

# Fundraising Underway to Furnish SkyRoom

The Friends was thrilled to support construction of the renovated SkyRoom for family storytime at the Scottsdale Public Library (SPL) Civic Center branch, which officially opened to the public on May 12. We are now in Phase 2 of fundraising to furnish the space.

Money raised during Phase 1 doubled the room space to 3,428 feet, allowing twice as many families to enjoy free storytime sessions. It also installed a skylight (hence the new name) and new flooring/wood paneling.

While City of Scottsdale Capital Improvement funded much of the construction costs, the Friends raised \$28,000 through grants from Fiesta Bowl Charities and the Literary Society of the Southwest to fund the audio/visual system, a flat screen Smart TV, and tablets.



In Phase 2, we are raising an additional \$28,000 to furnish the SkyRoom with nesting tables, bench seating, and ottomans so guests don't need to sit on the floor. To provide a tax-deductible donation for this project, please visit <https://scottsdalelibraryfriends.org/programs/storytime-room-expansion>, or send a check to:

The Friends of the Scottsdale Public Library  
PO Box 71  
Scottsdale, AZ 85252

Thank you for your continued support of SPL programs.

## Your Friend at the Library: Jennifer Wong-Ortiz



Jennifer Wong-Ortiz is SPL's Community Engagement and Outreach Coordinator. Chances are if you follow the SPL social media accounts, or subscribe to the SPL newsletter, you've seen her work.

Jennifer is responsible for much of the content you will see on the SPL Facebook and Instagram pages, many of those posts being shared by the Friends on our social media accounts.

She also coordinates the SPL newsletter, and plans attendance at community events to help reach the underserved population. These include the Farmer's Market, school festivals, and neighborhood watch parties.

In addition, Jennifer oversees the SPL Home Delivery Program, which serves patrons who are homebound and unable to physically visit a branch. She selects materials for these patrons and arranges monthly deliveries straight to their homes. Jennifer is a great community liaison.

Jennifer has been with the library for almost 14 years. She is a Phoenix native, and started out at the Palomino Library branch as a Circulation Aide. From there she transitioned into Youth Services as a Library Assistant. Since then, she has worked at both Civic Center Library and Appaloosa Library, and has been a Librarian and Lead Librarian before becoming a Coordinator.

She is married with two children, ages 5 and 8. No surprise that her family keeps her busy! She loves to read, and also to bake and cook.

## In the Loop: A Note from the Library Director

By Kira Peters: Director, Scottsdale Public Library

Here we are in another Arizona red-hot summer; hope you can enjoy some of the many SPL activities and resources for a heat reprieve.

Here is a brief update on what is happening in the library system you support along with some future plans.



### Library Statistics (Exciting Ones)

The library is thriving since the restoration of full library system operations in January 2022.

With humor, we call January 2022 the Library's rebirth from the COVID pandemic. We remain cautious relative to the pandemic and know things can change quickly but the good news is that gate counts are up 92% when we compare January to May of 2022 and circulation is up 124% compared to this same time last year.



### Autorenewals – Yes!

Beginning in July, SSPL will implement the courtesy service of [autorenewals](#). This means that the system will automatically renew any items you have out that are eligible for renewal with no action on your part. You can return any library item at any time during the checkout period. One of the Scottsdale Library goals is exceptional patron service, and we know this is a step in the right direction.

### Pony Express Rides On

The technology for the Pony Express @ Appaloosa (abbreviated library service that allows patrons to access the inside of Appaloosa library without library staff present) is now being used to complement full service library access at Appaloosa. This special service is available for registered Pony Express users Monday to Saturday from 8am to 10am and Sunday from 8am to 1pm.

### Summer Reading Provides Oceans of Possibilities

The Summer Reading Program is hitting pre-pandemic numbers with over 5,000 people registered. The theme this summer is Oceans of Possibilities, and the registration success, like the ocean, is refreshing and makes all SPL staff happy!

### Dreams Into Reality

As we enter a new fiscal year, the SPL team develops priorities to focus on and goals we strive to achieve. Our priorities are to increase library usage, to infuse diversity equity and inclusion into library culture, and to market the value of library service. We also are working towards funding a library materials "Hold It" locker to place strategically in the community for a convenient way to access library materials 24/7 (think Amazon lockers but for library materials).



Thank you, Friends of the Scottsdale Public Library, your support is appreciated.

## Spotlight on Local Authors

The Friends has a special relationship with Phoenix area authors, who have been very generous with their time and talents to entertain Friends members. This summer is the perfect time for us to recognize their incredible talent by reading books that help make Arizona authors famous.



### Dan Baldwin

Dan is a writer of western and psychic detection novels, where he pulls readers in with real-life crime details, and books about business insights. He also provides a free writing tip of the week to inspire your writing on his website.

<https://danbaldwin.com>

Thank you for joining our High Tea with Authors event.



### Dianne Freeman

In Dianne's Victorian historical novels, marital bliss is not always what it seems to be. Filled with mystery, intrigue, and Victorian era details, these novels grab readers for the romance and keep them for the mysteries.

<https://difreeman.com>

Thank you for joining our High Tea with Authors event.



### Donis Casey

Donis' *Alafair Tucker* series has won several awards and accolades. Her new Bianca Dangereuse series is filled with femme fatales in Hollywood. She readily promotes other Arizona writers on her website.

<http://www.doniscasey.com>

Thank you for Airtime with an Author and joining our High Tea with Authors event.



### Jenn McKinlay

Jenn has written over 50 books, and her *Cupcake Mystery* series is set in Scottsdale. Friends is planning a walk through the book settings to experience the city, some mystery and intrigue, and of course ... the romance.

<https://www.jennmckinlay.com>

Thank you for Airtime with an Author and joining the local book clubs chat.

## Spotlight on Local Authors (Continued)



### Karen Odden

As a researcher and history major, Karen's mystery novels are set in 1870s London. Her latest book begins a series about an eccentric detective named Michael Corravan, with the next one due to be published in October 2022.

<https://karenodden.com>

Thank you for Airtime with an Author, our High Tea with Authors event, and the local book clubs chat.



### Dianne White

Author of award winning children's books, Dianne has a special talent for knowing what young children like and how to share it in a way that is just right for them. Her book Blue on Blue is the first of many that the youngest will treasure.

<https://diannewrites.com>

Thank you for joining our High Tea with Authors event.



### Betty Webb

Betty's writing career began when she thought a gallery owner was not being honest about the art sold, and the mysteries just keep coming. Her journalism background demands that she tell the real story in her work.

<https://www.bettywebb-mystery.com>

Thank you for joining our High Tea with Authors event and Friends Book Club talk.



### Anne A. Wilson

Anne was born and raised in Phoenix and graduated from the US Naval Academy with a degree in ocean engineering. Her active duty experience as a navy helicopter pilot inspired her first book Hover and follow-up Clear to Lift.

<https://www.jennmckinlay.com>

Thank you for her Airtime with an Author presentation.

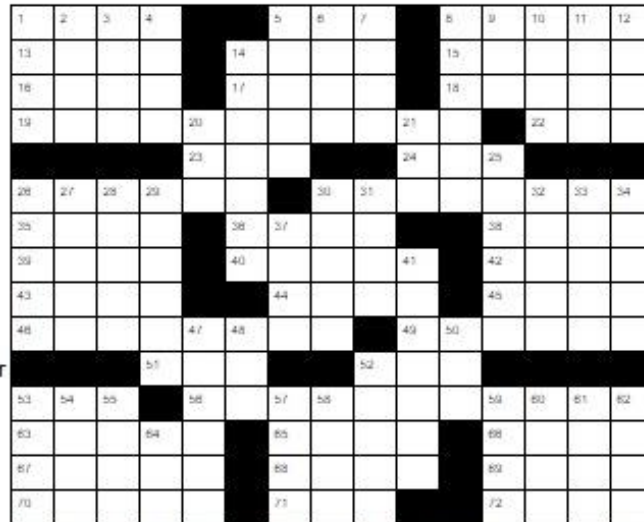
What a treasure we have in our Arizona authors. Support our local talent and read an Arizona Author book this summer!

## Fun & Games: Crossword Puzzle

Please enjoy this friend-themed crossword puzzle. For all clues in bold type, the answer is an author's last name whose well-known work's title or story has to do with summer, heat, or beaches (solution on page 6).

### Across

1. At a great distance
5. Precious stone
8. Fixed prices
13. Actress Edelstein or Kudrow
14. Created
15. Choose an officer
16. Envy or greed (2 words)
17. Egyptian nature goddess
18. Obama's daughter
19. **A Midsummer Night's Dream** author
22. Large pig
23. Infection liquid
24. Golfer Ernie
26. **Marked by Fire** author
30. **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof** author
35. Snack cake (2 words)
36. Oklahoma city known for wheat
38. Make changes to
39. East coast nurses union (acronym)
40. One who gives money
42. Lerner & \_\_\_\_
43. Opposite of less
44. Not moving
45. Den or kitchen
46. **Fahrenheit 451** author
49. **Message in a Bottle** author
51. Put in place
52. Opposite of me
53. Glass receptacle
56. **Summer of '69** author
63. Japanese beer
65. Middle East resident
66. Liver by-product found in urine
67. Expert
68. Red planet
69. One who evades the truth
70. Use money



71. Dominate video game (slang)
  72. Opposite of 69 across
- ### Down
1. Expression of grief
  2. Salmon or tuna
  3. Largest continent
  4. Army position
  5. Struggles for air
  6. Actress Falco or McClurg
  7. Desert hill
  8. List item on eBay
  9. In the style of (French)
  10. Connie Sellecca's husband
  11. Sound reflection
  12. Male deer
  14. Implemented incorrectly
  20. Green govt. agency (acronym)
  21. Suffix for mong- or scound-
  25. \_\_\_\_ Nevadas mountains
  26. Smallest hand digit
  27. Great esteem
  28. **Gone with the Wind** heroine
  29. Small motorcycles
  30. Chicago: The \_\_\_\_ City
  31. Object of worship
  32. Used to exit room (2 words)
  33. California native tribe
  34. Plant stalks
  37. Pinot \_\_\_\_ (French)
  41. Swallow again
  47. Buttocks
  48. Bladder infection (acronym)
  50. British bar
  52. Pine for
  53. Fruit preserves
  54. Immediately (acronym)
  55. Talk wildly
  57. Place for bulbs or lava
  58. Win, lose, or \_\_\_\_
  59. Regulation
  60. Opera solo
  61. Opposite of far
  62. Mend a sock
  64. Female chicken
  62. Mend a sock
  64. Female chicken

## Food With Friends

### Play Book Bingo for Summer Reading



In addition to the SPL Summer Reading Program, which runs through August 1, Friends members have another possibility to read great books and win a gift card with our bingo game.

We will be sending out bingo cards to Friends members with this newsletter that feature squares like "A Banned Book" or "Book about the environment." Simply fill out the author and title when you complete a book in the given category.

Once you complete four squares in a row (horizontally, vertically, diagonally), you've accomplished "bingo." Email a picture of your card to [Peggysharp@aol.com](mailto:Peggysharp@aol.com). Two winners will be selected to win a \$50 gift card to a retailer of your choice.

This contest is for Friends members only. Cards are due by September 30, 2022. Questions? Send to [Peggysharp@aol.com](mailto:Peggysharp@aol.com).

The Friends enjoyed a successful year of restaurant fundraisers. If you ate at one of the designated restaurants on the specified date, we hope you enjoyed an evening out with Friends for a tasty meal that benefitted Scottsdale Public Library. A good time for everyone!

We're now ready to review the restaurant program to look ahead to our upcoming season. We'd like your input and suggestions before we plan.

Here's how our restaurant fundraisers work: We partner with a local restaurant to receive (usually) 20% of the sales generated by our guests on a given day. We encourage Friends to eat out with their friends and family for a good meal for a good cause. We earned from \$70 to \$500 at a single restaurant for a total of just over \$1,000 since September 2021.

New this upcoming fall will be a Friends Table. Join the table to meet other Friends members and enjoy a meal. There will be a sign up process for eating at the Friends Table and we'll add additional tables as the numbers grow. What a great way to mingle and eat!

If you've attended any of these events, please tell us what you liked best, what could be improved and anything else that could be helpful. We would especially like suggestions for restaurants.

This past year we partnered with Macayo's, Oregano's, Ling and Louie's, White Castle and Portillo's. Our next fundraiser will likely be in October. Do watch for info; it's never too soon to get hungry.

If you haven't attended, we would like to know "why not?" We would love to have you join us at our Friends table, or invite other members or non-members to enjoy a meal with friends.

Please send your questions and comments to [scottsdalelibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:scottsdalelibraryfriends@gmail.com). We would love to hear from you, and bon appetit!

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S	E	A	T	R	A	M	G	E	M		A	R	A

Answer Key