



# BookMarks



*Newsletter of the Friends of the Casa Grande Public Library*



**PHOTO FROM 2024  
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

## Focus on Youth Literacy

The Friends strive to improve childhood literacy by supporting summer programming, providing funding for the Scholastic Book Fair, and in other ways.

The annual Scholastic Book Fair, sponsored by the Friends, is the highlight of the Summer Reading Program. This year it begins on Saturday, July 7 at both libraries. Summer Reading participants can pick out a FREE book of their choice. Non-participants are able to purchase children's books.



**FLYER FOR 2025 SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

The Friends maintain small children's book collections in two Casa Grande laundromats, making children's books available to children who have little access to books at home. While waiting, children and caregivers are invited to enjoy a book, take it home to read, and keep, or pass it on to another child.

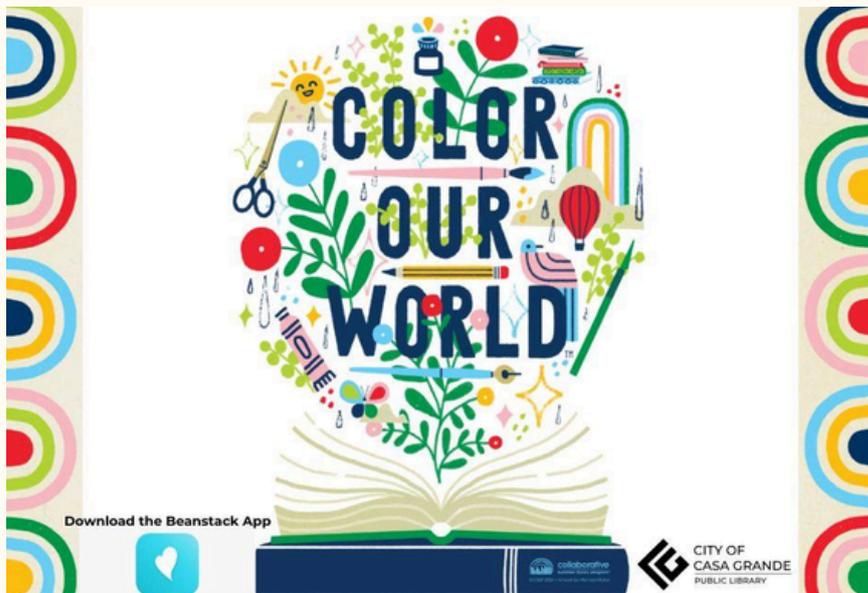


## Kudos to Friends President, Tina Packard!

You will be seeing more of the FOL Board President, Tina Packard. With the retirement of beloved librarian, Lori Applegate, on June 30, Tina is the new School/Young Adult Librarian at Vista Grande. Tina, who has dual master's degrees (MBA and MLIST), brings a wealth of experience including serving as a Library Director in Fremont, NE and director of the Mid-Plains Community College six-campus library system in McCook, NE. Since moving to Casa Grande, she has been active in the Casa Grande School District, serves as webmaster for the Arizona Library Association, and has a library consulting business. She looks forward to working with students and youth at Vista Grande!



# Summer Reading Program



Fun summer activities at the library are in full swing. The theme this year is "Color Our World" with events and programming for all levels from preschoolers to children, tweens, teens, and families. The Summer Reading Program kickoff event was June 2 at Palm Island Aquatic Park. Participants can download the Beanstack App to track minutes for Summer Reading, including a reading challenge for adults.

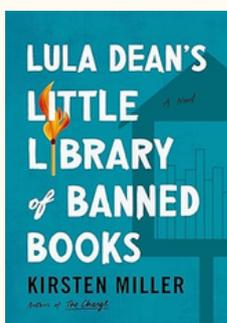
## A Storytime Surprise!

On April 29, book bag pillows were distributed to little ones at Ms. Julie and Ms. Terry's Tea Party Storytime and Puppet Show at the Main Library. The Rotary Club donated funds. Friends board member and avid quilter, Bonnie Warren, purchased fabric and supplies which were used by the Obsessed Quilters to create the adorable book bag pillows! A big thank you to the Rotary Club, Bonnie, and the seamstresses!

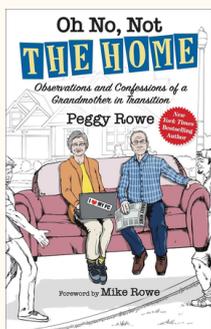


## Calling All Book Lovers! Read With Us!

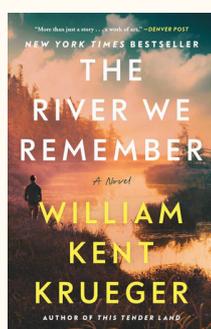
### LITERATI BOOK CLUB



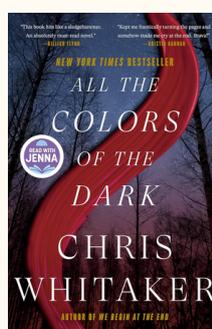
JULY 7



AUGUST 4



SEPTEMBER 8



OCTOBER 6

The Literati Book Club usually meets on the second Monday of every month at 11:30 a.m. at Vista Grande Library.

### LUNCH BUNCH BOOK CLUB



The Lunch Bunch Book Group will resume meetings at the downtown Main Library branch in the fall. Stay tuned for announcements of time and place!

# President's Corner

Why Join Friends of the Library? People often ask me about the Friends of the Library. Here are a few of the questions and my answers.

What exactly do you do?

- *We provide financial and staff support to the libraries. We help with library events. We process used books and offer ongoing book sales at both libraries, as well as an annual sale. Much of what we do is sorting, packing, and moving thousands of books throughout the year.*

What kind of help do you need?

- *We need people to show up and support library events. We need help sorting, packing, and moving books. We need donations and memberships that help us better support the library.*

Are you volunteers?

- *We are 100% volunteer.*

What are the requirements to be a member?

- *There are no requirements for membership. Anyone can join.*



What kind of events or activities have you completed?

- *Some of our biggest endeavors include the bookmobile purchase, Charlie Cart kitchen on wheels purchase, Scholastic Book Fair, and annual book sales. We sponsor speakers and help at library activities.*

I encourage anyone who values literacy and public libraries to join the Friends group and contribute their time and energy to help the library continue its vital role in our community.

– Tina Packard, Friends President

## Become a member today!



### MEMBER BENEFITS

- Receive information, like this email, about library events and activities;
- Enjoy a 4-week checkout period for books, including audio books;
- Choose four free books from the ongoing book sale or annual sale;
- Know that you have supported the Casa Grande Public Library and its collections, programs, and services.

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE

STUDENT: \$5

INDIVIDUAL: \$15

FAMILY: \$30

SUPER FRIEND: \$50

VENDOR: \$25

LIFETIME (PER PERSON): \$500

SUSTAINING MEMBER (PER MONTH): \$10



### HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FRIENDS?

Website: [friendscglibrary.org/](http://friendscglibrary.org/)

Email: [focglibrary@gmail.com](mailto:focglibrary@gmail.com)

P.O. Box 10719, Casa Grande, AZ 85122