

FRIENDS' NEWS

August 2015

Friends of the Surprise Libraries, Arizona

Book Store Sales
\$3,842.25
IN JULY

SUMMER READING PROGRAM SETS RECORD



A record breaking 3,022 children and teenagers participated in the 22 Summer Reading Programs at the Surprise Library. Friends of the Surprise Libraries directly supported 15 of the 22 SRP events. The total participation marked a 25 % increase over attendance in 2014. Friends' donation to children's programming, allowed the Library

to increase the magic and reptile shows to two shows each; doubling the access to these programs for the community.



These photos show the vast range of the Northwest Regional Library's Summer Reading Program, including 15 events directly supported by Friends. Visits by police and firemen, a wide variety of craft programs and special events such as a magic show, a reptile adventure and a puppet theater brought in a record 3,022 teenagers and children of all ages.

"Without Friends' support, we would not have been able to offer the wide variety of programming we did this summer," said librarian Kimberley Carroll, director of the Northwest Regional Library's Youth Programming.

READ ON GREATER SURPRISE IS APPROVED



Friends of the Surprise Libraries is a full community partner in the new local literacy organization Read On Greater Surprise. Read On Greater Surprise was approved by the Arizona Literacy Advisory Board and the statewide Read On Arizona Board on July 23rd 2015. Friends President, Alyson Cline, is co-chairman. Read On Greater Surprise will work with local community partners to improve the literacy level in the Greater Surprise area. "It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that we include the Greater Surprise community as one of our newest Read on Communities," said, Terri L. Clark, Arizona Literacy Director. "Greater Surprise's commitment to developing a literacy collaborative focused on children of ages birth through eight, particularly the at-risk children; including developing solutions for school readiness, early grade success, family engagement, professional development, chronic absence and summer learning loss is very exciting." Cline noted that she hopes the Friends volunteers will "volunteer to volunteer in the literacy events and programs sponsored by Read On Greater Surprise."