. Programs included: the Magic and Yo Yo Show, Tucson Audubon's World of Reptiles, a theater production of Cinderella's Story by The Village Players, Sonoran Desert Skulls featuring the experts at Pima County Natural Resources, a wonderful program full of magic and fun stories presented by Ronald McDonald, and the Pirate program with Megascience Meg.
- Children's staff presented several outreach programs including a Storytime at Oury Recreation Center, stories, songs and fun activities to highlight the library's summer reading program at Safford Elementary School, and the LULAC Young Readers Program.
- Summer is a busy time in the Teen Room. Programs this month have included: A Midsummer Night's Read and special afternoon movies and a program.

Visibility & Image:

Highlights included: the second annual artist reception, hosted by current juried artist, Sylvia Lindeman; for the 2nd year a delightful traveling exhibit, and the 5th annual River of Words Youth Poetry and Art Contest. Main Library continues to be one of the annual exhibit spaces for this competition presented by Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, Tucson-Pima Arts Council and the Tucson Children's Museum. Tucson's River of Words is a local affiliate of the national River of Words program.

Community Partnerships:

- Cathy Jacobus was a featured speaker for the Pima County Employee Wellness Program's weekly lunchtime series. Her topic, *Pima County Public Library's Guide to Consumer Health Resources*, was well-received, and involved a lively Q&A session. The audience learned more about the various online and in-person services the library offers, particularly Infoline and Askalibrarian.
- Staff Business Librarian Deborah Brown made an outreach presentation about the library's free business resources to 45 Tucson area entrepreneurs at the annual **Seeds for Business Success workshop**, which was sponsored by the Westside Coalition Weed and Seed, the Small Business Development Center, and the Downtown Mercado District.

KIRK – BEAR CANYON LIBRARY –Margaret Wilkie

Children, Teens & Families:

The Kirk – Bear Canyon Library has been busy this June with patrons looking for all kinds of reading and viewing materials, Summer Reading participants, and computer users. The Catch the Reading Bug programs included special visits from Clifford the Big Red Dog, International Wildlife Museum's program on insects and spiders, a special teen and adult art program "Metamorphosis," "Pizza with Pizza man Dave," and "The Three Wishes" puppet show. We've had a full house at each program. The Craft Fridays have been a great success with larger crowds each succeeding Friday.

Visibility & Image:

Rona Rosenberg, our adult service librarian, was interviewed for the June 22nd Arizona Daily Star article about Metamorphosis, the library's adult summer reading program. The article also featured information about Rona's innovative suggestion, "Books That Changed Your Life."

Community Partnerships:

Certified therapy dog Sadie and her owner Mary Fahey, have been making bimonthly "Read to a Dog" visits to the library for one year. We celebrated this anniversary by presenting Sadie and Mary with a gift card to Sadie's favorite store, Petsmart. The Friends of the Kirk – Bear Canyon Library made this gift possible with a generous donation

MARTHA COOPER BRANCH– Margaret Guerrero

Children, Teens & Families:

- All ages have enjoyed the summer activities which include Marge Pellegrino's Transforming Trash into Treasure Program and Pima County's program on Nature Journaling. We've also added a game day on Fridays to help keep children entertained; twenty participated in the DDR and Guitar Hero program.
- The Summer Reading Program has been a great success at the Martha Cooper Library. Children and teens are enthusiastic about reaching their goals of reading 30 hours to receive their awards and many adults have signed-up for the Metamorphosis reading program and have been very happy to receive their Pima County Public Library notebooks.
- Our weekly scheduled story times continue to be popular with the support of children's staff from Himmel and Main.
- Staff facilitated in getting 6 young people including refugee teens to be part of the YMCA scholarship program in the Triangle Y summer ranch.
- Teens learned basic crochet and macramé techniques at Martha Cooper's Teen Lounge. The teens are also showing increasing interest in the once-a-month Fit for Life yoga sessions taught by Ashley Leal of Yoga Connection.
- The Martha Cooper Branch Library has two new Summer Interns and three long-term pages through the ONESTOP Career Center.

Visibility & Image:

- Managing Librarian, Margaret Guerrero made a presentation to a large group of Central American Teachers who are spending a year working at U of A. They learned a brief history of libraries, how libraries work and about library services. They were all very interested in the variety of items that checkout, the public computers and the ESL classes.

- Outreach during World Refugee Day activities has led to greater awareness of library services especially in the Burundian, Iraqi and South Asian communities in our area.

Community Partnerships:

- There are now upwards of 21 students from at least 6 different language groups enrolled in the English as a Second Language classes offered by the Literacy Volunteers of Tucson. Librarian Mary Givins has been asked to serve as a mentor to the Burundi Support Promote Development Association which is in its formative stages.
- Margaret Guerrero continues to attend the TNBC Community and Law Enforcement meeting for the Midtown region. She made a brief presentation about the Summer Reading Program and the ESL classes at the Midtown City Team meeting.

MILLER GOLF LINKS – Ruth Grant

Children, Teens & Families:

- Activities and programs for June included: the Kids Book club; a visit by Fireman Baker and his fire engine crew; a visit from Small World Day; participation in a Summer Reading Program event, Awesome Air; and James Reid, juggler extraordinaire. Mr. Reid's demonstration included juggling a bowling ball, a golf club, and a tennis ball all at the same time.
- The Summer Reading Program event, Drawing Teenz Art was held. New Teen volunteers participated in the Summer Reading Program. Staff assisted children in whipping up a Volcano for a SRP event. Children made a very messy Volcano cake, learning in the meantime how real volcanoes work. Children also got to make puppets and learned how to make them come "alive".

Visibility & Image:

- Managing Librarian Ruth Grant extended the scope of the pilot program, Reading Partners, to include Green Valley, Quincie Douglas, and Nanini libraries. This pilot program will end in August 2008, and will hopefully be extended to any branch interested in participating in the Reading Partners program.
- A small group of the Miller-Golf Links Book Links book club met on lucky day, Friday June 13th, to discuss the June selection Diana Lively is Falling Down by Sheila Curran.

Community Partnerships:

- Staff initiated a new round of Computer Instruction, based on the curriculum provided by our partner The Oasis Institute. In partnership with The Loft Cinema, the Pima County Public Library GLBT Committee, led by Beth Petrucci, arranged to have nationally known author,
- Armistead Maupin talked about and read from his books on Wednesday, June 25. Mr. Maupin's titles include *Tales of the City*, *The Night Listener*, and *Michael Tolliver Lives*.

MURPHY-Wilmot

Children, Teens & Families:

- Teens eyed a fun flick and feasted on favorite foods during Teen Movie Month. They participated in the science fiction book program The "Twilight in the Afternoon"; program was a huge hit. Fans of the popular fiction book series made charm bracelets,

went on a treasure hunt, decorated werewolf or vampire cupcakes, and perused Stephanie Meyer's website to see trailers for the upcoming movie.

Visibility & Image:

- Managing Librarian Daphne Daly met with Rodney Glassman, City Council Member for Ward 2, to discuss Library issues and promotion of our special programs. As a result, Murphy-Wilmot happenings have been a regular feature of Rodney's Ward 2 weekly, which is distributed via email to neighborhood residents.

Community Partnerships:

- Murphy-Wilmot held a special Storytime on June 18, "The B-ugly Side of Bugs." Health inspectors and other Pima County Health Department experts were present for this Storytime, which focused on preventing mosquito bites and West Nile Virus. Thanks to April Gering at the Wheeler Taft Abbett Branch for setting up this opportunity for us.
- Two programs were held as part of the adult summer reading program, both in partnership with Pima County Natural Resources: Living with Venomous and Poisonous Creatures and Buffelgrass in the Desert. Having the expertise of the employees and volunteers of this County department has been a wonderful boon to this library.

MISSION – Martín Rivera

Children, Teens & Families:

- The tweens book club that meets on the 1st Saturday of the month features non-fiction reading. The 1st topic was extreme animals. The Children's and YA services librarians have been training 8 volunteers, 2 Tucson Youth Development workers and Mission's first work-based learning student from the Acosta Job Corps Center.
- Summer programming during June for youth @ Mission included the first Midsummer Night's Readover on June 13th, featuring a fake campfire, scary storytelling by Martín, and of course, hotdogs and s'mores; 6 summer reading events, and 5 Monday Movie Afternoons. Currently Mission has 1200 children registered for the SRC along with 257 teens. Mission Branch Library ran out of our adult reading club reading logs during the first week of the Program. Staff continues to encourage adults to sign up on-line.
- The Mission Mystery Book Club read another Carolyn Hart book, Death on the river walk during June and will be traveling by reading books written by international mystery writers during July.
- Metamorphosis, Adult Summer Reading. The adult services librarian continues to work on the Metamorphosis program. The July through December mailing list includes over 300 names of Tucson notables and neighbors for the Book That Changed My Life. Planned programs include July - Travel and great escapes; August - Back-to-school; September - Health and fitness; October - Food; November - Politics and government ; December - Religion. Staff is also working on evaluating "Skills Tutor" or "PLATO" software programs for adult learners.

Visibility & Image:

To increase our visibility our Oyama Kidco Visitations and school visits continue during the summer.

Community Partnerships:

Our partnership with Literacy Volunteers continues during the summer. The “Cafecito” for those wanting to learn conversational English in a relaxed atmosphere has 5 – 6 participants; it meets on Tuesday evenings and will end on 24 June. The more rigid group has 13 – 15 participants; it meets on Monday and Wednesday mornings and will continue through 07 August.

NANINI – Kristi Bradford

Children, Teens & Families:

Staff did teen volunteer training this month with five teens for the Read Together Talk Together Teen Volunteer Reading partners program. Nanini will schedule teens in July to read with younger kids.

Visibility & Image:

Thanks to Steff Koeneman, Nanini’s front doors now have wonderful new signage showing off our hours, web address and new logo. This is a huge improvement in our image to the community! Thanks Steff!

Community Partnerships:

Nanini Library will be partnering with Big Brothers/Big Sisters (BBBS) of Tucson on a trial basis for the next few months to increase donations of used household items and clothing to benefit BBBS. BBBS has delivered a nice looking donation bin to the far side of the Nanini Library parking lot. Nanini customers can drop their items off for donation. The items go to Savers where they are sold and the profits go back to support programming at BBBS.

QUINCIE DOUGLAS— Elva Smithwhite

Children, Teens & Families:

- The Quincie Kids Book Club began reading *The Secret Garden*. Since this is a difficult reading level for many of our club members, they are taking it slowly, using talking books and getting lots of encouragement from their group leader. When they complete the book, they will be rewarded with a free showing of the movie at the Loft Cinema.
- Staff has taken extra steps to provide encouragement and support to some recipients of the YMCA scholarships, advising them on getting physicals and gathering supplies. Some of our young people need this kind of intervention in order to take advantage of this valuable opportunity.
- Our two “Reading Buddies” have settled into a routine, giving special attention to children working on improving their reading skills. One of our substitute librarians has also been working with the Reading with Your Eyes Closed Club weekly. This is also the third summer that we have offered the 7-11 which is a creative array of weekly activities that develop reading skills, leadership skills and encourage group cooperation.
- Quincie’s Summer Reading Program is going strong. Program presentations included: *Once Upon a Pond*, with story teller Glenda Bonin; *Arthropods Adventures* presented by the Tucson Audubon Society; Marge Pellegrino taught “Transforming

Trash into Treasure”; and Pizza with the Pizza man. .A class from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Arizona provided **two** very fine bilingual storytelling programs.

- Other offerings included the (modeled after a Valencia program) Create Club for teens meets weekly for craft activities. Summer Movies began, hosted by the teen volunteers. The “Wii Wednesdays” remain very popular.
- Summer Youth workers include: 2 UYEP interns. 2 Tucson Urban League sponsored Summer Interns, and three neighborhood teens have registered to volunteer for the summer.

Visibility & Image:

“That’s My Take” video making project began. Seven teens will make three separate features with teen mentors, under the guidance of staff from Pan Left Productions. Teens will meet with mentors to write, shoot and edit their films throughout the summer, culminating with a screening in September.

Community Partnerships:

- We are so pleased to have University of Arizona students from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese work with Mission staff to provide Spanish language learning experiences for children at our library.
- Summer session for English Language Learning Classes taught by Literacy Volunteers of Tucson has begun.
- Tucson Parks and Recreation IBC (In Betweeners Club) began weekly visits to the library for activities. Teen volunteers and summer youth workers plan, prepare and help conduct the activities.
- In support of our “Wii Wednesday” program, Kino Weed and Seed purchased a Play Station 2, Disney Dance Dance Revolution and other games and Wii accessories.

SANTA ROSA (SRO) — *Yolanda Sainz*

No report for June

SOUTH TUCSON — *Sol Gómez*

Children, Teens & Families:

- Summer Reading Programs included programs with Ronald McDonald, Desert Museum, Discovery Artz, and Pima County Natural Resources so far. Our attendance has been record breaking. Average attendance at each event has been 40 participants.
- There is something going on each weekday at Sam Lena. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday we have chess lessons with an undefeated chess champion. We have also started “A Book and a Cookie” storytime this summer. Families get lemonade and a cookie every Tuesday at 3:00 PM.
- Tuesdays are also drawing days at the branch. A page, Aaron Cárdenas, is a talented artist and he has volunteered to teach the kids drawing techniques once a week. He has far exceeded our expectations. We thought he would draw with the kids and take a casual approach, but he has taken the initiative to create a curriculum. It is very high quality and includes elements of art such as shading, line, form, and color. Toddler time has picked up in attendance. BAM! Books and Movies! Is our book club for kids 8-12?

Visibility & Image:

- Staff has just started a popular Ghost Story Hour on Mondays at 3 PM. People can just show up and share their scary stories. Free popcorn or candy bars are provided.
- Fit for Life programs continue; Tec de Monterrey classes are full, and we continue to offer our GED classes.

Community Partnerships:

- Staff continue outreach programs at Head Start, La Frontera Child and Family Center, and provides deposit collections for John Valenzuela Youth Center and House of Neighborly Services.
- Staff has been attending the South Tucson Prevention Coalition meetings. The next big event we are partnering to present is National Night Out. Sam Lena Library will host a table and a book give-away at the event. The library will be the base of operations for all of the indoor games and activities for this neighborhood anti-crime event.

SOUTHWEST— - *Matt Landon*

No report for June.

READRUNNERS - *Outreach Service- Elaine Valenzuela*

Visibility & Image:

Customers have been very complimentary about the bookmobile article that appeared in the East Neighbors section of the AZ Daily Star on June 12th. As a result, Far Horizon Trailer Park on the east side called to set up a visit. They are a large park with approximately 500 residents.

Community Partnerships:

Staff is continuing to visit Flowing Wells Community Center. Following a two week period with 15 customers a visit, usage has fallen back to the average of 5 customers per visit. Staff provided reading materials to sixteen Deposit Collection sites this month.

VALENCIA - *Elaine Valenzuela*

Children, Teens & Families:

We presented seven summer reading programs in June. Over 944 children have signed up for the SRC and 93 teens, so far. We suspended our Create Club program during the summer, but expect to resume with the Tucson birthday party on August 20th. Eight teen volunteers are helping us with summertime activities. Their assistance range from preparing story time crafts to handing out SRP prizes.

Visibility & Image:

- We began a new series of beginning bilingual computer classes that quickly filled up. A seven week series ends late June, and a new six week series will begin in early July. Two of our library associates are co-teaching the classes which we feel provides an added benefit. One of the summer teen volunteers created a spreadsheet of all enrollees and we are phoning them with reminders.
- Having Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing installed on all our Lab computers has enriched the computer classes.
- Community outreach continues with visits to the San Miguel High, Challenger Middle School and Golden Dawn Tabernacle. Possible future stops include Desert

Diamond Casino, PCC Aviation Technology Center, The Agape Church (popular with youth) and the Maranatha Ministries.

Community Partnerships:

A speaker from the Arizona Humanities Council presented "Native Borders: Arizona's American Indian Reservations" to a group of 30 adults. Peter MacMillan Booth, historian and museum professional, explained why reservations were created, how they have evolved and the implications for the future.

WHEELER TAFT ABBETT, SR - Sharla Darby

Children, Teens & Families:

In the three weeks of Abbett's public existence, 4 weekly storytimes have started. Attendance has been phenomenal at all 4 programs. Our first preschool storytime had 86 participants and attendance has continued at that number or higher in following weeks.

We also have done three Adult and Teen Summer Reading Programs which drew 41 people of all ages. The Teen Book Club had its first meeting on June 11, and all 7 teens had a blast voting on how they want to run the club and which books they would like to read. Teen SRP is going great. We ran out of sign-up cards, so are showing teens how to sign up online. Our teen volunteers ROCK! They are learning to be experts at selling our programs to customers young and old, and have fun hunting down missing items as well as giving their input on serious issues such as which board games the library should have on hand.

The summer reading program is going strong. Families are filling SRC programs to capacity and giving lots of positive feedback. One Continental Reserve neighborhood parent told the manager "We are reading more this summer because it is easier to get to the library and checkout books. We are so happy the library is closer to us now."

Visibility & Image:

In May and June the Abbett library had several newspaper articles in the Marana Weekly, NW Edition of Arizona Daily Star, and the Explorer highlighting the new library and the grand opening event hosted on Saturday June 7th. We also were highlighted on TV on KOLD: News 13 This Morning segment with Lauren Burgoyne, Access Tucson's Tucson Vision program, and highlighted regularly with the traffic reports associated with the Silverbell/Cortaro construction reports on TV.

The Grand Opening was a huge success with more than 1500 people (estimated by Marana Police) visiting the library Saturday June 7th. We checked out **3,035 items**, gave out more than **200 new library cards** and updated several hundred more. Most common comments from our customers have been when they first walk in are "Wow!", "What a beautiful Library!", "Thank goodness you finally opened!", "This is SO beautiful!", and "How do I sign up for a library card?"

Regular outreach visits are being made to Marana Parks and Recreation summer day camps at local elementary schools to let kids know about all of the great programs going on at the new

library. Kids from these programs are coming to the library with their parents and often find April and say, "Remember me, I saw you at our school!"

Community Partnerships

Library staff continues to foster and build relationships with various organizations in the community. Sharla Darby continues to attend meetings of two newly forming coalitions in the area. Meg Macleish is working with Friends of the Library representatives Jo Riester and Marcia Winick to set-up a Friends Book sale area at the library. Sara Dias attended the monthly Picture Rocks Community Meeting and is also working with the Girl Scouts of Marana to produce a "Heritage of Marana" documentary with Pan Left. In addition, Sara is assisting with the Arizona Youth Partnership's (AZYB) Summer Dance committee to promote upcoming dances to teens living in the outlying areas of Picture Rocks and Avra Valley. We are also the first library to host an interactive Lead Hazard Storyboard in partnership with the Southwest Fair Housing Council. April Gering is working with the Lead Hazard Outreach Specialist to coordinate the display of the storyboard at 3 other PCPL locations. Meg Macleish is working with SCORE to start their one-on-one small business consultations program and with Arizona Humanities Council presenter Allen Dart from Old Pueblo Archaeology Center to give a talk about local archaeological Native American artifacts being discovered in the area around Abbett Library.

WOODS — *Joan Biggar*

Children, Teens & Families:

- Woods has signed up over 1,237 children for the Summer Reading Program so far this summer! WOW! Programs presented include: the Sonoran Sea Aquarium presented "Amazing Sharks"; Charlene Profiri, author of Counting Little Geckos, presented her book; we had Ronald McDonald perform his magic and promote literacy.
- Play Games @ Woods is still humming along; and we have finally been able to set up a consistent Read to a Dog time. Outreach story times are presented June, July & August; library visit story times are presented as requested and Woods continues Family Bilingual Storytime!
- Teens attend the weekly video gaming programs, and we have had two teen video project programs at the branch. We have had over 210 teens sign up during the first 4 weeks of the Summer Reading Program this summer, and 13 teen volunteers in June give the branch over 105 hours of service. We really appreciate all their help. We also have one summer youth worker. .

Community Collaborations & Visibility & Image

- Staff attended a focus group meeting of the new Weed & Seed North Tucson Coalition group. Managing librarian, Joan Biggar retired June 27, 2008.
- The LVOT English Language Learning classes continue to thrive.
- Woods' Small Meeting room will be used once a week for an hour for 12 families who have just been selected for Habitat for Humanity homes in the next year
- Last but not Least! Marge Pellegrino shared Word Journey's student and mentor reflections on their experience with Woods as the host site. The branch was portrayed as a welcoming and helpful space; fun and exciting. One mentor called the library "one of the greatest places on earth," while other mentors thought the library provided a wonderful opportunity for learning to read and write. One respondent added that "the library is an incredible asset for the neighborhood and community."

This Director's Report was the last one from Branch Manager, Joan Biggar. She retired Friday, 6/27/08, after serving TPL/TPPL/PCPL for 23 years! Her actual career as a librarian spans 40 years with service in Germany, Connecticut, Washington State and Ohio, before arriving in Tucson. In her own words: "It has been a fabulous career to have and I have enjoyed working for Pima County customers alongside wonderful colleagues at all levels. Thanks to you all!"

VIRTUAL LIBRARY— Jen Maney

Children, Teens & Families:

Summer Reading Online for Teens & Adults

Online summer reading for teens and adults has been very popular so far. As of June 23, one month after the beginning of the program, 227 teens and 339 adults have registered online and have posted a total of 496 book reviews to our website. To find out more about Summer Reading, visit the library's website, and click on the button on the right side of the page.

Visibility & Image:

Teen Spirit in the Library Webcast Attracts 500 Attendees

Virtual Library Manager Jen Maney was invited by *Library Journal* to be part of an online panel discussion about library services to teens. Jen talked about serving teens online during the webcast, which was entitled, "Teen Spirit in the Library: Best Practices in YA and Teen Services." The webcast, which was attended by over 500 participants from libraries around the country, highlighted Pima County Public Library's online services, such as the *That's My Take* teen book review trailers, online summer reading, and Ask a Librarian.

Video Downloads available from OverDrive

OverDrive has downloadable audiobooks, e-books, and now video. You can download movies, travel, fitness, documentaries and children's videos. Use the familiar OverDrive Media Console to download and view the videos on your computer. Visit the Digital Downloads page to get started - <http://www.library.pima.gov/research/digital/>.

Library Customers Love Our Services

We received the following comment this month from a library customer:

*Thanks for all you do to keep the library tools easy to access. That is truly and much appreciated.
Diane*

Community Partnerships:

Electronic Resources Consortium Purchase

Shawn Flecken, Electronic Resources Librarian, has been gathering data on what electronic resources (research databases) are used around the state in an effort to collaborate with county libraries and the state library on database purchases. Currently, Pima County Public Library partners with the state library and Maricopa County Library District to offer research databases to users statewide. Contracts for statewide purchases save money and time. Shawn has put together a wish list of databases that will meet the needs of urban and rural public libraries as well as the needs of students of all ages.

YOUTH SERVICE-*Gina Macaluso*

No report for June

ADULT SERVICES – *Beth Matthias-Loghry*

Visibility & Image:

Sylvia Simon is on loan from Green Valley working part-time in Adult Services/Outreach. She has been helping us coordinate information sharing and programming with organizations supporting Adult Learners, and supporting the creation of programming the area of fitness and health. This month, Sylvia wrapped up an IMLS-funded collaboration with Lisa Falk, education curator at the Arizona State Museum. The Library has sponsored P/R tables at the Museum's Culture Craft Saturdays since November. Sylvia and writer Marge Pellegrino have presented theme-based cultural literacy activities and reading lists at these monthly events leading up to the Museum's mega event the Summer Solstice. The Virtual Library has been helping us cross promote this effort with the Arizona State Museum our website.

Community Partnerships:

With the addition of funding from Dollar General's American Dream @your Library grant, Dawn Gardner has coordinated with the Literacy Volunteers of Tucson to expand twice weekly English classes and related conversation sessions to seven libraries during the summer. Dawn and the partnership workgroup of Adult Services have worked to orient librarian site liaisons at each of the branches to work with Literacy Volunteers of Tucson tutors on library orientations, facilities/and equipment needs for and on both formal and information programming and site agreements.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT – *Bonny Bruce*

In June, twelve staff members listened to an Urban Libraries Council Audio Conference "Foresight 2020 – Scenario Planning: Learning to Think in the Future Tense". A panel of library directors and a scenario planner from Herman Miller library furnishings examined 4 future scenarios for libraries. The scenarios were hypotheses that examined certainties and uncertainties for the future. The theme was increased or decreased funding and the relevance of the library's role in the community. The panel analyzed whether the scenarios were plausible, what resources would be needed, strategies that could be used, and what social, economic and cultural forces could have an impact. The out of the box thinking and probing questions of the panelists prompted a lively discussion with our staff on future scenarios for PCPL.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT OFFICE – *Richard DiRusso*

Visibility & Image: On Sunday June 15th I was the featured speaker at the Society of Southwest Author's monthly meeting. The talk was billed as, "Banned! What They Don't Want You to Read or See." It was an opportunity for me to describe the library's commitments to ensure freedom of access to the marketplace of ideas, through our collections and policies, to all library users. The attendees asked many questions regarding this aspect of library service and were surprised at the scope of challenges we receive every year (as examples I read a few "Request for Reconsideration" challenges we had). I also spoke about the how's, means and why's of getting their books in the collection. Finally, I spoke about the 2009 Tucson Festival of Books and why they should plan on participating in it (I left them brochures and contact info). I left the meeting feeling I had

accomplished my goals of raising the level of awareness of the public library and the role we play in the cause of intellectual freedom. RD

On Monday, June 23, I went to the KXCI radio station studios to record a clip to be aired on air on Friday, June 27th for the on-air gay pride day celebration. I talked about the library's GLBT services committee, when and why it was formed and what we do to better serve the community. RD

TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT – Libby Jones

Because of the popularity of the library's interlibrary loan service, the staff in Technical Services has been spending a little extra time handling all of the requests from patrons. We have also been concentrating much of our effort on the opening day collections for the new Abbett branch library and the Flowing Wells branch library. The TSV staff has been at both libraries to help unpack and shelve the new materials for these branches. Due to the complexities of ordering for these two new branches at the same time, along with our ongoing materials, staff is also working hard at quality control of the database records, merging some, correcting others. TSV staff are also working at Abbett to identify materials without records in the database and then adding those items. The staff also generated a list of approximately 500 holds for Abbett materials, searched the shelves to retrieve the items, and then triggered the holds to send the items on their way to the patrons.

Preparations are being made for the fiscal close and the beginning of the onslaught of ordering in the new fiscal year. A few changes will be made to experiment with more efficient, more accurate methods to do our jobs.



DATE: July 2, 2008

TO: Library Board, Pima County Public Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Pima County Public Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Pima-Green Valley Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Arivaca Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Oro Valley Library
Pima County Public Library Foundation Board

FROM: Pat Corella
Library Deputy Director

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR'S REPORT – June 2008

SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT

ABBETT-MARANA LIBRARY: Our “Grand-opening” ceremony held on June 7th was tremendously successful! Approximately 1,200 people showed-up and over 700 vehicles had to be directed to a parking area. There was the full complement of dignitaries, politicians, staff and an overwhelming number of neighborhood people. Once everyone gathered inside the library, it felt as though there was standing room only. The major part of the activity was, of course, the Library’s benefactor Mr. Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr.’s birthday celebration as well. All day long, library staff provided numerous programs for all who participated in our grand celebration. It felt wonderful to see so many people enjoying the use of their new Library and the services that will be provided now and into the future.

FLOWING WELLS: Once again we are near the end of completing construction of a new library facility. A certificate of occupancy has been issued, the book collection, furniture and equipment have been delivered, staff has been hired and we are on the way to finally begin to resolve a variety of minor construction tasks. The public art will be installed within the next couple of weeks and we are waiting for the installation of the public-use computers. The book collection is undergoing a total review to make several corrections before the public starts to check out the material. Given all that, it is beginning to look as though this facility will be ready for a “soft” opening by mid to end of July. A grand-opening is scheduled for the early part of September.

MURPHY-WILMOT LIBRARY: The two-inch thick bound notebook that contained a very thorough report that presents an analysis of the “existing and future programmatic space requirements of the library in order to determine the ideal spatial needs” for library customers and staff has been reviewed by concerned county staff. The authorization to proceed will go before the Board of Supervisors within a few weeks. Once we are given the go ahead to move on to the second tier services, we will move to the next level which is design development. It is anticipated this project will be complete by late 2009 or early 2010.

RIO NUEVO E-LIBRARY: The Arizona Historical Society, City of Tucson and the Library have a lot of administrative issues that have to be addressed before they can begin to move this project forward. Pima County Public Library will be allowed to build an E-Library in partnership with the Arizona Historical Society who will sell their current building and move to the Río Nuevo site. Still too early to say when this project will be complete.

POTENTIAL LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND EXPANSIONS: Several library buildings that were being considered for development or expansion will not go forward to the voters for bond approval in 2008. Now, it appears the development of library buildings will be delayed until 2009.



Pima County Public Library

DATE: July 2, 2008

TO: Library Board, Pima County Public Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Pima County Public Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Pima-Green Valley Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Arivaca Library
Board of Directors, Friends of the Oro Valley Library
Pima County Public Library Foundation Board

FROM: Steffannie Koeneman
Community Relations Manager

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT-JUNE 2008

Publicity/Communications Summary

The main focus of Community Relations work during the month of June has centered on the Get Fit festivals, the **Grand Opening of the Wheeler Taft Abbett, Sr. Library**, preparing for the grand opening of the Flowing Wells Branch Library and promoting the GLBT Committee Author Presentation.

Get Fit has involved the following:

Creation of advertising and the “look and feel” for all future publications, advertising and promotional materials.

Work on obtaining appropriate branded giveaways.

Working with virtual library on website/print designs so that both coordinate.

GLBT Committee Author Presentation:

The event attracted approximately 350 people.

Work from Community Relations included: Press releases, calling media, creating posters and flyers.

The event publicity led to three stories and numerous calendar entries in print.

Coming up in the very near future are promotion of **Flowing Wells, Homework Help, Storytimes, a visit by J.A. Jance**, the 30th Anniversary of the Mission Branch Library, and preparations for the Library's Annual Report.

The other two major projects now in process for Community Relations:

1. **Book Mobile wrap design.** Tanya Fernandes mimicked a design from a library system in the east (with permission, of course) that features strong BOOKMOBILE lettering along with cutout photos of all kinds of people and some desert scenery. Please see the attached design.
2. **Monument signs for all branch libraries.** Following up on last year's work, the final format for most branch library monument signs with the new name and logo are finally going forward. Word from the County vendor is that these signs should be completely installed, systemwide with 3-4 months.

Community Forums

In addition, Community Relations now is working on invitations and promotions for the upcoming Community Forums in connection with the Library's strategic planning process. So far, the following has been completed:

- invitations in English
- poster concepts
- invitations in Spanish now underway
- Meeting with the Arizona Daily Star Editorial Board.
- Created signage to assist the forum presenters

The print media list is attached, and it should be noted that Pima County Public Library was featured on several television news or community access programs during the month of June, including:

KOLD TV 13: Morning interviews from Wheeler Taft Abbett. Featured Steff Koeneman, Sharla Darby and Rene Wheeler. Summer Reading Program on KOLD TV 4. Featured Graphic Design Specialist Tanya Fernandes and her daughter Elysia, and Children's Librarian Mary Sanchez. Was filmed at Joel D. Valdez Main Library.

KOLD-4 did a segment on the Mars Lander, but used a story time idea to do the segment. That segment was filmed in the Children's' Room at Main, and featured many of our puppets.

Access Tucson. Steff Koeneman hosted two programs – one on Summer Reading Programs and another on the Library meeting growing and community needs – during June. The guests for the first program were Mary Sanchez and Southwest Branch Manager Matt Landon. The guests for the second show were Sharla Darby and Ellie Towne.

The Library in the print media

Compiled from staff reports

Tucson, Arizona | Published: 06.26.2008

Sahuarita to get temporary library

Sahuarita is getting a temporary library that will be housed in the modular offices that were once the town's offices.

The Pima County Library District finalized plans with the town of Sahuarita and Rancho Sahuarita, which owns the land. Pima County is leasing the building at 725 W. Via Rancho Sahuarita that will house the library for \$1 a year from Rancho Sahuarita.

[Juvenile Detention Center library like no other](#)

FOX11AZ.com, AZ - Jun 12, 2008

there is also a **public library** branch at **Pima County's** Adult Detention Center. Like the Juvenile Center **Library**, only inmates and jail employees can use it.

[UA's Library Science School Receives \\$1M Grant](#)

University of Arizona News (press release), AZ - Jun 18, 2008

SIRLS also has finalized an agreement with the **Pima County Public Library** that will lead to about six Knowledge River scholars being offered assistantships. ...

[Teen Spirit in the Library—Best Practices in Teen Library Services ...](#)

Library Journal, NY - Jun 17, 2008

Jen Maney, manager of **Pima County Public Library's** Virtual **Library** (Tucson, AZ), led attendees on a fabulous tour of **public library** web sites that use 2.0 ...

[Writer to read from his works at the Loft](#)

Arizona Daily Star, AZ - Jun 12, 2008

the event is funded by the Friends of the **Pima County Public Library**. For more information check the **library's** Web site, www.library.pima.gov....

[Calling All Bookworms: A Sneak Peak at Pima County's Newest Library](#)

KOLD-TV, AZ - Jun 5, 2008

More than 60 thousand books line the shelves of the new Wheeler Taft Abbett Senior **Library** in Marana, thanks to its namesake, Wheeler Taft Abbett Senior. ...

Northwest

New library opening Saturday in Marana

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Tucson, Arizona | Published: 06.05.2008

The Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library, Pima County's newest library branch, will have its grand opening from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday.

The library is named after Abbett, a former member of Marana's Planning and Zoning Commission who donated \$1 million to the county's library-book fund.

3-minute interview: Sharla Darby

***Randy Metcalf/The Explorer**, A grand opening celebration for the Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library in Marana is set for Saturday, June 7, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The library is located at 7800 N. Schisler Drive.*

Video games, computers, 70K items at new Marana library

By [Nick Smith](#), **The Explorer**

Published:

Wednesday, June 4, 2008 1:14 PM CDT

Sharla Darby is the new head librarian at the Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library in Marana, which will hold its grand opening this Saturday.

Community Calendar

Saturday, June 7

- The Town of Marana will hold a grand-opening celebration for the Wheeler Taft Abbett Public Library. Details: 9:30 a.m. to noon; 7800 N. Schisler Drive; for more information, call 382-1999.

Community news

Arizona Daily Star 5/29/08

New library to have opening ceremony

Pima County's newest library branch, the Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library in Marana, will have its grand opening from 9:30 a.m. to noon June 7.

The new facility is at 7800 N. Schisler Drive, just southeast of the intersection of North Cortaro and North Silverbell roads. The event is free and open to the public, and will include food and library tours and other activities. For more information call 791-4010.

Tucson Weekly

Published on May 29, 2008:

Guest Commentary

Book-loving Tucsonans have myriad reasons to be thankful

By [IMANI WILLIAMS](#) 

My all-time-favorite place to cruise for words on pages in Tucson is the Pima County Public Library--what a gift. If they don't have it, they can get it, and the librarians--particularly at the Murphy-Wilmot Branch--are always ready to assist above and beyond to help you find what you need. I start off with the new books, taking my time to slowly browse both sides of the rack: I cover everything fiction and then head around to the other side to hit the nonfiction.

Foothills

Library opens doors to a host of crawlies

Story and photos by Greg Bryan

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Tucson, Arizona | Published: 06.19.2008

A tarantula and a scorpion were the guests of honor at the Dusenberry-River Center Library last Thursday during the Tucson Audubon Society's "Arthropod Adventures" presentation, part of the library's Summer Reading program.

After a short lecture on arthropods and arachnids,

Celebrating the Nice

Arizona State Museum holds multicultural event to kick off summer

[MACKENNA GUEST](#)

Tucson Citizen

Published: 06.20.2008

Arizona State Museum hosts the eighth annual "Marking the Summer Solstice: A Multicultural Celebration" on Saturday, with music, dancing, storytelling, saguaro harvesting demonstrations

and science activities. It will mark the beginning of summer and the longest day of the year. The solstice officially occurs in Tucson at 4:59 p.m. Friday - the earliest since 1896, according to earthsky.org. With sunrise at 5:18 a.m. and sunset at 7:34 p.m., Tucsonans should get 14 hours, 15 minutes and 53 seconds of sunlight.

This solstice celebration, which started nine years ago in partnership with the Pima County Public Library, has grown into a multicultural event that encompasses life in the Sonoran Desert, in particular Tucson. It was originally part of the library's summer reading program with just a few performances. It has grown significantly, with approximately 3,500 people attending last year.

County libraries seeking teen help this summer

Citizen Staff Report

Published: 06.02.2008

Is your teenager bored this summer?

How about volunteer work at a library?

Teenagers 14 or older may help in a variety of ways and get job experience. Most library branches appreciate help with the Summer Reading Club, while some branches need help year-round. Teens may stop by their local library and ask the teen librarian for more information.

East

Books brought by bus? Sweet!

These volumes are like ice cream to rural residents, and the well-read driver is the topping <

By Patty Machelor

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Tucson, Arizona | Published: 06.12.2008

For some, Wade Zelenak is the equivalent of the ice cream man when he pulls up with his bus full of books. Zelenak, 48, has been delivering library books to Pima County's rural residents for 13 years by way of the Bookmobile-Readrunners Library Services.