RANCHO GABRIELA, SONORAN HEIGHTS THANK FRIENDS

Elementary school students at Rancho Gabriela and Sonoran Heights schools crafted two signs as a visible "Thank You" for the thousands of dollars in Grants Friends has awarded the two schools. Rancho Gabriela and Sonoran Heights Librarian Janelle Yoder, right, who presented the posters to Friends’ President Alyson Cline. Since 2006, Rancho Gabriela Elementary has received $8,000 and Sonoran Heights Elementary has received $9,800 from Friends of the Surprise Libraries. In 2015, Friends awarded $2,000 for Rancho and $1,800 for Sonoran, part of $34,793.68 Granted last year to Dysart Unified School District No. 89 in support of reading and literacy.

BOOKSTORE SALES EXCEED $200 ON 24 DAYS

Friends' Place book sales soared above $200 on 24 days during January and February, a winter record for the non-profit bookstore. January sales brought in $5,227.50 for 29 operating days, which was $604.25 more than January 2015, a 13.07 percent increase.

Marley Park Gets Crucial New Listening Stations

A $523.50 Grant from Friends has allowed second grade teachers at Marley Park Elementary School to receive three "listening stations" for audio books and programs, each of which will allow six students to participate at once. "I have been hoping to receive one of these stations since I came to Marley Park twelve years ago," said Mrs. Sandra Tarleton at the February meeting of the school Parent Teacher Association.

FRIENDS AWARDS TWO NEW SCHOOL GRANTS

Friends approved two new School Grants, $257 for Cimarron Springs Elementary School and $2,404 for Nadaburg Unified School District No. 81. The Cimarron Grant impacts 678 students by providing ten copies of "40 Reading Intervention Strategies for K-6 Students". The Nadaburg Grant will provide 375 books to support their summer reading program. The volumes will be awarded as literacy prizes for students who complete a carefully designed reading program. Friends' President, Alyson Cline noted that both Grants are important to these literacy programs.

Mrs. Sandra Tarleton, a second grade teacher at Marley Park happily displays one of the new "listening stations" donated by Friends.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY SINCE 2003 - $427,647.40
TOTAL GRANTS TO SCHOOLS SINCE 2003 - $192,897.84