FRIENDS OF PATAGONIA LIBRARY

346 Duquesne Ave., Patagonia, AZ 85624 - 520-394-2010 - www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org

A Happening Place

By Marilyn Miller, President

What's happening at our Patagonia Library? Lots! In addition to the regular services, such as books, movies and music to check out, public computers, and many varieties of birds to watch in the garden, this past year we saw a substantial increase in programming for all ages.

Author talks have been the most popular, including Gary Nabham, a local environmental author, Marshall Beaty, a local-history writer, and Craig Johnson, author of the Longmire book and TV series.

Examples of opportunities for children to read and learn included teachers bringing their classes for visits, revival of the children's story hour, a summer reading competition, and the Matt Bevel science program.

We applaud our library staff for their dedication to increasing programming for all ages. And we appreciate your donations, which allow us to provide this programming. Our Patagonia Library is a happening place where community members and visitors drift in (and sometimes flock in) all day long, 6 days a week. Thank you for helping us make all this activity happen.



Craig Johnson Author Talk

Teen Room Renovation

By Kayla Miller

In spring of 2023, the library was awarded a grant of \$10,000 from the state of Arizona. The grant, Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), went towards renovating the library's Teen Room to make the space comfortable and more welcoming. This grant included four laptops, an iPad, a drawing tablet, over 70 educational computer games, and a mural. The mural, painted by local artist Jacqui Trennen, illustrates the pelthora of worlds and ideas that books can bring. The goal of this grant was to help encourage literacy in the Patagonia's teen and preteen population by introducing them to new ideas, educational softwares, and an environment that fosters creativity and learning. In addition to the grant funded purchases, two desktop computers were donated and the Friends purchased several new Young Adult and Chapter books, as well as graphic novels.

(before and after pictures on page 2)

Teen Room: Before and After



May 2023 October 2024

Author Talk: Reyna Grande

By Kayla Miller

In May, the library had the privilege of working with Voices From the Border for an author talk with Pulitzer prize winning author, Reyna Grande. Reyna and moderator David Figueroa were met by a crowd of over 50 people, eager to hear about her latest book, *The Distance Between Us*, an autobiographical story of her family and the hardships they faced as they moved back and forth across the US-Mexico border. Beautifully eloquent, Reyna went into detail about her relationship with her family and friends on both sides of the border.

At the event, Reyna and David signed books for attendees and Voices Across the Border sold wares to help fund the work they do with border refugees. After the event, participants moved to a local resident's back yard for pizza, wine and more discussion.

Library Director Leaves

By the Friends Board

At the end of August, our Library Director, Kayla Miller, resigned to pursue graduate work in library science and creative writing at the University of Arizona.

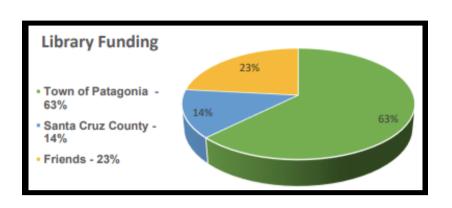
Kayla believes in Patagonia's kids and their talents and their love of learning, and she believes all ages of patrons love to learn and will frequent Library if she provided the right programming. To that goal, she worked with her staff and other organizations to provide many educational offerings each week. Her belief in a universal desire to learn was proven by the significant numbers of people who attended library programs.

The patrons, the staff, and the Friends of the Library feel the loss of Kayla's departure. We hope a new director will be hired soon and will continue Kayla's focus on the community's needs.

Library Funding

By Steve Finch

Each year, it takes \$150,000 to keep our library going. The Town of Patagonia provides two-thirds of the funding. The town money and some funds from Santa Cruz County pay for staff salaries, utilities, and building upkeep. The Friends of the Library pays for the books, DVDs,



computers. software, and programs that fill the library for public use. Most of that comes from your donations to the Friends with an additional amount raised by the Friends through book sales and events like our annual Trivia Night.

Pages of Fun: How Kids' Programs Spark Joy and Learning

By Kara Hass

The Patagonia Library offers a wide range of programs for kids of all ages. The library's programs over the last year has included fun options such as: Story Time for 0 to 8 year olds; Book Club for 8 to 17 year olds; Mad Scientist for 8 to 14 year olds; and, Dungeons & Dragons for kids to adults just to name a few. Overall, these programs contribute to the intellectual, social, and emotional development of children while fostering a love for libraries and learning.

Here are just a few ways these programs benefit the community of young learners:

- Educational Enrichment: They provide early learning opportunities, fostering literacy, language development, and critical thinking skills through story-times, crafts, and activities.
- Social Skills Development: These programs encourage interaction with peers, helping children develop social skills such as sharing, cooperation, and communication.

- Encouragement of Reading: By engaging children in fun, library-based activities, these programs promote a love for reading and books, which can contribute to lifelong learning habits.
- Parental Support: They offer a valuable resource for parents, providing educational activities that can be a positive supplement to home learning and a way to connect with other families.
- Community Building: Library programs help build a sense of community by bringing families together and offering a welcoming space for learning and interaction.
- Accessibility: They provide free or low-cost educational and recreational opportunities, making them accessible to a broad range of families.

The library is continually adding new programs. To find out what the library has to offer, stop by to see what is available or check out the Patagonia Library's website at:

www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org

Thank you to our generous donors and program sponsors:

Alison and Wade Bunting, **Bunting Family Trust** Barbara Ellis **Beverly Parker** Bea and German Quiroga Bev Moon Carol Ann McKay Caroline and Jack Walsh Cheridyn and Ryan Egan Clare Bonelli and Mike Sweedo Cynthia and Ronald Morriss Deborah and Richard Hostler Deborah and Ronald Robinson Deborah J. Allen Deborah Klosterman and Jerry Field Diane and Richard Collins Diane Olson Elise and Robert Misiorowski Elvia Gallaher Frances Russell Francesca Claviere Frankie Yourgulez-Buhrer and Hans Buhrer Gayle and Robert Bergier George M. Swan III Ginny and Jim Cosby

In memory of:
Dave Ellis
Ruby Hostler
Samantha Shore

Jacqueline Treinen Ian Drahos Jane E. Leonard & John Cook Iane Hamlin Jan Herron and Gama Leyva Jay W. Nelson Jean Miller Jerri Sober Jill and Alex Johnson Jill and Tom Sixbey John H. Kendall Juana and Donald Hawkins Judith and Peter West **Judy and Paul Finley** Kara and Joe Haas Karla Cafarelli Kate and David Peake Kathleen Haggerty Kathryn Schrag and Martin Levowitz Kay and Ron Pitt Kayla Miller Laurie Eppard Lawrence Spears Linda and Douglas Evans Linda and Joe Kozlowski Louise and James Schatz Louvenious and Richard Apperson Lynn Davison Marilyn and Alvino Majalca Marilyn Miller and Steven Finch Marion and Robert Hyland Mark Berg Marsha J. Mills Mary and Chris Strohm Mary Ellen Redziewicz and

Molly Anderson and Morris Farr Molly M. Phinny Nancy and John Hughes Nancy Coyote Nancy McCov Penelope and Robert Cabot Phyllis and Richard Klosterman Rainey Carpenter Ruth Ann LeFebvre Ruth Garcia Samantha Carlson Sandra Powell and Joe Coniff Sherry Munther Susan Archibald Suzannah Herron Thomas Arny Thomas Green Toni Dorfman and John Gaddis To anyone we inadvertently missed, thank you!

Local Businesses, Churches & Groups:

High Spirits Flutes
June's Tax Accounting
Patagonia Comm United
Methodist Church Mission
Patagonia Market
Patagonia Museum
Patagonia Trading Post

Find us at: https://www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org/friends -of-patagonia-library/

https://www.facebook.com/friendsofpatagonialib rary/

https://www.guidestar.org/profile/74-2437923



Paul Dumanosky