Times are changing for public libraries, and Sedona Public Library is changing with the times. On the pages of this magazine, you’ll see the many ways that you can benefit from visiting the Library in person or by visiting our website.

One of the ways the library world measures its performance is by counting the numbers, and Sedona’s numbers are impressive. As a result, Sedona Public Library was recently named one of America’s Star Libraries for 2014. *Library Journal* magazine compared U.S. public libraries based on statistical data that measures services they delivered to their communities, and your local library stood out. Their index is based on four types of per-capita use: visits to the library, circulation (number of items checked out), public computer use, and program attendance. Star Library ratings are awarded to libraries that generate the highest combined per-capita outputs among libraries with similar expenditures. Sedona is one of four libraries in Arizona to receive this distinction.

Sedona Public Library was recently named one of America’s Star Libraries for 2014 and was one of only four libraries in Arizona to receive this distinction.

When I was director of the Library on Jordan Road back in the 1980s, we were dreaming of an expanded building space, but we never imagined e-books and online databases. When the dream became a reality, we filled our new building on White Bear Road with books and books on CD; we added DVDs, and then computers to replace the card catalog.

If you haven’t visited a public library or Sedona Library recently, you’ll be surprised at all we offer. Services include free e-books and e-audiobooks, and librarians who are happy to show you how to download them on whichever device you choose. Don’t have an e-reader of your own? Borrow one of our Nooks loaded with bestsellers such as *Wild* and *Gone Girl*.

We’re proud of our performance and thank our funders and supporters for allowing us to provide these free services. Congratulations to every one of you in our wonderful community for making your library shine!

And the Library will continue to change to meet your needs. What does the future hold for your library? Our space will be reorganized to offer more collaborative areas, starting with the children’s room. With funding from the Arizona State Library, through a federal Library Services and Technology Act grant, we will be rearranging the children’s space in the next few months. New movable shelving and an interactive, early literacy skill-building play area will be added. Come check us out and watch us grow.

With this magazine, we invite you to explore the exciting opportunities at your fingertips. A new world is just one person, one click, one page away!

Virginia Volkman
Remember going to the library in your hometown as a youngster? It was probably a fairly staid and serious place with endless stacks of books and an intimidating card catalog system. Fast forward to 2015. Sedona Public Library, like most libraries in the last decade, has evolved into a dynamic learning and information hub, serving as a community gathering place and activity center for Sedona residents and its visitor population. Welcome to the 21st century library, a rewarding and thoroughly enjoyable place to spend time.

If you haven’t visited Sedona Public Library recently, here is your invitation to drop by and be amazed. You will enter a new world of library services, unimaginable just a few years ago.

Thanks to the digital information revolution, you can now savor a smorgasbord of continuing education classes, technology tutorials, online foreign-language courses, e-books, digital magazines, and many other options via the Internet from your home. To help you explore these cutting-edge services, you will receive attentive assistance from librarians turned information specialists.

Sedona Library is a modern, community-driven venue with many moving parts, all integrated into an information and learning epicenter ready to be accessed. All you need is a library card and an inquisitive mind.

I am so grateful that we have the service of the Sedona Library. Using the website to reserve books and receiving the e-mail notifications is so convenient. I feel that so many more people are utilizing the Library because of these services; I know I am.

—DONNA HUNTER
Get in and out quickly with our self-check system. Reserve items you want from your home computer, pick them up on the hold shelf when you come in, and take advantage of self-service checkout. You can even pay fines at self-check. Using the Library couldn’t be easier!

Village of Oak Creek locations. You’ll receive notification by e-mail or phone when your items are ready for pick-up. You can renew materials by logging in to your account or by calling the Library’s automatic renewal line.

The Library’s website offers round-the-clock access to a host of other resources. Want to check out a book in the middle of the night? Learn how to speak Italian while you’re making dinner? These are only a few of the possibilities available to Sedona Library patrons.

Stay Sharp with Lifelong Learning

Sedona Library offers a treasure trove of educational resources available through our website, www.sedonalibrary.org.

Universal Class, for example, with over 500 courses, provides online coursework that enables you to continue your education in just about any area you can think of, whether you are seeking personal enrichment or professional advancement.

With LearningExpress Library, you can advance your career or train for a new occupation. This learning platform is geared towards workplace and educational preparation, and it employs a variety of teaching tools, such as practice tests, downloadable e-books, and video tutorials. LearningExpress Library also offers valuable instruction on developing computer skills.

Mango Languages is a passport to learn a foreign language. This online system incorporates sound, images, and text to teach conversational skills in real-life situations. Because Mango users learn actual conversations, at the end of a course you will gain practical skills such as being able to introduce yourself, ask for directions, and order meals.

Reading Materials Are Just a Click Away

Visit www.sedonalibrary.org and you’ll discover a wealth of entertaining and enlightening digital reading materials.

One of the Library’s most popular services is OverDrive, providing e-books and downloadable audiobooks. With a tablet, smartphone, or computer, you can access thousands of free e-books and e-audiobooks. Load your e-reader with up to six e-books, and you’ve got enough to read on your next trip. OverDrive books automatically return, or you can take them out again.

With Zinio, the Library’s service for digital magazines, you can access nearly 150 current magazines and view an entire issue on a tablet, phone, or computer just like you would the printed version. Conveniently, Zinio digital magazines don’t need to be put on hold or turned in at the end of a checkout period. You can access digital magazines immediately and keep them as long as you like.

When you need a suggestion for your next book, use NoveList and Books & Authors, the online tools for reading recommendations. Type in a title, author, subject, or series name, and these databases display a list of read-alike recommendations. Books & Authors also includes biographical information about authors, and even provides e-mail addresses should you want to write your favorite authors.

Keep Connected with State-of-the-Art Equipment

Sedona Library offers free computer access to both residents and visitors.
The SmartBoard: The Latest Smart Library Acquisition

Youth services staff members Karen Mack and Meredith Clark are always on the lookout for the best resources to recommend for early child development and beyond. While creating a warmly inviting and highly tactile environment—key to early brain development—in the children’s room, youth services staff embrace new technologies like the SmartBoard (think giant iPad), which are expanding early-learning possibilities at the Library.

“We introduced the SmartBoard at our 2014 children’s holiday program,” says Meredith. “I scanned in all of the images from Mr. Willowby’s Christmas Tree, the story I planned to read to the children. That way everyone hearing the story could easily see all of the beautiful illustrations in the book. I also used the book illustrations to make animations of the tree spinning in place or zooming off the page. It was definitely a small-town library production, but we enjoyed putting together a program that incorporated an old story time classic with new technology. We received wonderful feedback from our patrons, who appreciated experiencing something new, especially the SmartBoard technology that their little ones would soon be using when they go off to school in a few years.”

There are many excellent online programs, games, videos, literacy programs, and more that parents are able to access at the Library. “Our job as librarians is to help navigate the digital world for them, and we do our best to keep up,” says Meredith.

I’m new to town and came to the Library to update my resume in order to begin my job search here. I used one of the Library’s job computers, with a lot of patient help from staff member Michael Adkins. I wanted to let you know how important this service was to me. I have had three interviews since then and two job offers!

—Michele Peretic

Try one of our fast Windows 7 all-in-one Internet computers. Featuring 23-inch monitors, the computers offer Microsoft Office 2010 programs like Word and Excel, plus Internet access, black-and-white or color printing, and web cameras. The larger screens are ideal for watching DVDs. And with 28 computers available, you don’t have to wait to use one!

For job seekers, the Library provides dedicated job-search computers, with free scanning, copying, and printing. These workstations also offer longer sessions than our standard computers so that users can work uninterrupted. You do not need to be a Sedona Library cardholder to use the job computers; simply check in at the reference desk with a computer volunteer or staff member.

The Library is a wireless hotspot for both residents and visitors. Bring your laptop or mobile device and enjoy perusing the Internet in a comfortable chair, or get your work done at a laptop carrel.

Don’t have a mobile device or e-reader? Don’t feel left out! The Library has Nook e-readers available for checkout, and they come pre-loaded with a great selection of e-books. You can also test-drive other brands, with the Library’s demonstration e-readers and tablets.

Librarians, Your Tour Guides to Technology

Today’s librarian is a highly trained knowledge holder and skilled instructor. Sedona Library staff strive to make the Library a comfortable place to learn for technology users of all abilities—including complete beginners.

Sign up for one of the Library’s beginning computer and Internet classes and get hands-on experience using a Windows 7 laptop. Classes are taught in a question-and-answer format and thus are catered to your needs. Staff are also happy to give you individual assistance downloading e-books and e-audiobooks to any compatible device. Additionally, you can receive in-depth computer help from one of our experienced computer volunteers.

Pamphlets describing many of the Library’s online services are available at the reference desk. And just ask one of the friendly reference staff members and they will be glad to help you navigate any of our many offerings.

I always appreciate the personal attention I receive at the Library. I LOVE our library!!! It has given me many, many hours of joy.

—Adele Wales

As you’ve seen, Sedona Library is so much more than books and quiet spaces. At the Library, you’ll encounter a launching pad for learning, activities, technology, community, and fun. Take a step into your 21st century library, and discover the world of information that is available in the palm of your hand!
Spring arrivals

Spring is a time for renewal and rejuvenation. Get inspired to accomplish your spring projects with one of these new books at the Library.

The Tao of Vegetable Gardening: Cultivating Tomatoes, Greens, Peas, Beans, Squash, Joy, and Serenity, by Carol Deppe. Plant breeder and biologist Deppe takes a unique approach to gardening, inspired by the Tao Te Ching. She explores practical methods for cultivating vegetables while encouraging gardeners to seek an intuitive relationship with plants. Organized into chapters that affirm Taoist concepts like balance and flexibility, the book offers thoughtful advice on topics such as establishing your own seed bank and growing disease-resistant heirloom tomatoes.

Country Living Smart Storage Solutions: Creative Closets, Stylish Shelves, and More, by Valerie Rains. With hundreds of creative storage ideas, this book can help you find a place for everything. It provides storage solutions for each room in your house, showing you how to make the most of open shelving, convert household items into innovative containers, and find space in unused nooks and crannies. Featuring a range of projects, this well-illustrated volume is ideal for both amateur do-it-yourselfers and experienced decorators.

The Holmes Manual: Expert Answers to Your Most Common Home Maintenance Questions, by Mike Holmes. HGTV star and home-renovation expert Mike Holmes answers homeowners’ most common questions and provides solutions for everyday problems. Covering houses from top to bottom, Holmes includes instructions for repairs homeowners can handle themselves. If you’ve ever wondered why your floors squeak, why your windows fog up, or what the life expectancy of your plumbing is, this is the book for you.

Elizabeth, who orders books and DVDs for the Library, is reading Affinity, by Sarah Waters. “After I read Waters’ bestseller The Paying Guests, I was pleased to learn that the author has five previous novels,” she says. “Her second book, Affinity, is set in the Victorian era and tells the story of a romance between an imprisoned spiritualist and a mentally troubled woman. It’s more moody than Paying Guests but also features a satisfying twist at the end.”

Ginny, the Library’s director, is listening to Revival, by Stephen King (on a Playaway). She says: “This is my first book by King and it’s wonderfully narrated by actor David Morse. I was drawn in right away by the author’s description of growing up in small-town Maine in the 1960s, and then ‘something happened.’ Revival is riveting and chilling, and it takes on some pretty big notions. I like it for the strong storytelling (reminiscent of the movie Shawshank Redemption, based on a King novella).”

Michael, who manages the Library’s IT department, is watching Brooklyn Nine-Nine: Season 1 on DVD. He says: “This hilarious sitcom stars Saturday Night Live’s Andy Samberg as a talented detective who has an awesome arrest record but has never had to follow the rules until a new commanding officer (played by Andre Braugher of Homicide: Life on the Street fame) takes charge of the precinct. The show is a good mix of comedy, cops, and crime.”

Staff picks

Which books, audiobooks, and DVDs have Sedona Library staff been enjoying lately? Take a look!

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MARCH

- **AARP Tax Preparation.** Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 10 am–2 pm, Si Birch Community Room. Tax help will be offered by AARP volunteers throughout March. This free service is offered on a first-come, first-service basis. Information on what to bring with you can be found on AARP's website.

- **Speaker Program.** March 23, 1:30–3 pm at Sedona Winds, and 6–8 pm in the Si Birch Community Room at the main library. “The History of the River Runners of the Grand Canyon,” presented by Todd Weber. Using a visually rich and colorful presentation, Weber carries his audience along a historical timeline, starting with a Hopi legend to the river-runners of today.

APRIL

- **AARP Tax Preparation.** Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 10 am–2 pm, Si Birch Community Room. Tax help continues through April 14.

- **ONEBOOK AZ Writing Workshop.** April 13, 2–5 pm, Si Birch Community Room. Learn how to write fiction, non-fiction, and children’s stories in this workshop taught by a creative writing instructor.

- **Spring Book Sale.** April 21 through 25, during regular library hours, and Sunday, April 26, from noon to 4 pm, Si Birch Community Room. Preview night April 20, 6:30–8 pm. Don’t miss the fantastic bargains on books, music CDs, movies, and more at our annual Friends of the Library spring book sale.

- **Health Screening.** April 29, 10 am to 3 pm, Si Birch Community Room. This free screening measures cholesterol levels, blood pressure, and blood glucose and is provided by Northern Arizona Healthcare. No appointment necessary.

- **Red Cross Blood Drive.** April 30, 11 am–3 pm, Si Birch Community Room.

MAY

- **iPad/iPhone Workshop.** May 23, 10 am to noon, Si Birch Community Room. Presented by Ed Uzumechis, PhD, and sponsored by Oak Creek Apples Macintosh User Group of Sedona and the Verde Valley. Class is limited to 50 people. To register, e-mail OakCreekApples@gmail.com.

- **Health Screening.** May 27, 10 am to 3 pm, Si Birch Community Room.

JULY

- **Sedona Youth Theatre Workshop.** July 7 through 17. Young thespians ages 10 through 18 will not want to miss this workshop opportunity to learn from two successful professional actors. Preregistration is required.

- **Sedona Railroaders Display.** July 27 through 31, during regular library hours, Si Birch Community Room. The annual model railroad exhibit, presented by the Sedona Railroaders club, will feature several layouts running different scale trains.
Hola, mi nombre es Jefferson Perales, bibliotecario de servicios para Latinos en la biblioteca de Sedona. Mi misión en esta biblioteca es servirle a usted, y para ello empezare por hablarles brevemente de nuestra biblioteca y los diferentes servicios que ofrecemos. Las bibliotecas en este país cuentan con una gran variedad de recursos, aquí no solo hallaran libros, sino también libros en audio, películas, discos compactos de música, revistas y entre muchos más. El único requisito para pedir prestado estos materiales es tener una tarjeta de nuestra biblioteca, la cual es muy sencilla de obtener.

Nuestro departamento de servicios para Latinos también ofrece varios programas gratuitos que enriquecen el nivel educativo y cultural de nuestra comunidad. Contamos con clases de inglés y computación, ambas instruidas en español. Las clases de inglés son dadas todos los miércoles a las 6:30pm mientras que las de computación el primer y tercer jueves de cada mes a las 6pm, este último está sujeto a cambiar. Les invito que vengan a ambas clases teniendo en cuenta que tanto el idioma como el uso de las computadoras son muy importantes hoy en día, sobretodo en este país. Asimismo contamos con cuentacuentos bilingües para los niños, el primer sábado de cada mes a las 11am, y Cine Latino donde mostramos una película de origen Latino el primer lunes de cada mes a las 6pm. Por último contamos con un programa de tejido todos los viernes a las 6pm, donde las personas aprenden a tejer bufandas, gorritas, etc. Pero eso no es todo, tenemos en mente muchos proyectos nuevos los cuales esperamos hacer realidad pronto, con la ayuda de la misma comunidad. Nuestra biblioteca cuenta con más de cien voluntarios durante todo el año, quienes realizan diferentes tareas como ordenar libros, apoyar en nuestros programas, etc. Les invito a que también vengan y formen parte de nuestro equipo de voluntarios y así servir juntos a nuestra comunidad Latina.

Para concluir, quiero decirles que entiendo lo difícil que es venir a un país extranjero y comenzar una nueva vida donde no sólo hay que acostumbrarse a la cultura pero sobretodo aprender el inglés. En lo personal, pude lograr esta hazaña en gran parte gracias a los recursos que encontré en mi biblioteca. Por esta razón les invito visiten nuestra biblioteca donde encontrarán una gran variedad de recursos y servicios útiles para usted. Yo vine a este país en busca del sueño americano y honestamente siento haberlo conseguido. La biblioteca pública de Sedona y un servidor, estamos aquí para acercarles a realizar ese sueño también; con fe, esfuerzo y compromiso esto será posible.

Gracias por su atención.
children’s services

The Path to Literacy (and Fun) Starts Here

Talk to a passionate reader and you’re likely to hear about a book they read in their childhood that launched their love of reading. For some it was a classic fairy tale, for others a magical discovery on the shelf, and for others a recommendation from a librarian who took the time to match a child to a good story. For many of us, the story of our lives is influenced by the stories we read as children. In Sedona Library’s children’s department, it’s our mission to connect each reader with that special story that will take them to new places and excite their minds and hearts.

The Library will always be a place for parents and kids to find a great book, but it’s also a gateway of literacy building through interactive programming for youth of all ages, from infants to toddlers to teens. For example, we offer three weekly story time programs with age-appropriate stories, songs, and activities designed to offer children their first classroom experience, give parents new material and tips on brain development they can use at home, and of course entertain everyone! Exposing children to books, songs, rhymes, and fingerplays allows for the parts of the brain that affect literacy to develop. This process starts in infancy, and the development in the first five years of a child’s life has a dramatic effect.

We also know that not everyone has had access to optimal literacy-building resources. So when a child falls behind in reading development, the Library offers ways for them to catch up. Arizona’s recent legislation, Move On When Reading, now requires every child to meet specific reading standards to be able to pass third grade. To help families meet these requirements, the Library offers a free reading tutoring program for schoolchildren.

Another example of our diverse programming is the Magic Word Book Club, a magic-themed book club for tweens and adults who love great children’s books. The club meets every six weeks to discuss a new book while participants work on a craft.

If going to the Library were a sport, then summer would be the peak season. The theme for the 2015 summer reading program is “Every Hero Has a Story.” The national theme gives us a framework to plan around, and the general outline of the program gives each age group a reading goal for the summer months so they don’t lose the ground they gained through the school year. But that’s just the beginning—we design each summer program with our literacy-development tools, seeking to connect kids with the feeling that reading can be really fun! We offer old favorites as well as unique programs all summer long, game and craft days, and parties to celebrate our readers at both the beginning and end of the summer.

To learn more about any of these programs, stop by the children’s room or give us a call at 928-282-7714 extension 119. We always love talking to people about our favorite subject—reading! —Meredith Clark

There are many little ways to enlarge your child’s world. Love of books is the best of all.

—Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis
**Book Discussions in the Village**

All book discussions begin at 1:30 pm at Sedona Winds Retirement Community, 405 Jacks Canyon Road. Special thanks to Sedona Winds for providing the meeting space. Book discussions are free and open to the public. Loaner copies of books for book discussions are available at Sedona Public Library in the Village. At book shares, share what you are currently reading and get ideas for your next book. Please call SPL-V at 928-284-1603 for more information.

**Wednesdays at 1:30 pm**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Discussion Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Book Share</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
<td>Book Discussion of <em>The Kite Runner</em></td>
<td>Khaled Hosseini</td>
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<td>May 27</td>
<td>Book Share</td>
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<td>June 24</td>
<td>Book Discussion of <em>The Secret Life of Bees</em></td>
<td>Sue Monk Kidd</td>
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<td>July 29</td>
<td>Book Share</td>
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<td>August 26</td>
<td>Book Discussion of <em>Three Cups of Tea</em></td>
<td>Greg Mortenson</td>
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<td>September 30</td>
<td>Book Share</td>
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<td>October 28</td>
<td>Book Discussion of <em>The Help</em></td>
<td>Kathryn Stockett</td>
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<td>November 25</td>
<td>Book Share</td>
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<td>December 30</td>
<td>Book Discussion of <em>Tuesdays with Morrie</em></td>
<td>Mitch Albom</td>
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**Arizona Humanities Speaker Programs in the Village**

Programs begin at 1:30 pm at Sedona Winds Retirement Community, 405 Jacks Canyon Road. All programs, generously funded by Arizona Humanities and the Friends of the Sedona Library, are free and open to the public. Special thanks to Sedona Winds for providing the meeting space. You can call SPL-V at 928-284-1603 or the main library at 928-282-7714 for more information about library programs, services, and exhibits. An events calendar is available on the library website at www.sedonalibrary.org.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Program Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 8</td>
<td>“Business Not As Usual: Arizona’s Early Women Entrepreneurs” by Jan Cleere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 4</td>
<td>“Winslow’s La Posada: The Life, Death, and Rebirth of a Harvey Hotel” by Ann-Mary Lutzick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 17</td>
<td>“Desert Trader: Goldie Tracy Richmond, Trader, Trapper, and Quiltmaker” by Carolyn O’Bagy Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 15</td>
<td>“Two Six Shooters Beat Four Aces: The Lives of Men on the Arizona Frontier” by Barbara Marriott</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, August 24</td>
<td>“C.G.W. French (1820–1891)” by James Poole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 9</td>
<td>“The Food of Arizona: Many Cultures, Many Flavors” by Greg McNamee</td>
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**Spotlight on the Village**

Sedona Public Library in the Village is a unique library with an interesting history. It all started with a book drop box at Weber’s IGA. During the 10 years SPL-V has operated, the library has experienced tremendous growth and change. One thing that has not changed, though, is the dedication of the volunteers who give their time.

Our location in Tequa Plaza offers five desktop computers and five laptop computers, with free Internet and WiFi service. A recent patron survey confirmed that SPL-V is a valuable and convenient resource for the community.

Patrons enjoy picking up their holds in the Village. Last year more than 28,000 items were checked out and 23,000 visits were recorded.

The library has extended community outreach in the Village. Sedona Winds provides space for the library to offer speaker programs and community book discussions. The speaker programs, generously funded by Arizona Humanities and the Friends of Sedona Library, are free and open to the public. These programs are outstanding and have been well received. In addition, the Rotating Artist Program at the Village library features creative artwork by local artists.

You can call SPL-V at 928-284-1603 for more information about exhibits and library services. Sedona Public Library in the Village is at 7000 Highway 179, Suite D-100, in the courtyard of Tequa Plaza. Library hours in the Village are Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm.

Stop by and check us out!

— Cheryl L. Yeatts
Your library card is a pass to adventure

Check out a Culture Pass to get free admission for two people at participating arts and cultural institutions, including Arcosanti, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix Zoo, Lowell Observatory, Sedona Heritage Museum, and more. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Culture Pass display located at the main library in Sedona. Bring the laminated card for your chosen destination to the reference desk and receive a date-due slip admitting two for one visit during the following seven days. No need to return the slip; it will expire on its own.

Did you know?

We also have the popular J.K. Lasser income tax preparation books for individuals and small businesses.

Expert tutors will assist you with homework

Need help with a particular subject? You can get 24/7 online assistance with Tutor.com, which provides one-on-one homework, writing, and career help. Submit your paper or resume and a tutor will provide feedback within 24 hours. Access Tutor.com from the Sedona Library website.

You have access to low-vision resources

Sedona Public Library has over 2,000 large print books, and more than 16,000 large print titles are offered through Yavapai County libraries. Audio formats are also available, including books on CD, books on cassette, Playaways (portable, pre-loaded audio players), and downloadable audiobooks. Additionally, the Arizona Talking Book Library supplies books, magazines, and other library resources in alternate formats for Arizona residents whose visual or physical disabilities prevent the reading of conventional print material. Visit Sedona Library for a demonstration of the special audiobook equipment provided by the Talking Book Library.

You’ll find magazines for all interests

The magazine section is one of the most popular areas in the Library, and for good reason. We subscribe to almost 200 different magazines and newsletters, from Conde Nast Traveler and Scientific American to PC Gamer and Ranger Rick. You can read current issues at the Library or check out previous issues. Library cardholders can also access issues of more than 180 digital magazines through Zinio, a free online magazine collection that displays popular magazines on screen just as they appear in print.

You can get help during tax time

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers provide free one-on-one tax consultations at Sedona Public Library starting February through mid-April. Tax-Aide hours are Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from 10 am to 2 pm in the community room. The Library stocks some of the most commonly used federal tax forms. State forms are available to copy. You can print IRS and Arizona tax forms and their instruction pages at the Library, or a reference librarian will print any income tax form you need for a charge of $.10 per page.

Your education can be lifelong

Universal Class, LearningExpress Library, and Mango Languages are just several of the many resources available to adult learners. Universal Class offers hundreds of online continuing education classes. These self-paced classes, with real instructors, cover diverse fields such as history, performing arts, and financial management. LearningExpress Library is an online learning platform geared towards workplace and educational preparation, employing a variety of teaching tools, such as practice tests, downloadable e-books, and video tutorials. If your lifelong learning goals include learning a foreign language, try Mango, an online language-learning system that teaches conversation skills for over 30 languages. You can access any of these services anytime from your home computer.
How Can We Help?

Every member of Sedona Library’s staff is passionate about helping our community, and the depth of work and personal experience possessed by our employees is critical to the level of support we can provide you, our patrons. Collectively, we offer the knowledge and commitment required to meet the information needs of Sedona residents now and into the future. Whether you are looking for a new job, learning computer skills, or searching for the perfect book, our capable staff is at your service.

Check out what our staff helps bring you in a typical year:

- Access to 2,000,000 Items
- 860 Programs
- 48,000 Computer Sessions
- Answers to 16,000 Reference Questions

Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one. – Neil Gaiman, author

meet the staff

Front row from left: Dorothy Englund, Patricia Lowell, Virginia Volkman, Cheryl Yeatts, Pamela Logsdon.
Middle row: Katherine Merlino, Mia Fliers, Karen Greenwood, Charlene Lipka, Sheila Tressler, Elizabeth Cate, Jennifer Perry, Michael Adkins. Back row: Karen Mack, Meredith Clark, Andrea Lhotka, Jefferson Perales, Amy Erives, and Haley Ballenger.

Not pictured: Marcy Barnes, Nancy Greenlaw, Marie Olivarez, John Schaefer, and Dotte Vande Linde.
The Heartbeat of the Library: Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Sedona Public Library. Without their dedication and hard work the Library could not offer patrons such a wide array of services. From its inception the Sedona Public Library has had a special relationship with its volunteers. On any given day, for example, six volunteers work four-hour shifts or 144 hours weekly at the circulation desk. Each week volunteers contribute more than 360 hours. That’s like having nine additional full-time staff members! That is a staggering amount of time, freely given, for any nonprofit organization.

Day after day, a seamless choreography of volunteer activities takes place. Hundreds of books, DVDs, and audiobooks are checked in and out daily. New library cards are issued by volunteers to happy recipients. A tiered cart is filled with requested books and DVDs, destined for the holds pick-up shelf. Carts of books to be restocked are moving everywhere, a volunteer at the helm! In the periodicals area, dozens of magazines and newspapers are regularly updated. In the always-busy computer area, you will see volunteers assisting computer users navigate the Web, log in to their e-mail, or print a document.

Just beyond the public areas, volunteers are busy in the staff- and volunteers-only recesses of the Library. Walk through these rooms and you see a bustling enterprise. Computer stations, supply rooms, and office cubicles all say, “there is a lot going on here.” Volunteers are taking calls, answering questions, researching patron requests, and jumping through hoops like in any business.

There is plenty of hands-on work, too, like putting protective covers on new books and magazines, sorting donated books, and preparing interlibrary loan materials. There are even volunteers who are gifted at repairing and rebinding damaged books. Other vital volunteer functions contribute to the Library’s overall bottom line, like working at the Friends of the Library book sale and helping with ongoing book sales throughout the year.

So who are these dedicated individuals who invest their time joyfully volunteering week after week and remaining loyal year after year?

Meet Nina Strauss. Nina, at 87, is the definition of dedication. She has been volunteering at the Library since 1982. Like most volunteers, Nina is a voracious reader, devouring two to three books a week. She settled in Scottsdale, Arizona, in 1958 with her physician husband. He was the fourth full-time doctor in Scottsdale when the population was 10,000 and horses had the right of way. Nina’s love for volunteering began in her local library as soon as her son started school.

Today she divides her time between her family home in Thetford, Vermont, and Sedona. “I started volunteering at Sedona Library over 30 years ago,” Nina recalls. “I came in and asked for a library card and said I would be interested in volunteering. I was taken to see Ginny Volkman and told her I had
Library volunteers (l to r) Gail Hunt, Les Hunt, and Joe Landholm at work cleaning, repairing, gluing, and rebinding books that have fallen into disrepair.

Meet Janet Fontaine. Janet has seen a lot in her 91 years and there is no stopping her. A volunteer at the circulation desk two days a week, now in her ninth year, Janet’s life is so storied she is working on a Kindle version of the book she has already written about her life. It highlights her time amongst the Kennedys. Imagine her world view as secretary to patriarch Joseph Kennedy, which led to a job as the onboard private plane hostess and secretary to presidential hopeful Jack Kennedy. That was followed by a brief stint in the White House working for JFK, followed by time in Paris as secretary to the U.S. Ambassador to France. Traveling the world with her husband and son, and later graduating from the prestigious Le Cordon Bleu Paris Culinary Arts School in France, she headed to Sedona. Here she found a peaceful refuge and began to recover from her divorce. It was 1982 and since then Janet has shared her joie de vivre and tenacious energy with many organizations and businesses in Sedona, including helping to launch the art business of entertainer and entrepreneur Robert Shields and assisting the Sedona Arts Center as class registrar for years.

After retiring at 79, she felt that volunteering for the Library was a natural outgrowth of her love of people and books—she reads four hours a night into the wee hours. “What I especially like about the Library are all the compliments we receive from out-of-state people. They remark about the beauty and the grandeur of the Library. People are enthralled when they come here and sometimes say ‘we live in a big city but your library is so much more elegant than ours.’”

The circulation desk where Janet spends her time is a busy place. “The volunteers I work with are a very close-knit group and we just love each other. We have more fun now that we have self-service checkout. Before that we never had a chance to even talk to each other, and we would have lines of people waiting to check out.”

Asked about the future and her volunteering at the Library, Janet responds, “I’m going to continue as long as I am permitted or until they fire me,” she laughs. “I’m so happy to be able to be one of the ones the Library relies upon to stay in existence by giving my time.”

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

—Elizabeth Andrew

Interested in volunteering? Stop at the circulation desk and ask for a volunteer application form. You can choose from many activities and the amount of time you have to give. Develop a new skill, make new friends, and just have some fun!

—Wib Middleton
The Library puts donated books to many uses. Your donations make a big difference!

Ever wonder what happens to the books and other items you donate to Sedona Public Library? People commonly assume that all donated books are added to the Library’s circulating collection. Due to the generosity of community members, the Library receives far more donated books every year than we have available space on the shelves and staff resources to process. So, while donated items are selectively used to enhance the collection, the majority of donated books are sold in the Friends of the Library book sales. The money from these sales helps fund services at the Library.

When the Library receives donated items, they are first sorted by volunteers in our donations department. Most are then given to the Library’s book sale volunteers, who further process them and store them for book sales. Twice a year, the Friends of the Library sponsor a week-long book sale. Additionally, donated books are sold all year long on the circular racks and shelves near the entrance to the community room and on the Internet through the Friend’s Amazon store. The Friends also stock the free book shelf, located behind the public computer area. After the semi-annual book sales, many unsold books are given to organizations in need or to other Yavapai County libraries.

Donated items that are added to the collection enable the Library to stretch its acquisitions budget and provide a more diverse collection. Typically, items added are newer materials that we do not own or that we need more copies of because demand is high. Other donated materials are used as replacements for materials already in the Library’s collection. Worn, damaged, or lost books, CDs, and DVDs are commonly replaced with donated copies.

Sedona Public Library depends on the generosity of our community in so many respects. One important way that you can support the Library is by donating books and other types of media. Remember, your donations are tax-deductible!

Meet the Donations Team: Marlene Conklin (right) is on the frontlines of book donations, sorting hundreds of items every week. She is assisted by a group of volunteers, including Art Bessette (left), who keep donated items moving towards their destination in the collection, on the free shelf, or in the book sales.

Have books or other items to donate? Keep these tips in mind...

- Current, clean materials raise the most money for the Library at book sales and are also more likely to be added to the collection.
- Books about New Age, Native American, Arizona, and Western topics are very popular at book sales.
- We encourage donations of recently published magazine issues, especially of art, fashion, self-improvement, news, and home and garden magazines.
- Books about travel, medicine and health, computers, and investing are less likely to be sold if they are more than three years old.
- Disposition of donated items is at the discretion of library staff. We cannot guarantee that a donated item will be added to the collection.
- Because of the large volume of donations we receive, we usually cannot locate items that have been donated by mistake.
- Due to space limitations in our donations processing areas, we ask that you call in advance if you have more than a few boxes of materials to donate.

Thank you for your donations, and a special thank you to the many dedicated volunteers who process donations. Your assistance is invaluable!
WAYS TO SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

Sedona Public Library, unlike most public libraries in America, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Library programs, operations, capital improvements, and collection development are made possible thanks to the generous support of our community.

Make a donation. Tax-deductible donations can be made securely on our website at www.sedonalibrary.org or mailed to Sedona Public Library, 3250 White Bear Road, Sedona AZ 86336.

Join the Friends of the Library. The Friends of the Library is a separate volunteer-run nonprofit organization dedicated to providing financial support to Sedona Public Library, through membership, book sales, and other fund-raising events.

Membership benefits include: Reduced or waived library fines, previews of events prior to public opening, and Friends newsletter.

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* Asterisked membership levels are not available to business organizations.

Show your support and become a member of the Friends today!

Mail your check to:
Friends of the Sedona Library
PO Box 268
Sedona, AZ 86339

Shop and support the Library

Bashas’ Community Support Card

Get a Bashas’ Community Card and Friends of the Library will receive 6% of every dollar you load on your card.

Support businesses that support the Library

Payments in kind

Businesses can raise funds for the Library with no out-of-pocket expenses to the business or customer with the Payments in Kind Program.

To learn more about how you and your business can support Sedona Public Library, please contact Jennifer Perry, Director of Development, at 928-301-0166 or jperry@sedonalibrary.org.