

DATE: September 1, 2022

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

FROM: Karyn Prechtel-Altman
Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Public Services – August 2022

Library Services Manager – Paulina Aguirre-Clinch

Supervisor Adelita S. Grijalva and her team begun a tour of all District 5 libraries this month. The Frank De La Cruz – El Pueblo Library was happy to be the first one on the tour. This visit provided the Frank De La Cruz – El Pueblo Library staff an opportunity to discuss safety and security concerns that have been precluding the public from accessing vital library services. These safety and security issues have always existed but have become egregious in the last few years due to additional fallout (increased homelessness, drug use, violence, etc.) brought on by COVID.

I attended my first Steering Committee meeting for the Tucson Festival of Books (TFOB) this month. I look forward to getting a wider, rounder, perspective of the festival, as I had previously been part of the Book and Author Committee. I was particularly encouraged by the Committee's desire to increase representation at the festival; they mentioned age and ethnicity specifically, but there is room for representation in many other respects – abilities, religions, gender, sexual orientation, etc.

Library Services Manager - Sharla Ronstadt

I helped Library Human Resources staff in several ways this month to assist in hiring multiple positions. In addition, I trained a new Manager in a temporary Detail Assignment at the Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library. I continued to work at Miller Golf Links Library and Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library one day a week to provide support in addition to working at the Oro Valley Library and attending their 20th Anniversary event. I worked on creating a new process for managers to report staffing levels monthly. I assisted with hiring tasks as assigned and continued to support managers with personnel challenges by providing assistance and support.

Library Services Manager - Amy Rusk

August has been all about envisioning a new and improved Richard Elias-Mission Library. Staff are grateful that their opinions are being solicited by the architects from Line and Space, as are our tribal partners in New Pascua and San Xavier.

Staff at every level have been talking about the Job Analysis Questionnaire (JAQ) process, which is especially challenging for those who have been recently promoted. Staff are also

getting used to Aetna's new health platform, Virgin Pulse, which is intended to encourage greater interest in health.

This month I have focused on visiting the locations with which I work to meet new staff and to visit the managers I supervise. I also met in person with my team of managers because the managing librarian from Ajo was in Tucson and able to attend.

A Meet and Greet for the 2022-2023 Knowledge River graduate students took place August 25, as well as the first of many collaborative meetings with the managers of the Richard Elias-Mission Library, the Southwest Library, and the Dr. Fernando Escalante Library and leaders from the Many Nations team.

District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott

Dewhirst–Catalina Library – Christine Dykgraaf

Dewhirst-Catalina Library enjoyed a craft and story filled summer emphasizing the theme *Oceans of Possibilities*. We handed out over 75 crafts in August. The final craft was also distributed to the local community food bank with a flyer advertising the resumption of our Homework Help program, this year on Tuesday afternoons.

So far one adult book club has returned to the regular use of our meeting room and has expressed much joy and appreciation for our accommodating them. The Pima County Recreation Center just up the road has filled some of its staff positions and we are eager to reengage with them in ways we did before the pandemic. We are eager in fact to not just share some children's programming, but also adult programs such as a series of yoga classes and perhaps some drawing classes.

Dusenberry-River Library – Matías Torres

August began at Dusenberry-River Library with meeting room utilized as a busy Election Center and continued by welcoming a multitude of students back from summer break. We end the month by taking stock of summer and looking forward to the fall. Our first season of *Family Storytime* will conclude with meeting rooms filled to capacity and requests for more opportunities. *One-on-One Computer Help* also concludes a worthwhile summer offering that filled an in-demand request from the community. *Homework Help* is poised to connect returning students to learning tutors, assistance, spaces and resources. Stem-inspired programs such as *Intro to Robotics* and *Button Maker* made up the options available to teens. *Tucson Clean and Beautiful* and *Living with Urban Wildlife* supported adult programs with a conservation theme. The Tucson Festival of Books steering committee had their inaugural meeting in our library's meeting room. A NAMI presentation in our meeting room at the end of the month will provide another opportunity inform and destigmatize living with mental illness. Our meeting rooms now have a steady rotation of different homeowner's associations and various book clubs. We begin the fall more prepared and energized.

Nanini Library – Caitlin Burns

Nanini Library is finally starting to feel like itself again since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, as staff are adding more programs for all ages with a variety of needs. Indoor storytimes on Thursday and Friday mornings are maxing at room capacity with over 70 people in attendance regularly. Although attendance has dropped slightly due to the warm weather, Wednesday morning storytimes at Richardson Park are very popular and provide families with the chance to run and be active when they need to release some energy between stories and songs. Read to a Dog has started again, and staff currently are gearing up to begin a Homework Help program for youth afterschool in September. In mid-August Nanini sent two staff members to the annual open house at Hendricks Elementary where they saw over 500 kids

and caregivers and handed out books, bookmarks, and PCPL school supplies while representing their local Library.

Over the past year, Nanini's Young Adult Services Librarian has been working to introduce herself to teens using the library and will soon start the Teen Advisory Board. This board will provide young adults a special opportunity to create and plan library programs, get involved in volunteer opportunities, and build their skills in preparation for their next steps under the guidance of a Librarian. Citizenship classes have also resumed, and the Job Help/Tech Help drop-in classes have been very helpful for jobseekers as well as those wanting to learn more about their computers, tablets and phones.

The exterior of the Library is getting some much needed attention while construction workers are onsite installing new irrigation in preparation for a landscaping overhaul which will include saguaro cacti, trees, succulents, and native plants. Most new plants will be provided by the Pima County Natural Resources center. Later this fall, a new sidewalk will be added along the roadway for pedestrians and cyclists, providing safe access to and from the Library/Sheriffs Department, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and neighboring streets.

Oro Valley Public Library – Kaitlyn Sparks

Oro Valley Public Library celebrated its 20th anniversary on August 17 with various programs and activities. In the morning, harpist Rebecca Reinhard Foreman delighted a full meeting room with her music. After school, families, children, tweens, and teens joined us for Crafternoon, learning to use the button maker, creating their own books and mobiles with recycled disc art in our recently painted children's and tween areas. Later in the day, we celebrated with cake while Cynthia Hilts Jazz Trio provided an entertaining and educational performance on Jazz to a full meeting room and hallway! Special guest speakers, Rex Scott, Jan Leshner, Joe Winfield, Melanie Barrett and Chris Cornelison joined us to kick off the afternoon. The entire day was full of merriment and requests for more musical programs at the library in the future.

Customers helped Oro Valley's Seed Library at a Seed Packing Event this month. Many attendees said they learned about the event from Oro Valley's e-newsletter promoting the 20th anniversary. Seed Library staff members were available to answer questions about types of seeds and local planting seasons. Customers could help for a bit or dive into seed packing for the full two hours. Staff also encouraged customers to bring and share cuttings or plants with other customers.

We kicked off a new weekly program for children called Builder's Club, where young participants employed their imagination and creativity using Legos. Goals for the series are to sharpen kids' STEM, social, literary, and problem-solving skills; library staff provide the weekly themes and materials. In addition, the library resumed weekly story times for toddlers and preschoolers.

Finally, One-on-One Tech Help returned to Oro Valley Public Library with 45-minute sessions for individualized instruction, to meet the needs of more customers. In addition to the one-on-one sessions, customers had five different technology classes to choose from, on subjects as varied as Excel, online safety, Internet basics and more.

District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Kelly Wilson

This month we have been continuing our Job Help and have started up our Homework Help again. Both programs are very much appreciated by our patrons.

Our Family Story Time kicks off this month to much anticipation and our Saturday Dungeons and Dragons program is fully booked for our teen and tween gamers.

We have been very busy serving our multi-cultural patrons with critical resources including; applications for visas from Ghana, study rooms for Urdu lessons, Spanish assistance for citizenship applications and job help. Our wonderful staff assists our new neighbors in their transitions to a new life in a new place in the most welcoming of ways.

Sahuarita Library – Betsy Langley

Babytime is back at Sahuarita! We welcomed 10 little ones with their caregivers who joined in on stories and songs about the human body. Family Storytime continues to be popular, as well. We also started a weekly program for kids called What's Up Wednesday. We'll offer games and craft projects for early release days after school. Programs tend to bring in new patrons, so we've been busy creating lots of new library cards. Our Children's Librarians visited several schools during their Meet & Greet to reengage with families getting ready for the school year. We spoke to 57 families and shared information about Library resources. We also participated at an event at Rancho Sahuarita and met with 27 residents, encouraging them to visit the Library. Nine adults joined us for our August Book Club for a lively discussion around *I Thought You Said This Would Work* by Ann Garvin. Our study rooms remain very popular with the community and they fill up fast each day!

Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – Lu Guerrero

The library hosted an author event featuring Reynaldo M. Santa Cruz Jr., who was awarded the 2021 Mimi Lozano Silver Medal for Best Family Story. Reynaldo talked about his book, *Pulido del Barrio Libre: The Life Story of Reynaldo M. Santa Cruz*. The event received very positive feedback from participants, many of which are long-time residents of Barrio Libre. They commented on the restorative nature of connecting with neighbors and reminiscing about the barrio they grew up knowing.

Visitors made good use of customary library services such as faxing, copying, printing, library collections and computer services. Visiting youth were offered three distinct craft activities over the month of August and the Desert Museum is scheduled to present *Noisy Science* at the end of the month. The branch Bookbike continues its routine ride to restock neighborhood Little Free Libraries. Library staff also focus daily on packaging and processing seeds, as the library system's central Seed Library location. The Garden Kitchen and staff at additional sites have also pitched in to get the cool season seeds packaged and out to Seed Library site, across the department.

The branch was supplied with signage to post on restroom doors designating the area as drug-free zone, likely due to the high rate of reported incidents related to drug use in library restrooms last month. One customer's reaction when seeing the signage was "it's great that those are posted there, [I] hope it helps- thanks".

Santa Rosa Library – Victoria Villanueva

It is Back to School season at Santa Rosa Library. We have had an increase of patrons visiting the library. We have also brought back the return of many beloved programs from Job help, Homework help. STEAMsational Mondays, Wild Wednesday, Fun Friday and the long anticipated return of Storytime! We have also begun introducing new programs like Dungeons and Dragons club and Gaming days. As word gets out that, the library is back to original operation, more and more patrons return to join in the fun here at Santa Rosa Library.

We are excited to join the Santa Rosa Recreation Center as they gear up for an open house event inviting the neighborhood to explore the different programs and resources our community

provides as we share some of the great opportunities that are available at Santa Rosa and among all of Pima County Public Library.

District 3 – Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Chair

Flowing Wells Library – Ingrid Trebisky

Flowing Wells Library had a very popular Bubble Party before school started up. Over 60 people, mostly families, showed up to make some big bubbles, bubble tower cups, and bubble art. The teens were very excited to be part of an after-hours “Not So Late Night” program at the library after it closed. They had pizza, and then played a popular game --Among Us. Homework Help has resumed, and Community Food Bank snacks are given out to youth during the Homework Help program and Code Club on two different days. The library has been a Covid test kit Pima County “giveaway site” twice this month.

Salazar-Ajo Library – Daniela Buchberger

In August the Salazar-Ajo library welcomed its two new Library Technical Assistants to the Team. We are very happy to have them and are excited for the additional support to the community.

The Salazar-Ajo library has continued to see children use our weekly grab and go activities. The activities designed by our brilliant staff encourage children’s creativity and problem solving skills while improving dexterity. Additionally our children’s area has seen many visitors make use of our community art space by leaving their artistic contributions right on the tables, or to more specifically the paper taped to the surfaces of the tables.

The library has received a few more pieces of furniture to brighten and lighten our children’s and teen areas. Several patrons (and staff) have asked if it would be possible to borrow some of our new pebble stools.

Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library – Jon Meade

With nearby schools back in session, we are trying a new pilot program at the Wheeler Taft Abbott Sr. Branch. Every day, our children’s meeting room has transformed into The Tween Scene and Homework Help Center. Fifteen to twenty tweens gather together to socialize and relax, play games including balloon volleyball and musical chairs, complete puzzles, create artwork, and do their homework. When they realized that the children’s room was opened just for them, we heard positive comments, such as “This place is for us?” “Thank you,” and “I love this!” Older tweens and younger teens have had access to the other meeting room on Thursdays, and this is expected to expand to other days as well.

Children’s Storytime had 75 attendees at just one Thursday morning program, so additional programming is being planned. Parents have expressed a desire for programs specifically for babies and toddlers, and a playgroup would also be a welcome addition to the schedule in the coming months. Additional planning is being made for more adult programming as well.

Woods Memorial Library – Victoria Salajko

Woods Memorial Library closed out its summer reading program this month. We hosted one youth Intern from Pima County Summer Youth Intern Program, for both sessions, as well as fourteen volunteers. They learned employability skills, and were responsible for many of the key activities that go into administering the summer learning program. Three of the volunteers participated in our grant-funded Youth Health Action Team, where they used writing and art to address the crisis in youth mental health.

Family Storytimes have found a comfortable and loyal audience on Thursday mornings, with an average of ten families in attendance. We expect attendance to grow as more people return to the library, and are proudly promoting it to our community.

Our Read-to-A-Dog program is poised to launch in mid-September on two days: Wednesdays after school and late morning Saturdays. We already have two solid teams and are soliciting interest from others. We hope to provide two to three therapy teams each session.

District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy

W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney

With appreciation to the Community Food Bank, Gibson-Esmond Station Library gave away 1,742 meals during the summer.

This month marked a special milestone. The library held its first storytime ever on Thursday, August 4. An audience of 29 enjoyed stories, songs, and activities.

Arizona Master Naturalists hosted a *What's for Dinner at the Desert Café* program on August 19.

Joyner-Green Valley Library – Sam Hennig

After two years without, Green Valley was able to resume a Family Story time for the community. On Tuesday mornings, our library is now filled with music, laughter, and families eager to participate in songs, readings, and fun.

Library staff conducted outreach at multiple welcome back to school events at elementary schools in Green Valley and Amado. In addition, youth services staff were able to meet with representatives from the Amado Youth Center and were able to start developing programs for youth in Amado in order to provide easier access to library services and programs. Youth Services staff from Joyner-Green Valley and Caviglia-Arivaca were also able to attend an outreach event for the groundbreaking of the new youth center in Amado and reached multiple families and community members. The outreach was so appreciated that our youth services staff have been invited to upcoming community events in Amado this year.

Our Music Friday events continue to be popular, and our adult services staff have begun one-on-one tech help. Patrons continue to eagerly request additional programming, and we hope to build on existing and create new programs to meet the needs of our community.

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library – Linde Furman

As summer comes to a close, Bear Canyon has been pleased to offer a number of valuable program offerings for our community members. We have continued with our very popular storytimes on Thursday mornings every week and also had a special children's program offering from the Tucson Children's Museum. We had two different young adult programs, including creative book binding and watercolor paintings. For adults, we had a wonderful Tai Chi program and a seed saving program. We look forward to exploring what programs we may offer for the next quarter.

Another new opportunity we are extremely pleased to offer at Bear Canyon is a digital literacy and job help one-on-one program with our Library Program Instructor, Carmella. We have seen great success with this so far in helping our customers access the library's e-resources and help with creating résumés and applying for jobs.

One of the additional recent highlights we had for our staff was a pie event with our Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library group. Our Friends gave us all a sweet treat and each staff member was able to select their favorite slice of pie. Thank you so much to our Friends, who are thoughtful and generous!

Miller-Golf Links Library – Kassy Rodeheaver

We're so excited to see families coming back to the library this month to attend our Preschool Storytimes for fun stories, songs, dances, and early childhood brain development tips for parents. This was a highly-requested program throughout the duration of the pandemic, so we are getting lots of excited comments from customers who find out that Storytime is back, like one mother who said "We're going to be visiting the library a lot more now that Storytime is back."

Adults got to relax and stretch during a Gentle Yoga program here on August 10. Many attendees were asking for this to be a regular activity in the future. We also hosted a Voting Center in our large meeting room for the primary elections this month. Other customers saw that was happening and asked for information from our staff about getting registered to vote for the next election this fall during this time as well. Our voting information center provided them with the registration forms and other vital information for voters from the League of Women Voters.

Murphy-Wilmot Library – Kathy Konecny

Many spaces within the library were filled with customers throughout the month. Study rooms were fully reserved throughout the day for small group study, interviews, and tutoring. Community groups reserved the large meeting room, and computer classes offered by the Library Program Instructors resumed on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Many customers also took advantage of the one-on-one computer and technology help offered at the computers and work tables. Teachers from St. Michaels School brought their first and second grade classrooms for a weekly visit to the children's area for book browsing and checkout. The librarian shared a story with the groups and gave information about the library resources they have access to with a library card. Even our lobby was bustling with the voter registration opportunity set up by the League of Women Voters.

District 5 – Supervisor Adelita Grijalva

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – Melissa Salazar

Frank de la Cruz-El Pueblo Library hosted its last two Summer Programs by the Tucson Museum of Art, intended for adults. They presented a workshop on *Experimental Storytelling* where participants had the opportunity to write their own storytelling poems about their unique identity, and create their own notebook with their artwork. Participants got to be creative through mixed media by decorating their notebooks with oil pastels, colored pencils and markers, pens, and magazine collage clippings. At the end of the workshop, everyone got to talk about their artwork and how it describes them and the poem that they are telling. The library also had the opportunity to partner with Valencia Library in an outreach opportunity at Grijalva Elementary's open house. Staff tabled on August 16 and 17 for Open House Nights to meet elementary school age families and inform them about helpful library resources. Staff spoke to families about events at the library such as Homework Help, Storytime, library hours, programs, signing up for a library card, and answering any of their questions. Staff also handed out library goodies such as stickers, bookmarks, activity sheets, crayons, pencils, Culture Pass information pamphlets, in-person and online homework help information, library newsletter, and Seed Library seedling pots with sunflower seeds for them to grow at home. Students were very happy to receive goodies and learn about the library, especially thrilled with stickers and our puppet mascot.

This library has had continuing issues with drug use around the building and in our public restroom, and public urination/defecation on the outside of the building. We now have the presence of two Sheriffs on duty and drug use has decreased significantly with the presence of two Sheriff Deputies. Public urination is still present, but not as often as before having the sheriffs. We also have not had any obvious signs of drug use this month in our public restroom.

El Río Library – Jeff McWhorter

The El Río Library is transitioning from summer to fall. School has started and we are seeing less youth during the day, but more seniors who utilize the center's programming are visiting us as are the newly enrolled students from our neighboring Pima Community College Adult Learning Center. As part of the shift in patronage, we are holding regular craft programming for young patrons as well as Homework Help for students of all ages, and Job Help for those seeking employment.

El Río Library staff started performing some outreach this month. We attended an open house for parents at Davis Bilingual Elementary where we distributed information on library resources, free books, and Seed Library One Seed Marigold packets. Our local elementary school, Tully Elementary, also held an open house for families and while we were unable to attend, we provided them with library information to distribute and One Seed packets which each parent in at least one classroom was encouraged to plant while they attended.

The Friends of the Library recently spruced up their shelf at our branch with new materials, a brand new sign, and new branded bags for sale behind the desk. El Río Library hosted community health workers from the county's Health Department who distributed free Covid-19 tests as well as general health guidance. Our featured monthly display is on items related to American Artist Appreciation Month.

Himmel Park Library – Heather Ross

Himmel Park Library is happy to be hosting Writer-in-Residence Adam Rex this fall. He is offering four one-on-one private consulting sessions with library customers each week. Well in advance of his first sessions, customers began calling to ask questions and schedule appointments. He was booked solidly for his first week, and customers had positive feedback to share about their time with him. One woman left her session exclaiming, "This is an excellent program! He was great!" Adam will also be interviewed by Arizona Public Media at Himmel Park Library on August 23.

Joel D. Valdez Main Library – Em DeMeester-Lane

With school back in session and slowly returning back to our pre-COVID-19 sense of normal, Joel Valdez Main Library is bringing back a robust calendar of programming. Our 101Space has been doing drop in Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math (STEAM) three days per week alongside Homework Help and distributing snack. While the Children's Team is excited to announce that storytime is back! Code Club on Wednesday afternoon has been an incredibly popular Tween program as well.

In the realm of Adult Services, we got a very heartwarming thank you letter via our Reference Services to Incarcerated Individuals. We receive mail from all over the state of Arizona from incarcerated individuals that have reference queries, but this letter felt especially touching. The customer wrote: "I wanted only to take the time and one of my five letter to do nothing but thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the work you've done on my behalf. I know the volume of inquiries you receive must be immense and having to handle them on top of your regular duties must be difficult. You still manage and every time I get a letter returned, it's like Christmas, but with information"

Martha Cooper Library – Tara Foxx-Lupo

Martha Cooper staff are ready for the start of the school year with supportive programming like Snack programming and Homework and Reading Help. These weekday programs will re-engage the support this location has traditionally provided to the school aged community in the midtown area. Our helpful Library Program Instructors are eager to see their past students again and to invite new learners to participate. Our afternoon snack program will change with this return to normal as well. Participants will need to be at the library to pick up a snack and staff hope this will create increased opportunities to engage with new youth in our area and promote these offerings. Staff have increased their community marketing efforts to help get the word out.

Martha Cooper library is piloting a new program partnership with Watershed Management Group. This programming series focuses on engaging families in learning about nature and sustainability from a local lens. The August offering, titled *Discover the Desert* teaches families about how the five senses influence the way our human bodies receive information. Families will learn about desert plants and animals with their sense of sight, sound, taste, smell, and touch. Enjoy a variety of bilingual activities for kids of all ages.

August marks a new four-week Storytime series offered by Martha Cooper children's services staff. Staff are happy to be offering this indoor enrichment program for Pre-School and Toddler aged children and their parents again, and attendance is steadily growing as the word gets out.

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Vicki Lázaro

This month Mission Library distributed over 300 COVID test kits to our community. Also, as a water station, we gave out valuable supplies of water bottles, water and sunscreen to our patrons. The Mission Library continues to have daily food resources for children 18 and under and during August, we had weekend breakfasts provided by our community partners, TUSD and the Community Food Bank.

We served as an emergency voting for this month's primary election. Two staff members were deputized by the Pima County Recorder's Office to assist with ID verification for provisional ballots.

Mission Library Adult Services hosted a program on *Women's Health at Any Age* presented by the Wellness Council of Arizona. This was part of our ongoing effort to provide accurate information and relevant health resources to members of our local community. Our Young Adults, Tween and Children's services staff had two outreach visits at C.E. Rose School, have continued our Homework Help programming and have welcomed two San Miguel Young Adult Interns to the branch. The Mission *gallery* is featuring silly drawings of imaginative animals and food objects by children and their families.

Mission Library began laying the groundwork for both upcoming programs and future branch facility improvements. Planning has begun for a tween and young adult coding programs this fall. Our Adult Services Librarian is meeting virtually with staff from Literacy Connects to start ELAA classes next month. Library staff have participated in multiple meetings with architects from Line and Space, LLC as part of the design process for Mission Library's upcoming remodel. We have also participated in forums with partner organizations such as the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and started collecting surveys and feedback from individual patrons.

Southwest Library – Maggie Dwenger

This month we have seen the return of students and with that an increase in the use of our library. Students are enthusiastically taking part in the Snack Program with nearly 100 snacks given away already this month. Free books leftover from our Summer Reading Program are

quickly dwindling as students come to the library after school. Our GED prep class continues to be successful with participants consistently coming to our almost daily sessions.

This month we made meaningful connections with the librarian and other staff at the Dr. Fernando Escalante Tribal Library and hope to work with them more closely over the coming year. We also tabled at the Open House for the Southwest Family Resource Center (the center we share a building with), creating library cards for new patrons, giving away books to children, and familiarizing families that utilize the space with our staff and services. We hope these connections lead to better serving the Southwest community.

We end our summer programming with *Jewelry Design: Bali Beads*, a program where participants design and create their own bracelets, necklaces etc., and hope that we see many in attendance!

Valencia Library – Ivonne Ramirez

August at the Valencia Library has had a good variety of happenings. Our new San Miguel High School Intern and a few of the Page staff created a colorful Back-to-school banner and display for the entrance, with books for early readers through middle school featuring catchy covers and interesting titles to get the back-to-school readers excited about the new school year.

The back-to-school season also provided additional opportunities to connect with neighborhood area schools through participation in their back-to-school open house. Valencia Library staff together with staff from our partner library Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo brought give-away gardening kits along with information about the seed library, Pima County Public Library's educational resources, and the upcoming library programs, including homework help at Valencia Library.

The children's snack program has returned to its pre-Covid schedule: featuring a one-hour time slot in the afternoon, with more limitations in place related to the logistics of snack distribution based on the Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP) protocol. Families and adults continue to be supported by the community pantry at the library stocked with items from the Community Food Bank's Agency Market and grocery brown-bags from the Arizona Department of Economic Security's Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). The Valencia Library has served as a successful distribution location for these programs and the public has responded positively to having these resources available here.

Valencia Library continues to have positive results from the partnership with Tucson Police Department and reduced incidences of drug use activity and other dangerous incidents in the library. The off-duty police officers who pick up shifts at the library have helped to create positive community interactions with law enforcement and also helped support the work of library supervisory staff and the in-house security during escalating incidents. This month, we also connected with case managers from the Community Mental Health and Addiction Team at the Pima County Health Department. We are looking forward to engaging them as an additional resource for the community as the area faces increasing drug-related incidents and drug misuse with individuals who are an integral part of the community.

Activities funded by Friends Groups

Friends of the Pima County Public Library

Oro Valley Public Library – Rebecca Reinhard Foreman (Harpist) and the Cynthia Hilts Jazz Trio