

# Among Friends Newsletter

Library Friends of Payson, Inc.  
P.O. Box 13 Payson, AZ 85547  
[www.libraryfriendsofpayson.org](http://www.libraryfriendsofpayson.org)  
Email [library\\_friends@hotmail.com](mailto:library_friends@hotmail.com)

June 2021

## Almost Ready!

Back in 2018, the Library Friends of Payson received a very generous legacy donation from the estate of Arlene Kowalski. After much discussion, it was decided to combine this donation with the LFOP Building Fund account that had been accruing interest since 2001 and use the fund to expand the library. The library has needed additional meeting room space for library, community and Town use.

The proposed expansion added about 2,000 sq. ft. to the existing meeting area. Included were movable room dividers to allow flexibility for use. Up to three meeting spaces could be configured as needed. Planning began with Shannon Long, Long Design Associates of Payson, and the LFOP Steering Committee in April, 2019. President Linda Lanctot, Vice-President Les Hansen, Treasurer John Wilson, and Secretary Kathy Morgan, along with Library Director Emily Linkey, comprised the steering committee. Mr. Long's proposal provided the needed square footage within the LFOP budget. 1<sup>st</sup> Priority Builders was selected as the general contractor.

Within a few months of the groundbreaking ceremony in December, 2019, the outside wall of the existing library meeting room was demolished to allow for the expansion to begin. New foundation was poured and block walls went up. It was exciting to see progress being made.

In March of 2020, work began to slow down dramatically as Covid-19 restrictions went into effect creating delays on material delivery and issues with finding workers to continue the project. Slowly but surely, work has continued through the past year, and we are now in the final stages of completing this long-awaited addition. We are optimistic that final approval for the entire project will be given by the Town by the end of May or first part of June.

The new space will be a wonderful asset for the Rim Country community, and will offer much needed meeting options for non-profit and local groups. With the use of dividers, in lieu of fixed interior walls, up to three groups will be able to meet at the same time. The large room (without dividers in place) will hold 182 occupants.

*Submitted by Kathy Morgan*

### Payson Public Library

328 N. McLane Road  
Payson, AZ 85541  
928/474-9260

Emily Linkey, Director

### Library Hours in Effect

M, Th 10am—6 pm

T, W 10am—7 pm

F, S 10am—3 pm

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**The Library Friends of Payson, Inc.**, is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide financial and community support to the Payson Public Library. We believe that public libraries comprise an integral aspect of community identity and development, and we support endeavors that encourage literacy and free inquiry within the individual, the family, and society.

## President's Corner

Dear Library Friends,

This has been a long year for many reasons: health challenges and concerns, families not able to be together to celebrate or mourn an important event, basic chores or meetings put on hold and the list goes on—.

Well, perhaps life is opening up and our situation is finally turning the corner to a happier time. Our LFOP Board met in early May and it was a joy to see friends again. One of the agenda items was Emily, our director, and her staff. It was with pride that we listened to her report: none of the staff had to be furloughed, staff was kept busy answering Town phones and directing business as needed, her staff got wonderful exercise looking for patron's books and delivering them to the front door. The library is now open for business with regular hours and I hope we all take time to thank the staff for their dedication.

The library and our LFOP programs are still under Town restrictions for meetings and occupancy. We have our fingers crossed that these restrictions will ease soon and that the library and LFOP can return to being a busy and vital part of our Payson community.

Hope to see you soon, Linda

*Linda*



Linda Lanctot



*Our heartfelt gratitude to our library staff for their steadfast commitment to our community during a very challenging year.*

*We appreciate each and every one of you for all your effort!*

*Thank you!*



## Rim Readers Continue to Meet in Green Valley Park

Bring your lawn chairs and your lively conversation to the park on Wednesday, June 16!

Next reads:

June 16 - That Churchill Woman by Stephanie Barron, 389 p.

July 21 - The Way I Heard It by Mike Rowe, 271 p.

### Upcoming meeting:

**Wednesday  
June 16**

### Meeting Time & Place:

10 am All Rim Reader meetings are open to the public. Third Wednesday of each month at **Green Valley Park** until further notice. We meet across the parking lot, north of the Historical Society building. No membership fee.

*Submitted by Linda Teasley*

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## Bookstore Update



We are open and our volunteers are anxious to see everyone again. Please stop by Monday through Saturday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Our prices are the same with the highest priced book only \$5. We also have puzzles, DVDs and CDs for your listening and viewing pleasure. We are taking donations, so if you are doing your spring cleaning and have books you no longer want, please consider donating them to the bookstore. The Bookstore is located inside the Payson Public Library at 328 N. McLane Road.



### LFOP Programs Cancelled Through September

All future programs remain cancelled through September due to the uncertainty with the coronavirus situation. Please continue to follow updates in this newsletter. We look forward to rescheduling and getting back to normal!

## Book Sales

### *Presidential Biographies*

A collector's dream: A 68 volume set of Presidential biographies, all Easton Press publications with genuine leather covers, ribbed spines and printed on archival paper. Biographies for each president from Washington to George HW Bush. Nixon, Ford, and Carter have autographed their biographies plus additional volumes related to the presidents. Price \$2000, with one time LFOP discount of 25%, \$1500. Call Pete Rothenbach (928-978-7338) to examine the set.



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### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Wilson reports the following fund balances as of May 3, 2021:

General Fund	\$ 728,820
Building Fund	\$ 270
Restricted Fund	\$ 2,270





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*Library Friends of Payson, Inc.*

P.O. Box 13, Payson AZ 85547  
 Email: library\_friends@hotmail.com  
 Website: libraryfriendsofpayson.org

**OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>President</b>	Linda Lanctot	472.9160	<b>Data Entry</b>	Romaine Brophy	474.9619
<b>Vice Pres.</b>	Shelly Sundra	928.595.0603	<b>Website</b>	Kathy Morgan*	468.8600
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Wilson	474.8276	<b>Programs</b>	Denise Blanchette	474.6696
<b>Rec. Secretary</b>	Kathy Morgan	474.5981	<b>Bookstore</b>	Judy Smith	474.4189 or 595.0556
<b>At-Large</b>	Karen Thornton	478.4133		Joelle Van Wier	480.816.5751
	Jeanne Schoonover	474.4930	<b>Homebound</b>	Olivia Covelli*	474.8334
	Jim Brannan	468.2177	<b>Online Sales</b>	Peter Rothenbach*	468.0866
<b>Emeritus</b>	Sue Wilson	474.8276	<b>Member Contact</b>	Lynne Wayne*	472.2230
<b>Financial Sec'y</b>	Pam Jackson	928.363.1220	<b>Membership</b>	Alice Natale	474.2838
<b>Newsletter</b>	Dolores Goughnour	468.0263	<b>Library Staff</b>	Emily Linkey	474.9260
				David Grasse	474.9260

\*non-elected volunteer