



CAMP VERDE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

130 Black Bridge Road Camp Verde AZ 86322 | 928-554-8380

MEMORANDUM

TO: RUSS MARTIN, TOWN MANAGER
FROM: KATHY HELLMAN, LIBRARY DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT NOVEMBER 2021
DATE: NOVEMBER 8, 2021
CC: DEPARTMENT HEADS, TOWN COUNCIL

Report from the Library Director: We held a Community Meeting at the library to hear from residents of Verde Lakes regarding the use permit for the potential installment of an automated library branch at 3493 E Cactus Blossom Lane. The meeting was attended by 13 community members who express support for the project putting an automated library branch in Verde Lakes but were not keen on the location. In January, we will take the use permit request to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further review and discussion.

Report from Circulation: At a recent appointment, the receptionist asked me what I did for a living. I mentioned that I worked at the library. She then asked me if she came into the library would we be able to get some information regarding an issue she was trying to solve. I told her I would look into it and get back to her as soon as I could. After a few phone calls, I found an expert who was willing to work with her to answer any questions regarding her issue, so I called her the next day and gave her this information. This encounter reminded me that we do go beyond the walls of the library building. We are not just a place to check books in and check books out or just a place to come and use computers. As stated in our Library Vision statement: "Camp Verde Community Library dedicates its resources to providing library services that are forward-thinking while honoring the tradition of warm hospitality and the can-do attitude that built the library and the Town of Camp Verde."

Report from Tech Services: We received a donation of over 400 DVDs! Thanks to the teamwork we were able to review them for our collection or for sale in the Friend's Book Nook in record time. I am happy to have a new volunteer who is helping with the physical processing of this donation.

Report from the PC Helpdesk: Every day is a new story at the PC Help Desk! I am always helping people with devices - phones, tablets, and computers. There are many patrons who came in only to get help on their devices, in the beginning. Now those same people are doing so much more. I also need to give a shout out to ProCopy for the new Canon printers. With their improved capabilities I can now show patrons how to print from their own devices with ease instead of jumping through various email hoops to get documents printed!

Report from the Children's Library:



With warm and sunny weather continuing, the children are using the Children's patio for outdoor activity and movement. This is especially beneficial during the holiday months that can also be stressful for them. Inside the Children's Library, wonderful rich fall colors decorated the area. The STEM+A Hour lessons became more challenging with concepts that are more complicated. The children worked with robotics materials such as Ozobots and food chemistry where they learned about the 0-14 pH scale. They also learned about one of Isaac Newton's discoveries through the Newton's Disk activity demonstrating that the color white is the combination of all the colors in the rainbow. At the Dark Skies activity, we learned the different phases of the moon with Oreo cookies. It was a hit!

Report from the Teen Library:

November brought GameCon II, the return of our all-day gaming event. Debuting in 2019, the event was meant to be annual. Unable to hold the event in 2020 due to the pandemic, we brought it back in as safe a way as possible, making a handful of changes for this year's event. We had outdoor gaming this year, including corn hole, ladder golf, and my personal favorite, disc golf putting. All the outdoor games were used throughout the day. Inside, we had board games, card games, chess, checkers, Mario Kart and Super Smash Bros., Magic: The Gathering, Pokémon, Dungeons & Dragons, and Warhammer 40,000. In short,



something for everyone. In 2019, we had an admission fee of \$5, with proceeds going to YAC. This year we changed admission to donations, and still raised some money for the group. We will continue taking donations rather than requiring an entrance fee going forward, so as not to put a burden on families who want to attend together. While we plan on having GameCon again next November, two new events have sprung up out of it. The first is already underway – we now have an all-ages Dungeons & Dragons group that meets every other Saturday. We will keep you apprised of the second as we plan to put together smaller, quarterly mini gamedays leading into the larger GameCon event at the end of the year.

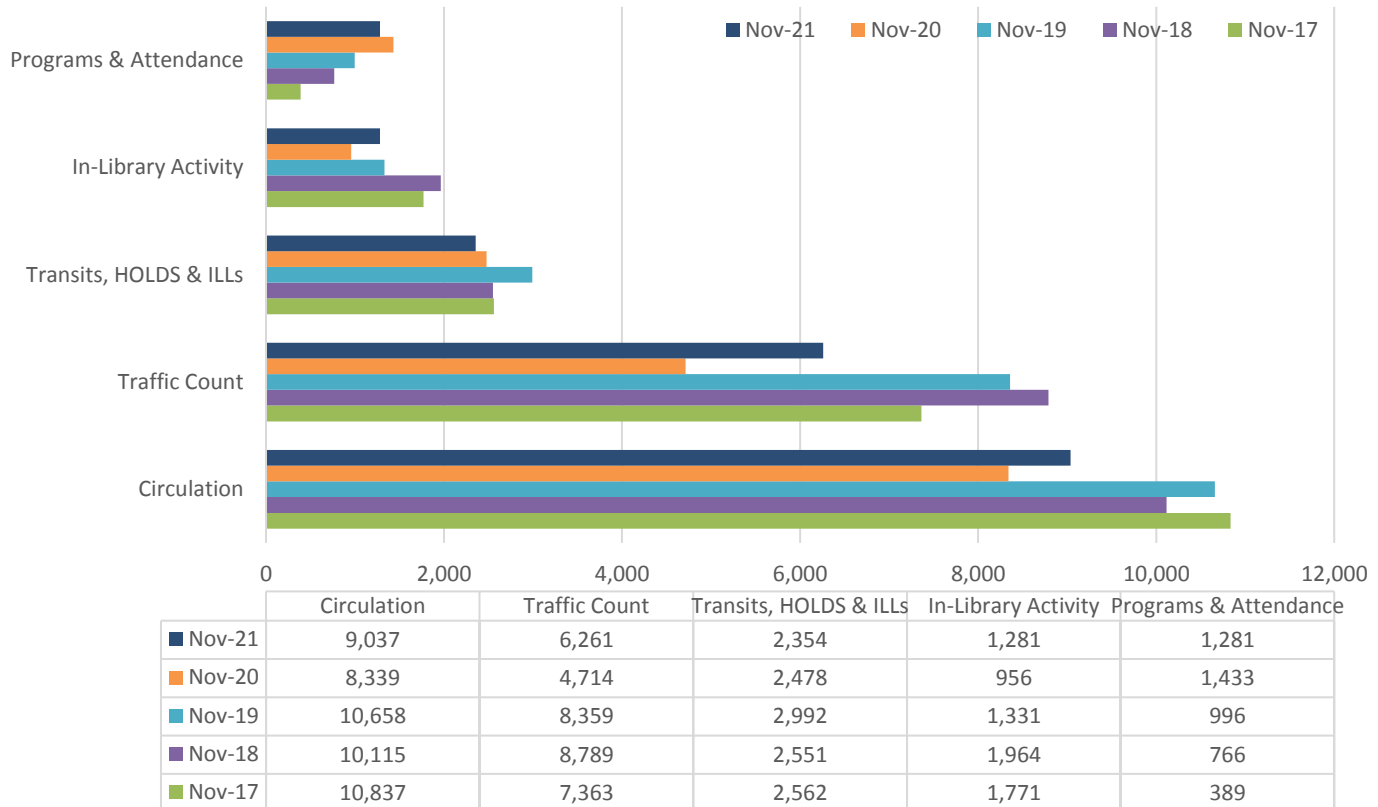
To really keep up with what is going on at the library, don't forget to follow us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/campverdelibrary>

	Nov-21	Nov-20	Nov-19	Nov-18	Nov-17
Traffic Count	6,261	4,714	8,359	8,789	7,363
Circulation					
Self-Checkout Use	2,231	2,549	1,476	8	n/a
Items Checked Out	3,561	3,314	4,727	4,634	4,973
Items Checked In	3,722	3,591	5,246	4,787	5,043
Renewed Items	1,754	1,434	685	694	821
Total Circulation	9,037	8,339	10,658	10,115	10,837
In-Library Activity					
New Cards Issued	60	43	61	73	80
Computer Use - All Ages	992	647	1,064	1,514	1,474
Laptops & iPads - All Ages	3	2	68	87	1
PC Helpdesk Answered Calls	106	122	n/a	n/a	n/a
Requests for PC/Mobile Device Help	83	80	82	120	78
Reference Questions	37	62	56	170	138
Total in-Library Activity	1,281	956	1,331	1,964	1,771
Library & Community Programs					
Community Programs Attendance	238	1308	216	297	146
Adult Program Attendance	351	64	374	159	138
Children's Program Attendance	612	27	184	193	47
Teen Program Attendance	80	34	222	117	58
Study Room Use - People Served	76	86	76	68	60
Total Library Program Attendance	1,281	1433	996	766	389
Library Room Use					
Study Room Uses	63	60	100	46	35
Room Use by Community Groups	26	22	39	45	23
Room Use by Library - Adults	18	6	29	18	10
Room Use by Library - Children	35	21	24	14	14
Room Use by Library - Teens	3	8	11	14	5
Total Library Room Use	142	109	192	123	82
Circulation Tracking					
DVDs & Movies	1,163	1,004	1,915	1,936	1,930
eBooks	724	754	639	484	376
Children's Material	1,652	1,100	1,098	939	1,149
Teen's Material	432	386	381	694	823
Transits, HOLDS & InterLibrary Loans					
HOLDS Filled	928	997	964	984	933
Transit Items Sent & Received	1,411	1,480	1,923	1,543	1,597
CVCL ILL Items Going Out	10	7	31	20	21
ILL Items for CVCL Patrons	5	3	4	4	11
Total Transit, HOLDS & ILL Activity	2,354	2,487	2,922	2,551	2,562
Collection & Development					
New Kids & Teen Material Added	60	79	12	99	44
Books, Magazines, and A/V Items Added	266	211	163	287	196

Library Volunteers						
Number of Volunteers		24	15	22	33	31
Number of Hours Given		455	167	413	564	627
Average Hours/Volunteer		19.0	11.1	18.8	17.1	20.2
Mending & Donations						
Items Mended or Repaired		274	125	93	93	131
Donations Processed		1,366	1,822	920	1,241	1,623
Donations Cataloged		43	10	41	15	84

CVCL 5-Year Activity Trends October 2021





This Week @CVCL 11/01/2021

Celebrate Our Anniversary with Us!

Friday, November 5 we celebrate 5 years since the grand opening of the new library. Please join us in the **Founders Room at 11:00a** as we honor one of our community members who was heavily involved and invaluable in the progress made toward completing the new library - Charlie German. A light luncheon will be served. Please contact Kathy Hellman at 928-554-8381 if you have any questions.

Special Opportunity!

Now - December 8 we are acting as a collection point for warm clothes and blankets that will be distributed through Bread of Life Mission. Please bring your **clean, gently-used** coats, sweatshirts, blankets, etc., and drop them in the collection bin in the lobby.

The Lions Club Mobile Eye Care Clinic Visits the Library

Thursday, November 4th from 9:00a-3:30p the Lions Club of Yavapai County will bring eye care services through their mobile doctor's office. The Lions Mobile Eye Care Van is a fully equipped eye doctor's examination room used by volunteer eye doctors to give screening eye exams and write prescriptions for eyeglasses. It is the mission of Lions Clubs to use this mobile doctor's office to bring eye care services to all of Yavapai County, with particular emphasis on residents 18 years and older who lack the means for, or access to, eye care services.

Appointments must be made through Library Specialist, Carson Ralston by calling 928-554-8391, emailing carson.ralston@campverde.az.gov, or stopping by the library.

Yavapai County residents with a monthly or annual income level at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level can qualify for free eye exams, eye care, and glasses. Guidelines for qualifying monthly income levels range from 1 person per household with an income of \$1,610 per month to 8 persons per household with an income of \$5,583 per month. It's easy to apply. Applications, complete details, and help are offered at the Library.

Call to find out if there are any appointments still available. Please bring one of the following documents to show proof of income when applying for the Lions of Yavapai Eye Care assistance:

- AHCCCS card,
 - Social Security paperwork stating this year's income,
 - 2020 Tax Return,
 - Current weekly or monthly pay stub or W2,
 - or unemployment letter.
-

Verde Valley Dark-Sky Party November 5

The Library is collaborating with the Camp Verde Dark-Sky Community to host a Star Party on Friday, November 5 starting at 5:00p inside the library and moving outside to Rezzonico Family Park at 6:30p. Participants are encouraged to

- bring their own chairs to the park,
- bring flashlights with red filters for night vision,

- bring a picnic and water to drink,
- wear close-toed, sturdy shoes for walking on the uneven ground after dark, and
- be prepared for the night to get chilly

Verde Valley Dark-Sky Star Party Evening Schedule

Start the evening inside the library with a variety of astronomy-themed hands-on activities, demonstrations, and games for families provided by Science Vortex, National Park Service, Camp Verde Stamp Club, and Camp Verde Community Library. Between 6:00 and 6:30 head to the park with your picnic and make s'mores around the propane fire pit. Then, wash hands and face before moving to the telescope pads for stargazing from dark until 9:00p. Supplies for s'mores and wet wipes will be provided by the library.

The library birdwatching backpacks with binoculars that can also be used for stargazing. Check one out in the Children's Library to use at the star party! Camp Verde Community Library is located just off of Montezuma Castle Highway at 130 N Black Bridge Road, Camp Verde AZ. For more information about this or any other library program, visit the library's [website](#) or call 928-554-8380

Camp Verde Dark-Sky Community is a group of volunteers who are interested in preserving Camp Verde's International Dark Sky Community designation through community events like this one. For more info on dark sky preservation, check out the International Dark-Sky Association's website at: <https://www.darksky.org/> and join the [Camp Verde Dark-Sky Community group on Facebook](#)

Children's Library Weekly STEM+(A) Hour

Do you have kids or grandkids ages 8-12 who like to tinker, explore, discover, or create? Weekly after school at **4:00p on Wednesdays** Ms. Letty is joined by Ms. Laurie from Science Vortex to bring science, technology, engineering, art, and math hands-on activities.

~ This week children will decorate sugar skulls and learn about Ozobots.

Each week will feature a new hands-on, interactive program designed to engage children in a creative learning environment that stimulates critical thinking and problem-solving skills. For details or questions, call Ms. Letty at 928-554-8397.

The Weekly STEM+(A) Hour is made possible through a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) STEAM is for Everyone grant awarded to CVCL's Children's library. This project is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Holiday Wreaths are up at the Library

Starting Monday, October 25, and ending Saturday, November 20 at noon, visitors to the library can vote for and bid on their favorite wreaths. The response to the Wreath contest has been phenomenal. Don't miss the opportunity to see the creativity of your friends and neighbors on display through these beautiful and unique wreaths. Vote in person for your favorites and put in bids for the ones you hope to take home. The Wreath Contest and Silent Auction is a fundraiser sponsored by and benefiting Friends of Camp Verde Library.

Open Enrollment in the Affordable Care Act Begins Monday, November 1?

November 1 marks the start of the HealthCare.gov Open Enrollment Period. This year, on top of providing health care plans at record-low costs, the Marketplace Open Enrollment Period has been extended by 30 days through January 15 to ensure more people have enough time to get covered. At the library, we have staff who are trained in helping you enroll in the best plan for you. Please contact Wendy or Lisa at the PC Helpdesk for more information or to schedule an appointment. 928-554-8380.

Next Week @CVCL

The Library will be CLOSED

Gina Machoniva Trio to Perform Tuesday, November 9 at 5:30p

Join us in Camp Verde Community Library's Fireside Room for a special performance by The Gina Machovina Trio. The Trio band members are Gina Machovina (guitar, vocals), Alberto Hinojoza (bass, vocals), and Claudia Tulip (flutes, vocals).

Gina is a classically trained guitarist, who loves nothing more than writing music and performing her favorite tunes. As a young Southern Californian, Gina fervently studied the instrument, all the while writing and performing tunes for her original R&R group Rising. Gina went on to earn a BA in guitar and lute performance. She currently performs in Sedona, AZ and surrounding areas.

Alberto, also from the southern California area, grew up in a musical family who used to say that, since he was the one with 2 left feet in the family, he should focus on the music-making part. Which he did as a singer and guitarist! Once joined with Gina, the couple played and sang together at home and in barbershop quartets, but only recently on the stage, Al now hailing as the all-important rhythmic bass player with Claudia and Gina.

Classically and jazz-trained with a BA in music and a passion for world music, Claudia brings the air element to the Gina Machovina Trio with silver and indigenous flutes (Native American, bamboo, ocarinas, and panpipes) and vocals. She has also been the flutist of the William Eaton Ensemble since 1988.

It was at a farmer's market in Camp Verde when Gina was performing, that Claudia's highly attuned ears were drawn to the musician. Claudia could hear the possibilities for a lovely musical pairing immediately. This chance encounter soon resulted in a beautiful, fun musical relationship and many performances. Since then, Gina and Claudia have developed a signature sound with their unique arrangements of classical and original compositions deftly woven into the myriad of styles expressed by the trio in performances and recordings. As Alberto anchors the day with his bass heartbeat and Gina with her unparalleled musicianship and beauty, Claudia couldn't be a happier bandmate. The music is a joyfully creative sonic journey and we invite you to come along for the ride.

Verde Valley GameCon Returns to the Library

Teen Librarian, Zack Garcia, is excited to announce the Verde Valley GameCon II, **Saturday, November 13 from 9:00a-4:00p.**

GameCon II will transform the Camp Verde Community Library into a convention hall-style venue hosting games of all sorts for all ages. Presented by Camp Verde Community Library Team, GameCon II aims to have something for everyone. Want to try a new board game? Head upstairs to the Game Library to check out a board game to play with friends (no library card required). Want to take on your friends in a Mario Kart or Super Smash Bros. tournament? We have you covered in the Video Game Room. How about classic games like chess, checkers, backgammon, pinochle, and euchre? Yep, we'll have those, too. Do you have a competitive or casual Magic: The Gathering deck, or just want to learn how to play? We have a spot for you to play.

GameCon II will also feature outdoor games, including disc golf, putting games, cornhole, and more at Rezzonico Park adjacent to the library. Can you win a prize? Probably not. Will your name go up in lights if you are the champion of your chosen game? Not a chance. GameCon II is about getting together with friends, maybe making new friends, and having a good time right here in Camp Verde.

GameCon II will be joined by [The Geekery of Flagstaff](#). The Geekery will introduce patrons to the world of miniature wargaming, demoing how to get started painting models, and teaching new players how to play Warhammer 40,000.

Admission for the event is \$5, or \$2 plus a nonperishable food item donation. The food donation will go to Bread of Life Food Pantry in Camp Verde with the other proceeds benefiting the Camp Verde Youth Advisory Council. Children under 10 get in free.

Camp Verde Community Library is located just off of Montezuma Castle Highway at 130 Black Bridge Road, Camp Verde AZ. For more information about this or any other library program visit the library's [website](#) or call 928-554-8380 during library open hours Mon-Thu 9:00a-8:00p, Fri-Sat 9:00a-5:00p.

Coming @CVCL

Dr. Dianna Mendoza Monthly Nutrition Seminar

This month join Dr. Dianna Mendoza from Casner Mountain Healing Center from **10:00 am - 12:00p** on **Wednesday, November 17 in the Terracotta Room**. She will be discussing what to do if you have an autoimmune disease. Refreshments and snacks are available.

Ongoing @CVCL

1st Monday 10:00a-noon Camp Verde Stamp Club
Mondays 5:00p-7:30p Music in the Stacks - Open Mic Night
Mondays 5:30p-7:00p Beginning Conversational English
Tuesdays 10:00a Children's Storytime w/Ms. Letty
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Wednesdays 9:00a-noon Wednesdays w/Wendy 1-to-1 Tech Assistance
Wednesdays 9:00a-11:00a Veteran's Advocacy with Lettie J. Irons Connell
Thursdays 5:00p-7:45p Game Nite w/Zack
Thursdays 5:30p-6:30p CVARP Citizenship Class
1st Thursday 6:00p Lions Club Meeting
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3rd Thursday 3:00p-5:00p Verde Valley Photographic Society
1st and 3rd Fridays 9:00a-10:00a Grief Support Group
Saturdays 1:00p-4:00p Health Insurance Enrollment Assistance
1st and 3rd Saturdays 1:00p Family Movie Matinee

For details about ongoing programs see the [Library Event Calendar](#) or call (928) 554-8380

See what's happening on our social sites:





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Thursday, November 11 for Veteran's Day**

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~ This week children will learn about Chemistry through Cabbage

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Saturdays 1:00p-4:00p Health Insurance Enrollment Assistance
1st and 3rd Saturdays 1:00p Family Movie Matinee 11/20 **The Little Prince**

For details about ongoing programs see the [Library Event Calendar](#) or call (928) 554-8380

See what's happening on our social sites:





We are CLOSED Thursday, 11/25 - Friday, 11/26 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We open as usual on Saturday 11/27 at 9:00a.

This Week @CVCL 11/15/2021

One more week for Holiday Wreaths at the Library

Your chance to VOTE and BID on a wreath ends Saturday, November 20 at noon! If you've been waiting to cast your vote and/or bid on your favorite wreath, don't delay. This is the last week to vote in person for your favorites and put in bids for the ones you hope to take home. The Wreath Contest and Silent Auction is a fundraiser sponsored by and benefiting Friends of Camp Verde Library.

AARP Tax Aide Call for Volunteers

AARP has been providing one-on-one Tax-Aide to Camp Verde for many years. Now, our local Tax-Aides need your help. You can make a difference in the lives of people right in your own community. As an AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteer, help people who can't afford to pay for professional tax preparation — and often miss out on much-needed tax breaks, deductions, and refunds. You can help put money back in their pockets. For information or to express interest in volunteering with AARP Tax Aide call the Library at 928-554-8391.

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This month join Dr. Dianna Mendoza from Casner Mountain Healing Center from **10:00 am - 12:00p on Wednesday, November 17 in the Terracotta Room**. She will be discussing what to do if you have an autoimmune disease. Refreshments and snacks are available.

Music in the Stacks Concert Series with Reno & Sheila McCormick

Thursday, November 18th from 5:30-7:00 pm. Reno and Sheila McCormick have been playing down-to-earth bluegrass, folk, country, and western music together since the 1980s. From Colorado to California to Arizona they have played at festivals, fairs, clubs and gatherings.

This duo features flatpicking by Reno on his Martin guitar while Sheila keeps the beat on the bass. Reno sings lead, with Sheila also taking a turn as lead vocalist. Tight vocal harmonies and inventive instrumentals are the hallmarks of these seasoned musicians. Reno is a multi-instrumentalist who also plays fiddle, dobro, mandolin and banjo. He has been playing guitar since he was a teenager.

Since moving to the Verde Valley in 2005, Reno and Sheila have performed as a duo and as members of bands at Flagstaff's Pickin' in the Pines Bluegrass and Acoustic Music Festival, Prescott Bluegrass Festival, Tres Rios Nature Festival and Alpine Bluegrass Festival, to name a few. They have played classic country music on a regular basis locally. They have also performed at The Blazin' M Ranch in Cottonwood, and the M Diamond Ranch in Rimrock, and like to include some cowboy tunes in their sets.

Coming to CVCL

Practice Online Banking in a Hands-on Class with Lynn

Starts Tuesday, December 7 and runs through Tuesday, January 4 at 3:00p for 5 weeks in the Key Lime Room. This is a follow-up to Lynn's last class, a 10-part hands-on course designed to be used in live or virtual class settings that incorporate hands-on exercises using an online banking demo to practice common banking transactions. Target Audience: Individuals who prefer moderately paced, instructor-led classes with a practice component to build confidence. More details to come.

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Children's Library Weekly STEM+(A) Hour

Do you have kids or grandkids ages 8-12 who like to tinker, explore, discover, or create? Weekly after school at **4:00p on Wednesdays** Ms. Letty is joined by Ms. Laurie from Science Vortex to bring science, technology, engineering, art, and math hands-on activities.

~ This week children will learn about Isaac Newton's color disc

Each week will feature a new hands-on, interactive program designed to engage children in a creative learning environment that stimulates critical thinking and problem-solving skills. For details or questions, call Ms. Letty at 928-554-8397.

The Weekly STEM+(A) Hour is made possible through a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) STEAM is for Everyone grant awarded to CVCL's Children's library. This project is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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1st and 3rd Saturdays 1:00p Family Movie Matinee 11/20 [The Little Prince](#)

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We are CLOSED Thursday, 11/25 - Friday, 11/26 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

We open as usual on Saturday 11/27 at 9:00a.

This Week @CVCL 11/22/2021

Holiday Wreath Contest Winners

A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who made the 3rd Friends of Camp Verde Library Wreath Contest and Silent Auction an outstanding success. The silent auction raised \$1,100 for our library! Many votes were cast with the following results:

1. Camp Verde Ace Hardware with their very creative "Keyed Up For The Holidays" wreath garnered first place.
2. Second place was awarded to Debbie Schwalie for the lovely "Roses & Music" wreath made with folded sheet music.
3. Patti Bowers, a library volunteer, took third place with her "Joy" evergreen arrangement.

As one voter noted on the ballot, "honestly, it was very difficult to choose." As they were picking up their wreaths, several people commented on how much fun this was and they were looking forward to next year's event. Thank you again to everyone who voted and bid on this year's selection of wreaths.

Yavapai Big Brothers Big Sisters

Stop by the Big Brothers Big Sisters table in the lobby at the library **today between 4:30p and 6:30p** and have a conversation about how you can get involved and/or support youth in Camp Verde. Yavapai Big Brother Big Sisters is looking for mentors to join their team of adults committed to helping youth reach their full potential. You might be surprised at the number and variety of opportunities available.

AARP Tax Aide Call for Volunteers

AARP has been providing one-on-one Tax-Aide to Camp Verde for many years. Now, our local Tax-Aides need your help. You can make a difference in the lives of people right in your own community. As an AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteer, help people who can't afford to pay for professional tax preparation — and often miss out on much-needed tax breaks, deductions, and refunds. You can help put money back in their pockets. For information or to express interest in volunteering with AARP Tax Aide visit the [AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program](#).

New! Dungeons & Dragons Gameplay

Saturday, December 4th from 11:00a-4:00p join Library Volunteer, Kevin Karvinen (otherwise known as Dungeon Master) in The Center for a round of the fantasy tabletop role-playing game, Dungeons & Dragons. Designed for ages 12 and up. Meets every other Saturday at the same time and location. Bring your own dice and books if you have them. Questions? Call Kevin at the PC Helpdesk at 928-554-8380 or leave a message for him.

Coming to CVCL

Practice Online Banking in a Hands-on Class with Lynn

Ready, Set, Bank – Online Banking for Seniors Made Easy

Starting Wednesday, December 8 from 3:00-4:00p Lynn Sweitzer will present in-person or virtually a series of five hands-on classes on how to successfully and safely do online banking. The class, part of the Community Connect: Digital Access at Home project, will meet weekly through January 5 on Wednesday in the Key Lime Room at Camp Verde Community Library or at the same time via Zoom.

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The course content and approach were developed through a partnership between Capital One and OATS (Older Adults Technology Services). Attendees will learn about the benefits of online banking, safety & security, how to get started, how to keep track of their money, how to manage their online account. Interested? Attend in-person at the library or login via the Zoom from the link below or find the link posted on the library's Facebook page or website.

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Community Connect: Digital Access at Home is made possible by Capital One and the American Library Association. Camp Verde Community Library is located just off Montezuma Castle Highway at 130 Black Bridge Road, Camp Verde AZ. For more information about this program visit the library's website at campverde.az.gov/cvcl or call 554-8385.

Ongoing @CVCL

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This Week @CVCL 11/29/2021

Two Little Free Libraries Installed in Camp Verde...

...one at Rezzonico Family Park and one at the Verde Valley Archaeology Center's new location on Finnie Flat Road.

You are invited to the ribbon-cutting and opening of two recently installed Little Free Libraries in Camp Verde on Wednesday, December 1 starting at 2:00p at the Verde Valley Archaeology Center (VVAC) and then moving to Rezzonico Family Park at 2:30p.

Camp Verde Community Library and VVAC are recipients of a grant from the Rural Activation and Innovation Network (RAIN) to bring the Little Free Libraries (LFL) to Camp Verde and fill them with books and SciTech Institute take-and-make kits. The LFLs will hold a variety of science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) books for reading levels from preschool through adult. Families, whether visiting the VVAC or Rezzonico Family Park, are encouraged to take a book and return it later - take a book, leave a book. Not only will books be available through the Little Free Libraries, but they will also be stocked with SciTech Institute science kits containing hands-on STEAM activities families can keep and do together.

"We are excited to add a Little Free Library at our new location on Finnie Flat Road," said Verde Valley Archaeology Director, Ken Zoll. "The LFL gives us another way to reach children and families with information and activities that appeal to them."

"When families participate together in STEAM activities, parents gain the confidence of learning alongside their children as well as being their first teacher," said Letty Ancira, Children's Librarian at Camp Verde Community Library. "Not all families are able to attend the STEM+A Hour at the library, but they can get books and activities from the Little Free Library whenever it is convenient for them."

The Little Free Libraries were made possible through a grant from RAIN and the National Science Foundation. The organizations provided \$500 to stock each LFL with STEAM-themed books and are putting together the take-and-make STEAM kits. Giving families free access to STEAM books and activities provides a strong foundation in reading skills, critical thinking, creativity, innovation, and problem-solving.

Free Concert - Donna Hazlewood, Winner of Verde Valley's Got Talent

Join us in the Fireside Room at 5:30 pm on Thursday, December 2nd for the return of Donna Hazlewood, the winner of *Verde Valley's Got Talent*. Donna performed to a packed audience who overwhelmingly enjoyed the show last year at the library. She has been looking forward to a follow-up performance ever since!

Donna Hazlewood was born and raised in the South and has been living in Arizona for 30 years. She was a nurse for 10 years and is currently pursuing a Master's degree as a nurse practitioner. She always enjoyed singing, and over the past several years competed in singing competitions reaching a plateau. It was then that she was introduced to legendary performer and voice coach Al Raitano, who helped her move from ordinary to extraordinary. They have been working together for 3 years and she recently won the *Verde Valley's Got Talent* competition! Donna's amazing voice will again be accompanied by pre-recorded music put together by Al Raitano.

Verde Valley Caregivers Christmas Tree

The giving tree is back in the Library lobby with gift tags you can take to fulfill the need of a senior in our community. It's easy! Take a gift tag, purchase the items listed, wrap or package them, secure the tag to the gifts, and return to the library. Items must be returned to the library by **Wednesday, December 15 at 9:00a.**

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