
DATE: October 3, 2024

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 2024

Library Services Manager – Ken Zambos

This month, I have met with managers, participated on a hiring panel, and helped with the orientation of newly-hired staff. I also took the opportunity to work for the day at the beautiful Caviglia-Arivaca Library. The Presenter Planning Team has continued to meet to discuss improvements and implementation steps in preparation of upgrade roll-outs in the coming fiscal quarter. As a member of the Library Administration Team, I have worked to help with the planning and implementation of our organizational goals.

Library Services Manager – Alina Rowe

This month I accepted a lateral transfer into the Community Engagement Office and was able to attend an outreach event at the Cholla High School parent teacher conferences. We just about ran out of teen, children's books, and Spanish language children's books at the event!

I attended my last manager's meeting with my "A-Team" and attended a staff meeting with the Flowing Wells staff. This month I met one last time with my managers one on one.

This month, I attended the Managers workshop where the scheduling tool and the staffing model tool were discussed.

Library Services Manager – Em Demeester-Lane

This month I presented our new staffing scheduling documents and staffing model tool to managers at our September 12th workshop. I met with Valencia staff twice, once to help with Employees Assistance Program after a violent incident outside the library and again to discuss with them the new standardized desk coverage model and programming budget. I also met with Kirk Bear Canyon staff about desk coverage and programming budgets. I coordinated and completed an internal detail manager hiring selecting the new interim manager of the El Rio Library. I attended the Trauma Informed Care Team monthly meeting as their administrative liaison and met with Miller Golf Links management to facilitate Restorative Practices for a young person who was facing suspension. I also had the pleasure of participating in a walkthrough of

the newly renovated Martha Cooper Library with Supervisor Grijalva and her staff and I covered the desk at El Rio library while staff presented a very well received program with a miniature horse named Casper. I participated in monthly one-on-one meetings with my managers as well.

Library Services Manager – Vicki Lázaro

I spent the month having multiple Q&A sessions with my branches and other people, such as David Higuera of District 2, about the proposed changes described in the Library's draft plan. I also have been providing in-person and Teams video check-ins with the Managers of Murphy-Wilmot, Miller-Golf Links, Dusenberry-River, Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. and Santa Rosa Libraries. Our Public Services Team held a Branch Manager Workshop to further discuss options for managing staffing, hours and programs.

Supporting administration and assisting branches by attending and/or participating in the Collaborative Action Team Meetings, Policy Review Team meetings, Library Advisory Board Meeting, PRIDE Affinity Team, Library Planning Task Force, All Staff and Public Service Manager Meetings. I co-presented with LSM Renéé Bibby about library e-resources at the Pima County Meet Yourself event at the Kino Event Center. I also handled three customer concerns with care this month and have been focused on the safety of my branches.

Supporting my professional development in my Library Services Manager role by attending trainings on Workday.

District 1 – Supervisor Rex Scott

Dewhirst–Catalina Library – Christine Dykgraaf

September has been a lot like August weather-wise. Yet it is all so different in the branch where we see new families come for long-standing programs like our Lego and Trains for kids and our paid programs such as “Let's Laugh” led by Viv and “The Sonoran Desert is a Food Forest” led by the Desert Harvesters. We and the patrons dream of pumpkin everything while gathering around tea with cheese and crackers at our Sr. Tea Time to discuss the value of the seed library, needing more music in our lives, and pluses and minuses of grocery store self-check.

The community is alive with discussions about what the libraries mean to them and what the future looks like for all sorts of businesses and organizations that serve the public good. Positivity is refreshingly abundant! We celebrate the live flowers grown by a patron who keeps our desk decorated and the people coming forward wishing to volunteer (more than the weekly average number). Rather than being down about the news Catalina may eventually close or become some other collection of services in Catalina, we staff are glowing in the praise and uplifted with compliments and sure that PCPL will be well and do well.

We have launched the One Seed initiative and it is always enthusiastically received here in Catalina, the land of gardening. We currently have displays highlighting National Hispanic Culture Awareness Month, Poetry, and Banned Books. The Catalina Gardening Club, Legos, and Sr. Tea this month have all had record attendance (for us).

Dusenberry-River Library – Mikel Stone

With the beginning of the school year, the Dusenberry-River teen and tween programming really takes off! One notable hit with the youth has been Role-Playing Games hosted by library staff. These are mostly rule-lite and easy to drop-in games, with loads of space opera, laser fire exchange, and tricky diplomatic situations. We presently have a waiting list, with many future sessions planned.

We also invited the Health Department to present a program to our tweens and teens on how to cope with bullying and cyberbullying. The youth learned that they can text HOME to 741741 and reach the Crisis Text Line to be connected to a crisis counselor that may be reached 24/7. The youth left with the knowledge that they need to document anything that a bully does to them, that they should keep a journal or write in a document how they were bullied, the time, the place, what was said, etc. Every bit helps!

We have also hosted a local Gratitude Club who participated in co-creating a public art display with notes of things that our customers are grateful for. Might just be that most participants were kids, but the number one voted for thing folks were grateful for was: mom!

Nanini Library – Caitlin Burns

As kids are heading back to school, Nanini's children's services staff have been busy giving library tours and presentations to school groups of all ages. One teacher who brought 2nd and 3rd graders emailed later that day to tell us her class's visit was the best educational library visit they had ever had. Families have been really enjoying the programs for kids, tweens, and teens: Nanini's storytimes have continued to see up to 80 people attending, while Wednesday afternoon programs offer activities for a wider age range with gaming and Legos. The Pima County Conservation Lands and Resources department presented a class on birds and will be back next month for their class Saguaro Stories.

Nanini also hosted a very successful health fair on Saturday, August 24th. Pima County Sheriff Department were accepting medication for disposing disposal for any expired/unused medications or supplements, vaccines, and a team of Pima County Health Department staff providing education on community mental health and addiction.

Oro Valley Public Library – Kaitlyn Sparks

We invited Pima Council on Aging to offer Medicare Counselor appointments once a week, which is an essential service in our community. PCOA receives federal funding as part of the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), and neither sells nor endorses any Medicare plans. They hosted an Open Enrollment workshop as well, which allowed them to help more people and gives participants a chance to make one-on-one appointments follow-up appointments if needed.

Our Teen Advisory Board hosted their last *Learning to Code* program in which a few teens taught others coding languages as part of a three-part series. They also planned a S.T.E.A.M. It Up! program to share their love of science and technology with other teens – this was also entirely planned by the teens themselves. The Teen Advisory Board meets once a month to plan for their events, create library displays, and more! In September some of the TAB teens volunteered every weekend outside of their regular events to create a Banned Books display, which highlighted why certain novels were banned and in how many states.

District 2 – Supervisor Matt Heinz

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Kelly Wilson

September has been a whirlwind of activity here. Our afterschool youth always bring a buzz of electric energy to the afternoons. We meet them where they're at with weekly Crafternoons and daily snacks. During the early out days of parent teacher conferences we held a stamp making program to enrich and engage the kids during the long afternoon at the library. We also have Chess Club and Read to a Dog every week and our two weekly storytimes continue to support families of youngsters with literacy and social skills.

On two Saturdays this month we hosted programs geared towards helping teens navigate mental and behavioral health issues. The Youth Health Action Team and the Synapse Team both created safe spaces and programs to work on skills needed to survive the teen years in these times.

Our adults turned out in full to attend our Eclectic Readers Book Club, Bi-lingual Job Help, Yoga, and Painting Loteria Cards with Dolores Harjo.

Make Way for Books has been conducting twice weekly Story School to wonderful turn outs, and the League of Women Voters hosted a candidate question and answer session that was well attended.

Our book displays this month are in honor of Mes de la Cultura, Fall, Suicide Prevention Month, and Classical Music month.

Quincie Douglas Library – Lois Miller

September has been an exciting month at Quincie Douglas Library—we've been hosting Writer-in-Residence Meg Files every Thursday. Meg gives one-on-one writing consultations to interested participants--they leave the sessions talking about how much they learned from her. This Saturday, September 21st, Meg will lead a writing workshop entitled, "How to Be an Original Writer". The sign up list is filling up quickly as Meg is a popular writing presenter.

Our crochet and knit club is also going strong, led by volunteer Ann Hunt. Ann helps beginners learn to knit or crochet, and she also gives tips to crafters with ongoing projects.

Presenter Emy will lead a "Decoupage Trinket Box" crafting activity on Friday, September 27th. Participants will learn how to make a unique trinket box using decorative new and recycled materials.

Teens enjoyed a talk about "Allergies 101". This talk was all about how to minimize allergy symptoms with natural remedies. Participants loved it and asked for the presenter to talk on a related topic at another time. Our teen LA also makes engaging displays for the teen area, that she switches out every month.

Kids have been enjoying toddler storytime, Lego Club, and Read to a Dog. Our children's librarian has been going to schools to talk about all the resources that the library has to offer.

We have new displays up highlighting Library Card, Mes de La Cultura and more!

Finally, we are thrilled to have two new staff at our branch. We gained a part time librarian and a new LTA, which really adds to our already amazing staff.

Sahuarita Library – Betsy Langley

We're celebrating Hispanic Heritage month with engaging displays throughout the library.

Storytime is back this month and families enjoyed a special Yoga Storytime on September 17. We also tried out a new Toddler Build program on September 5 with a dozen youngsters building and collaborating with giant Duplos. Families enjoyed the program and asked that we continue offering it in the future. Homeschoolers are back in session and Children's staff are supporting them with presentations about how to search the catalog and access library resources.

Read to a Dog is really popular with kids practicing their skills on Mondays and Wednesdays with two very different dogs – Danny, a giant German Sheppherd and Molly, a little Chihuahua. We had presenter, Martha Underwood, join us on September 7 to facilitate a Bali Bead jewelry making workshop that was a lot of fun. We also offered a Lotería painting class on September 12 where teens and tweens could create traditional cards using acrylic paint.

The Jasmine Asian Music Ensemble performed a concert in celebration of the Moon Festival on Saturday, September 21. Our Book Club read and discussed Trevor Noah's memoir, *Born a Crime*, on September 10. Meditation for Mindful Living continued on Monday afternoons. We're very excited to kick off an eight-session adult writing workshop called Self Stories on September 26. This structured course will have writing assignments, shared readings and group feedback.

Sam Lena–South Tucson Library – Lu Guerrero

The library's Job Help services have been well-attended this month. Staff have assisted customers with employment applications and DES applications through this program. This month, the library welcomed a Knowledge River Graduate Assistant who will be supporting Seed Library projects and outreach efforts until December. The library, along with PCPL's Seed Library Team, kicked off One Seed 2024: Nasturtium, a community-driven plant grow-out to inspire gardeners to grow from, and harvest, seeds.

Sam Lena-South Tucson Library resumed the CACFP afterschool snack program. Page staff have received training in the SafeServ program to support the five-day per week snack program. Youth Services library staff contacted teachers and program directors with neighborhood schools/daycare centers, offering regular outreach visits for book talks, storytimes and other family literacy-related events.

Library staff have joined in PCPL's Social Needs Project to begin the dialog on the changing psychosocial needs of patrons, as well as library staff, moving PCPL toward a person-centered library. This includes recognizing changing library needs; libraries addressing homelessness, mental health needs in the community, poverty and substance use disorders of patrons; attempting to meet changing needs and staff challenges.

Santa Rosa Library – Heather Severson

Following local news coverage of the potential closure of the Santa Rosa Library, the branch experienced a notable increase in visitors. Patrons came by not only to express their concern but to show heartfelt appreciation for the staff and the valuable contributions Santa Rosa Library makes to the neighborhood. David Higuera, Chief of Staff for District 2 Supervisor Matt Heinz, stopped in for a tour of the library and witnessed the vibrant role this branch plays in the community.

Departing Managing Librarian Heather S. was gratified to share a special moment with a young patron she has worked with over several years. He was thrilled to check out his self-published novel from the library, a milestone in his writing journey. He plans to participate in upcoming writing workshops and consultations with Pima County Public Library's Writer in Residence, Meg Files, to further hone his craft.

This month's programs engaged a wide variety of interests and ages. Events included Lotería, Fun Fridays, a workshop with the Tucson Astronomy Association, plant-based tattoos, Messy Science, and Make Way for Books Story School. Looking ahead, patrons are excited for upcoming programs such as tie-dye workshops and additional story times. Autumn sees the return Judy and her dog Grace for the Read to a Dog program.

The talented artists among the staff created vibrant bulletin boards and book displays celebrating Back to School, Library Card Sign-Up Month, Mes de la Cultura, and a desert-themed take on Romance Awareness Month. Their creativity continues to enrich the welcoming atmosphere of Santa Rosa Library.

District 3 – Dr. Sylvia M. Lee

Caviglia-Arivaca Library – Jodi Ohlson

With school back in session, we've been hosting groups of students from near and far. Most recently it was the Honors History seniors from Nogales Highschool who were interviewing people about the border wall for a documentary they are working on. On that particular day, a member of the board for the Kino Border Initiative was in the library. He greeted the students with, "Is this your first time to this library? Isn't it lovely?" At the same time this was happening, the women who were working on a puzzle looked up and said, "Look who else is here- This is why I come to the library!" A perfect library moment.

Recently, the community of Arivaca experienced the tragic death of a young father with four children after his car slid on a wet road and crashed into a school bus. The community has come together and raised funds to support his family as they grieve, and we were fortunate to expand our partnership with Valley Assistance Services to include a Grief Support Group. Our first meeting was well attended, and we plan to continue meeting for at least the next three months.

The last Saturday in September was our Friends of the Caviglia Arivaca Library annual meeting/picnic. We enjoyed reviewing the past years successes and challenges with multiple speakers, including our Teen Advisory Board (TAB), the Arivaca Pollinator Pathway Project, Arivaca Human Resource, Arivaca Community Center, Arivaca Early Learning Center, and the Arivaca Old Schoolhouse. I am amazed by the number of community partnerships we've developed this past year. It was heartening to hear the appreciation expressed, especially the gratitude for the role that TAB has played in the community.

Flowing Wells Library – Angie Grischkowsky

September was a slower month for programming at Flowing Wells, although we still offered our staples of Toddler/Preschool Storytime and Baby Storytime, as well as Read to a Dog, and Crochet & Knitting Club for teens and adults.

Our storytimes have been so popular that we are happy to announce that starting in October, we will be splitting Toddler/Preschool Storytime into a Toddler Time and a Preschool Storytime, happening back-to-back on Tuesday mornings. This will allow us to better meet the developmental and social needs of each age group, as well as possibly take some pressure off nearby libraries due to the expanded capacity this will bring. Also starting in October, we will be offering not one but two Baby Storytimes back-to-back on Wednesday mornings, which means no more turning people away at the door due to fire code! Our patrons have been happy to hear this news, and we are thrilled to be making these much-needed changes.

Crochet & Knitting Club continues to have a strong following, with crafters from several age brackets coming together to chat and share skills.

This month our Children's Librarian also threw a Stuffed Animal Sleepover for our young patrons, who dropped off their favorite stuffies to spend the night in the library. Our librarian captured photographic evidence of the toys coming to life and all the fun they had together, which went home along with the stuffies that next day. It was a huge success!

Salazar-Ajo Library – Daniela Buchberger

The Salazar-Ajo Library has seen many of the returning winter residents in addition to many teens and tweens that have made the library their afterschool gathering spot. The afternoon programs on Monday and Wednesday have had a large attendance as well as participants learn new skills, explore their creativity and construct unique buildings out of Lego bricks.

The library is currently displaying artwork by James Baxter. James Baxter creates abstract paintings and carved ceramics that evoke fleeting moments of extraordinary beauty in the natural world. Their work features natural colors, subtle movement, and compositions that invite long looks and quiet contemplation.

The Pima County Health Department offered health resources and information, as well as reproductive health services in front of the library twice in September. The community was deeply appreciative of the availability of free and low-cost services and resources on a drop-in basis.

Staff from the Salazar-Ajo Library provided outreach in person at the Gu Vo district on the Western Tohono O'odham nation. Staff were invited to share resources and information with the early education staff in addition to delivering books for their little free libraries.

Additional outreach happened at the International Day of Peace celebration in the Ajo Plaza. Library staff met with families and offered activities for children.

Families were able to gather in community to sing, talk, read, play and write together at Family Storytimes on Friday. Children had a particularly meaningful experience this month at the Day of Peace Storytime, during which many participants openly shared their interpretations of living peacefully together.

Wheeler Taft Abbott, Sr. Library – Sam Hennig

This month in the children's area, we began with "Campfire Sing-Along & Stories!" — an engaging indoor storytime featuring camping-themed songs and stories; it was a fun-filled event designed to foster imagination and storytelling in young children. We also hosted Make Way for Books, which provided a six-week Story School series; this free bilingual program focused on early literacy for children (birth to age 5) and their caregivers. Each family received up to 22 books for their home libraries, with sessions focused on key literacy goals, such as vocabulary building and alphabet recognition. Finally, various library presenters offered a diverse range of storytimes, including Music and Movement, Art and Storytime, Yoga Family Storytime, and Bilingual Storytime, to enrich children's experiences.

YA services has had a very active month of programming both staff presented and passive. On September 11th, 12th, and 13th on top of our usual T.n.T Programming we hosted Movies in The Library based on the needs of the local schools to provide more activities on those days. Each of the movie days was attended by an average of 50 mixed kids, tweens and teens. T.n.T. programming continues every afternoon from 3:00pm to 4:00pm (except on Thursdays which is from 2:00 until 4:00pm) with an average of twelve attendees at each session. Teens have adapted to the library rule that snacks must be brought into the room hosting T.n.T. programming and so messes from snacks have been reduced in the greater library. Teens have also started participating in more of the programming as they are in the vicinity of the programming anyway. Teen Advisory Board has increased in membership since August. They are responsible for helping change out the letters for the passive activity treasure map/word scramble. They are also making progress on developing a breakout room (an escape room where the goal is to open locks on a box rather than a locked door) for the library to then host in the Abbott library and then hopefully use at other branches and outreach events. We are looking forward to two more

programs beyond T.n.T. programming that will happen at the end of the month. We will have staff presented Suminigashi or hydro-dipping on the 23rd to create dipped paper leaves to celebrate the first official days of fall. On the 30th we are bringing in a guest presenter, Dr. Alexandra Porter, to host a talk about better sleep habits for teens as the first of our programming aimed specifically at older teens to develop life and career skills.

In Tween Services, we have had a successful month. There was crossover audience participation in the Movie Days in the Library. We have had continued success of our passive programming treasure hunt/word scramble in the children's room; we are marking off at least 20 participants per day in that activity based on how many treasure maps we print a day to keep the activity going. We also have a steady participation of tweens and kids in our Homework Help session which are provided every day of the week except Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00. We have added some extra adult volunteers under supervision of library staff to the roster of homework volunteers since August to prepare for any potential increase in attendance. We look forward to continuing to develop the Tween Area of the library by creating more monthly displays of books as well as continuing to work with adult patrons to keep the area available only to ages 8 to 12 during after school hours.

In adult services, a good time was had by all who attended The Wonderful World of Bats program at Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr Library on Thursday, August 29 at 5:30 pm. It was presented by Jeff Babson of Pima County Natural Resources. We were celebrating International Bat Night (celebrated on the last Saturday evening of August). We enjoyed a terrific talk from Jeff, then walked over to the path along the Santa Cruz River to see if we could see any bats. It would be fun to have this program again next year.

Woods Memorial Library – Chinyere Olumba

"There is no problem that a library card can't solve." -Eleanor Brown, Happy Library Card month. In month of September, Woods Memorial Library was able to extend hours after 7pm, to host *Community Conversation: on Racial Discrimination in Housing in Tucson*.

Also, this month we had the *Raising Nigerian Dwarf Goat* Family Storytime on September 5th from 10:30-11:30am, it attracted 17 patrons. The *Desert Reptiles* program with Arizona-Desert Museum on September 5th from 2-3pm, captured the hearts of 22 patrons. Maker's Mayhem: Watercolor Koi Fish & Salt Art, from 3-4:30 pm attracted 15 patrons. Woods Memorial *Movie Saturday* on September 7th had 8 patrons who enjoyed watching the Bad News Bears. The Master Gardener program on September 16th was attended, as well as the Maker's Mayhem: Hobbit Day craft on September 18th from 3-4pm with 20 patrons.

Patrons will continue to be able to participate with ongoing programs in September with Read to a Dog on Wednesdays, Maker's Mayhem on September 25th and 28th, Teen Tech on the September 6th and the *Amphi Pantera* Food Truck program on September 30th.

District 4 – Supervisor Steve Christy

W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station – Mary McKinney

Tweens and Teens took part in making a ghost painting at Crafternoon on September 26.

Garden Talks led by the Pima County Master Gardeners from the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension resumed for the season on September 27. This month's topic was Welcome to Tucson Gardening.

Joyner-Green Valley Library – Heather Tyndall

Customers residing in the Green Valley and Sahuarita areas enjoyed the fruits of the Library's new community partnership with the Santa Cruz Valley Historical Society this month when Joyner-Green Valley Library hosted the first of six presentations on topics related to the history of this region. Mary Kasulaitis, a well-known Arivaca historian, spoke to a keen audience on September 11 about the role of Buffalo Soldiers in southern Arizona history. Titles of future presentations include "POW Camps in Arizona," "Ramona and Tempe Pemberton," and "Influential Women in Our Community," among others.

September also marked the start of a new program at Joyner-Green Valley Library: *Paws for Grownups!* After hearing many expressions of disappointment by our adult patrons upon learning that *Read to a Dog* is only for elementary school-aged readers, we asked our volunteer handlers if they (and their therapy dogs) might be interested in providing some canine companionship to adult library customers. Their response was resoundingly positive, so we prepared a program proposal, got approval, and *Paws for Grownups* was born. Louie, a Yorkshire terrier (and his handler, Fran) along with Mali, a Maltese-poodle mix (and her handler, Barb) spread joy and affection at the inaugural monthly event on September 25.

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library – Christine Russell

Kirk-Bear Canyon Library staff were falling all over themselves in September to get ready for autumn and the return of students and snowbirds. We've had a successful run of all-ages programming on Saturdays and this month was no exception with two *Altered Attire Workshops*. Each week, 10 people, of all ages, came to learn how to use embroidery and sewing to make old clothes new again. Our Children's Librarian also ran another *Mad Scientists' Workshop* aimed at tweens. This month the theme was Wind. The kids learned about how wind works, how humans harness it and then created an art project around wind!

Our Adult Services Librarian presented the first in a series of three monthly programs on using library databases in genealogy research. Her *Discover Your Roots: Intro to Genealogy* class gave attendees hands on time using our laptops to do research after she explained how to navigate our free resources. Adults also welcomed the return of the annual Master Gardener's Workshops in conjunction with University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. They kicked off the season with *Growing Cool Season Vegetables*.

The teens enjoyed a painting workshop with presenter Dolores Haro. This one was especially exciting because it's one of the first programs that was specifically chosen by our Teen Advisory Board.

Miller-Golf Links Library – Anna Lawrence

The Miller-Golf Links branch returned to our twice weekly story times at the beginning of September after a hiatus in August. We are already seeing very large numbers of participants, more than is manageable by library staff; we may consider ticketing the event to keep the size reasonable for participation. In addition to story times, children at GLF this month have attended "That's Extreme!", a program about extreme weather events where children could learn about cloud formations and craft their own cloud. This month was our first Read to a Dog! Reading to dogs gives a stress-free environment to practice reading with a non-judgmental listener. For parents of youth, "5+5=10: An Equation for Academic Success" was offered to give parents tips on engaging their child to help them achieve academic excellence. Teens and tweens have the biweekly hangout time on Wednesday afternoons this month, in addition to the monthly Book vs Movie club and a Pony Bead Creature craft. Adults attended our monthly Voracious Readers

Book Club, discussing the title *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, and were also able to attend an Afro-Brazilian Music program, “Rhythms, Songs, and Instruments of Capoeira and Brazil”.

Murphy-Wilmot Library – Kathy Konecny

Murphy-Wilmot Library was happy to host the League of Women Voters of Greater Tucson's The Truth Above Everything Else: Misinformation and the Election program. Over ninety community members participated in the program which featured a panel discussion from scholars of communication, journalism, and public policy. The panel focused its discussion on electoral misinformation and its impact on society.

Our gardening series resumed in September thanks to a partnership with the Pima County Master Gardeners from the University of Arizona's Cooperative Extension. During the first presentation, participants learned about the basics of container gardening and raised beds.

District 5 – Supervisor Adelita Grijalva, Chair

El Río Library – Em DeMeester-Lane

El Río library hosted their regular weekly Storytime and Read to a Dog programs as well as a special Reading Rodeo where attendees got to meet and read with a miniature horse! We are also excited to roll out a new Adult Book Discussion Club. The drop-in program encourages folks of all languages to come talk about their favorite books and has a particular emphasis on PCPL Literacy Read collection for adult learners.

Himmel Park Library – Heather Ross

The first in a new series of 1st Wednesday STEAM programs for tweens and teens was a great success. There were two science activities, squishy circuits and a morse code transmitter, available for experimentation and one craft activity, using the morse code alphabet to make a beaded bracelet. All attendees were enthusiastic, using Play-Doh to make sculptures and then giving them life with the electronic components from the squishy circuits kit. Participants enjoyed working together and helping each other figure out what to do. One girl was intrigued by the morse code transmitter and tapped out the entire morse code alphabet. She later made a morse code bracelet.

Customers continue to express how much they appreciate the library. One family brought us cookies and a homemade card that said “Thank you for all you do all day, every day! Yay Library staff!” Another customer told us that he had been living in another state, where his local library hadn't purchased new books in 25 years. He appreciates PCPL very much!

Joel D. Valdez Main Library – Linde Furman/Lorenia Diaz

The Joel D. Valdez Main Library teen space has been busy with many youth coming in to hang out after school. In the makerspace, some youth will work independently or with friends on various projects such as gem art crafting, jewelry making, 3D printing and modeling, button making, and even sewing. We offered a special program on Afro-Brazilian music in which the youth were able to play instruments themselves. We were also thrilled to have chickens in the space! The teens had the opportunity to learn what is necessary to raise and care for backyard chickens. We have also had two wonderful teen volunteers who have helped to create our monthly display celebrating Library Card Sign Up Month and assisted with selecting books for a display featuring biographies and memoirs.

Main also hosted two successful Our Space Programs for our houseless community and had a musical performance by Gertie and T.O. Boyz which everyone loved. We played a few rounds of

Bingo and welcomed tablers to help our patrons with basic needs services and resources. Our tablers this month included the Homeless Resources Navigator from Community and Workforce Development, Community Medical Services for harm reduction and substance abuse resources, Vote Riders for IDs, StandUp Wireless for free government cell phones, and Pima County Health Department, who gave out Covid Test kits.

Main Library held a presentation on grant writing by Carolyn Owens on 9/6 and Librarian Wayne Wheeler led a successful Grants Lab on 9/11.

Our Reference teams answered 575 inquiries over the course of the month. Some highlights include:

- “Thank you so very much for all the very helpful information that you provided below! The information from both the links were/are so very helpful to me!” - P.
- “Thank you very much. It is very thoughtful of the Pima Cty Library to offer this service. And, so quickly.” - K.
- “Thank you so much! ... It's an excellent book and I might reread it. The Pima Library system is the best one I've ever been a member of.” - R.
- “And this why we love Libraries and Librarians. Thank you so much!” - M.

Martha Cooper Library-Tara Foxx-Lupo

Martha Cooper library opened to an eagerly awaiting public on September 17th after a renovation and expansion that began in November of 2022. Almost nine hundred community members came to see the library on day one! The new space is aesthetically pleasing, responsive to community need and more than double in size. Expanded and improved areas include the children's and teen spaces, meeting and study spaces, outdoor spaces and staff workspaces.

Library staff are planning fall programming and promoting it widely as we prepare to invite our community back in the coming months. Our beginning program offerings will include Family Storytime, Babytime, Homework and Reading Help, GASP (Games, Arts and Snacks), Afterschool Snacks and English Language and Computer Classes in partnership with Literacy Connects.

Southwest Library – Melissa Salazar

Southwest Library continues to stay busy now in the midst of the fall semester of school. Our Children's Librarian, Brianna Velador visited the Pascua Yaqui Headstart on Wednesday, September 4th, 2024 from 5:00pm to 7:30pm. This tabling outreach was for "I Am Yaqui Paint Night" with the Dr. Fernando Escalante Tribal Library. Brianna Velador informed families about library card applications, branch programs, Chromebook and hotpots, library materials, and resources. About ten community members filled out library card applications, and many took home library goodies (stickers, pencils, pens, bookmarks, crayons, erasers). About five children also made "Pete the Cat Bookmark" crafts, engaged with library puppets, and read Pete the Cat children's books brought from Southwest Library. This was a great opportunity to meet with many families and staff from the Dr. Fernando Escalante Tribal Library, with attendance of 50 people learning about the Pima County Public Library. Southwest Library also participated in the Community Food Bank's At Risk After School Program, designed to give meals to students 18 and under with a packaged meal to help mitigate food insecurity. We are averaging about 20 to 30 kids a day that received a snack at the library. We also had Homework Help and GED help every day from 2:45-5:00 pm.

Activities funded by Friends Groups

Friends of the Pima County Public Library

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Painting Loteria Cards with Dolores Harjo, Yoga with Vivienne Uyeda

Whatever Wednesdays – Family Movie, Bookmark Making, Painting Rocks, PCPL Science Bus Family-Storytime, Lego Club

Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library- Painting with Dolores Haro, Altered Attire Workshop, Mad Scientists' Workshop, Sensory Program, Lego Club

Friends of the Green Valley Library (Green Valley & Sahuarita)-Family Storytime, Arts and Crafts for Adults

Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library- Samples and Stories from the Delicious Desert by Desert Harvesters



DATE: October 3, 2024

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 W. Anne Gibson-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: Circulation and Activity Measures: August 2024

	Aug-24	Aug-23	Percent Change
Circulation and Visits			
Circulation - Physical	182,708	204,324	-11%
Circulation - Digital	268,435	253,410	6%
Gate Count	240,276	206,622	16%
Website Visits	523,162	439,251	19%
Cardholders			
Active Cardholders	170,371	156,838	9%
Total Cardholders	285,366	305,941	-7%
Percent Active Cardholders	60%	51%	16%
Virtual Reference Service			
Chat Service - Number of Chats	624	693	-10%
Research Questions	340	440	-23%
Phone	1,486	2,179	-32%
Mail	234	256	-9%
Programming			
Early Childhood Literacy Program Attendance	4,702	4,498	5%
Adult Literacy Program Attendance	1,779	264	574%
Workforce Development Program Attendance	535	367	46%

Library Advisory Board Activity Report
August 2024

BRANCH	Physical Circulation	Computer Use	Gate Count	Number of Programs	Program Attendance	Attendance at Outreach Events and School Visits	Number of People Using Meeting and Study Rooms
Bookmobile / Books by Mail	860	0	192	0	0	0	0
Caviglia-Arivaca	404	80	451	9	46	0	58
Dewhirst-Catalina	1,810	246	3,484	8	41	40	37
Dusenberry-River	11,208	821	7,730	29	555	0	392
Eckstrom-Columbus	5,739	3,396	15,944	34	414	0	298
El Rio	1,696	283	1,760	20	118	16	0
Flowing Wells	2,984	1,392	6,942	31	514	0	376
Frank De La Cruz-El Pueblo	169	155	1,271	0	0	0	0
Himmel Park	8,951	1,023	9,063	23	440	11	140
Joel D Valdez Main	5,388	4,411	28,917	33	351	169	980
Joyner-Green Valley	8,589	984	8,434	19	137	80	335
Kirk-Bear Canyon	10,629	526	8,892	26	706	0	1,180
Martha Cooper	0	0		0	0	0	0
Miller-Golf Links	14,193	1,841	12,168	20	57	85	321
Murphy-Wilmot	17,475	3,728	18,510	47	1,180	0	1,596
Nanini	15,515	1,478	11,727	40	696	0	891
Oro Valley	22,220	1,490	23,024	50	1,029	0	615
Quincie Douglas	2,731	1,914	9,867	50	779	0	638
Richard Elias-Mission							
Sahuarita	7,158	1,296	8,124	46	744	0	2,037
Salazar-Ajo	1,088	332	3,017	135	969	0	166
Sam Lena-South Tucson	582	1,204	4,251	14	46	0	100
Santa Rosa	399	745	9,575	20	150	50	677
Southwest	1,695	378	4,106	34	25	8	0
Valencia	5,184	2,561	8,628	71	797	65	932
W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Stat	7,794	399	9,527	19	338	0	1,004
Wheeler Taft Abbett	13,080	1,759	12,546	52	531	40	249
Woods Memorial	10,150	3,007	12,126	19	385	0	344
Web Renewal	5,005	0		0	0	0	0
Adult Services	0	0		82	626	231	0
Youth Services	0	0		0	0	0	0
TOTALS August 2024	182,708	35,449	240,276	931	11,674	795	13,366
TOTALS August 2023	204,324	33,126	206,622	645	8,958	2,431	12,719
Percentage Change	-11%	7%	16%	44%	30%	-67%	5%

*Mission and Martha Cooper closed August 2024