

DATE: November 2, 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 – September, 2023

This month, the focus has been on the compensation and classification changes happening county-wide. Staff have had many questions around the changes, especially the appeal process and admin, with our HR staff, have worked to get staff the information they ask for around this process. I have begun my work with the Classification Review Committee, working with other county staff to review any classification appeals that may be coming in. It is anticipated that this review work will go into early November. This month I also attended the second part of the Eller School of Management training for Leadership Excellence. I attended with 5 of the Public Services LSM's. The training was offsite at El Conquistador and comprised of a large class of staff from many county departments as well as City of Tucson. It was a great networking opportunity and a rejuvenating time to be offsite and learn from professors and colleagues the tools of being a great leader.

Library Services Manager – Paulina Aguirre-Clinch

This month I had the privilege of participating in the 2023 Government Leadership Excellence program presented by the University of Arizona's Eller Executive Education. In addition to learning valuable information on leadership, communication, and decision making, it was an opportunity to team build with my fellow library services managers, as well as network with leaders in other County departments and organizations. I am looking to implementing some of the tools and strategies we learned in my everyday work.

My small manager's meeting this month was very informative and regarding. I was especially pleased to see how comfortable managers felt discussing very difficult questions and problems (on a range of topics) in a manner that critical, but productive. At the end of the meeting, I was proudest of the team building that had occurred.

Library Services Manager – Ken Zambos

During the month of September, I was able to participate in a Government Leadership training program offered by Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona. Earlier this month, I also spent time working as a member of the small team to create and modify tools for use by staff and managers across the library system to assist in budget forecasting and

expenditure tracking. Additionally, I have spent time visiting managers and staff in different libraries, and have been working to create new learning and professional development opportunities for staff.

Library Services Manager – Alina Rowe

Worked with the auction team to organize donations, raffle baskets, donation pick up, food sale, silent auction, and promotion in preparation of the Southern Arizona Food Bank Auction that was held on September 29th.

I met with the new Librarian of the Dr. Escalante Tribal Library at the Pascua Yaqui Nation to connect and talk about future collaborations.

I helped the Nuestras Raices team with the “El Grito” event at the El Rio Neighborhood Center. This program was in collaboration with the Mexican Consulate to celebrate Mexican Independence Day. Mariachi Las Aguilitas performed, as did Folklórico Tapatio.

This month I met with individual managers for monthly meetings and helped arrange coverage for branch to receive EAP services for their staff.

Library Services Manager – Em Demeester-Lane

This month I have been working closely with the newly hired librarian I at El Rio Library to make sure she has training and support in her new position. I also presented with Librarian II Victoria Salaijko to the Collaborative Action Team about a project we have been working on to create a Library Safety Specialist intern position which we are hoping will create more job paths within the County as well as provide libraries with additional temporary staff that are trained to navigate some of our more difficult customer interactions. This program is in its beginning stages but I'm very excited about the work of Victoria and the small team of library managers we've put together to create and lead trainings.

Lastly, I attended another week of training with the Eller School of Management in Government Leadership Excellence this month. I was fortunate to attend with Marissa and our whole Public Services team. It was very inspiring to learn from experts around the Country about best practices for organizations changes and innovation in government.

Library Services Manager – Vicki Lázaro

I spent the month supporting our organization by covering management duties at Santa Rosa Library. I have provided training and support for our new Librarian 1 at Santa Rosa. This has allowed me to deepen relationships with Drachman School and Head Start, that share the campus with the library. I also have been providing in-person and Teams video check-ins with Dusenberry-River, Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr., Santa Rosa and Miller-Golf Links Libraries. In addition, I continue working on Performance Appraisals and new plans for the upcoming year. 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 Deputy Director Karyn Prechtel-Altman with the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Library to continue collaborations between our communities and share resources.

Supporting myself by continuing education by attending the UA Eller College Leadership in the Public Sector weeklong training. I continue to network by attending the REFORMA meetings, discussing ways to promote Spanish language in libraries. In addition, I presented at the Leading Edge presentation at the library to present to my community my Virtual Reality in PCPL presentation I gave at two conferences earlier this year. I also helped the Nuestras Raices team

with the “El Grito” event at the El Rio Neighborhood Center. This program was in collaboration with the Mexican Consulate to celebrate Mexican Independence Day.

District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott

Dewhirst–Catalina Library – Christine Dykgraaf

Dewhirst-Catalina Library activity was up and down with the weather, but we never begrudge rain and the lightening was beautiful to behold over the mountains we face. Many patrons came to our programs despite the clouds and puddles however. We had a good show at all of our adult programs: Sr. Tea Time and a talk about the Sea of Cortez. Children at the library and the Catalina Neighborhood Recreation Center and the library enjoyed a festive rendition of *The Ugly Duckling* put on by the Red Herring Puppets group of Tucson. And at the library a parade of music accompanied the “Catch the Beat” program led by Holly Heyman. We expect our homework help and reading help hours to fill up soon as kids are getting to that point in the new school year. We have displays this month for Constitution Week, Welcome Week (re refugees and diverse cultures), and we are working on one for next month, Banned Books Week! Come on by for a good read.

Dusenberry-River Library – Matías Torres

September at Dusenberry-River Library consisted of expanding existing programming and bringing back stalwart programming. *Bilingual Storytime* was added to our pre-existing childhood literacy programs, *Toddler Storytime* and *Read to a Dog*. Tweens and Teens could be found engaging in complex board games or puzzles during *Game and More!* The Miniature Museum came towards the end of the month to present a *Miniature Sketchbook Workshop* for the benefit of children and teens. *Approaches to Relaxation* was offered with potentially stressed out students in mind. *Koi Fish Watercolor and Salt Art* were presented as yet another program with teens in mind. *Constitution Jeopardy* was scheduled to coincide with Constitution Day and impart civics in a memorable way.

Our *Teen Advisory Board* remained strong with added inquiries from Tweens hoping to participate. *Introduction to Drawing Fundamentals* satisfied requests from adults for participatory art programs. The return of *Art in the Afternoon* coincided with art focused September. Our Tech Liaison remained busy with *1 on 1 Library Resource Tech Help*. Meeting room utilization ran the gamut from book clubs; writing groups; art and sport clubs; non-profit board meetings; civic groups; homeowners associations; Pima county voter outreach and community meeting with Supervisor Rex Scott.

Nanini Library – Caitlin Burns

Part of Nanini’s outdoor area is under construction through the end of November while a sidewalk is being built along the edge of the property. This will allow for cyclists and pedestrians to safely access the Library from Shannon and the DMV as well as Shama Wing via Ina.

Programming at Nanini continues to be very popular. To help with crowd control on Saturdays, Nanini staff started a weekly afternoon program for families. Activities will alternate between gaming, chess club, and Legos. We recently resumed intermediate-level English classes and are very happy to have a beginner-level class we can now refer people to, just next door at Interfaith Community Services. Nanini’s Adult Services Librarian, Amy, had a very thankful Job Help visitor who called the library last week, excited to tell us about her new position at a museum out of state. She said her new dream job was all thanks to Amy who helped her with her resume.

Oro Valley Public Library – Kaitlyn Sparks

Starting in September, Pima Council on Aging provided one-on-one Medicare counseling every Monday. These appointments were requested by library customers so they could get free and confidential help signing up for Medicare before the enrollment deadline. We also brought back Homework Help this month every Saturday morning and were able to help quite a few students get started on their homework questions.

Before our monthly Sonoran Sleuths Mystery Book Club, I had the pleasure of speaking to a gentleman that has attended the book club over a year and drives over an hour to get here every month! He really enjoys this time to talk to staff and other book club members about his favorite suspense and thriller series, many of which he discovered from participating in the book club. He said it was one of his highlights of the month to visit Oro Valley Public Library for Sonoran Sleuths.

One patron commented after getting a library card that they had been to other libraries, but Oro Valley's library was so open, inviting, and there was so much to look at that they felt like they were at "the amusement park of libraries". Staff work hard to create a welcoming atmosphere with a "hello" and "have a good day at the door" as well as beautiful book displays. Our new books are refreshed almost hourly, and we have special displays for certain events. This month we had displays for Welcoming Week, Constitution Week, Hispanic Heritage Month: Mes de la Cultura, and more.

District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Kelly Wilson

Happy September! Eckstrom Columbus is cruising into Fall, full steam ahead. Our after-school kids have returned en masse and are filling the library with afternoon exuberance and energy. We are providing after school snacks, Chess Club, Crafternoons, Code Club, Homework and Reading Help to keep the children engaged, fed and entertained. Winston the pup has started coming twice a month for Read to a Dog, much to the delight of our up-and-coming readers, along with our Preschool Storytimes and Babytimes, we have offerings for every age group. The Red Herring Folks brought us a great *Adventures in Folklore* puppet show, as always, a popular program and Dr. Jacqueline Soule had the children awash in herbal soap making.

For our adult community we hosted a NAMI program on suicide prevention in honor of Suicide Prevention Month. We had a full class for *Painting with Dolores Haro*, our *Eclectic Readers Book Club* continues to grow and flourish and our monthly Yoga class is always well attended. We continue to assist job seekers with our weekly bi-lingual job help and both beginning and intermediate English Language classes with our wonderful partners at Literacy Connects are filling up.

Quincie Douglas Library – Lois Miller

Quincie Douglas has had a busy September so far! We started out with a very well attended Kokpelli Coasters painting class with artist Dolores Haro for adults on September 1st. Adults also enjoyed a paper flowers and papercraft class with Emy on September 15th. Teens enjoyed a collage making and vision board class on September 6th, and they are looking forward to trying their skills at making 3D library card holders this Friday, September 22nd. Additionally, teens can attend a virtual program with NAMISA called "In Your Own Voice" in which they can hear compelling personal stories about teens living with mental illness. Children love to attend toddler storytime—they also really loved getting introduced to Winston in our new Read to a Dog program. Additionally, they love attending Crafternoon—this month's theme is "Fall Crafternoon".

We will start Homework Help on Wednesday, September 27th and have an adult volunteer who will be helping with that, along with a staff member. We started our ELAA classes with Literacy Connects today, September 19th. 8 students showed up for the first day with Literacy Connects volunteer Karen Williams.

Teen volunteer Johann has been coming on Tuesdays and Fridays to help with shelving books, shelf reading and putting together project kits for library staff.

We have been celebrating Library Card Sign up Month with a handmade frame that customers can hold up for selfies after getting their library cards. This has been a popular feature—we have been posting the pictures on our Quincie Douglas Facebook page.

Staff have made beautiful displays that highlight Mes de La Cultura, Welcoming Week, and Constitution Day. There is something for everyone here at Quincie Douglas Library!

Sahuarita Library – Betsy Langley

It's a great time to start a fall garden, so we're hosting some gardening programs to help support the community. Yusuke Banno is presenting a Seed Ball program on September 21 and an Introduction to Seed-Saving on September 28. We're hoping to turn seeds into seedlings in our container garden, as well. Jacqueline Soule will also be presenting on butterflies on September 27 and participants will have an opportunity to build and take home a feeder for them.

English Language classes are back with our wonderful volunteers from Literacy Connects. We're now offering Beginner and Intermediate classes and we had 25 participants on the first day! Our Book Club will be reading *Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law* by Mary Roach on September 12. We also enjoyed a musical performance by the Cynthia Hilts Trio Jazz Ensemble on Saturday, September 16. It was lovely to hear music throughout the library. Adults are also enjoying two more yoga sessions with Vivianne Uyeda this month.

We engaged customers with many fun displays, including one celebrating Constitution Week, autumn-oriented picture books, and two Mes de La Cultura displays in the Teen and Adult areas honoring the contributions and heritage of Latin American diaspora.

Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – Lu Guerrero

September was an especially active month at the library! The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum presented *Desert Reptiles* and shared with attendees the diverse strategies desert reptiles utilize to survive in the Sonoran Desert. The library also hosted *Savor Sonoran Scents* presented by Dr. Jacqueline Soule, inviting participants to create desert-inspired hanging sachets. Additional public programs scheduled this month include Koi Fish Watercolor & Salt Art and Recycled Materials Jewelry.

Act One's Culture Passes have proven to be a popular service in our area, providing families with entry passes to local museums and cultural attractions. The library also continues to provide much needed year-round services such as youth programming, computer services, job search assistance, Seed Library services, and more.

Santa Rosa Library – Vicki Lázaro/Michaela Grady

We've had a lot to offer this month at the Santa Rosa Library. Our STEAM Mondays continue to entertain and educate our younger patrons, with even more support coming by way of our weekly Homework Help programming. Additionally, we've been able to work with presenters for programs including Cosmic Space Painting, Rock Painting, Boat Making, and Koi Fish Water Painting. We were also thrilled to partner with the Pima County Health Department to present a program to elucidate nutrition for new and expecting mothers.

To supplement our educational and entertaining programming, we have been able to provide other resources to our community. This can be seen in our daily Snack Time program, enjoyed by many children from the nearby school and greater community. Culture Passes have also been popular this month, allowing our patrons to explore the many opportunities for fun and learning throughout Arizona.

District 3 – Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Chair

Caviglia-Arivaca Library – Jodi Ohlson

With the days getting cooler and snow birds returning from afar, The Caviglia Arivaca Library has had a busy month, with our *Annual Friends of the Library meeting* acting as the cherry on top of a big sundae with the works. It was a afternoon of gratitude, food, books, and *upcycled Community Art* by our Teen Advisory Board (TAB). TAB, with the support of Madian Romero their intrepid guide, did a great presentation reviewing their experiences over the past year.

The *Byrd Baylor Children's Garden* has produced several impressive gourds, some Rattlesnake Beans, a few Zinnias and Marigolds. Seeds have been planted for a winter garden, and we look forward to watching it grow as the seasons change.

Ben Tully from the Pima County Cooperative Extension gave a great presentation *on Invasive Plant Species* and how to stop them from damaging our desert habitat, and Tucson's Blue Raven Art School came down for an all day *Basket Weaving Workshop*, complete with lunch on the patio paid for by the Friends of the Caviglia Arivaca Library.

Our Friends group has been very generous, also paying for Ben Tully to stay the night at La Siesta Campgrounds in Arivaca, and an impressive amount of sugar and birdseed to keep the flying menagerie happy. Our monthly *Book Group* is growing with the return of the out of towners. This month they read *Solito by Javier Zamora*, and the general consensus was "...it's wonderful, and it helps me understand why some people are so afraid of Critical Race Theory- It makes you feel bad, because you realize how complicit you are and how little we've done to make an impactful difference as an individual and a nation."

Flowing Wells Library – Angie Grischkowsky

This month we had some direct feedback from a regular Storytime parent, who said that she really enjoys coming to the Flowing Wells Library because it feels homey and comfortable, has fun things going on, and isn't overcrowded. We love that she feels this way!

September was a busy month for families, kids, tweens and teens as everyone seemed to hit their stride with the new school year and return to the library on a regular basis. Our YA and children's librarians made some outreach visits to schools and got more new library cards into waiting hands – perfect for Library Card Signup Month! Our two storytimes have continued to see an increase in attendance, with Babytime skating close to the maximum number of people we can accommodate – we are currently evaluating whether to add a second Babytime during the week. We are having similar success with Read to a Dog, and have had to start limiting the length of time each child reads so that everyone can have a chance. Our new YA Crochet & Knitting Club has really begun to take off, with plenty of interest from our patrons and teens who are happily learning new skills from community elders. Homework Help is up and running again, ready to serve and support any grade level with their assignments. This month also saw two unique events for kids and families – Pirate Storytime on the 14th and National Parks Service: Beautiful Bats on the 21st. Both were a hit with regulars and new-comers alike!

September started off with a bang in adult services, as we hosted an info session on raising Nigerian dwarf goats on the 7th, featuring a delightful pair of real goats! This proved a great draw

for patrons of all ages and especially enlightening for our adult customers. Computer Classes and Job Help continue to be key offerings for our community, and we are regularly asked when the next one will be (answer: Wednesdays at 12:30 & 2:30).

September also saw us celebrating some important dates and communities through displays in the branch, notably Mes de la Cultura and Constitution Week. And finally we welcomed the return of Literacy Connects English Language classes this month, with Beginner level meeting on Monday and Wednesday mornings, and Intermediate level meeting on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Salazar-Ajo Library – Daniela Buchberger

During the month of September, the Salazar-Ajo library welcomed several winter residents back to its facility. Our gate count has remained high as patrons are using our space to read, browse the internet and partake in some of our programming.

This library continues to see a high demand for the community pantry and our patrons are often asking for additional resources such as water bottles and hygiene products. Our pantry is now supported exclusively by the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. The first palette of non-perishable items arrived and was welcomed by our community members.

The library also hosted the Premier Medical Group that provided COVID and Flu vaccines to community members. Both staff and visitors were grateful for the convenient access to this much needed service in a remote area.

Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library – Sam Hennig

September has been a bustling month of activities and programs at the Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library, and with it being National Library Card Sign Up Month we have done our fair share of creating new library cards for enthusiastic library admirers. We also received a library love letter in the mail this month. The letter reads: "Dearest Library, it has been exactly 12 months and 18 days since our last meeting. We must confess, we have been quite desolate without your company. We have been scouring across the nation for a library such as yours. We must admit, you caught us quite off guard with your selection of books, unlike any other. Please return our love to all the librarians, hard at work, who have to suffer through the epidemic. Yours faithfully, Your Secret Admirers." We will continue to strive to make sure that each of our patrons have as wonderful of an experience at our library as these patrons had.

Our Children's services staff had a special display asking and answering the question, "What Can You Do With Your Library Card?" to encourage everyone to get their own library card during Library Card Sign-Up Month. One of the other displays is dedicated to celebrating Constitution Day, and the children's activity table offered library coloring sheets, bookmarks, and a packet of activities to learn more about our constitution.

Teen services staff promoted Tweens and Teens afternoons internally and externally through an outreach visit to the Literacy Night at Robins K-8 School which reached about 40 families. Many teens have been requesting volunteer opportunities in the library, and we are exploring future volunteer opportunities at our branch. In order to get youth more involved with afterschool programming our Teen Services Librarian began an interactive program called "The Quackening" where library staff hide 14 resin ducks in the teen area and 1 duck in the Teens and Tweens Program for the purposes of getting teens and tweens more excited about coming to the library and increase participation in the Teens and Tweens after school programs. The teen librarian is also bringing activities into the teen area to teach youth how to use library 3-D printers and Cricut machines along with using coding robots to teach youth about coding.

Adult services staff hosted two presentations from the Pima County Natural Resources that have sparked a bit of interest. We had programs on Saguaros and on Urban Wildlife. The library also added a monthly Mindfulness Nature Walk along the Santa Cruz river, hosted by Christine H. of Pima County Natural Resources department, which has gotten off to a great start. Adult services will also be exploring new adult programming in upcoming months as new senior living facilities next to the library open.

Woods Memorial Library – Chinyere Olumba

“I have found the most valuable thing in my wallet is my library card” (Laura Bush). It is September! and its Library Card Sign-up Month across the United States and Woods Memorial Library celebrated on September 9th, with a group of 40 patrons that were on a field trip with the YWCA. The Woods Memorial was able to give the group a tour and sign them up for a library card with an opportunity to choose a card with a selection of pictures of Arizona’s wildlife scenery. It was a day to ensure and to make clear to all...the role of the library in the community.

September saw the reintroduction of *Homework Help* at Woods memorial, and we will soon welcome Math tutors from the University of Arizona. While most students say they do not have homework, we are standing by to provide fun learning opportunities to support academic support and effective use of library resources for lifelong learning and personal enrichment.

The rejuvenated TNT (Teens & Tweens) program has been going strong, serving more than 105 patrons with STEAM programming on the weekly themes of Words & Digits, Colors, Moviemaking, Seeds, and Slime. The Tween/Teen Reading/Viewing Recommendation display is slowly gaining ground as librarians invite young people to create a bookmark with their first name, age, book or movie title, and why they recommend the item.

Monday September 18th started the Monday and Wednesday Woods Memorial *English Language classes* with *Literacy Connect* and the first day started with 33 students. Also, Monday the 18th was Woods Master Gardner program.

Turning it into a weekly celebration, On September 16th we kicked off Constitution Day (September 17th) with our lobby entrance set up with books on the United States Constitution and a video loop of the National Constitution playing on our big screen television, and they had the privilege of seeing a replica of the U.S. Constitution, as well as take a Constitution Quiz to win a prize...we had many winners.

Also in September, Woods Memorial Library has seen on average 30 little patrons attending our *Baby time* and *Family time* Storytime series. I guess it does help to have the Snack and Milk pack for the little ones. As one of the little ones said, as I was giving her a snack pack, “My snack pack aaaaand milk”, to hear the little one’s enthusiasm about the Milk and snack pack made feel euphoric.

Seeds! Seeds! Seeds! The *Master Gardner* program through the *University of Arizona cooperative extension* was on duty September 19th at Woods Memorial for a gardening presentation and discussion, it was a much-attended presentation with 13 patrons.

District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy

W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney

Students taking Early Childhood Development at Mica Mountain High School visited the library for a presentation led by library staff about how to present a storytime. The students will apply what they learned to their work with preschool kids in the classroom.

A presentation titled Invasive Species in the Desert was hosted by UA Cooperative Extension and took place on September 8. Attendees learned that along with widely known buffelgrass, stinknet a flammable, highly allergenic, and fast spreading invader, has been increasingly

spotted in Tucson.

American Red Cross held a blood drive at Gibson-Esmond Station Library on Monday, September 25.

Joyner-Green Valley Library – Heather Tyndall

Joyner-Green Valley Library book-ended the month of September by hosting two programs conducted by library presenters. First was a children's gardening program called "W Is for Worms" during which 15 kids, ages 3 and older, spent two fun hours learning about worms, handling live worms, constructing worm bins out of re-purposed materials, and listening to stories about worms. Each participant took home their worm bin along with several worms and the knowledge to care for them. We closed out the month with another arts and crafts workshop for adults, "Making Japanese Paper Fans." Luckily, it is still plenty warm enough outside for participants to make use of their beautiful, traditional-style, decorative Japanese paper fans!

Joyner-Green Valley Library patrons were treated to some terrific book displays this month, including one comprised of books that highlight migration, immigration, and the benefits of a culturally diverse community in honor of Welcoming Week (September 8-17). Another display celebrated Constitution Day (September 17)/Week (September 17-23) with topical books, free mini-pamphlets of the U. S. Constitution, and two Constitution-themed, adult-level crossword puzzles. We also recognized World Alzheimer's Day (September 21) with a display featuring titles about Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

This month Joyner-Green Valley Library also welcomed *New York Times* bestselling author and contemporary mystery writer J. A. Jance for an author talk and book signing! Jance spoke to a "packed house" of 80 devoted fans in our Large Meeting Room during which she discussed her latest novel, *Blessing of the Lost Girls*, and answered questions from members of the audience. Afterward, Jance chatted with her readers and posed for fan selfies while signing her books.

Miller-Golf Links Library – Anna Lawrence

The big news at Golf Links this month is our onboarding of five new people in the last two weeks! We just welcomed Marissa McIntyre as our new Tween/Teen Librarian I. Marissa comes to us from the Tanque Verde School District and brings with her the expertise of working with middle school students. She will be a wonderful addition to the GLF team! Staff have also been busy training three new page interns from the One Stop program, Anthony, Aven, and Laura, and an AmeriCorps student worker as well. We are super excited to have them all with us!

Both the toddler and pre-school story times have continued to be very popular, and to fine tune their skills, several GLF children's staff will attend the Storytime Workshop at Esmond Station on 9/20. GLF is also hosting an anti-bullying and self-esteem workshop this week for children and tweens. We anticipate a good showing and hope the workshop will give our youth some helpful tools for their lives.

Murphy-Wilmot Library – Kathy Konecny

Murphy-Wilmot is honored to host the Fall 2023 Writer-in-Residence, Adiba Nelson. Ms. Nelson's meets with aspiring authors for 30-minute one-on-one sessions and will present workshops at other locations across Tucson. Her reservations quickly fill up and participants have shared how grateful and excited they are to meet Ms. Nelson. We are fortunate to have such a talented author and passionate person serving our community.

Thanks to a partnership with Literacy Connects, Murphy-Wilmot offers both beginner and intermediate English classes this fall. Students come from across the globe including China, Turkey, Mexico, Iran, Japan and Korea. This is the first beginner level class that our branch has

hosted. We are especially excited to provide emergent English speakers with programming that connects them with others in the community and empowers them.

Library staff provided outreach services during the American Board of Radiology Annual Health Fair. Several participants mentioned how much they love the library with some sharing that getting a library card was one of the first things they did when moving to Tucson. All were delightfully surprised to hear about the library's Culture Pass and Seed Library programs. One was excited to start learning American Sign Language by using PCPL's Pronunciator database. Many asked about the library digital download services for ebooks and eaudiobooks.

District 5 – Supervisor Adelita Grijalva

Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library – John Muñoz

This month, the Bilingual Storytime at Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo Library had special visitors. Kudos to our friends from the Tucson Fire Department, for visiting and for reading picture books about firefighters. Afterward, everyone toured the fire truck, and had a chance to spray high-pressured water across the parking lot. The kids had lots of fun.

El Río Library – Em Demeester-Lane

El Río Library has a new Librarian I join the team this month and it's been a wonderful experience introducing her to community partners and our regular library users. We also hosted the Frank De La Cruz Collection during Nuestras Raices' El Grito program in honor of Mexican Independence Day. In addition to his work at El Pueblo, Frank was instrumental to the opening of the El Río Library and in his retirement would visit so it felt very special to have that collection temporarily available and on display to customers.

Himmel Park Library – Heather Ross

At the invitation of a teacher, a librarian at Himmel Park Library did a marathon of class visits to the eighth graders at Mansfield Middle School. She talked to the students about online resources, recommended books, and discussed what the kids were reading and what they might be interested in picking up next. As part of the visit, several of them got their first library card! She also made a connection with the Mansfield Middle School librarian and will be sharing information on programs and resources at Himmel Park with her in the future. Himmel Park Library staff are also helping to create library cards for Catalina High School students, in partnership with the Community Engagement Office and the librarian at Catalina High School, as part of a large-scale library card signup project – just in time for Library Card Signup Month!

On September 18, Himmel Park Library welcomed Dr. Jeannie K. Lee, an Associate Professor at the University of Arizona R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy to speak about over-the-counter medication safety for older adults. Attendees learned how to identify important information on medication labels, the specific benefits and risks for older adults of taking OTC medications for common ailments, and ways to alleviate symptoms without using medication. Participants were also able to ask Dr. Lee questions. Students and staff belonging to Dr. Lee's College of Pharmacy research team also generously spent two hours providing free blood pressure checks for Himmel Park customers and staff. We are grateful to Dr. Lee, her team, and the UArizona R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy for working to keep our community safe and healthy.

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

Main Library Staff have been busy throughout the month of September as our summer heat begins to come to a close. Programs such as Our Space, which serves vulnerable populations, and storytime programs for our families continue to see great success and are well-attended. Ready, Set, School!, a program series for children ages 4-5, began in September and will continue through November.

Other notable library events include the Youth Mental Health Tabling Event on September 6th. Young adult services staff partnered with Cope, Goodwill, and NAMI. This event was very well-attended by youth, who fill our 101 Space after school each day.

Additionally, our staff attended an outreach event with recently-released inmates. Staff had a great time talking about how the library can support them and the group was especially excited about Culture Passes and the Ignite Space. Perception Counseling, which hosts support groups for people leaving incarceration and recovering from addiction, has invited staff to return and do more presentations in the future.

Staff celebrated the month of September with many wonderful displays. Some of those themes were in celebration of Welcoming Week, Mes de cultura, and Constitution Week. Our location also worked hard on creating a special selfie station right inside the entrance of the library for Library Card Sign-Up Month. The station boasts a unicorn, a dragon, and a rainbow! We encourage everyone to stop by, take a selfie with their library card, and tag us on social media for as long as we have the station up.

September also marked the completion for our months-long renovation. Customers love the new computer stations on the first floor and we continue to get positive feedback on the move. Computer use is up as well, with most stations being filled for a large portion of the day.

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Tara Foxx-Lupo

Richard Elias-Mission Library offered some amazing presenter led programs in the month of September to help our patrons express their creative sides. Most of the programs were arts related and included a Tye-Dye, a Loteria Painting program with Dolores Haro, a Hula dancing program, a musical program called Catch the Beat and a puppet show from Red Herring Puppets.

Storytime resumed this month and staff were happy to see many of our regular families again after a short break. The children's librarian at Richard Elias-Mission library has a great following for Storytime and kids and families were happy to be back at the library.

With an uptick in COVID in the community we saw higher demand for our free tests, a testament to the important role the library still plays during times when community spread increases. Additionally, Richard Elias-Mission Library hosted a vaccine equity event in partnership with the Pima County Health Department Mobile Health team. Staff were pleased at continually creating access to free vaccination services in an area where need is high.

Southwest Library – John Muñoz

The Southwest Library closed Aug. 18 and reopened Sept. 13. A storm last month damaged the roof of the Southwest Family Resource Center, next to the library. During the repairs, construction equipment blocked access to the library. For that reason, the library remained closed.

Valencia Library/Readrunners – Ivonne Ramirez

Valencia Library hosted a myriad of satisfied library users for our adult services special programs this month. Our Spanish class for the public was at full capacity and the group indicated they would be interested in a longer series of lessons, which are in the works to start next calendar year 2024. Adult services staff also coordinated a monthly yoga class from September through December: the September class was at full capacity and the upcoming October class is already full.

Events through our Partnerships with outside organizations were also a success: this month kicked off the monthly series of "Art in the Park" art classes at Valencia Library. In collaboration

with the National Park Service and Sahuaro National Park staff, the program brings information related to nature topics and science and combines it with a painting and mixed media arts project each month.

Readrunners is happy to announce that as of this month Deposit Collection is back up and running. The team is back on the road bringing books and smiles to the people. Four times a year, the Readrunners team drives a van around the county and delivers books to numerous facilities. The books we deliver are ones that have been generously donated, as well as books the library no longer needs. With 15 deposit locations, we are spreading the word about the collection and doing outreach to grow the program and increase the reach in the community.

Following this service philosophy of bringing books to hard-to-reach parts of the community, Readrunners staff have partnered with the Many Nations team. Readrunners is supporting the Many Nations team with outreach and making deliveries for the Spread the Wealth collection bringing books to indigenous organizations, schools, and libraries in Native communities.

Activities funded by Friends Groups

Friends of the Pima County Public Library

Dewhirst-Catalina Library- Red Herring Puppets, Catch the Beat

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Painting with Dolores Haro, Herbal Soap Making with Jacqueline Soule, Adventures in Folklore Red Herring Puppet, Yoga with Vivienne Uyeda.

Quincie Douglas Library – Let's Paint! With Dolores Haro, Paper Flowers and Papercraft with Emy

Richard Elías-Mission Library – Red Herring Puppets, Tye-Dye with Yusuke Bano, Loteria Painting with Dolores Haro, Catch the Beat

Salazar-Ajo Library – Whatever Wednesdays – Tie Dye, Family Movie, Bird Houses, Perler Beads

Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – AZ-Sonora Desert Museum, Savor Sonoran Scents, Koi Fish Watercolor, Recycled Materials Jewelry, Seed Balls and DIY Seed Broadcasting

Valencia Library – Yoga by Vivienne Uyeda, Spanish Classes by Connie Rodriguez, Unscrewed Theater, Li Schmidt Asia Ensemble, Doores Haro Art and Painting, Tucson Children's Museum, George McSly STEAMmazing!

Friends of the Arivaca Library- Birdseed, sugar, Catered lunch for twelve, overnight stay for presenter.

Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library-

Friends of the Green Valley Library (Green Valley & Sahuarita) - W Is for Worms! Family Storytime Workshop, Making Japanese Paper Fans

Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library- The Drawing Studio presents Try It: Watercolor!, Bali Beads Jewelry Making Workshop

Friends of the W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station Library-