

FRIENDS' NEWS



Friends of the Surprise Libraries, AZ

January 2016

FRIENDS EARNS HEFTY INCOME IN 2015

Friends earned a whopping \$59,644.46 in 2015, setting an all-time record, \$53,670.55 from the used book sales at Friends' Place. Income in December totaled \$4,274.21. In 2015, Friends community contributions were \$51,154.24 including \$34,793.68 in School Grants, also a record. Of that total, \$30,434.96 went to schools in the Dysart Unified School District. Friends also Granted \$4,000 to ALTRUSA of the West Valley (to benefit High School Equivalency students) and another \$4,000 to the Dysart Education Foundation to pay for a Friends college scholarship. Gifts to the Surprise Libraries amounted to \$5,057.27 (\$2,486.32 of which helped finance the Northwest Regional Library's Summer Reading Program). Other gifts totaled \$1,905.41 including special gifts to Nadaburg School, the Three Rivers Education Foundation, Del Webb Hospital, READ ON Greater Surprise, Canyon Ranch Elementary, STREETLIGHT USA, El Mirage Elementary, West Point Elementary, Dysart Elementary, the City of El Mirage Special Events, the VA Hospital and Legacy Traditional School.

BEV AUTREY – A VET OF CHARITABLE WORK

New Friends Board Member Bev Autrey has a long background in working for and with charitable institutions, including professional service with the Superior Nebraska Chamber of Commerce, Benevilla in Surprise, Arizona and Altrusa of the West Valley. She was employed by the Surprise Chamber of Commerce from 2002—2005 recruiting new businesses to join the Chamber. At Benevilla she was Manager of Community Relations, Manager of Volunteer Services and was a Director. She was also President of Altrusa of the West Valley. "I am a firm believer in literacy and education, and I created the service project with Altrusa to provide scholarships to the HSE students at Rio Salado College," she said. "Becoming a partner with Friends for this meaningful project has been a rewarding experience. Because of Friends support, we have been able to distribute financial support to many young adults." Before moving to Arizona from Nebraska, Autrey was employed by a family-owned bank advancing to Assistant Branch Manager. "I have always believed in giving back to my community and was involved with the Chamber of Commerce in Superior, Nebraska. When I moved to Arizona, that became my focus rather than banking."



LARKIN – A MASTER OF FINANCE AND VOLUNTEERISM



New Friends Board Member Sue Larkin, who is also the current President of Altrusa of the West Valley, is a renowned financial expert. She is an advisory associate of Larkin and Associates, an investment advisory headquartered in Surprise. A former elementary school teacher (for ten years), Larkin has a Masters Degree in Education from Arizona State University. It is in the area of financial planning that she made her mark, authoring, with her husband Don, a practical financial guide for retirees, "The Larkin Guide: Enjoying the Riches of Retirement". Over 10,000 copies of the book have been sold. Listed in "Who's Who of American Women" and "Who's Who in Business and Finance," Larkin is a past President of the Greater Phoenix Chapter of the Financial Planning Association.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY SINCE 2003 - \$418,031.73

TOTAL GRANTS TO SCHOOLS SINCE 2003 - \$187,991.87