
DATE: May 7, 2026

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: Tess Mayer
County Librarian

SUBJECT: Director's Report – April 2026

County Librarian Mayer had the opportunity to attend the Public Library Association conference from April 1 through April 3, and appreciated the wonderful keynote address provided by Bryan Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative and author of the bestselling *Just Mercy*. He spoke about the importance of hope, proximity, and changing narratives and the role of public libraries in supporting communities. The conference included many helpful sessions; Mayer found sessions focusing on internal communication, AI, staff feedback, and staff training to be particularly helpful, as well as sessions focusing on serving justice-impacted people.

On April 8, Mayer attended a Pima County Public Library Foundation Board meeting. President Karen Williams led the team in the discussion of aspirations for the Foundation. On Saturday, April 11, Mayer had the pleasure of attending the Friends of Pima County Public Library Volunteer Lunch and celebration, which included welcomes from Friends leadership as well as introductory remarks from Mayer and a great keynote talk from Jack Dash, Gardens Manager at Tohono Chul and author of *The Southwest Native Plant Primer*.

Mayer attended the Tucson LGBT Chamber of Commerce monthly breakfast on Thursday, April 16. PRIDE team leads Roberto "Tito" L. and Sarah E. did a fantastic job of representing the Library and sharing a lot of information about resources for small businesses and entrepreneurs. The conversation also focused on the importance of representation and how libraries create a space where people feel seen, supported, and safe.

Library staff spent considerable time in April ensuring that all the work required to be done in the new Richard Elías Mission Library prior to opening to the public is taking place. Many thanks to our Facilities team as well as the Library's Information Technology team for their time and dedication to this. Thanks also to Branch Manager Hassael C. and the rest of the team for their work getting the branch ready. We are getting close to being able to announce an opening date for the public and we know how eager the community is to see its new library.

The week of April 19 was National Library Week, and Tuesday, April 21 was National Library Workers Day. In celebration of public libraries and all the ways that they support communities, the Library team received a Proclamation from the Pima County Board of Supervisor declaring

this National Library Week in Pima County, and administration staff delivered cakes, gluten-free snacks, and other items to every location in the library system.

Deputy Director of Community Engagement Marissa Alcorta coordinated a planning discussion involving leadership from Elections and the Recorder's Office, Facility Safety and Security Manager, John Stuckey III, and the Library's Safety and Security Manager, Linde Furman. The goal of this conversation was to share information so that branch managers understand how to get support for security concerns that arise around voting sites and to understand what the responsibility of election workers and Recorder's staff is and what is the Library's responsibility. The conversation also included how to respond to ICE enforcement activities at voting sites.

FY2025/2026 Donations

Deposit Date	RECEIVED FROM	AMOUNT	PURPOSE	In Memory of
7/10/25	Friends Of The Pima County Public Library	70,000.00	Donation	
7/15/25	Friends of the Kirk Bear Canyon Library	2,500.00	3rd Quarter Donation	
8/5/25	Pamela S Olson	10.01	Systemwide Donation	
8/8/25	Gail M Rourke	30.00	In Memory of Laurie Smith	In Memory of Laurie Smith
8/14/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	8,143.87	April 2025 Donation	
8/14/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	6,009.16	May 2025 Donation	
8/14/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	16,842.04	Donation - Spring Book and Jewelry Sale	
9/3/25	Estate of Edward H. Robb	20,749.14	Donation - final distribution	
9/9/25	Jennifer J. Stewart	150.00	Children's books for the Miller-Golf Links Library	Victoria "Vicki" Detwiler
9/11/25	Ibrahim A Hassan	8.00	Systemwide Donation	
9/16/25	Maria Volpe	30.00	In Memory of Scott Luomski	Scott Lukomski
9/17/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	5,760.36	June 2025 Donation	
9/17/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	6,768.10	July 2025 Donation	
9/17/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	7,855.65	August 2025 Donation	
9/18/25	Jean A Nickels-Durkee	30.00	In Memory of Scott Luomski - Travel Books	Scott Lukomski
9/23/25	Jean Nerad	50.00	In Memory of Scott Luomski	Scott Lukomski
9/26/25	Frances MacDonald	25.00	Systemwide Donation	
10/2/25	Anonymous	10.00	Staff Appreciation - GLF	

10/9/25	Linda Stover	20.00	Systemwide Donation	
10/9/25	Anonymous	7.10	Staff Appreciation - GLF	
10/10/25	Jenny Lind Ryan	25.00	Systemwide Donation	
10/24/25	John & Peggy Halliday	150.00	In memory of Scott Lukomski - Materials re Music and/or Musicians	Scott Lukomski
10/30/25	Friends of the Kirk Bear Canyon Library	2,500.00	4th Quarter Donation	
11/4/25	Kayla E Barnett	100.00	Gift Plates - In Memory of Jan Bentley	Jan Bentley
11/14/25	Friends Of The Pima County Public Library	58,000.00	Donation	
11/18/25	Nancy Ray	1,000.00	Systemwide Donation	
11/18/25	Wendy Lukomski	100.00	Books	
11/26/25	James (Jim) C Lee	5.00	Volunteer Appreciation	
11/26/25	Janice Igarashi	50.00	Systemwide Donation	
12/2/25	Philippa Mulford	100.00	Systemwide Donation	
12/23/25	Shelby Zwick	250.00	Systemwide Donation	for Nanini Library, in memory of Donna Zwick Davis
12/30/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	6,330.64	September 2025 Donation	
12/30/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	15,135.67	June - October 2025 Book Sale Donation	
12/30/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	7,033.15	October 2025 Donation	
12/30/25	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	6,163.49	November 2025 Donation	
1/2/26	Lee Anne Peters	100.00	Friends of the Pima County Public Library	
2/19/26	Carnegie Corporation of New York	10,000.00	Systemwide Donation: Carnegie Libraries 250	
2/19/26	Friends Of The W Anne Gibson-Esmond Station Library	2,000.00	January 2026 Donation	
2/19/26	Friends Of The Kirk Bear Canyon Library	2,500.00	1st Quarter Donation	
2/19/26	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	7,033.15	Dec 2025 Donation	
2/26/26	Kyle R and Dorothy R Warras	150.00	Scott Lukowski Memorial	

3/5/26	Remi Steienhilan	20.00	Systemwide Donation - Great Service from Staff (WDS)	
3/6/26	Marilyn McCulloch Palmer	1,000.00	Systemwide Donation	
3/12/26	Janice Carter and Charl and Alex Roth	200.00	Childrens Books	
3/19/26	Lu Ann Rouse	100.00	Systemwide Donation	
3/19/26	Bruce and Kathy Eichhorst	200.00	audiobooks	
3/26/26	Friends Of The Pima County Public Library	58,000.00	Donation	
3/26/26	Friends Of The W Anne Gibson-Esmond Station Library	1,596.50	Donation - Book Cart \$	
4/7/26	Friends Of The Oro Valley Public Library, Inc	7,777.46	February 2026 donation	
4/10/26	John W Leggat III	100.00	Systemwide Donation	
4/22/26	Friends Of The Kirk Bear Canyon Library	2,500.00	2nd Quarter Donation	
	FY26 YTD Cash/Check/EFT donations:	\$335,218.49		
	FY26 YTD Net PayPal donations:	\$3,426.82		
	FY26 TOTAL donations as of 3/30/2026:	\$338,645.31		