

FRIENDS' NEWS

April, 2015

MARCH BOOK SALES BREAK THE RECORD

Spring training customers and an infusion of children's books (see below) pushed Friends' March bookstore sales to \$5,481.35, the largest monthly total in the organization's history. Bookstore volunteers during March afternoons notice an uptake in customers after the spring baseball games let out. The monthly total was \$499.85 more than March 2014, a ten percent increase. So far this year Friends of the Surprise Libraries has donated \$8,830.84 back to the community, including numerous grants to the Northwest Regional Library.



BOOKSTORE RECEIVES A BONANZA OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Hundreds of Paradise Education Center students fueled March's high sales by donating 18 large commercial cartons of children's books to the Friends Place Bookstore. Days later, Marley Park Elementary students donated a large number of juvenile books. At PEC, students were allowed to shed their school uniforms for street clothes in return for offering books they donated. Typically, the Children's books flew off the shelves, contributing to the record sales last month. Coordinators of the unique book drive, Briana Grant at PEC and Lisa Fowler at Marley Park, told Friends' President Alyson Cline that they expected the event to be an annual affair.

FRIENDS AIDS MARLEY PARK READERS

Following the children's book drive, Friends donated 80 books of "The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton at a cost of \$646. Friends' President Alyson Cline noted: "They requested this so that the entire 8th grade could read the same book at the same time, enabling the readers to talk about the book no matter what class they were in."

BOOKMARK WINNERS HONORED

Friends honored six Surprise students in its annual bookmark contest. They were chosen from 215 entries from nine local schools. The winners were: Shanice Perez, 1st place; Tyler Wilkins, 2nd place; Noah Parsons, 3rd place and Honorable Mentions Anielle David, Grace Kelly and Deanna Alcala. Bookmark Chairman for Friends was Vice President Laurel Sund. The bookmarks are available in the Friends' Place bookstore.



Bookmark winners, pictured from left were Perez, Alcala, Parsons, David, Kelly and Laurel Sund, far right, chairman of the contest.

3rd SURPRISE LIBRARY SET FOR 2019

The new 30-year plan for Surprise calls for two more libraries in the City, one to be open by 2019, perhaps in the fast growing western section. Friends' President Alyson Cline, anticipating the new venue, has already asked for a new Friends bookstore in the lobby of the new facility. Her discussions with Mark Coronado, Surprise Community Recreation Director are still in the very preliminary stages. Coronado told her that the City is "in the process of determining a location for the third library. \$4 million in City funds have been allocated for libraries.