

FRIENDS

SAFFORD CITY GRAHAM COUNTY LIBRARY

friendslibrarysafford@yahoo.com

Saffordlibraryfriends.org

November, 2024

President's Message

Beginning Saturday, November 23

Welcome to November and a whole new season. The crisp, fall temps were a long time coming. I imagine you have welcomed the change.

Since I last wrote, the Friends hosted another successful radio auction and dine-out at Jerry's. As I repeatedly say, "We are always in fundraising mode." So, what is next? The See's Candies Drive, of course. Subsequent articles will tell you more about all of this.

I need to set aside this space to recognize the Safford City-Graham County Library for its recent Library of Congress Award. This is a BIG deal! Our wonderful library received national acclaim for its Early Literacy Concert Series; a residency which brings children's authors and performing artists to Graham-Greenlee children from preschool through second grade. It was recognized in the category of Emerging Programs. Kudos to Elizabeth Henley for the inspiration and to the entire library staff for offering such unique programming to our youngest population. Donna McGaughey refers to it as "the Kinder-stock of the Safford Library." She is right on target. Congratulations to the library staff. And, a big thank you to all its sponsors.

We are pleased to continue our monthly programming through Friends Night Out and the Open Book Club. For more information on that, read on. Don't forget to go to our website to stay updated on The Friends: saffordlibraryfriends.org.

Best wishes for a beautiful holiday season!
Paulette LeBlanc, SAGLIF President



Drive



Sponsored by:



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SAFFORD CITY
GRAHAM COUNTY LIBRARY

*Remember to Get See's Candies
for the holidays at
Ginaveve's Market Place
401 W Main St in Safford*

Thanksgiving Treat



Perfect under the tree.

Friends Night Out

On **November 21st**, Friends Night Out will feature a unique program. Attendees will visit the Yuyi Morales art exhibit in the **library's Program Room**. Elizabeth Henley and Lesley Talley will host a program which will describe the life of this talented children's illustrator and lead a walk-through of the exhibit. This is an interactive presentation, designed to get participants hunting for subtleties within the framed pieces. Yes, educational and fun at the same time. Please join us!



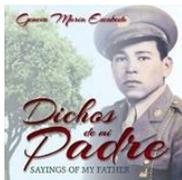
Graham County has so many talented citizens!

Friends Night Out on **January 16th** will feature one of them.

Author Geneva Escobedo, born and raised in Safford, returns to her roots to offer a presentation related to her publication, *Dichos de mi Padre/Sayings of my Father*.



Participants will learn about the significance of Dichos in our culture. To wet your whistle: "A dead person and a leech both stink after 3 days" or "How beautiful it is to do nothing and, after that, rest".



This session is bound to conjure personal memories as Geneva leads us through a writing exercise to celebrate our own Dichos.

Calling All Bibliophiles

The **Open Book Club** continues to meet at the library on the **3rd Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.** We welcome anyone interested in the printed word, whether it be a book, news article, poem, short story, etc. The beauty of this club lies in its members and the variety they bring to the table. In one evening, you may hear reports on fiction, historical fiction, non-fiction, an article from the *Saturday Evening Post*, a biography, and a newspaper article. It's wonderfully eclectic. Come to share or listen.

Chocolate is Calling

Our See's Candies Drive will be held from **November 23rd** until the inventory runs out.

A word to the wise! The inventory has never made it to December 25th. Shop early! **Shop Ginaveve's Market Place**. We love our relationship with John and Jenny Howard and are deeply grateful to them for serving as our retail location for this fundraiser. And, we can't say enough about their helpful staff. Stop by during the month to check off that holiday shopping list.



Holiday Bake Sale

Mark your calendar for the Friends' Annual Holiday Bake Sale; **Thursday, December 5th**. We will be selling goodies **from 11:00 – 7:00** in the library lobby. Stop by to check out the incredible array of goodies. **And, bring cash!** If you'd like to bake for the sale, **just drop off your donation on Wednesday, the 4th**. Be sure your name is on your treat. We love to brag on our bakers

This sale coincides with the library's holiday festival which includes special activities throughout the day and a visit from Santa Claus.

Going, Going, Gone!

The Friends Radio Auction of September 6th, once



again, reaped rewards. How about a profit of \$8599.49 in 2.5 hours!! This is outstanding! To all

bidders who participated, thank you!! Special thanks to our auctioneers; Reed Richins, David Bell and Brooks Knight. And, we couldn't have pulled this off without the help and organizational skills of Victoria Silva and Hope Lofgreen, who kept track of the mayhem. Most of all, a giant round of applause for Paul David who conceived of this idea

four years ago. Paul beats the bushes for donations throughout the summer and publishes our catalog. Our local businesses and organizations are very generous with their contributions to a remarkable auction catalog. It's amazing how it all comes together. Thanks, all!!

SouthWestern Power Group & RioSol Thank You!



A donation of \$1,000 was given to the Friends of the Safford City-Graham County Library by SouthWestern Power Group and RioSol. Making the presentation was RioSol local representative, Nancy Jean Welker. This donation is greatly appreciated and will be used to enhance the library's programs or its collection.

Yum!

The Konrath family received their last treat from Dessert of the Month, after a two-year stint as high bidders at the Radio Auction. "Dessert of the



Month has been a really fun treat over the last two years", remarked mom, Lucia. "We enjoyed it so much the first year, we purchased it again for the second year. It was great to have a seasonal dessert delivered to us monthly and to meet some really nice members of

the community. The whole family enjoyed it. We had lots of discourse over what we thought the next dessert would be. I highly recommend it and appreciate the effort of so many."

The baton is now passed to the 2024 high bidder, Reed Richins from Double R Communications. Reed plans to share the treats with the staff at the radio station. It will be fun to hear about their personal favorites.

Kudos to our devoted bakers: Barbie Spining, Denise Crockett, Darlene Montierth, Paulette LeBlanc, Laura David, Judy Johnson, Mindy Wilson, Nancy Schauman, Donna McGaughey, Elizabeth Henley, Sue Rasmussen and AnnJi Craig-Wooten.

Dine-Out Dollars!

Our 7th annual Jerry's Dine-Out was another success. We pulled in a profit of \$527 from the day's \$2111 receipts. Thanks to all who supported



this fundraiser by going to Jerry's. We appreciate you! It was fun! As Deanna Moeller said, "Anytime I can support the Friends of the Library

and pig out at the same time, I'm in." Dining with Deanna was Joyce Evans. And, thanks to Manager, Chris Foree and the Jerry's crew for their capable and friendly service. As we say each year, this is a win-win proposition. Great partnership!

Happy Holidays

The Friends of Library newsletter is published 3-4 times a year. Friends, 808 S 7th Ave, Safford, AZ 85546 - 2944.



FRIENDS
SAFFORD CITY GRAHAM COUNTY LIBRARY
President-Paulette LeBlanc,
Vice-President – Sue Rasmussen,
Secretary & Newsletter Editor-AnnJi Craig-Wooten,
Treasurer- Donna Harrison.
Website – saffordlibraryfriends.org

This newsletter goes out to our members and many others in our community. If you have a **number** (for example, 2/25) **after** your **name** on the address label, **you are a member**. The number indicates the month and year your membership needs to be renewed. The 2/25 means you would need to renew your dues February, 2025.

Library News



make the Safford City-Graham County Library a cherished resource in our community.

We are honored to be awarded the 2024 Emerging Strategies Honoree by the Library of Congress for our Early Literacy Concert Series! This recognition reflects the hard work of our dedicated staff and, most importantly, the incredible support from patrons like you.

Thank you for being an essential part of our journey. Together, we are making a difference in promoting literacy and enriching the lives of those we serve!

Taken from the Library's October Newsletter

The Safford City – Graham County Library's **Early Literacy Concert Series** promotes

literacy for young learners through music and live performance. The library's Early Literacy



Coordinator first imagined the concert series when she stumbled upon the music of Latin Grammy winner Mister G while researching songs for the library's bilingual StoryTime. With overwhelming support from local partners, the Safford City – Graham County Library launched its first concert in 2022. The concert spanned across two days, included teacher workshops, provided a free book for families and teachers to take back to their classrooms, and attracted 2,000 people. The program encourages the daily practice of singing, talking, reading, writing, and playing in combination with school readiness skills of phonological awareness, print awareness, background knowledge, letter knowledge, and vocabulary. The initiative is loved by the community and continues to expand each year.

Taken from Library of Congress announcement

A Heartfelt Thank You!

We want to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to all of you for playing a vital role in our library's success. Your support and engagement



Two library staff, Lesley Talley and Elizabeth Henley, attended the 2024 Library of Congress Literacy Award Symposium on Wednesday, October 30th. At the symposium, they had the opportunity to present to other honorees and award winners about the library program that was recognized, the **Early Literacy Concert Series**. Library staff attendees heard about the successful literacy initiatives from the remaining four (4) honorees and 19 organizations that had been recognized by the Library of Congress. More information about all award winners can be found at <https://www.loc.gov/programs/library-of-congress-literacy-awards/winners-and-honorees/winners/2024-winners-and-honorees/>.



The Safford City - Graham County Library Friends are extremely proud of the library staff members and its volunteers, who make our library the center of our community. They are some of the most innovative, creative and industrious individuals we know. Congratulations!

We thank the Safford City Council, United Way and our other contributors for their continued support of this vital part of our community – The Library.

Upcoming Programs/Event

Holiday Open House



The library will host its annual Holiday Open House on **December 5th from 4 pm – 6:30 pm.**

There will be activities on the main floor of the library as well as a visit from **Santa from 4 pm – 6 pm.** The Friends of the Library will host their annual **Bake Sale from 11 am – 7 pm.** All

proceeds from the sale go to the library for future programs and services.

Ongoing Programs/Services

Yuyi Morales Exhibit

The library is thrilled to be hosting a traveling exhibit, Sonadora, from the National Center for



Children's Illustrated Literature of author/illustrator Yuyi Morales' original picture book art. Morales is a six-time recipient of the prestigious Pura Belpre award and the first Latina to earn a Caldecott honor for her book *Viva Frida*. This exhibit, featuring sixty-one pieces of Morales' original art from sixteen of her books, is currently on display in the main area of the library and in the program room until December 5th. A listing of **gallery hours are Nov. 18-21, 10 am -3 pm; Nov. 25, 10 am – 6:30 pm & 27th, 10 am -3 pm;** where the public can come to view the art. In addition, classrooms have come to view the exhibit and will continue to do so throughout the month of November. Please visit <https://www.nccil.org/yuyi-morales> to learn more about the artist.

The Friends of the Library Night Out will be **Nov. 21 from 5:30 pm – 7pm presenting: Sonadora: Yuyi Morales, The life and art of Yuyi Morales in the library program room.**

GED Preparation Classes and Testing

The library is happy to announce that in-person GED Preparation Classes are available for Graham



and Greenlee Counties thanks to a grant from the United Way! Whether you are brushing up on your skills to prepare for the test or taking

the first steps toward your future, this program is designed for you to succeed! Currently, hours are Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 am – 6 pm. If you would like more information, please email the Adult Education Instructor, Kristi Apodaca, at kapodaca@saffordaz.gov. Please expect a response within a week.

Additionally, the library is an official GED testing site, with in-person testing available Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-7 pm. Testing can be scheduled through myGED.com with tests costing \$41 (Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies) and \$9 (Civics). Please contact the library with any questions at 928-432-4165.

New Staff

Kristi Apodaca is excited to join the phenomenal staff at the Safford City - Graham County Library as the **Adult Education Instructor.**



Born and raised in Safford, Kristi has a passion for the education field and over 2 decades of experience in various educational settings. She enjoys helping students reach and celebrate their educational goals.

Outside of work, she is married to Hondo Apodaca and she has one son, Lukas, who is excelling at ASU life. Kristi spends time with her large, loving, local family as much as possible. She also likes traveling,

photography, and attending local events. Kristi is enjoying her position so far and looks forward to growing the program to reach our community's needs.

Act One Culture Passes

The library Culture Pass program includes 19 cultural institutions around Arizona. Passes are available for checkout to adults with a library card in good standing, with one pass per household.



Passes are usable for one week after checkout on a first-come-first-served basis. A new institution,

Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, will have passes available beginning November 1st.

*Please note that some locations are only available certain times of the year. For an updated list of institutions, please visit the library or check the library's website.

Library Annex at 814 S Central Ave. Safford

Makerspace Open Hours are **Tuesdays and Thursdays 5 – 7 pm**. The Makerspace includes 3D printing, a Cricut machine, recording equipment and a Glowforge. Training is required before being able to use the Makerspace equipment.



Additionally, the **second Saturday of each month is a tabletop/game day from 12-6 pm**. The public can bring their own games to play or play games the library provides. Those under age 16 must be accompanied by a parent.

The library will be **offering opportunities to wrap Christmas Gifts in December during Makerspace Open Hours**. The library will provide some

materials while supplies last. For any questions, call 928-432-4165.

Monthly Library Newsletter

The library sends out a monthly newsletter via email highlighting programs for the upcoming month, along with other library services. If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter, please go to the library's website, saffordlibrary.org, and sign up or scan the QR code.



Library Podcast

The library's podcast, titled Safford Library Book Jockeys is available on Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Spotify, and iHeart Radio. It can also be listened to by scanning the QR code below.



The podcast features information about library programs and services, book recommendations, and the opportunity to learn more about library staff.

StoryTime and Outreach

Preschool StoryTime program for the academic year is **in the Early Literacy Room on Thursdays at 10 am**. The **Bilingual StoryTime** program is the **first and third Tuesdays of each month at 10 am** in the Early Literacy Room. Spanish fluency is not required to attend.



StoryTime programs only were held in the library program

room during the summer due to higher attendance.

Staff has begun **outreach** to local area preschools in Graham and Greenlee Counties. Staff visit Palomita,

Sierra Bonita, Ruth Powell, First United Methodist Church, Brighter Day and Duncan Preschools each month. There is a StoryTime with fingerplays each month, with the book topic chosen based on themes covered in each classroom.

Past Programs/Events

Library Card Signup Month

The library celebrated National Library Card Signup Month by premiering a new library card with a **photo of the Gila Box by local photographer, Patricia Abeyta**. The library also asked several local leaders to come and receive their new library card, or to get their first library card, which were then featured on the library's social media pages. The library would like to thank the Friends of the Library as they provided a certificate for a free scoop of ice cream at Garrett's Sweet Shop for the first 50 new card holders.



Bingo for Books!



The library hosted the second annual Bingo for Books program on Thursday, August 22nd. Those who got Bingo

could pick a book and/or reading buddy as their prize. The library also advertised upcoming fall programs throughout the event, with handouts for more information to those interested. Over the event, 64 participated and added a over 100 books to their home libraries!

Library Fall Programming

The library began fall programming for grades K-3, 4-6, and teen audiences in September. Dependent on the group, participants could learn about pulleys, bees, Greek Art or cooking. Programs are

Tuesdays (grades K-3), Wednesdays (4-6), and Thursdays (teen) at 4pm until the end of November. For the month of September, 261 attended elementary age or teen programming.



After a December hiatus, elementary and teen programs will resume on the same days and times from January to the end of April.

Cooking Class

The library hosted Sourdough preparation classes for the Cooperative Extension at the Library Annex on September 4th. The program provided instruction on how to prepare, maintain and use a Sourdough starter, a friendship bread starter and a fruit starter. The 70 attendees also were able to take a sourdough starter sample home, to continue to grow it.



In October classes on the 2nd focused on chili with Curry Chili Co. explaining the different types of chili and how they grow it. November's program will provide instruction on preparing green chili tamales.

Teen Advisory Group



The library Teen Advisory Group has been meeting since August. The goal of the group is to help the library in developing programs and services for

teens in the community. Currently, the group meets once to twice a month to plan the next month's program. In October, the group hosted a Fright Night, where they created and shared scary stories. The group will host teen programs in November and December. More information about specific programs can be found on the library's website, social media pages, and by subscribing to the library's monthly newsletter.

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See's Candies Drive
Begins November 23rd
At Genaveve's Market
Place, 401 W Main St
Safford

Safford Graham Library Friends (SAGLIF)
808 S. 7th Ave.
Safford, AZ 85546 - 2944

Please use this Membership & Donation Form.

Support your library. Become a member of the Safford Graham Library Friends!

_____ \$10 Annual membership per person _____ \$20 Annual Family membership

\$_____ Donation - Donations are tax deductible. Make your check to **SAGLIF**.

Please mail to the address above or put in an envelope and drop off at the library's circulation desk.

I would like this donation to be used for one choice or split among the choices:

\$_____ Use as needed for the library \$_____ Support Friends' Endowment Fund

\$_____ Support Early Literary Concert Series (ELCS)

Please print neatly.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____