



# FRIENDS' NEWS MAY 2015

## Friends of the Libraries Surprise, Arizona

### \$4,000 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Shadow Ridge High School honor student Thalia Dinh was awarded the second annual Friends of the Surprise Libraries \$4,000, four-year Scholarship at a ceremony on May 14th. She will use the funds at Arizona State University. Boasting a grade point average of 3.714, Dinh also received: a \$24,000 ASU Dean's Scholarship. She was also active in a number of clubs and a member of the Shadow Ridge Band. "We are pleased that the Friends Scholarship, administered by Dysart Education Foundation, has been awarded to a student who is also a Volunteer at the Library," said President, Alyson Cline.



### FRIENDS SPONSORS HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY GRADS

Working with ALTRUSA International of the West Valley, Friends reimbursed ten successful High School Equivalency graduates, many of whom are now headed for college, for the cost of their test. This year's Grant used \$1,350, part of a \$4,000 Friends Grant. During this month's ALTRUSA HSE ceremony, Friends was given a special Community Partner Award.

**April Book Sales**  
Last month's book sales at Friends' Place totaled \$5,101, making it the highest April in the history of the organization.

### FRIENDS SUMMER READING GRANT OF \$1,575

Friends will pay for a \$1,575 package of special events at the Northwest Regional Library's Summer Reading Program which is expected to attract more than 3,500 readers. The programs include: Mark Carter's Science Presentation; the Science of Sound; Reptile Adventures and the Great American Puppet Theater Presentation. This year's SRP theme is S.T.E.M. which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.



### MANUEL DE LEON JOINS BOARD

Manuel De Leon, a native of Phoenix, was elected to the Friends Board on May 13th. He is currently Store Manager of the Wells Fargo Bank located at Grand Avenue and Reems. Manuel has worked in the financial services industry for 22 years. His experience includes service on a number of other boards including the West Valley Fine Arts Council and the Neighborhood Housing Service of Avondale. He is currently attending Rio Salado Community College with a focus on business administration.

*President Alyson Cline presents the Second Annual Friends Scholarship.*

### FRIENDS "FOUNDING FATHER" JACK HITCHCOCK RETIRES

Friends' "Founding Father", Jack Hitchcock resigned from the Friends Board on May 13th to devote himself to personal pursuits. During his 17 years on the Board, Jack served as President and was responsible for creating Friends' Place in the lobby of the Northwest Regional Library. Jack also represented the Friends on the City of Surprise Parks and Recreation Civic Board. "I have enjoyed my 17 years working for Friends," he said. "But it's time for me to retire now."

**FRIENDS TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SURPRISE COMMUNITY TO DATE — \$351,228.00**