

# Cochise County Library District Monthly Report

February 2018

## Library District

Library Director Amadee Ricketts visited the Sierra Vista Sunshine Rotary in February to share highlights of Library District services, including ebooks and research databases. Thanks to Cochise County Court Administrator and Sunrise Rotary President Eric Silverberg for the invitation.

On February 21, representatives of most of the municipal libraries met at the Library District to share updates and move forward with plans for One County, One Card. Action items include implementing online credit card payments, cleaning up old database records, and reaching consensus about key circulation rules. The overall project is complex, but all parties are excited to make library services more accessible and convenient for residents countywide.

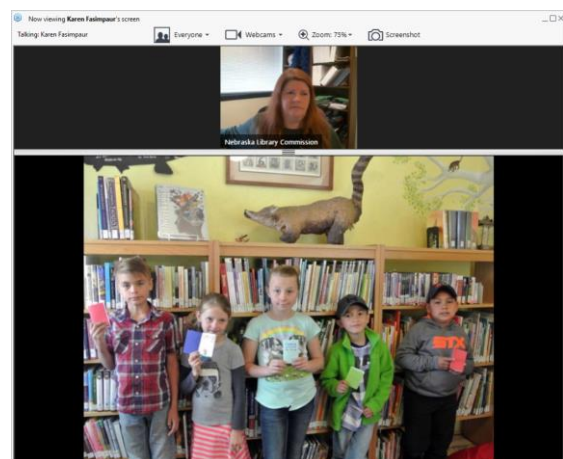
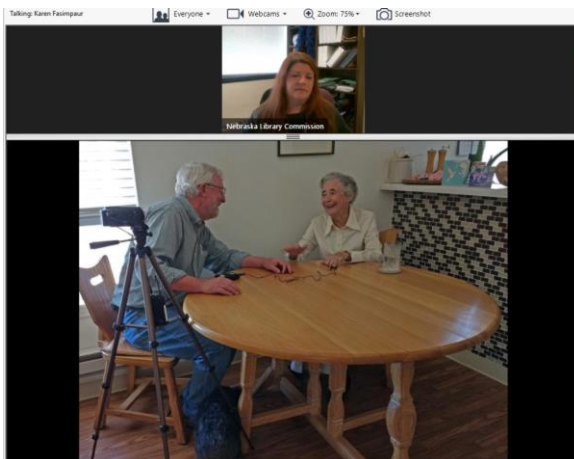
### Last Week's Program, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Amadee Ricketts, County Librarian

Amadee provided the SVSR Rotary Club with an overview of the Cochise County Library District's mission, organization and services.

The Cochise County Library District is a cooperative group of libraries, working together to meet the information needs of customers all over the County. Member libraries include the seven independent city libraries and five Library District branches located in unincorporated areas of the County.



*Outreach presentation at SV Sunshine Rotary*



*Screenshots from Big Talk from Small Libraries*

On February 23, Karen Fasimpaur from Portal participated in *Big Talk from Small Libraries*, a virtual conference facilitated by the Nebraska Library Commission. The annual forum is attended by staff and administrators from small and rural libraries all over the United States and Canada. Karen gave a presentation on the grant-funded "Creativity in a Box" program that started in Portal in 2016.



## Video project captures the essence of peaceful Portal

The “Creativity in a Box” program led to the oral history project that is still going strong in the Portal/Rodeo area. The oral history project was featured in the February 20 issue of the new *Cochise Today* newsletter, as well as a February 23 article in [The Daily Yonder](#).

The original “Creativity in a Box” project was so successful that Karen is working with the Library District to seek grant funding to offer the creativity kits and workshops in libraries across the county in 2018/19.

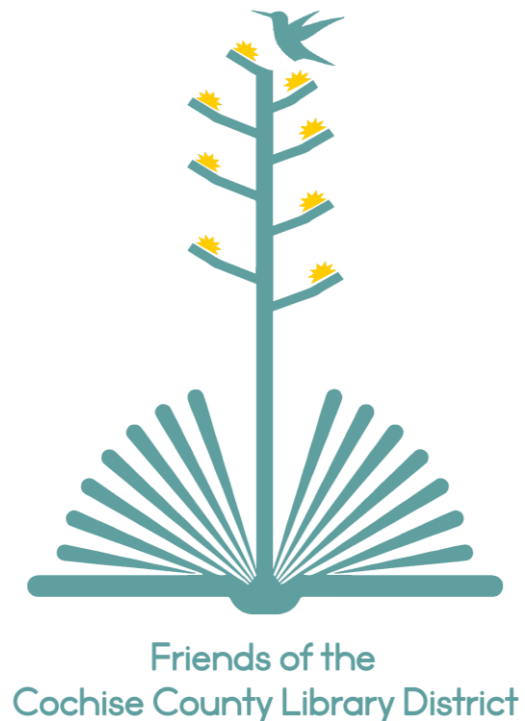
### **Friends of the Library**

The Friends of the Cochise County Library District met on February 16. Treasurer Debbie Klimek agreed to remain in her position for another year. The Friends began planning for a spring membership drive, and an open house tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 28.

The Friends adopted a new logo designed by James Orndorf, and introduced a new web page:

[tinyurl.com/CCLDFriends](http://tinyurl.com/CCLDFriends)

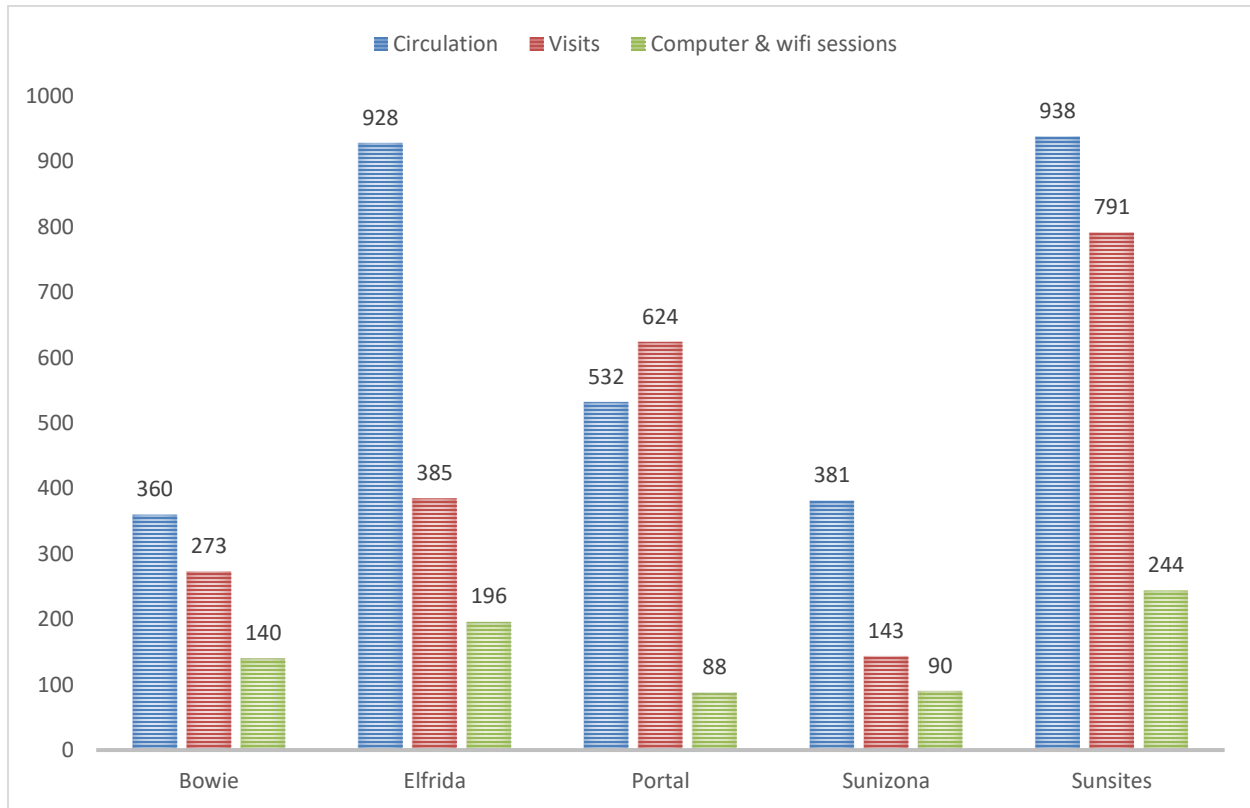
The Friends are actively looking for new ways to raise funds in support of Library District programs and services, including online sales of collectible books and other items.



### **Branch Libraries**

The rural library branches will soon have fast (fiber) internet service, with help from Valley Telecom and federal E-rate funding for connectivity equipment. Installation of new routers and cables is scheduled to take place at all five locations in March.

## Branch library usage, February 2018



At **Bowie's Jimmie Libhart Library**, middle school students got some practice creating and formatting documents in Microsoft Word in February. The students and their teachers were excited about the hands-on learning experience.

The **Elfrida Library** welcomed an adorable new patron in February (pictured on the right), and Friday Kids Hour participants had fun with finger puppets featuring fairytale characters:



*The newest patron at the Elfrida Library is just four weeks old*

On a less cheerful note, heavy rain in mid-February sent water seeping into the Elfrida Library building. The Elfrida Citizens Alliance is working to reseal the bottom edges of the exterior walls to prevent future storm damage.

February programs at **Portal's Myrtle Kraft Library** included a book discussion, meditation class, and a continuation of the genealogy class that started in January.

In **Sunizona, Alice Woods Library** Branch Manager Marian Baker-Gierlach continues to work closely with the staff and administration of Ash Creek School. In addition to offering a new winter reading program, they are putting together a special event to mark the end of the school year in May.



*The Lions Little Library in Sunsites*

Judith Bailey, the **Sunsites Community Library** Branch Manager, joined the Cochise Stronghold Lions Club on February 24 as they dedicated a new Lions Little Library at the Stronghold Area Recreational Park. The new Little Library represents another excellent way for Sunsites residents to grow a community of readers.