
DATE: September 7, 2023

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: Marissa Alcorta
Deputy Library Director

SUBJECT: Public Services Report – August, 2023

August was a great time of reconnection. I was able to attend part of the orientation or the new group of students for Knowledge River at the UofA iSchool.

As an alum of the program, it holds a special place in my heart and anytime I can help and connect to new students going through the program, is a great opportunity. I went with some colleagues to present on a panel “Where are they now” and talk about my experience with the program and also how my career path has meandered to the administration role I hold now. I really enjoyed all the students questions and loved to meet such a wonderful, and diverse group of new library school students. It always gives me great hope for the future of our profession.

Library Services Manager – Paulina Aguirre-Clinch

This month I had the honor to represent Library Administration at the University of Arizona’s Knowledge River Orientation. Since the primary goal of Knowledge River is to recruit more people of color into librarianship, one of the presentations I participated in focused on the journey from librarian to library administration. The second presentation highlighted our work in affinity teams like Nuestras Raíces, Many Nations, Kindred, Pride, Biblio Lotus, and Welcome to America. Students seemed enthusiastic to learn that the library was doing this work.

I had the opportunity to check in with staff at some of my branches while covering desk. Topics of discussion included questions surrounding the salary study as well as transfers, service animals in libraries, security and safety, student interns, branch goals for services, etc.

Library Services Manager – Ken Zambos

During the month of August, as a member of the Library Presenters team, I aided in the preparation of tools and helped revise procedures to enable library staff across our system to discover, connect with, and schedule contracted library (paid) presenters for public programming for the remainder of this calendar year.

I am also excited to report that I have been working in collaboration with the University of Arizona to continue our Graduate Assistant program, and Pima County Public Library will host four graduate assistants during this coming academic year; beginning this month.

Library Services Manager – Alina Rowe

Worked on getting facilities communication and services out to Ajo to assist with the damage due to pipe breaking and leaking.

Working on getting donations confirmed for the annual Community Food Bank Auction. All proceeds collected will go to the Southern Arizona Community Food Bank.

Attended two days of the Knowledge River Orientation to present information about the Many Nations Affinity team and share personal experiences of being a Knowledge River Alumni and my career since graduating from the program.

Library Services Manager – Em Demeester-Lane

This month I continued to work on training some new managers and manager that are in details and Joel Valdez Main Library and Kirk-Bear Canyon Library. We are in the last legs of our remodel project at Joel Valdez Main Library and I continued to attend weekly construction meetings and am excited to announce it will be wrapped up by very early September. We have a beautiful new computer lab on the first floor and a state of the art Meeting Room located on third floor. I invite you all to take a look. I attended a meeting held at the El Pueblo Neighborhood Center about the City of Tucson Parks and Recreation revitalization plans and how the Frank de la Cruz El Pueblo Library can play a role in those efforts.

Library Services Manager – Vicki Lázaró

I spent the month supporting our organization by covering shifts for vacationing and ill staff at Santa Rosa and Wheeler Taft Abbott Sr. Libraries. I have continued providing training and support for our new Miller-Golf Links Manager. Providing in person and Teams video check-ins with Dusenberry-River, Wheeler Taft Abbott Sr., Santa Rosa and Miller-Golf Links Libraries. In addition, I have been working on Performance Appraisals and new plans for the upcoming year. Supporting branches by attending going away celebrations for Pages leaving for college. I brought on two of them as volunteers three years ago, and they went on to become library employees.

This month I am continuing to support PCPL's Human Resources office by deciding placements for new staff. I am looking forward to bringing on new staff to PCPL.

Supporting administration by attending and/or participating in the Collaborative Action Team Meetings, Policy Review Team meetings, Budget Review, Advisory Board Meeting, Board of Supervisor's Meeting, Follow up Guidelines Meeting and Public Service Manager Meeting. Also currently working with other Library Service Manager's on revamping our Manager's Toolkit on the Library's intranet learning path. I also attended a meeting with Karyn Prechtel-Altman for the AZ Pet Project, to see how the library could successfully partner with their community resources. I also hosted this month's Restorative Practices drop-in session.

Supporting myself by continuing education by attending webinars on Understanding Intellectual Freedom, Advocacy in the US, Developing Teams by Building on Strengths, Pima County Blanchard Training on Conversational Capacity and Pima County training on Requisition. I continue to network by attending the REFORMA meetings, discussing ways to promote Spanish language in libraries. In addition, I presented at the new UA Knowledge River cohort orientation with my peers to discuss my position with Pima County Public Libraries and answer questions from the group. I also attended the Knowledge River new student get together at American Eat and met many future library workers there, promoted Pima County Public Libraries and reconnected with people from my own co-hort 15.

District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott

Dewhirst–Catalina Library – Christine Dykgraaf

We are not getting much rain in Catalina, Arizona, but that means there is no reason to delay getting to the library. Dewhirst Catalina Library has been busy this month. We had a handful of programs that sparked the imagination. For all ages we had a Reid Park Zoo presentation “Habitats of the World” and our monthly Lego and Train free play programs. Adults enjoyed our Tea Time and a poetry writing program. Children and tweens of the library and the Catalina Recreation Center joined up to see Mr. McSly and his “Magic of Reading” magic show. We also have our first returning Reading Help students whom we hope will do very well this year in school after all the extra effort!

Dusenberry-River Library – Matías Torres

Dusenberry-River Library approached August with much anticipation. *Toddler Storytime* is filling the meeting room to capacity with entire families. *Read to a Dog* is blessed by an abundance of certified service animals in our community and patrons incredibly appreciative of the presence of these service animals. The *Teen Advisory Board* met at the conclusion of summer to celebrate a successful volunteer experience in our *Summer Learning* series. Our *Make a Pinback Button* program was a welcome excursion for returning students that come to the library after school. We ended the month by offering space for children and teens to explore the wide variety of games and activities Dusenberry-River has to offer in *Chess* and *Games and more!*. Adults were not excluded from similar fulfilling programming. *How to Relax and Rejuvenate* was provided by the Wellness Council. *1-1 Tech Help* continues to be available at scheduled appointments and impromptu reference desk visits when staff available. Our meeting room remains a place for book groups, writing groups, homeowner’s associations, social groups and study room.

Oro Valley Public Library – Kaitlyn Sparks

In August many of the families we saw throughout the summer returned to school. Our patrons and staff are adjusting to these new schedules together. We are seeing more students in the Children’s Area concentrated in the afternoons, and the Teen 101 Space has been well utilized by several groups of teens after school every day as well. Our Teen Advisory Board continued throughout the summer with some of our returning members getting more experience using the 3D printer this month.

While many of our winter visitors have yet to arrive, we have still enjoyed robust programming for adults. We’ve seen more adults inquiring and joining us for Great Literature of All Time, a lecture and discussion series, as well as our Sonoran Sleuths Mystery Book Club. The demand for Covid-19 test kits increased at the end of July and has maintained a higher demand into August.

Our staff helped one of our fellow libraries this month by sending staff for seven days to ensure they were able to cover all their service points. Oro Valley Public Library staff were happy to fill in as we received similar assistance throughout the summer and were in a position for a few weeks this month where we could be the ones to help!

District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Kelly Wilson

August has been exciting here at Eckstrom-Columbus Library. School started and our new routines are beginning to gel. For the younger crowd we started up our After School Snack program and Read to A Dog program to the delight of many. We also started our Storytimes back up after a short hiatus and both Preschool and Babytime are back to capacity with parents and children connecting with social and literacy tools to build a strong foundation for the future.

Homework Help and Reading Help both kicked right back into gear with the start of the New School Year. We kicked them off with a fun Breakout box event and they have been going strong since, and reintroduced our after school Chess and Code Clubs.

We had two successful outreach events this month. One at Alice Vail Middle School's Open House and one at Roberts Naylor K-8.

We hosted the Community Health Mobile Clinic this month in service to our community's health needs. We also held a popular yoga class which is always well attended. Our Eclectic Readers Book Club had another good gathering centered around Maria Machado's Book *The Dream House*. Our beginning drawing class booked up in advance of the event and Bilingual Job Help continues to bring a very appreciated service to our community of job seekers.

Quincie Douglas Library – Lois Miller

We've had a busy August here at Quincie Douglas Library! Many families have been attending Toddler Storytime on Tuesday mornings. Teens have enjoyed coming to programs such as "Create a Daily Art Practice" with Catherine Eyde. Staff have been practicing using our new 3D printer and Cricut machine, and we have programs in place so that customers can use them as well.

Many customers have come for Job Help, and we've gotten reports back that they've been successful in their job searches, which is very rewarding for staff who have helped them. Another adult program held in August was "Create a Vision Board" with Nathalie Mornu.

We are looking forward to having a graduate assistant intern with us in the upcoming months. We also enjoy the help of our ongoing teen and adult volunteers.

We're growing peppers in our patio garden, and pages and other staff have been helping to package seeds for the seed library. Currently we are packing butter lettuce seeds, and cataloging other types of seeds for the whole library system.

Sahuarita Library – Betsy Langley

After a short break, Storytime and Babytime are back this week celebrating National Dog Month. We've got a lovey book display and staff and customers have been sharing photos of their pups on our Storytime door with little messages about why they love their furry friend. A homeschooling group came in for a library refresher to prepare for the new school year and lots of teens are coming back to the library after school lets out. Our Saturday Chess Club brought in 17 participants of all ages – some new folks and lots of regulars. We had five participants join us for Code Club and it's exciting to see two tweens taking the initiative to come in regularly on other days to borrow laptops and continue building the skills they've developed. Teens are also enjoying a Bingeable Reads display filled with titles that have been turned into films and television shows.

In celebration of Simplify Your Life week (Aug 7-14), we have a fun book display offering resources on organizing, decluttering and frugal financial practices. Seven participants in our monthly adult Book Club read and discussed *The Knockout Queen* by Rufi Thorpe on August 8. We held two more yoga sessions with Vivianne Uyeda this month and a special session for staff wellness on August 11.

Santa Rosa Library – Victoria Villanueva

The school bells are ringing once again at Santa Rosa, marking the exciting return to classrooms and the beginning of a bustling month! With the academic season back in full swing, we're thrilled to report that our library has been a hub of activity. Among the standout programs, both our homework help sessions and the much-loved STEAMsational Monday events have

garnered remarkable popularity. In fact, these programs have resonated so well that they've not only drawn in our local community members but also piqued the interest of those from neighboring communities. It's been a true pleasure to see students and curious minds of all ages come together to explore the captivating world of STEAM activities with us.

Reviving the spirit of curiosity, our Wild Wednesday series is back in action! Each week has been a delightful surprise, featuring a diverse array of engaging activities. From the art of sewing to the colorful adventure of tie-dye, and even the intricate creativity of Perler Beads, there's been no shortage of hands-on experiences to enjoy. It's an invitation to our patrons to unleash their inner artist, craftsperson, and inventor every Wednesday.

But our engagement doesn't stop within our library walls. On the 26th, we are excited to be a part of the Health Fair at the Santa Rosa Rec Center. This event presents a fantastic opportunity for us to share the wealth of information and resources that we have available at the library. From essential COVID kits to the life-saving Naloxone, we are committed to equipping our community with valuable tools and knowledge. It's just one way we strive to be an active and supportive presence beyond our traditional role.

As we dive into the school year, Santa Rosa Library is all set to be your ultimate destination for enriching experiences. Join us in the excitement of learning, exploration, and community engagement. Whether you're seeking educational assistance, embracing the wonders of STEAM, unleashing your creativity, or accessing vital resources, our doors are open wide, ready to welcome you to a world of discovery and growth. See you soon, as we embark on this thrilling journey together!

District 3 – Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Chair

Caviglia-Arivaca Library – Jodi Ohlson

August has been an exciting month in Arivaca! Mother Nature has been letting the whole town know who is in charge, with multiple power outages and a series of escalating repairs to the town's water supply. We at the Caviglia-Arivaca Library have been taking it all in stride. Every Thursday this month we offered *Heat Avoidance 101*, an afternoon of cool drinks, reading, games and crafts. Throughout the month we've had several families and individuals spend the entire day here because they had no cooling available at home. The families were appreciative of the variety of activities we have prepared to keep kids engaged and learning. Our Puzzle Table also got a workout due to the weather. A patron who had been working diligently on the puzzle was so disappointed that we were closing, that she returned the next day at opening, saying she "...just can't get that one section out of my mind!"

Culture Passes have arrived, and patrons cannot believe that they are real and free. I've had to walk a couple of patrons through all the places the passes provide entry to, and we've had one follow-up call clarifying that "... they really are real?!"

Our Book group had an enthusiastic (somewhat divided) discussion of *Hamnet* while sharing homemade apple bread. In *Hamnet*, apples are featured in a subtly evocative scene of intimacy that all agreed was masterfully written.

Our Children's section has been completely overhauled by our new Librarian, with books rearranged to make understanding the range of reading levels easier to understand. Discarded titles have been disseminated amongst the Friends book sale, the Arivaca Early Learning Center, San Fernando Elementary, and our free book give away cart. The Children's section looks great, as does our book cart!

The Teen Advisory Board with the assistance of their Fearless Leader, Madian Romero, is organizing and leading a new community art project featuring plastic bottle caps upcycled into a giant mosaic. Several buildings (and a new park!) in Arivaca are preparing community art and additional Pollinator Gardens for a community wide grand reveal the first Saturday in October.

Flowing Wells Library – Angie Grischkowsky

August was a quieter month than usual for us, as we got back into the flow of the school year, which has a big and positive impact on our daily traffic. Our regular activities of Toddler/Preschool and Baby Storytimes continued to draw audiences of new and regular faces alike, and Read to a Dog is as popular as ever. One young patron even created a coloring page based on one of our reading dogs, Coco! It is adorable and we've made copies available to young readers. Homework Help and Computer and Job Help both also resumed this month, and we added a new regular event at the request of our teen patrons: Crochet & Knitting Club on Fridays!

Our youth librarians had the opportunity to do some outreach to local schools this month, which resulted in new library cards for students! We also had some special programs, including the now-annual Bubble Party, where kids of all ages sent summer out with a pop. A Water Marbling craft gave tweens and teens an opportunity to decompress after their first day back in school, and our Working at the National Parks event gave them the chance to talk to an actual park ranger about career opportunities in the National Parks system. Finally, for adults we had an Intro to Mosaic Art talk, where participants were introduced to the different types of mosaics and the materials used for each, as a way to decide if mosaics might be right for them.

This month we also had a nursing student tell us how important our study rooms are to her education. After using a study room with her tutor she told us, "Thank god we're not at Barnes & Noble – instead we get to be in a quiet room!"

Salazar-Ajo Library – Daniela Buchberger

During the month of August the Salazar-Ajo Library experienced an unexpected closure because of flooding. Staff worked very hard to get the library restored as swiftly as humanly possible and was able to reopen for curbside within one week.

Patrons commented on the amazing work that had been accomplished in such a short amount of time to return the library to its welcoming environment. Our patrons especially love our Staff Picks Displays and carefully chosen passive programming.

The library recently acquired a phone charging station that allows patrons to safely store and charge their phones, while taking time to relax in our seating area.

Our Wednesdays are still seeing a regular group of excited patrons of all ages and we were able to show a movie, cast treasures and even specimens in resin, design our own tote bags and create paper flowers.

Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library – Sam Hennig

The Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library staff kept very busy during the month of August. After a mostly calm summer, we excitedly opened our doors to dozens of youth returning from summer break. Homework help and Read to a Dog programs were immediate hits with children and families, and the new clubs started for Teens and Tweens have proven to be very popular.

In Children's Services, Over 64 people attended our desert-themed preschool storytime with two Saguaro National Park Rangers. They shared two stories, The Seed and the Giant Saguaro by Jennifer Ward and Don't Call Me Pig by Conrad Storad. Attendees heard interesting facts about plants and animals that live in the desert with us and were able to see and touch a saguaro section, ribs and a boot!

Teen Services for the Abbett Library has had a very eventful August so far. We were able to start a newly structured afternoon program called TnT (Tweens and Teens) that provides different themed activities every afternoon from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. The themed activities fall into the categories of STEAM, gaming, tech, and chess. The restructuring of our afterschool programming has also allowed Teen Services to find the time to create a Teen Advisory Board of teen volunteers every Wednesday 4:30 to 5:30.

On August 10th we were able to provide a program, “Reid Park Zoo: Animal Ambassadors”, to present for a mixed audience of all ages and had an attendance to that program of 58 people. We look forward to continuing the afterschool programming and hopefully adding more hands-on technology experiences with the 101 space equipment provided to our branch as a system-wide push to get teens access to 3D printers and vinyl cutting machines.

Adult Services had two well attended programs this month, as we also look forward to cooler temps in September. In August we had a program from Pima County Natural Resources, All About Saguaro, where patrons learned about the desert's most famous plant. Our presenter especially mentioned the fruit of the saguaros, and suggested another program be held next June or July to perhaps have a taste of saguaro fruit. Another program we had was Recycled Materials Collages where patrons created their own art. Our attendees had a great time, and suggested we should have this program again.

Woods Memorial Library – Chinyere Olumba

It's August! It's back to school time! and Woods Memorial is closing out the Summer with 600 youth participating in *Summer Learning*. Woods Memorial have started August programming with Family Storytime starting the first day, August 3rd, with the song, “Wiggling our hands together! Wiggling our hands together, wiggling our hands together because it is fun to do. Woods Memorial outreach to our community schools began this Month, we met with three elementary school principals and received an invitation to a family resources night. The principal at Craig Elementary (TUSD), invited us to speak about library services at an upcoming faculty meeting. Our first event is Wed, August 23rd from 5-7pm at the campus of Prince Elementary and AMPHI Middle Schools.

We also here at Woods Memorial, rebooted on August 2nd the popular pre-pandemic program, TNT (Teens and Tweens) with an attendance of 11 youth. Each Wednesday from 3-5pm, tweens engage in STEAM activities on the weekly themes of Words/Digits, Colors, Movie Making, Seeds, and Slime. We deploy our 3-D printer, Cricut vinyl cutter, and make use of library kits to have fun, make art, and learn about science. Our Tweens and teens are also sharing book and movie recommendations for a display. Our newest staff member, Sarah Tarver-Wahlquist, has created some lovely displays and bulletin boards to inspire conversation and exploration. The weekly Talk-Back Board continues to evoke thoughtful responses to questions like, “If you could rid the world of one thing, what would it be?”

No one is immune to being scammed... “Everybody's at Risk!”, presenter Alan Trachtenberg vocalized as he started with his presentation on ‘SCAMMING’, that was held on August 15th at 2:00pm. All though this program was a low turnout of patrons. The patrons who did participate were happy that this information opened their eyes and brought about awareness to have participated in the presentation. One patron said, “I don't know if I can go home and sleep after all this scamming information.”

Woods Memorial have welcomed back the Amphi Neighborhood Association, there was a heart-to-heart meeting on August 16th at 3 pm which led us to monthly meetings starting September 21st. It is an outreach that ensures that the library is one with the community it serves.

It was a special Storytime, August 16th, when 17 toddlers at the *Family Storytime* held every Thursday at 11:00 am, had the opportunity to create art! A story time mural that toddlers had the opportunity to use their hands and create beautiful art with crayons and glue.

Oh! And I cannot leave out how fascinated the young patrons are with our *Read to a Dog program* here at Woods Memorial every Wednesday from 3-4pm. This literacy program is truly reaching out to over 10 young patrons weekly. These days are truly a “Reading Damages Ignorance” moment here at Woods Memorial.

District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy

W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney

A parent stopped at the Information Desk to thank staff for the ongoing Grab and Go activities. She said that her kids love them, and she even noticed that the activities over the summer matched the theme of each weekly program.

Patrons are over the moon because Gibson-Esmond Station Library now has Culture Passes. They began checking them out right away, and staff has heard much positive feedback.

Joyner-Green Valley Library – Heather Tyndall

We've been very busy this month at the Joyner-Green Library issuing new library cards. September may be national Library Card Sign-up Month, but our newest patrons are ahead of the curve! Joyner-Green Valley Library customers also reaped the benefits of at least one good thing to come out of the pandemic era: The Feeling Lucky Band was formed during COVID and its four members shared their musical talents and passion on August 4 during our monthly *Music @ Your Library* program.

This month our community partner, Portable Practical Educational Preparation, Inc. (PPEP, Inc.), continued their health education and resource series bringing three more presentations to the library: *Dead on Arrival—Fentanyl*, *Alcohol Awareness*, and *State Opioid Response and Community Narcan Training*. Customers also braved the heat to attend our recurring programs, including *Poet's Corner*, *Gentle Yoga Practice*, *Page Turner's Book Club*, and two different weekly meditation groups. In addition, thirty-four young children and their caregivers had oodles of fun while participating in *Storytime Yoga: Animals*.

Homework Help resumed on Wednesday afternoons with the beginning of the new school year. Library staff also conducted outreach at three school events: Open House at Continental Elementary School, a free movie night for families sponsored by the Amado Community Alliance at a local theatre in Green Valley, and Open House at Sopori Elementary in Amado. Two staff members also connected directly with teachers at Continental Elementary School, giving a short presentation about library resources and programs during a faculty meeting.

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library – Melissa Salazar

School now has started, but Kirk Bear Canyon Library is still having some great programming for children's. On August 2nd, Children's Librarian, Megan Hellwig went to Agua Caliente Elementary School's Meet the Teacher Day. She tabled in the school cafeteria and talked to families and students about PCPL homework databases and brainfuse tutoring, made library cards to attendees and handed out PCPL swag. There were 53 people that interacted with PCPL's table. We had our Family Storytimes on August 3rd that had 76 people in attendance, and August 10th, that had 85 people in attendance. August 8th we had a library sponsored presenter, Hedgehogs: Lovely Little Critters That Can Be Your Best Friend! Participants were able to meet and handle two live hedgehogs and feed them mealworms. We had 79 people for this event. August 15th, we had our Sensory Program which is geared towards neurodiverse

children and features a calm down room. There were two sessions which brought in 29 people for the first session, 19 for the second session, and 6 for the calm down room.

Children's librarian Megan Hellwig, did another outreach event by going to Collier Elementary School's Open House where she (25 people) tabled in the school cafeteria and talked to families and students about PCPL databases and brainfuse tutoring. About 25 people came to the PCPL table. August 17th, Kirk Bear Canyon Library has their Bilingual storytime with guest presenter Joanna Urbina, who presented a Spanish-English bilingual storytime to 68 people in our meeting room.

For Adult Programming, we have Cynthia Hilts who plays piano and sings and her trio (saxophone and bass). Cynthia is an internationally renowned jazz performer and composer, and a passionate teacher. And the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library Book Club held their open discussion on August 31. They are currently discussing the book, [The Lions of Fifth Avenue](#), by Fiona Davison.

Miller-Golf Links Library – Anna Lawrence

A new book club has started at Miller-Golf Links, with great excitement from the community! The first book for the month of August was *Educated* by Tara Westover, and next month's book is *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* by Agatha Christie. The club will meet monthly, and will be reading a mix of fiction and nonfiction.

Our branch excitedly welcomes Stephanie Mitchell as our part time librarian. Stephanie will continue her work at the Juvenile Detention Center as well, but we are thrilled to be her home branch. We also welcome Amanda Norman, a volunteer turned page! Amanda has been volunteering at GLF for several months and was able to land a position at the Wilmot library. Through a series of fortune circumstances, she is back with us once more and doing a great job.

Pre-school story time has returned after a short break, but the new toddler story time has not disrupted our attendance at all. We are seeing new and familiar faces at both story times, including some senior citizens who enjoy the youthful energy and clapping along with the crowd.

Murphy-Wilmot Library – Kathy Konecny

Culture Passes are now available at Murphy-Wilmot Library and they are a huge hit! The Children's Museum, Reid Park Zoo, and Sonoran Desert Museum passes are quickly checked out after our children's programming. Customers are so surprised and pleased by this service and are spreading the word with their friends and family.

Thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the Pima County Public Library, Murphy-Wilmot offered an acrylic painting class on "Painting the Sonoran Desert." Our customers loved it! Registration quickly reached capacity and an intergenerational audience enjoyed an afternoon of creative fun and companionship.

District 5 – Supervisor Adelita Grijalva

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – John Muñoz

The Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library was open ten days this month, and the library hosted a few great programs. Chair Yoga with Vivianne Uyeda was popular and returned this month, increasing flexibility, balance and a deeper sense of well-being. Next, kids learned about soundwaves by creating their own musical instruments, presented by the Tucson Children's Museum. Finally, the Red Herring Puppet Show presented The Barking Mouse and The Blue

Frog. The Barking Mouse championed the value of bilingualism, and the Blue Frog was a Mayan legend about chocolate.

Himmel Park Library – Heather Ross

After a brief break after the Summer Learning Program, Himmel Park Library is gearing up for fall programming. The first week back after our storytime break, the meeting room was nearly at full capacity for toddler storytime! We are also look forward to bringing back our Chess and Lego Club towards the end of the month. Customers are excited to hear about these program opportunities at the library.

Joel D. Valdez Main Library – Linde Furman/Mikel Stone

August was a busy month at the Joel D. Valdez Main Library. We have welcomed new librarians, Amber and Jessica, who are focusing on vulnerable populations work together at our location. They are amazing additions to our incredibly talented Main Library team!

We also saw the completion of our adult public computer move to the first floor, to great success and acclaim. Our askalibrarian service has received some compliments from customers about the move and one of our favorites is the following:

*“Dear Librarians,
FABULOUS !!!*

Your redesign of the public-access computer layout with private study carrels, now on the first floor of the Joel D Valdez Main Library, is a vast improvement over the arrangement that was for years on the third floor. Whoever was responsible for that transformation: THANK YOU.”

In addition, staff saw the completion of their new workspace and breakroom on the third floor. We are all enjoying the freshness of our comfortable new space. The new meeting room on the third floor is a bright and very large open area, with plenty of natural light and modern technology resources, such as two large television screens, available for use. It will be a wonderful addition for hosting library programs and for welcoming community groups as they use this room as well.

Program numbers continue to rise for our location, along with general library visits, especially for teens and children and families. Many teens consider our location to be the place to hang out after school and we couldn't be happier to have them here with us. Programs that have recently seen increased attendance are storytimes, Our Space (focused on vulnerable populations), and Grant workshop programs.

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Tara Foxx-Lupo

The Richard Elias-Mission Library offered some fun programs this month during our Storytime break. Kids and Teens enjoyed a visit from the Blue Raven Art School and got to express their creativity. The Arizona Sonora Desert Museum did a presentation with live animals including a very lively tortoise who wanted to explore the whole library. For those looking to create and express their literary side, Bookmaking was a great program that combined two arts in one.

For our local non-profits and entrepreneurs, we hosted a grant writing program that has been popular in the past. Those attending learned about the many grant writing resources available on the library website. Job help has continued to gain interest and has been gaining a small following who appreciate the bilingual service and a helping hand in relaunching their careers.

Southwest Library – John Muñoz

The Southwest Library was open eight days this month and hosted a couple of great programs. Zoo to You (Habitats Around the World) was presented by the Reid Park Zoo. Families learned how animals survive in the desert, rainforest and savanna, and how humans affect their

survival. Later in the month, Yusuke Banno presented a pom-pom craft. Kids learned how to make pom-poms, and weaved them onto a garland or created cool pom-pom critters.

Valencia Library/Readrunners – Ivonne Ramirez

GED classes started up again after a summer break. There has been much anticipation for GED to return, and we have been getting calls and visits from interested students throughout the month.

Citizenship classes continue Wednesday evenings. Sami, the instructor shared that the group had lost one student this summer for the best reason: they had passed the citizenship test and earned their citizenship certificate.

Valencia Library brought the back-to-school vibe with STEAM and Nature programs by various presenters including the Reid Park Zoo, the Tucson Children's Museum, and Yusuke Banno. The programs were spread over a variety of age groups, including our family storytime group, which hosts families with babies and toddlers, create club, for elementary-aged kids, and teen time, with tweens and teens.

Finally, the Valencia Library staff and Readrunners staff have taken on professional development in the form of Spanish classes tailored to library workers in order to better serve our Spanish-speaking patrons. Spanish speakers comprise a wide percentage of our users at Valencia Library. The 2 sessions held in August covered vocabulary and common phrases that staff can use in regular library patron interactions. We hope to continue this and other professional support to be develop Valencia Library staff and Readrunners staff to provide the excellent customer service that our local community has come to expect.

Activities funded by Friends Groups

Friends of the Pima County Public Library

Murphy-Wilmot Library- Acrylic Painting: Painting the Sonoran Desert
Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – Chair Yoga with Vivianne Uyeda; Noisy Science by the Tucson Children's Museum; The Barking Mouse and The Blue Frog by the Red Herring Puppet Show.

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Desert Museum Storytime and Presentation, Blue Raven Arts
Southwest Library – Zoo to You, Habitats Around the World, by the Reid Park Zoo; Pom Pom Craft Making by Yusuke Banno.

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – The Drawing Studio presents Try It: Drawing Fundamentals!,
Vivianne Uyeda Yoga Class, Martha Underwood Chess

Santa Rosa Library – Introduction to Sewing & Introduction to Tie Dye by Yusuke Banno.

Wheeler Taft Abbett, Sr. Library – Reid Park Zoo: Animal Ambassadors, Yusuke Banno:
Recycled Materials Collages

Friends of the Green Valley Library (Green Valley & Sahuarita)-Storytime Yoga: Animals

Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library- Tohono Chul Desert Players, Cosmic Space
Painting with Yusuke Banno, What are my Purpose, Vision and Goals? with Nancy Jones