

LFOP Bookstore News

January
Specials



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January special is all hardback books, two for the price of one.

Judy's Jottings...



A couple months ago I asked all our volunteers for ideas on future articles and one of our newest volunteers suggested an article on the history of the library. So, with LOTS and LOTS of help from Kathy Morgan, the following is a short history of the library.

The Payson Library began with donated books placed on a shelf in the local Community Presbyterian Church. Wives of local settlers and ranchers were the "movers and shakers" who began raising funds for a library building in Payson by selling chicken dinners. In 1921, the Payson Women's Club was organized and they supported the Payson Library in the same building, located at 510 West Main Street. Nan Pyle, a wealthy heiress from the East Coast, moved to Payson with her rancher husband in the 1950s. She was an active supporter of the library and donated most of the books on the library's shelves at that time. (An award was later established in Nan Pyle's honor and among the many recipients of this award are Margie Bueland, Jackie Ricker, Peggy Gray, Jim Gray, John Wilson, Sue Wilson, Judy Buettner, Jim Buettner, Peggy Freeman and Romaine Brophy.)

The library remained on Main Street until moving to the present building on N. McLane Road. The Library Friends of Payson worked for many years to raise money and fought convincingly in asking the Town of Payson to pass a bond resolution to pay for a new building. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new building were held in January 2000 and the building opened to the public in 2001. Then, in December 2019, the Library Friends of Payson broke ground for a 2,000 square foot addition to the original building. This addition was funded completely by donations from library supporters. This addition was completed and donated to the Town of Payson in August 2021.

The library is part of the Gila County Library District, which provides limited funding for personnel and services. The Town of Payson provides operating expenses. However, the library depends heavily upon community support for its programs and books. If you check the form on the library website to become a Library Friend of Payson, you will find a list of activities and funding and a picture of the first Payson Public Library.

Kathy says my request has intrigued her to do some very real research and write a lengthy history which she will share with us. Thanks, Kathy, for writing 99% of this article. I hope everyone's holidays were joyful and I wish all of you a very Happy New Year! Thanks for all you do for the bookstore.

Internet Sales Update

December was another slow month for internet sales. Through December 27th, \$230 was earned from Amazon and ABEBOOKS commissions and we will finish the year at just under \$5000. The highest priced book sold in December was *Principles of Field Crop Production* for \$80, a college textbook listed in October 2020 for \$110. We price our books at the lowest price at the time of listing so that they sell quickly since used book prices in general are dropping. If a book hasn't sold in 6 months, the price is lowered until it sells, with 50% of our books selling within a year of being listed for sale. Some may take as long as 5 years before a buyer is found. Two of the books sold this month were listed in 2017 and sold for \$10 each. We are looking forward to receiving some valuable book donations in 2022 so we can have a profitable year. Submitted by Pete Rothenbach

November Results

For the month of November, the bookstore's sales were \$630.81. This brought the total for the 9 months we have been opened to \$6,345.09. That's an average of over \$700 a month. The Internet group's profit for the month was \$233.00. Year-to-date, the total is \$4591.00. The combined profit was \$863.81 for the month. Year-to-date, we've brought in \$10,936.09! Thank you for all your work and for keeping us going. Hope that your holidays are happy! Submitted by Stephanie Collins

LFOP Library Bookstore
328 N. McLane Road
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Return Service Requested

