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**DATE:** October 2, 2025

**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  
Pima Library Foundation, Board of Directors

**FROM:** Em DeMeester-Lane  
Deputy Library Director

**SUBJECT: Public Services Report – September 2025**

This month was a flurry of activity. I added my third new Library Services Manager to our Team, bringing it up to 6 people. Linde Furman moved into a role overseeing safety, security, trauma informed care and other social services-oriented services that the library provides, thanks to the wonderful recommendations this Spring from our consultant Beth Whaler. All of which would not have been possible without generous Library Services and Technology Act grant funding. Adri Saavedra joins our team having most recently served as the Director of libraries and Learning Centers at Central Arizona College. We are thrilled to have Adri on board, and it's fantastic to have our team all together.

In addition to this, as I switch gears from page hiring, my new project in staffing is Substitute Librarians. Heather Ross and I are working with a small team of managers to revisit that role, which we also haven't actively hired for several years and reimagine it in the context of our new staffing philosophy.

And finally, I got to visit the Caviglia-Arivaca Library this month for their Annual Friends meeting. It's always a pleasure to meet with our Friends groups and Jodi and her team at Arivaca have created such a beautiful community at the library.

**Library Services Manager – Paulina Aguirre-Clinch**

September has brought so many exciting changes. Welcoming our new Library Director and three new Public Services Library Services Managers has been a real highlight for me. Each one brings such valuable experience and unique strengths, and I already feel lucky to have them on the team. I especially enjoyed introducing the new Library Services Manager to the Sam Lena-South Tucson Library, which was one of my locations. Passing it along to her feels really special because I know she'll get to work with wonderful staff and help shape the exciting adult programming staff have in mind for the near future.

I'm equally excited to begin working more closely with two new branches, Wheeler Taft-Abbott and Woods Memorial. While I've had the chance to collaborate with their branch managers for short periods of time in the past, stepping into the role of their official Library Services Manager will give me the opportunity to more fully support their branches and the communities they serve. In fact, I've already had the opportunity to help Wheeler Taft-Abbott with a staffing placement,

which will soon be announced. It felt good visiting the branch and speaking with staff. I'm really looking forward to supporting them in this capacity.

**Library Services Manager – Linde Furman**

During the month of September, I spent time at the Eckstrom-Columbus Library. We have exciting news about this location as we have a new location manager, Perri Pyle, who is currently working in a detailed position. We also have a new assistant manager, Rose Wynd. Perri was formerly managing the Frank de la Cruz El Pueblo Library and working as an assistant manager at Main Library. Rose is a former PCPL employee who worked for several years at Pima Community College before recently returning to us. Perri and Rose are already proving to be excellent additions at Columbus and are a dynamic leadership duo for this location!

Library Restorative Practices for Youth (LRPY) is busy coordinating training for branch staff at other locations and continuing to build up team membership from across the system. Vulnerable Populations are now in the information gathering and planning phase for expanding the Our Space program to other locations across the system. The Trauma Informed Care Team has wrapped up its month-long survey and is in the data analysis phase. One of the things that sticks out the most in the survey results is some specific trainings staff would like to have added that we are excited to investigate!

**Library Services Manager – Vicki Lázaro**

I have been providing in-person and Teams video check-ins with the Managers of Murphy-Wilmot, W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station, Kirk Bear Canyon, Dusenberry-River, Santa Rosa and Flowing Wells Libraries. We have just happily welcomed Briana Turner as the new Branch Manager for Santa Rosa Library.

Supporting the organization by attending and/or participating in the Regional All Staff Meetings, Library Advisory Board Meeting, PRIDE Affinity Team, Policy Review Team, Library Planning Task Force, Intermittent Task Force, REFORMA, Nuestras Raices and Public Service Managers Meetings. In addition, I will be assisting the Human Resources office as the Hiring Manager for the Library Technical Assistant position. Also supporting branches by facilitating staff testing for the Multilingual Pay benefit.

**Library Services Manager – Paula Maez**

I have been having a wonderful time starting and settling in my new position as Library Services Manager in Public Services. I spent most of this month learning about my new role, connecting with my colleagues and spending time with staff at both the branches I oversee/support: Bear Canyon Library, Quincy-Douglas Library, Southwest Library, Valencia Library, and Nanini Library and within the system. I met with all the branch managers and the staff of the branches I oversee. In addition, I onboarded one of our most recent hires, Librarian II, who is the branch manager for the Southwest Library. I am supporting folks and getting to know my role as the co-lead for the Page Supervisor Team, as well as getting into my role in overseeing PCPL's Graduate Assistants and Interns. I have also been acting in a supporting role to the hiring manager for the Library Technical Assistant positions.

**Library Services Manager – Heather Ross**

I am so pleased to be starting a new position as a Library Services Manager in Public Services. I spent much of this month settling in, learning about my new role, and making connections. My September highlights included branch visits to meet with managers and staff at the locations I'm supporting: Joel D Valdez Main Library, Martha Cooper Library, Miller-Golf Links Library, and Sahuarita Library, as well as attending the Library Journal's Public Library Safety Summit in Hartford, Connecticut. The conference included panel discussions about topics like vulnerable populations, incident reporting, crisis communication, staff support, and library design. I look forward to continuing these conversations at PCPL!

### **Library Services Manager – Adri Saavedra**

Over the past two weeks, I have visited the Catalina, Oro Valley, South Tucson, Arivaca, and Green Valley branch libraries. At each location I got to spend time with staff and familiarize myself with their services and locations. I also worked to familiarize myself with the systems here including PITS incident reports, reviewing camera recordings, driver training for county travel and Narcan training. In addition, I have joined standard meetings such as the huddle and LSM meetings, regularly checked in with staff at each location, and shared out information as needed. I am so happy to have joined the team, and everyone has been just amazing to work with.

### **District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott, Chair**

#### **Dusenberry-River Library – Mikel Stone**

This month at Dusenberry-River Library, our programs highlighted community connection, creativity, and collaboration across all ages.

In Adult Programming, we were proud to celebrate the River Readers Book Club, now in its 25th year, continuing to provide a welcoming space for discussion and reflection. Our partnership with the Tucson Art Museum brought docents to lead an engaging Art Talk and Art Book Club. Creative expression was also supported through Paperworks: Mark Making and Book Arts, where participants explored hands-on crafting. The Garden Talk series, led by the Tucson Master Gardeners, drew strong attendance with a session on growing herbs in the Sonoran Desert.

In Children's Services, new families continue to discover the library through Make Way for Books' Story School, held twice weekly and building lasting connections among new cohorts. Our Read to a Dog program also remains a favorite, offering young readers a fun, low-stress way to practice literacy.

River's Teen Programming team had an especially active month. In collaboration with the Pima County Health Department, our Stay Safe Sidewalkers event brought together the Teen Advisory Board and the Pima County Health Department to promote pedestrian safety with a scavenger hunt, bike helmet distribution, and skill-sharing. We had 60 patrons in attendance.

Across all ages, our programs this month reflected the strength of our community partnerships and the enthusiasm of our library users.

#### **Nanini Library – Caitlin Burns**

Nanini's fall programming is in full swing. After a Storytime break for part of August, Children's Services staff are back to presenting 4 Storytimes weekly, seeing hundreds of kids and caregivers while instilling a love of learning and literacy. One-on-one Makerspace sessions were instantly popular when we began offering them last month, and registration has been consistently full: trained staff are working individually with customers ages 14 and up to help them learn on the Bambu 3D printer and Cricut machine, assisting in design and production. Special upcoming programs for October include Halloween Origami on 10/31, Creativity Corner featuring Ugly Monster Making, a custom mug making workshop, a showing of *Twilight* with trivia, and a Taylor Swift-themed Crafternoon.

Citizenship Classes are maintaining momentum, and both Beginning and Intermediate-level English Language Classes will resume at the end of September. Now that fall/winter visitors are just starting to arrive, our staff are busy creating hundreds of new library cards and welcoming them to Tucson. We were also thrilled to welcome four new library pages to Nanini's staff roster.

### **Oro Valley Public Library – Kaitlyn Sparks**

In September, we started Homework Help back up after a summer break. We have two adult volunteers that come to help with reading and math and have been in high demand. Several new students joined us after our Children's Librarian sent letters to local teachers and went to a few classrooms to talk about the library, mentioning our Homework Help program on Saturday mornings.

We held another series of Mahjong Lessons and Art Class graciously taught by community volunteers. Both filled up within the first 15 minutes of registration. Our calendar of events for adults continues to be full of something for everyone with multiple volunteers and community partnership, which allows us to do more than we could with our staffing alone.

Our Teen Advisory Board has started off the school year with much planning and held their first community event, which was a Science Fair. They shared interactive science projects with all ages – many families that didn't know about the event prior, checked it out before getting their books for the week. Several families mentioned planning to check the calendar for their future events!

### **District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz**

#### **Quincie Douglas Library – Lois Miller**

We have been very busy at Quincie Douglas Library, preparing for our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration! Quincie Douglas Library had its grand opening ceremony in September 2005.

We will celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> with guest speaker Doreen Davis, the daughter of Quincie Douglas, who will speak about her mother's legacy—Quincie Douglas was a community activist who started Low Income Transportation for Seniors (LIFTS) which is currently VanTran.

Dr. Michael Engs will also speak on "500 Years of History in 5 Minutes" with an emphasis on the history of the Buffalo Soldiers. After he speaks, Barbea Williams' dance troop will perform in honor of the occasion.

We are partnering with the Quincie Douglas Center to hold a Health Fair in honor of Quincie Douglas. Jerry Neely, manager of the center, is working with manager Lois Miller and Quincie Douglas staff to have tables with over 60 agencies and community partners represented. We will also have snow cones, cupcakes, seedlings, books for children, and crafts to give away. We are very excited about hosting this event!

In addition, our children's librarian, Brie Chillious, is hosting a special Storytime with Sadie Shaw this morning. They will share stories with families about the importance of community activism. There will also be cake to celebrate!

We also continued with fun programming for all ages this month. Happy Baby Belly, our prenatal literacy program, has been running for the past two weeks. Teens enjoyed an Intro to Electronics workshop led by engineers from the community. They will also enjoy a crafting activity making shrinky dinks this upcoming Saturday. Adults had fun in a jewelry making workshop at the beginning of the month. This is in addition to our regular programs such as Lego Club, Storytime and bilingual Storytime.

#### **Sahuarita Library – Kelly Wilson**

We hosted early and emergency voting this month for a special election. The voters were happy for the convenience this provided them.

After school time is an exciting time at Sahuarita Library. We go from calm to boisterous within minutes of last bell. Our study rooms and laptops are in high demand with the kids and socializing

ensues. Our Read to a Dog program still delights with great turnouts for both Mondays and Wednesdays. Our three Storytimes are all full each week and the new Toddler time is proving very popular. On early release day from school, What's Up Wednesdays provides the children with different fun activities every week.

Our Book Club read and discussed *Lavender House* by Lev AC Rosen on September 16<sup>th</sup>, which resulted in a spirited discussion about this intriguing mystery. Our adult crafting group continues to thrive and grow, offering folks a way to connect through shared interests.

The Jasmine Asian Music group brought an appreciative group to the library on September 27th.

### **Santa Rosa Library – Briana Turner**

Santa Rosa Library is excited to share some highlights from September, especially with our new Branch Manager joining the team!

September was Library Card Sign-Up Month, and staff created a fun corkboard display featuring one of our regular visitors proudly holding their library cards showing just how many possibilities come with having a library card.

To engage families and little ones, Santa Rosa hosted a lively Pete the Cat Storytime. Pete even made a special cameo on our Facebook page—be sure to check it out if you haven't already! Teens and tweens had a blast Exploring the Daytime Sky with the Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association, getting the chance to meet local astronomers and learn all about what's happening above us.

Our dedicated staff continue to provide excellent resources and support to all our customers and community partners/organizations. One community partner recently said, "I would like to send a great appreciation to you and the library staff for the collaborative work we have accomplished together. Santa Rosa Library is a hub for positive interactions among families who live in the neighborhood, a safe meeting place where children can interact with books and each other." It's moments like these that remind us why we love what we do.

With fresh energy and fun programs like these, Santa Rosa Library continues to be a welcoming spot for the whole community.

### **District 3 – Supervisor Jen Allen**

#### **Caviglia-Arivaca Library – Jodi Ohlson**

The Caviglia Arivaca Library has quieted down a bit since school started, and we are once again making our way back into the local schools to offer fun and educational experiences, story times, and books for all students. This month we visited San Fernando Elementary in Sasabe, Sopori in Amado, and the Arivaca Community Center for Teen night.

*Greg McNamee* visited us with his presentation on *Arizona for Newcomers and Oldtimers* too. Greg's presentations always draw interest from the local community. This month the Book Group read *Wandering Stars by Tommy Orange*. Those members that were able to read past the Sand Creek Massacre (two members stopped there) thought the roots of generational trauma ran long and deep, and that something lighter might be necessary for next month. Our Teen Advisory Board (TAB) met to start making seedballs for the Arivaca Water Summit coming up in October, and our D&D group has found a new leader/Dungeon Master which means the fun continues.

The month concluded with our annual Friends of the Library Meeting/Picnic on the patio which is always a heartwarming community gathering. We invited *Red Herring Puppets* to join us this year because they were such a big hit with families when they last visited Arivaca for Día de los Niños.

### **Flowing Wells Library – Angie Grischkowsky**

This month our patrons gave us some valuable feedback about two of our recent programs. About the Tucson Repair Café that happened in August, one patron reported, “It was incredibly fun to watch someone stick with something and get it fixed. They fixed my radio!” And one of our Storytime regulars told our children’s librarian, “You give the BEST Storytimes!”

In addition to our four weekly Storytimes, two weekly Read to a Dog sessions, and our weekly Job Help one-on-ones, this month we also hosted five other events for our patrons. First, there was a Stuffed Animal Sleepover and Tea Party for kids and families where the stuffed animals spent a fun and festive night at the library thanks to the power of imagination. We had an impromptu drop-in art workshop for tweens and teens in the after-school hours to help promote the 2025 Worlds of Imagination Art Showcase. A Mobile Home Asset and Property Protection program courtesy of Step Up to Justice, a local nonprofit that does amazing work for the Tucson community. At our Silver Screen Saturday showing of *Singin’ in the Rain* patrons got to hear about and discuss little known facts about this classic film, and finally there was a Vincent van Gogh Art Talk on the 27<sup>th</sup> – drawing a small but deeply engaged crowd to hear fascinating details about this master’s life and works.

### **Salazar-Ajo Library – Clarissa Sandoval**

Salazar-Ajo Library presented a Storytime celebrating Mes de la Cultura by reading stories, singing songs and making a craft reflecting the Hispanic and Latinx heritage and culture. We also have a book display honoring the Hispanic and Latinx contributions and achievements, allowing all to learn about the diverse culture and an opportunity to appreciate and reflect the rich history and diversity.

Salazar-Ajo Library is a designated early and emergency voting site, ensuring the community an opportunity to participate in elections conveniently and accommodating those who may have scheduling conflicts or unforeseen circumstances on the official election day.

The Pima County Health Department community mental Health and addiction team, as well as the youth and schools’ team are tabling at our library to provide harm reduction and youth mental health resources for our local community.

One of our customers was so excited to explore the universe, they drove 2½ hours just to check out our telescope as a birthday surprise for her husband.

We recently received a heartfelt letter from a patron who shared how much he loves our library—not just for the books, but for the inspiration it sparked. After attending one of our Whatever Wednesdays, he discovered watercolor painting for the first time—and now it's become a passion. He also couldn’t hide his excitement as he shared how thrilled he was to explore our culture passes.

### **Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library – Sam Hennig**

The Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library has been busy onboarding five new library pages recently hired for our location. Our tween services librarian has been working tirelessly to help train them and prepare them for their duties. We are very grateful to have so many new workers to help with our circulation flow.

Earlier this month, we had a special Preschool Storytime to celebrate National Taekwondo Day. This fun event was a little different from our regular Storytime. We read stories, sang songs, and then had a real Taekwondo demonstration led by trained instructors. The kids got to watch cool moves and even try some out themselves. The instructors made sure everything was safe and easy for little ones to follow. Everyone had a great time, and many families said they loved trying something new at the library.

Teen Services has had a good September. Our staff lent out the Animal Crossing Escape Room to Valencia library staff to host a one-day escape room event at their location. Our Talk-Back Board was used this month both to help determine which movies to watch for our September programming event “Movies in the Library” which were held on September 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The Talk-Back Board was also used to determine what programs the library will put on for teens in October. Our Teen Advisory Board (TAB) started meeting for this year with greater attendance thanks to the move of the event from Wednesdays to Thursdays. Their first two projects have been creating and maintaining an interactive bulletin board in the children's room where TAB cuts out and puts up desert animal coloring sheets filled out by our youth patrons while they are at the library. TAB's second activity is that they are running the passive programming Seek and Find Treasure Hunt where they move the images and change the words each week. Teen Services has also been reached out to by a home-schooling group of 10 teens that we are now working with to provide regular meeting space and who are interested in attending teen programs on Fridays.

The Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr Library was pleased to welcome Sabino Mendez, a martial arts instructor. He took some of our adult patrons through some self-defense moves; he taught them as slower moves, to bring in some tai chi spirit, something our patrons have been looking for. We look forward to bringing Sabino back in the new year!

#### **Woods Memorial Library – Chinyere Olumba**

“There is no problem that a library card can't solve.” -Eleanor Brown, Happy Library Card month. In September, Woods Memorial Library showed the movie Sonic 3 for its Movie Saturday. Also, for the Maker's Mayhem program, Woods Memorial was able to create 3D puzzles, create blueberry lemon candles, Perler beads, and on September 24<sup>th</sup> paint a masterpiece on Canvas. In continuance of programming, Woods Memorial renamed their youth programs that run from 3-5pm from Tuesday through Friday to ‘Snacktivities’, it's the incorporation of different activities like art, crafting, videogames, and movies in conjunction with the Southern Arizona Community Food Bank snacks.

This month Woods Memorial also had their first family Storytime with the new children services librarian, and the Master Gardner program on September 15<sup>th</sup>

In collaboration with *Literacy Connects*, we offer *Literacy Connects English Language* classes from 10am-12noon. As well as *Literacy Connects* GED Math preparation on Tuesdays from 5-6:45 pm, the Homeless Resources Navigator on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday and the Homeless I.D. Project on the third Thursdays.

Lastly, in September Woods Memorial patrons can continue to participate with the ongoing programs, *Read to a Dog* on Wednesdays and Saturdays, *Amphi Pantera* Food Truck program on September 29<sup>th</sup> and Youth Snacktivities program through *Community Foodbank of Southern Arizona*, Tuesday through Friday from 3-5pm.

#### **District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy**

##### **W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney**

A patron who visited the library regularly to print and fax medical documents during a serious illness expressed great appreciation for the help that staff gave to her during her treatment journey. She reported great news of being in remission and feeling good again, but she wanted staff to know that their helpfulness meant a lot to her.

There were so many butterflies fluttering about the library! On September 12, The Saguaro National Park Education Team presented Our Vibrant Pollinators for kids that included a puppet show, an insect sing-along, stories about the Sonoran Desert, and a butterfly craft.

##### **Joyner-Green Valley Library – Heather Tyndall**

Joyner-Green Valley Library's new *Digital Literacy* program isn't so new anymore! The second series of classes covering a range of computer basics took place this month (though the last of the five weekly classes will meet on October 6). Participants appreciate these opportunities to learn and practice new skills among their peers in a supportive environment. Speaking of opportunities to practice new skills, our twice-monthly *Read to a Dog* program returned in September. Therapy dog Hopi, a fluffy Husky mix with many fans, attracted a full slate of excited students eager to read to him.

In mid-September Joyner-Green Valley kicked off our recognition of Mes de la Cultura with the creation of two new displays which will stay up through October 15. In the Children's Area, Librarian Merrilee's display features photos of twelve leaders of Hispanic heritage from a variety of fields along with phrases such as "Shoot for the stars like Ellen Ochoa" (referring to the former astronaut) and "Heal like Antonia Novello" (referring to the former Surgeon General) that highlight their notable contributions. In addition, their biographies, written for children, are displayed on the shelves below. Similarly, the display near the Adult Spanish language section illustrates traditional dress across the states of Mexico in a beautiful poster created by Library Associate Maria who also curated the Spanish language titles on the shelves below.

### **District 5 – Supervisor Andres Cano**

#### **El Río Library – Morgen Daniels**

El Río Library is celebrating Mes de la Cultura with our community via a rotating display of reading material for all ages, including poetry, memoirs, anthologies, picture books and more showcasing the beautiful diversity of the world's communities with ties to Latin America and the Caribbean. We are very proud to have had our display featured in the Nuestras Raíces team's Mes de la Cultura blogpost on the Pima County Public Library website, and on their popular social media accounts!

Library Manager Morgen had a blast representing Pima County Public Library at Nosotros Academy's Kindergarten Open House event on September 10. At the library table, Morgen spoke with 27 students and family members about library services and programs and signed students up for library cards that the kindergarteners can use when they visit El Río Library for our monthly Storytime program.

As of September 12, we have officially completed the first 'El Río Reading Survey' after collecting responses for one month, and we gained valuable insight into our community's reading habits and preferences. We plan on putting up our new bulletin board display with data visualization of our findings during the week of September 15. Fun facts about our community's reading patterns include: 66.7% prefer fiction over nonfiction; the top three most popular fiction genres are historical fiction, literary fiction, and mystery; and 25.8% have maxed out their holds before!

#### **Himmel Park Library – Closed for Remodel**

#### **Joel D. Valdez Main Library – Christine Russell & Betsy Langley**

We are back in the swing of things as the school year continues. Storytimes continue to be well attended by regulars and new families, averaging about 20 participants at Babytime and 25 at Family Storytime. Stories that Soar had an excellent turnout at a special Family Storytime. Tween Crafternoon is averaging about six participants weekly, a good mix of regulars and new visitors, providing an important space for the 8- to-12-year-olds who don't necessarily fit into either the Children's or Teen areas.

We've been seeing a lot of new faces in our teen space, as well as our regulars from previous years. Most afternoons most of the tables are full of the teens socializing, playing games on the



computers, and working on various arts & crafts projects. They enjoy the new quiet space and crafts that are available every day of the week, including zines, beading and 3D printers.

### **Martha Cooper Library-Tara Foxx-Lupo**

September marks one year since the reopening of Martha Cooper library after a long closure for major renovation and expansion. In this year our location has accomplished many things made possible by the improved and reconfigured spaces now available to the Garden District and surrounding community. Some notable examples of new opportunities include 3D printing workshops offered by our Teen Services librarian, robust children's programming utilizing our new Storytime room, and expanded offerings for adults due to more distinct spaces being available overall. We see so many faces every day entering the library for their first visit or first return and commenting on the overall improvement. Community members frequently share their pleasure at the inviting nature of our space and staff.

As we move into fall, we are harnessing the opportunity to expand our offerings for community members working toward improving their English Language skills. In addition to our ongoing Beginning and Intermediate level evening classes, we will be adding additional Intermediate classes on two weekday mornings this fall. Our adult services librarian will be collaborating with instructors to ensure their attendees are aware of the many resources the library has to offer.

Adults got a chance to express their creativity at an Underwater Animal themed Watercolor Painting Class offered by Jeanine Colini. The program was a true success, with attendees asking for more programs like this one in future. We love this kind of feedback and will have this instructor back again.

Tweens and older kiddos can also get in on the fun of creating at our Crafts and Laughs program offered once a week, with a new craft or activity every time. This month we celebrated Mes de la Cultura with a papel picado craft that was a big hit. Mes de la Cultura was embraced and celebrated throughout the month here at Martha Cooper, with book displays in multiple spaces featuring materials by Latinx writers and celebrating Latinx culture for readers of all ages and interest areas.

### **Richard Elías-Mission Library – Closed for Remodel**

#### **Southwest Library – Alexis Ellsworth-Kopkowski**

Southwest has a new branch manager, Alexis Ellsworth-Kopkowski who began at the end of August. Since the new school year started we have noticed an increase in new library card user sign-ups and an increase in families visiting our branch. We also made a display to promote library card sign-up month (September). Our snack program continues to be successful. We have had many requests from our community members to volunteer in our library, and we will be following up with them in the upcoming weeks. Our school outreach efforts will continue throughout the fall semester.

#### **Valencia Library – Ivonne Ramirez**

Valencia Library has received requests by our community users for more leisure programs for adults. This month we hosted a painting class with beloved local artist Dolores Haro, and the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension's Master Gardeners delivered the first in a monthly series of bilingual *Garden Talks*. Our adults' crochet circle has also expanded from once a month to twice a month on Saturday afternoons; now known as *Fiber Arts Club*, all projects and fiber mediums are welcome in this collaborative learning space.

Our legendary Family Storytime led by Ms. Thania carried out this month. We had a Storytime visit with Pima County District 5 Supervisor Andres Cano, who read an interactive story with the children and families. Afterwards, Supervisor Cano and his staff shared inspiring coloring books

featuring desert scenes and our favorite animals to color and paint. Supervisor Cano got a new library card during his visit and got to know some of the amazing library staff at Valencia Library, including a visit with Pima County Public Library's new Director, Tess Mayer.

Elementary-aged children, tweens, and teens also had a great selection of activities. Create Club hosted a series of craft and culture events for Mes de la Cultura creating alebrijes made of paper-mâché including learning about their historical significance in the United States and Latin-American cultures.

Teen Time hosted various events, including Park Ranger Miriam from Saguaro National Park and the workshop 'People of the Desert' with a hands-on exploration of the use of natural resources in the Sonoran Desert on the first Thursday of the month, and on the second Thursday, teens and tweens were challenged to solve the intriguing puzzles in an Escape Room with the theme of popular computer game *Animal Crossing*. Through these and all the programs this month, youth had an opportunity to collaborate, be curious, and explore something new.

### **Activities funded by Friends Groups**

#### **Friends of the Pima County Public Library**

**Sahuarita** – Jazmine Asian Music group

**Flowing Wells** – Vincent van Gogh Art Talk

**Salazar-Ajo Library** – No Brush Painting (2-part series), & Yoga Storytime

**Joyner-Green Valley Library** – Arts and Crafts for Adults, Family Storytime

**Valencia Library** - Family Storytime, Peace Garden Storytime, Create Club, Teen Time, Fiber Arts Club, MegaScience Meg/Rainforest Expedition, Dolores Haro/Learn to Paint

**Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library-** Toddler Yoga Storytime, Preschool Yoga Storytime, Jasmine Asian Music Performance, Birds of the Southwest in Colored Pencil – Series Supplies

**Friends of the Arivaca Library-** Greg McNamee, Red Herring Puppets