

# FRIENDS OF PATAGONIA LIBRARY

346 Duquesne Ave. Patagonia, AZ 85624 - 520-394-2010 - [www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org](http://www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org)



## A Message from Marilyn Miller, President

Thank you for believing in Patagonia Public Library! Your donations allowed us to continue buying new reading material and educational media, expand our online book offerings and include online magazine subscriptions. Your support let us offer online programming and children's reading kits and all the many new things we did to sustain interest in reading and learning during our COVID-19 ups and downs. You believed in the library and kept supporting us when we had to close our doors to in-person visits and when dark days saw many small libraries, businesses, and organizations fail.

To those who use the Patagonia Library services, thank you for continued use even when you couldn't come inside. You adjusted to ordering your reading materials and media by phone and picking up your order from shelving units outside the library. You used the internet services from the benches outside and waved at the librarians working inside. You adjusted to hand-washing stations when we eased into opening again.

And now? We're fully open with only mask requirements, plexiglass around the front desk, and computer stations spaced out. We are beginning to offer programs and each month shows those opportunities increasing. The number of people coming into the library is growing.

The library is starting to feel like it did before! And, that's because of you. You're the reason we're still here for the community.

Thank you again for believing in the Patagonia Library and keeping it alive.

## Director's Note

By Laura Wenzel

This year, even though the library held relatively few programs, we made up for it in grant writing for future programs and resources in 2021-2022.

Our focus, as of writing this article, is on the NEA Big Read program. Patagonia Library, in partnership with Patagonia Creative Arts Association, is one of 61 national recipients to receive this year's Big Read grant. NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest. The goal of the program is to broaden our community's understanding of the world and each other through sharing a book. In our case, that book is U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo's "An American Sunrise." Nearly 18 events from October through December are planned for community members and visitors of all ages.

The library also received American Rescue Plan Act funds to put to use towards our COVID-19 response. We received an ALA Libraries Transform Communities grant to purchase citizen science materials to empower and educate our community of curious learners. We also received a Library Services and Technology Act grant to fund \$4000 worth of hotspots to lend to library patrons.



**The annual Friends of Patagonia Library Book Sale was a success this October, with locations at the Sky Islands Fall Artisan Market and in Cady Hall. The Friends raised nearly \$4000 during the festival to benefit the library!**

## New Year, New Staff

This summer the library added two new staff members to the team--Kayla Miller and Jade DeForest.

Kayla is a part-time librarian, part-time writer, and part-time plant hoarder. She spends most of her time sleeping and thinking about how cool it would be if dinosaurs still existed. She is a Northern Arizona University almost graduate and has published short stories in online magazines Cloudwalker and Detour Ahead.

Jade is a wildlife biologist, EMT, herbalist, and passionate animal lover. When not feeding birds, walking her dogs or responding to 911 calls, she reads.



## Wenig Memorial Benches

By Steve Finch

Have you seen the new picnic tables in the town parks? The Friends of Patagonia Library used funds donated to honor Doris and Don Wenig to buy ten tables to replace deteriorating ones and to stock the new Doc Mock Park. Originally the plan was to purchase trees for Doc Mock Park, but they were quickly subscribed so the picnic tables were picked to honor the Wenigs who served the Library in many ways, making it what it is today.



## Trivia Night Fundraiser: Feb. 12, 2022

**Save the date for our annual trivia night fundraiser! Gather your team of 6 to compete and raise money for the library. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$150 per team. More details to come.**

## Legacy Garden Update

*By Sue Baz*

Just imagine, a library without walls that invites one to read, relax, and enjoy Patagonia's temperate Fall weather.

Patagonia Library's Legacy Garden has become a shaded, comfortable patio with new tables, chairs, and shade umbrellas. Our new bird-loving staff member, Jade, placed bird feeders in the garden to invite bird-watchers to enjoy local populations. Native milkweed and grape vines were purchased to grow up the metal trellis surrounding the air conditioner units. As a result, the Legacy Garden patio has become a lovely communal space in which to read, converse, relax, or participate in an outdoor library program.



**Friends of Patagonia Library Board members (L to R): Janet Winans, Sue Baz, Marynell Spicer, Kate Peake, Barbara Ellis, Steve Finch, Marilyn Miller, Ann Danowitz, Jan Herron.**

## Our Mission

The Friends of Patagonia Library is an independent, non-profit organization whose mission is to support and expand a community of readers and to stimulate a love of books and learning. Our organization assists in providing financial support by raising funds and promoting our library to the greater community. Nearly one hundred percent of our library's acquisitions and collections are funded by the Friends, so every donation you make goes to developing the library's collections and programs.

Interested in joining? Inquire at the library!

## NEA Big Read Programs in November and December:

- Nov 3, 6 pm - Indigenous Film Series: Gather. At Tin Shed Theater.
- Nov 5, 6 pm - Art Opening and Photography Exhibit with Kayla Lewis-Simpson and Gooch Goodwin. At The Patagonia Museum.
- Nov 9, 10 am - StoryWalk and Book Discussion: Fry Bread. In Town Park.
- Nov 10, 6:30 pm - Our River Stories: The Gila and the Salt. At Patagonia Library.
- Nov 13, 7 pm - Local Author Reading and Discussion with Brian Jabas Smith. At Tin Shed Theater.
- Nov. 17, 4pm - Book Discussion: Crazy Brave. At Patagonia Library.
- Nov 20, 7 pm - Musician and Storyteller Randy Granger. At Tin Shed Theater.
- Dec 3, 6 pm - Indigenous Film Series: RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World. At Tin Shed Theater.
- Dec 7, 10 am - StoryWalk and Book Discussion: We are Water Protectors. In Town Park.
- Dec 9, 6:30 pm - Metalsmith Matriarchs with Nanibaa Beck. At Patagonia Library.
- Dec 11 and 18, 10 am - Pottery Workshop 1 & 2 with Martha Kelly. At Art Center.
- Dec 15, 4 pm - Book Discussion: Secrets from the Center of the World. At Patagonia Library.
- Dec 17, 6 pm - Poetry Slam and Open Mic. All ages. At Gathering Grounds.

## Thank you to our generous donors, program sponsors, and dedicated volunteers:

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 Big Read program  
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 The Wenig Family  
 Zoe Peake

And anyone that we inadvertently missed. Thank you!

### Donations made in memory of:

Jill Babcock  
 Gwyn Enright  
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 Bobby Kurtz  
 Carmen Matus  
 Mary Hills Munroe  
 Margaret Salge  
 Doris & Don Wenig

