
DATE: November 3, 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 Report – September 2022

Library Services Manager – Paulina Aguirre-Clinch

My administrative duties this month included assisting with the interviewing and recommended placement of branch managers at five of our locations. I also worked closely with my fellow Library Services Manager and Latinx Program Manager to identify potential Program Collaborators in Residence to support our endeavors with the Tucson Festival of Books, which we have selected. I was also happy to participate in a focus group facilitated by the Library's Trauma Informed Care Team to talk about the challenges of serving a public that is dealing with substantial challenges affecting mental health, job security, food security, substance abuse, homelessness, etc.

I had the pleasure of attending the kick-off event to Mes de la Cultura at the Valencia Library. In honor of Mexico's Independence Day on September 16, the Mexican Consulate in Tucson, joined by Sunnyside High School's mariachi and folklórico groups and Las Aguilita's de Davis, gave El Grito (proclamation of independence). It was a beautiful celebration with many people in attendance. Another wonderful event that I will be attending is Caviglia-Arivaca Library's 25th Anniversary, which they will be celebrating with their Friends of the Library group. I look forward to seeing the garden stepping-stones the youth in Arivaca created to commemorate this anniversary.

I attended a three-day training, Transformation for Libraries: The Futures School, brought to us by the Connecticut State Library in partnership with Kedge: The Futures School. It was a great opportunity to network with librarians from across the nation and to learn strategies and tools that could be used in the creation of our Community Impact Plan. It was a very thought-provoking way to consider looking at what lies ahead for library programs and services.

Library Services Manager - Sharla Ronstadt

During this period, I helped Library Human Resources staff in several ways this month to assist in hiring and placing Librarian III positions. In addition, I took over as interim manager of the Miller-Golf Links Library in the absence of a Librarian III till the hiring was complete. I continued to work at Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library as needed to provide support. I started the Public

Manager Certification Program this month, attending with several other Pima County and City of Tucson Employees. I continued to work on the new process for managers to report staffing levels monthly; however, this has taken a lower priority given the library's immediate supervision needs.

Library Services Manager - Amy Rusk

This month I spent a lot of time talking with the managers with whom I work about upcoming programming at their libraries.

We, the Tucson Festival of Books (TFOB) Advisory Committee, submitted a project planner to the Collaborative Action Team for a Program Collaborator in Residence (PCR) to work with the TFOB team and identified potential candidates.

I met with two wonderful young women, Miranda Escobar and Emily Morel, about a quarterly story time project in the Tierra Anita Community Garden, which they brought to a Nuestras Raíces meeting for the team's assistance. Other highlights include a field trip to the Mission Garden with the Bibliolotus team and working on genealogy kits with the Kindred team.

District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott

Dewhirst–Catalina Library – Christine Dykgraaf

Patrons at Dewhirst-Catalina Library were treated to a large Mes de la Cultura display this month into October as well as a mini piñata craft to take home for their children. Dewhirst-Catalina is also marking Banned Book week with a display of books for all ages of readers that have been challenged over the years. Dewhirst-Catalina has been renewing ties with the Catalina Recreation Center run by Pima County and we are engineering ways to mutually advance their plan to create a kids garden on their lot and the library will hold some garden storytimes when it is finally complete.

This month Dewhirst-Catalina Library has added one more public computer for use and is all geared up to host over six paid presenter programs in the coming three months, again for all age levels. Staff are leading programs as well to round out the year: chess, creative journaling and scrapbooking, Dia de Los Muertos craft hours, and card making in early December.

Dusenberry-River Library – Matías Torres

Dusenberry-River Library made themselves available for our community in September. Meeting Rooms received steady occupancy from civic groups, book clubs, writing group, homeowner's association and Library Foundation. *Family Storytime* continues to fill up meeting room with returning and new attendees. *Homework Help* is seeing a spark in attendance from students that appreciate the extra-allotted space to study. Teens were fortunate to have *Worlds of Imagination Art Time* and *Teen Art Club* starting this month in addition to *Teen Movie*. In addition to artistic programming, our chess table and wide assortment of board games in the teen area are a welcome respite. *Art in the Afternoon* will begin another season for our art-centric community by returning to an in-person schedule for the first time since reopening. Dusenberry-River extended an opportunity for two students from San Miguel High School on the Southwest Side of Tucson to gain work experience. The local and larger community of Pima County was visible in September.

Oro Valley Public Library – Kaitlyn Sparks

Contemporary Literature Book Club met this month for the first time in over two years. A popular program before the pandemic, the group reads current literary fiction and Pulitzer Prize winners. The group chooses the titles they read based on reviews and availability through the library. This month's pick was Colson Whitehead's *Harlem Shuffle*, a New York Times best-seller and

finalist for the 2021 Kirkus Prize. Former U.S. president Barack Obama named it one of his favorite novels of 2021.

After the summer break, the Poetry Circle returned to Oro Valley. The UA Poetry Center's world-renowned collection provides its diverse reading material for the group. Attendees can share their knowledge of favorite poets, and learn about new ones. Docents from the UA Poetry Center lead this monthly poetry discussion. This month's topic was the poetry of the late Tony Hoagland, award-winning author of dozens of works of literary criticism, essays and collections.

One of Oro Valley's most popular programs this month was *Arizona: A History of the Grand Canyon State*, sponsored by Arizona Humanities. Jim Turner presented a brief history of Arizona — from the original inhabitants to new arrivals, from Arizona's Five C's to Wild West celebrities. Plus, Arizona's diverse cultures, colorful characters, and local heroes, like the Navajo Code Talkers.

District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Kelly Wilson

A touch of fall is in the air and Eckstrom Columbus Library has been busy this month. We have two lovely local artist displays and a return of our regular branch programming going full speed ahead. We have had great attendance for our weekly Job Help, Family Storytimes, Teen Circle and Afternoon Snack Program. We had a wonderful, full house for Adam Rex, our Writer in Residence, as he held one of his illustration workshops here this month. We re-started our Literacy Connects Beginning English Language classes, a program that is in very high demand and greatly valued by our community. We are celebrating Mes de la Cultura, Welcoming Week, and Banned Books with lively, informative displays. An invisibility cloak or a magic carpet? Our teens are split right down the middle on our interactive bulletin board choices this month.

Quincie Douglas Library – Marissa Alcorta

Outreach has been a major part of our work this September at Quincie Douglas Library. Staff have participated in two large outreach events, the Children's Museum of Tucson's Love of Literacy event on September 17 and the South Tucson Festival on September 24. Our children's services staff participated in both events, providing info on services for the Library and also giving away books to youth. These community-based events have been great ways to reconnect with families and promote Library services at the same time!

In addition, our staff have been involved in the activities and planning around Mes de la Cultura! We have created a book display (highlighting the Frank De La Cruz collection), a selfie display highlighting La muñeca María, and grab n' go crafts highlighting traditional Latinx crafts for families to take home a create. Staff also help with setup the day of the El Grito kickoff event at Valencia on September 16. We will continue to celebrate our rich Latinx culture through October 15 and beyond.

Sahuarita Library – Betsy Langley

Our dog, Rex, took a short break from his Read to a Dog duties, but we're glad he's back! Twenty-three readers have been stopping by weekly to select books to share with him. Families are also enjoying Storytime, averaging around 30 participants for each session. What's Up Wednesday is really popular, as well. Kids can join in on crafts, games and other activities after school. Last week they painted rocks! Visitors are also engaging with our *Bee Yourself* display on the Storytime door, writing and posting little notes about what they like about themselves.

We're excited to host a Chess Introductory Class and then a competitive Chess Tournament for families, kids and adults. A local homeschooler helped plan and promote the event. We'll have

snacks on hand and offer book giveaways, as well as two portable chess sets donated by 9 Queens for the winners. Board games and a Giant Chess Set out on the patio will entertain those waiting for the next round. We're hoping to engage with the community to see if there is an interest in a regular Chess Club.

We're also thrilled to be hosting English Language classes with Library partner, Literacy Connects. Our session for Beginner level students will take place September 19 – November 16. Library visitors are noticing and selecting books from numerous Mes de la Cultura displays throughout the library for Hispanic Heritage Month. Our Book Club has a strong set of core members. Eleven adults read and discussed *Such a Fun Age* by Kiley Reid for the September session and shared positive feedback about having the space and time to reflect and connect with others.

Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – Lu Guerrero

Sam Lena-South Tucson Library is contributing in the daily distribution of COVID Test Kits, provided by Pima County health Department. Once the word spread, staff has welcomed a steady stream of community members requesting test kits. The library's snack program, continues to provide afternoon snacks three days a week, for visiting youth. The library resumed storytimes this month with a weekly toddler story time and kicked off the program with readings of *Ten Horse Farm* by Robert Sabuda and *Overboard* by Sarah Weeks. Families also enjoyed playtime activities, rhymes and dancing.

Library staff participated in the City of South Tucson's Family Festival 2022 this month and look forward to providing free books and seeds, courtesy of the Seed Library's One Seed 2022 (this event has been postponed). Library staff also welcomed new staff member, Nora, to the team.

Santa Rosa Library – Victoria Villanueva

Santa Rosa Library is helping the Pima County health Department effort in distributing Covid-19 test kits to those in our area. Santa Rosa library has given out over 700 test kits since the beginning of September with more to come!

Library staff also participated in Carrillo K-5 Magnet School's Literacy night. Staff gave away over 100 books, shared library resources, and made connections with the school. Hopefully this can lead to further partnerships with the libraries affinity groups as Carrillo gears up for several events such as Las Posadas in December.

Santa Rosa Library Staff has also been asked by the Social Media Librarian to help post on the Pima County Public Library's new Tik Tok. We are so lucky to have such a unique perspective of Library life and Tik Tok has allowed us to make connections with the younger generations as many of our patrons were ecstatic to hear they could help with ideas and executions of Tik Toks for all the libraries.

District 3 – Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Chair

Caviglia-Arivaca Library – Jodi Ohlson

This month The Caviglia Arivaca Library celebrated our 25th Anniversary. Our Teen Advisory Board (TAB) spent the month preparing Papeles de Picado and creating stepping stones to add to celebration, and then gave a great presentation at the party, We dedicated a Children's Garden to honor the memory and contributions of Byrd Baylor, and Library Associate Madian Romero read *I'm in Charge of Celebrations*. There were many stories shared about the beginnings of this branch, and thoughtful moments as we remembered all the people who were at our opening who are no longer with us, and honored those who are still with us.

Flowing Wells Library – Ingrid Trebisky

This month Flowing Wells Library initiated Toddler Time and Baby Time Stay & Play. Play time allows kids to have fun, while also providing them with opportunities for learning, development, and connections between children and caregivers.

Literacy Connects resumed in-person English classes at the library! The volunteer teachers were very pleased to have 15 people show up for the first day of classes. It's been two years since the last in-person classes.

Flowing Wells Library is very excited to be collaborating with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Garden Kitchen to put in a raised bed garden in the patio. There have been some cinder blocks delivered to start the process. Flowing Wells Library has been setting out Covid test kits on a table. They have been very popular with customers helping themselves.

Flowing Wells Library had a wedding! Customers Pedro and Jessica asked if several staff could be witnesses for a short 20 minute wedding via zoom. The couple were happily married in Study Room C. They almost chose the teen area. On the way out of the library, they were all smiles and were heartily congratulated minus confetti throwing.

The Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association and Community Coalition had a very important meeting at the Ellie Towne Community Center. Many important officials such as the Chief of Police Chad Kasmar, Pima County Attorney Laura Conover, and District 6 Council Member Steve Kozachik were in attendance to listen to community members express their concern about people who are experiencing homelessness in the community, as well as crime and drug use. The Chief of Police and County Attorney came to the Flowing Wells Library for a photo shoot with the Pima County photographer. Staff were very pleased to meet them.

Salazar-Ajo Library – Daniela Buchberger

September was a busy month at the Salazar-Ajo Library. We resumed offering Family Storytimes on Fridays at the Salazar-Ajo Library. The storytime guests had a great time reading, talking, singing (and dancing), writing and playing at the library. Patrons commented on the welcoming space and our youngest library visitors were able to check out new favorite books.

The library hosted the International Sonoran Desert Alliance's Business mixer and was able to highlight some of the many resources for businesses and non-profits. Visitors learned about grant writing resources such as donor lists and free online classes. Attendees also learned about other reference materials the library offers to business owners.

Telehealth Equipment has arrived at the Salazar-Ajo Library. Patrons can now use Health Connect tools in the library to connect to their doctors that offer telehealth services. We also hosted a COVID vaccine event in partnership with the Pima County Health Department, where locals could drop in and receive free vaccines, as well as COVID tests.

Wheeler Taft Abbett, Sr. Library – Jon Meade

One customer reported that her 88-year-old friend made an inquiry regarding a small-town newspaper and was expecting a paragraph or two. Staff got her nine pages of information and she was both grateful and thrilled.

Another patron came up to the desk to request some Covid tests. I gave her some, and she said that she really appreciated that we had the Covid tests available. She also said the library is an excellent resource for so many things, and she didn't know how I would have gotten through the pandemic without the library.

Giving away free Covid tests as an everyday service has greatly increased the number given out to the public. Though the numbers fluctuate wildly, ranging as high as 55 and as low as zero, the numbers of tests handed out daily is in the upper teens.

Woods Memorial Library – Victoria Salajko

The Woods Memorial Library welcomed back our partners Literacy Connects, to host English Language Acquisition for Adults (ELAA) classes on Monday, August 19th. Classes take place on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 10:00 – 11:30 am, through November 16.

Our Adult Services Librarian created two book displays this month. The first was a display honoring *September 11th*. It contained Adult, Teen, and Children's Materials. Plus, it also contained photographs taken by the librarian when she visited the 9/11 Memorial Museum, and the New York City Fire Museum. The second September display honors Mes De La Cultura, September 15 – October 15.

Our Children's and Tween's Librarian were invited to the Amphi Family Resource Fair this month, which was hosted by Prince Elementary and Amphi Middle Schools. Nearly 300 people were in attendance. The librarians shared information about Storytimes, Homework Help at the library. Young fair attendees were also able to receive hugs and wet-nosed greetings from Tomi and Gizmo, Woods Library's Read to a Dog partners.

District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy

W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney

To celebrate National Library Card Month, in addition to all the fun and helpful resources a new library card provides, patrons were welcome to take a Pima County Public Library water bottle and a COVID-19 test kit!

Virtual Code Club for Tweens has returned. The switch from using Zoom to MS Teams caused a bit of adjustment, but the group of 10-15 tweens is coding again for the fall, and there have been some achievements. Here is some recent commentary: "I finally figured out how to make a non-ping-pong game!" and, "I got to show everyone my zoo website, and the other coders said they liked the backgrounds!" and, "I got a new idea for a game after seeing George's platform game."

Displays abound in September. Welcoming Week, Banned Books Week, Spooky Books, Pumpkin Spice Books, and Mes de la Cultura were included. The Welcoming Week display included a giveaway book: *Taste of Belonging* that contains delicious recipes.

Joyner-Green Valley Library – Sam Hennig

The month of September proved to be a very busy month for staff at Joyner-Green Valley Library. As winter visitors are returning we are providing additional programming and services for the community, and finding new ways to reach underserved members of the Green Valley and surrounding communities.

In children's services, staff are regularly conducting outreach at local schools, and finding ways to support local underserved communities that do not have regular access to libraries. Our family story time has continued to grow and most weeks we have 40+ people at our story times. The Pima County, Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Department currently have the Living River of Words on display at our branch in the children's area and we have received numerous comments and compliments about the display.

Youth services staff continue to find ways to provide meaningful impactful programming for the youth in Green Valley and underserved youth in surrounding areas. Staff are currently doing outreach in Amado and we hope to soon be able to provide educational resources and services alongside staff with the Amado Youth Center. Youth services staff also continue to create intriguing displays. This month staff chose to focus on the history and origin of hip-hop, and also teamed up with Adult Services staff to create a display celebrating the beginning of Mes de la Cultura.

Adult services staff has welcomed back many of our library sponsored programs and are even creating new programs for the future. Our Music Friday events continue to be a hit, and our multiple Meditation and Mindfulness programs continue to be largely attended and welcomed by the community. Adult services staff have also arranged to have Tucson Museum of Art Docent Art Talks begin in October and Tucson Audubon Society will also be presenting a series in October. The University of Arizona's Center for Rural Health is also using a space at the library on a weekly basis to assist the community with signing up for health insurance. Green Valley is also providing 1 on 1 E-Library Drop in Help for patrons once a week, and it has proven to be an invaluable service for this community. Adult Services and Children's Services staff are also exploring the possibility of a community garden at the Green Valley Library and programs related to gardening and sustainable green living.

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library – Linde Furman

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library staff are looking forward to and planning for programs through the end of the year. Customers can look forward to a continuation of some of our core programs, such as family storytime, and the addition of a sensory program for children ages birth-5 that will debut in November. We will also have some engaging adult programs that will include music.

Aside from programs, we are also in the planning stages of some upcoming changes to our children's area that will include new shelving that is more accessible for children. We can't wait!

One of our best customer feel-good moments recently was a story shared by one of our substitute librarians. She spent time with a young customer who was applying for a job they wanted very badly. She helped him get started and get all his application materials together. The customer came back to report to her weeks later that he got the job and shared with our staff member how much she had helped him and how excited he was. It made our substitute librarian's day!

Miller-Golf Links Library – Sharla Ronstadt

This month, Miller-Golf Links Library offered Ready, Set, School! We had six families sign up; they have all been here for the classes and are excited about them. Part of Ready, Set, School is simply focusing on skills children need in a classroom setting, like being able to line up, sit on the rug, or wait their turn for something. Last week staff had them practice lining up for different things during the session, and they, along with the parents, were so pleased with their progress. We will continue to work on these skills in the next few weeks, but even just in one session, the improvement and learning are astounding! In addition, the library is in a leadership transition as we said farewell to our manager. Staff is working closely with the Library Services Manager during this transition period.

Murphy-Wilmot Library – Kathy Konecny

September was an exciting month at Murphy-Wilmot with several children's programs resuming for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic. Library staff were thrilled to offer Family Storytime, Homework Help and Ready, Set, School programming to our community. Public members have been especially glad to see a return of these educational youth programs.

Murphy-Wilmot Library is a hub for digital literacy and Job Help assistance. In September, the branch began offering Basics of Microsoft Word, Introduction to Excel, and Introduction to the Internet classes. Those needing assistance with library resources can make an appointment for 1-on-1 Library Resource Tech Help. These services are especially helpful to those who have had limited access to digital resources. One Job Help customer commented that the library staff's "assistance was pivotal in updating my old resume and cover letter and tweaking them for a specific job opening. I am very grateful."

District 5 – Supervisor Adelita Grijalva

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – Melissa Salazar

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library is continuing to distribute COVID tests throughout the days for patrons that need them. Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library also helped Valencia staff in their wonderful event *El Grito* with beautiful young Mariachi performers and Folklorico dancers for Mes de la Cultura. We are also in the midst of training staff for storytime so that we will be able to do our own storytime in the next few months.

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library continues to have the presence of two Sheriff Deputies, which continues to help the drug issues we were having in our public restroom. There was also an El Pueblo Agency meeting this month in which the Center discussed about having a call list for us to use to call the different agencies at the El Pueblo Center when there is a lock down at an Agency, so that all the agencies can go on lockdown as well for the safety of the staff/people in the El Pueblo center.

El Río Library – Jeff McWhorter

El Río continues to see more patrons each week. We are offering Job Help, Homework Help, and Craftacular afternoon programming and each week has seen new participation. Staff is enjoying creating craft take 'n make activities for our youth and putting together new displays to highlight the collection. This month we highlighted items related to Welcoming Week for new arrivals to the United States as well as Mes de la Cultura celebrating the culture, voice, and linguistic heritage of our Latinx and Spanish-speaking communities. Patrons from the Adult Learning Centers and Senior Center next door and the surrounding neighborhood were pleased to take home free cookbooks full of recipes for international dishes provided by the library's Welcome to America Team. Marigold seeds are still going home with many visitors to the library as part of the Seed Library Team's One Seed Pima County program. One patron brought in some okra and squash that they had grown from Library seed to proudly show library staff.

Himmel Park Library – Heather Ross

Himmel Park Library offered its first Job Help session on September 19. The customer who attended said we "made a big difference in [his] life today." He had an interview the next day and needed to do some work on his resume. He was thrilled to find we were offering a quieter, dedicated space where he could ask questions and get the work done.

We have been celebrating Welcoming Week with a book display and copies of the cookbook *Taste of Belonging*. People have been browsing and checking out the books, and one customer was excited to learn the cookbooks were free to take and keep. He was looking forward to sharing it with his daughter, and said he knew she would love it. We have already handed out 27 out of 30 cookbooks, and several customers began paging through it as they walked out the door.

Our teen librarian put together De-stress Kits for teens and young adults to take throughout the month of September. These kits contain graphite art pencils, homemade silly putty, watercolor paper, Zentangle and meditation instructions, and bubble wrap. Parents and caregivers have

been asking if they can take them home for their youth. A mom mentioned that her son is in his senior year in high school and feeling a lot of stress, and she was excited to be able to share a kit with him.

Joel D. Valdez Main Library – Em DeMeester-Lane

On September 14, Ignite held our first Grants Open Lab since February 2020. Not knowing what to expect, we were very pleased to have 12 participants who all expressed their appreciation of this service starting up again. Many attendees also expressed that they heard about the sessions via word of mouth, so we were also very pleased that word is out in the community! The Grants Lab will continue on Wednesdays monthly.

The Our Space program continues to build an audience with attendance increasing every month. The number of meals provided by the Caridad Kitchen has increased to 45. Library staff has deepened their relationships with patrons while eating and playing games like Checkers. One particular customer commented that he felt "very seen" when staff knew his name and remembered him from previous visits to the library.

At the 101 Space, we have invited tweens and teens to join us for STEAM programming. We often have regulars coming in right after school to hang out, learn new things, and create art projects. Liam, a student from Imago Dei Middle School, has become an expert in 3D modeling and printing. It's been exciting to see the creative engineering he's devised! Next month we look forward to hosting the University of Arizona's Cooperative Extension for a nutrition and cooking program right in the 101 Space.

Martha Cooper Library – Tara Foxx-Lupo

With the return to school schedules and associated library programming, Martha Cooper library staff have been pleased to see both new and familiar faces coming back to our homework and reading programs. These programs, offered two days each week, have consistently been gaining momentum as word spreads within the community that they are back in session. Instructors shared the joys of seeing students from past years entering new stages in their educational development. Having snacks available at the same time of day helps these kiddos to fuel their bodies and brains so that they can succeed in getting their out of class work completed.

Storytime has been one of the most requested programs throughout the past two years, with parents seeking enrichment for their young developing toddlers and preschoolers. Martha Cooper children's staff are seeing an increase in families as word spreads that the program is back. Staff are refreshed and our hearts are full each week as the meeting room comes alive again with stories, songs and craft activities.

In preparation for our upcoming renovation project, the Martha Cooper Library manager worked with Bookmobile staff and the principal of the local elementary school, John B. Wright, to schedule monthly bookmobile visits for the duration of the library closure. The proposed length of our closure could leave many neighborhood residents with limited access to library materials, so we chose to begin the visits ahead of time to ensure word spreads with enough time for customers to learn about the visits. Staff were on site to assist and the first visit went well. We hope this will help to ensure community members have increased access in the coming months.

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Vicki Lázaro

In September, Richard Elías-Mission Library kicked off two weekly in-person library programs geared toward tweens and young adults! *Bytes & Bites: Code Club* had its first meeting on Wednesday, September 7. The coding club utilizes Fiero Code, a platform used in branches across the PCPL system. *GASP! : Games, Arts & Snacks Program* had its first meeting on Friday, September 9. Its aim is to provide tweens and young adults opportunity, time, and space

to make connections with their peers as well as the Mission's Young Adult Librarian through participating in educational games, creative arts, and Teen 365 connected learning kits. During the first two meetings, several tweens enjoyed creating oodles of pinback buttons using PCPL's Button Maker.

Librarians and Library Associates were also busy in September selecting and scheduling library presenters who will bring additional in-person programs to the branch in October, November, and December. Planned events include a visit from the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum for all ages, handmade book making for young adults and adults, six other programs aimed at kids, tweens, and teens, and three additional programs for adults.

The existing programs of Job Help and Homework Help are in full swing, both offered twice each week. Family Storytimes are being developed with plans to have the first one in early October.

Southwest Library – Maggie Dwenger

September marked the 20th anniversary of the Southwest Library and we celebrated with a display of photos of the library over the years showing how this small, but mighty branch has and continues to connect its community with not only the library's collection but also a variety of resources and engaging programming.

We continue this month providing both GED and Homework Help, seeing both consistent participants and new faces as the school year proceeds. GED is offered four days a week and Homework Help is offered two days a week. Our snack program continues to be popular with over 115 snacks already distributed this month. Our final summer program went well with a number of community members learning jewelry design. Patrons remarked that they are excited for more programs in the fall.

Later this month and into the fall we plan on presenting to surrounding schools to promote library resources. Our first presentation is at Johnson Primary School for their parent teacher organization meeting. We also continue collaborating with the Dr. Fernando Escalante Tribal Library meeting monthly to support each other's missions.

Valencia Library – Ivonne Ramirez

Valencia Library has continued to expand its reach and services to the community with regular library programming. Adult programs have seen higher participation, including the GED one-on-one sessions, computer classes, citizenship classes, and the debut of the ELAA English classes through partnership with Literacy Connects. Due to the demand and popularity of our existing computer classes in Spanish, the format will be changed to incorporate bilingual instruction in October.

The high quality work of our library program instructors Dibely, Pierre, Sammy, and Brandon have been the key to maintaining relationships with the community and supporting the interests and learning needs of the library users in our community. In addition, the afterschool homework help has gained a loyal following. Paired with the afterschool snack program, and the storytimes and outreach work of the Valencia Library Children's Services team the library is on track to expand the reach of children's in-person programming in the coming months.

The Valencia Library—Seed Library team has also reached a significant milestone, recruiting six schools in the area to the county-wide One Seed program. Gardens and classrooms from Desert View High School, Drexel Elementary, Maldonado Elementary, Rivera Elementary, San Miguel High School, Sunnyside High School, and Liberty Head Start will be collaborating with the Valencia Library—Seed Library team to “to embrace the idea that through shared experience... of growing, learning, and saving seeds together, we can achieve a greater sense

of (comm)UNITY and move closer to a locally sustained, genetically adapted, people-powered seed shed.”

A major event hosted by Valencia Library this month was the Mes de la Cultura kick-off with a Grito Celebration. The event was centered on a historical presentation by the Mexican consulate with accompanying Mariachi and Folklorico performances by Sunnyside High School and las Aguilitas de Davis Elementary. The number of participants and attendees overflowed the two meeting rooms and spilled over to other areas of the library, giving staff and community members a new opportunity to get to know the library. We received positive feedback from audience and participants for this historical cultural event.

Activities funded by Friends Groups

Friends of the Pima County Public Library

Arivaca Library – Ice Cream Social, Free Book Giveaway

Flowing Wells Library – Storytime, Stay & Play Time,

Oro Valley Public Library – Jim Turner of Arizona Humanities

Quincie Douglas Library – Toddler Storytime