



Stop by the Living Library and “check out/borrow” a living/human Book.

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

11 a. m. – 2 p. m

Jácome Plaza – Joel Valdez Main Library – 101 N. Stone Ave.

www.tucsonaz.gov/diversity

Book Titles

1. Book: Ron Austin

Title: The Long Road from Homelessness and Addiction

Have you ever stopped to talk to someone who is without a home – homeless?
What do the words **homeless** and **crack addict** make you feel?

Ron is a recovering crack addict of 13 years and also during his addiction he was homeless. He received stabilization after a mystical experience and he is now fully stabilized. The trials and tribulations of the struggle with attaining stability, sobriety and acceptance in mainstream life.

2. Book: Darrell Banning

Title: Beyond the Workout – Body, Brains, and Spirit

What do you think of bodybuilding? Have you ever wondered what it takes to chisel that physique? Is it a science? Is it arrogance and self-love? Who are these people? Unlock the mystery, myths and stereotypes. Share your experience and ask these and other important questions.

3. Book: Phil Bossenbroek

Title: Living with HIV/AIDS

Have you ever been impacted by a life-changing illness? What is it like? What is it like to hear from someone that you have tested positive for HIV? How will this alter relationships with family, friends, and co-workers? What is the day-to-day life like with medications, illnesses, and the stigma associated with having this virus? How does one manage/cope with the world around them to navigate the misconceptions, prejudices and fears?

4. **Book: Clarence Boykin**

Title: From the Outhouse to the White House

What was it like growing up Black in the rural and segregated South in the 1940's & '50s? What did children learn about interacting across race lines? What were the rules – unspoken and written? What did it feel like to see signage that read “Colored Only”? How does a child of the South go from the segregated South to recognition from the highest office in the United States?

5. **Book: Gene Einfrank**

Title: Ostracized at Eight

As a young Jewish boy, Gene grew up 6 blocks south of downtown Tucson where he attended Safford Elementary. Among neighborhood children, Gene was in a religious minority. Because of his heritage, Gene was often singled out and bullied on the playground. The effect of such behavior on a developing child is difficult to measure, but they are real and though they may fade with time, they are never quite forgotten.

6. **Book: Vonda Gracia**

Title: Life After an Abusive Relationship

She married her high school sweetheart. How perfect is that?

But, life twisted her dreams as she watched her sweetheart spiral out of control with alcohol and drugs, and as she became the victim of physical and verbal abuse.

Many of us might say, “I would never put up with that!!” Have we prejudged someone based on our limited view and knowledge?

Why didn't she just get out? When did she get the courage to leave?

7. **Book: Chewee Hughley**

Title: Living with HIV/AIDS

Engaging in conversation with this Book will give a sense of what life is like with HIV. It is a view from truly the human perspective. The dialogue with Chewee is designed to combat the stigma that still remains. What is it like to hear from someone that you have tested positive for HIV? What will happen to your life as you know it? Will this harm your relationships with family, friends, and co-workers? What is your day-to-day life like with medications, illnesses, and the stigma associated with having this virus? What are our own biases and fears?

8. **Book:** Ross Iwamoto
Title: Growing Up on a Pineapple Plantation:
Being Asian Wanting to Be White

What was it like growing up in a small town, on a small Island, where all the laborers are people of color and all managers are white? What is it like to live where people of color are a minority, marginalized, and learning little about their own culture? What is life like where one is taught to carry cultural messages that are not their own, - and trying to assimilate?

9. **Book:** Sat Bir Kaur Khalsa
Title: What's Under the Turban? - Sikh Dharma: A Converts Experience

What is Sikh Dharma and why is that woman wearing a turban? What are your myths, misconceptions and stereotypes about the Sikh religion? Sat Bir can tell you she has had many a strange question and many very quizzical looks. Learn more about beliefs, forms of worship, sacred scriptures, history, and relationship to community. Are there similarities in religions?

10. **Book:** Ron Lewis
Title: City Official – Fair Target or Real Person?

City officials are often targets of negative comments and media. While easy targets, officials are real people motivated to serve and improve the community. They apply their collective professionalism, subject matter expertise, and diverse experience base to the City's challenges and the community at large. When was the last time you had a chance to talk one-on-one with a City Official? What are the myths, misconceptions, and misunderstandings about City Officials?

11. **Book:** Laura Markowitz
Title: Being a Jewish-American Feminist Woman

Often, Jewish women are portrayed in very stereotypical ways by Hollywood, Phillip Roth and offensive Jewish mother jokes. Laura offers her perspectives as a Gen X woman who experiences Judaism as a liberating, open, flexible and exciting religious civilization.

12. **Book:** Burc Maruflu
Title: Turkish Coffee

The efforts of Turkish-American Muslims for dialogue, friendship and peace are this Book's topic. Are we aware of the effects of their activities in our community? Learn more about the role of coffee in history of cultures and how coffee is related to dialogue. How are these members of our community received and included? What are the challenges to open dialogue, creating friendships, and peace?

Burc Maruflu is from Istanbul, Turkey. This conversation can range from coffee, to cultures and to intercultural/interfaith dialogue.

13. Book: Chi Newman

Title: Learning to Love: From Privilege to Peace

Chi was raised in a life of privilege with housekeepers, servants, attendants, and tutors. Suddenly, life as she knew it was turned upside down. It was all gone and she and her sister were sent away just steps ahead of the communist regime that took the lives of so many during this turbulent and tragic era. Chi shares what it took to move from the mindset of the elite and a life of privilege to understanding the human condition and finding peace along the journey.

14. Book: Sharon McDonough

Title: Women in Non-Traditional Careers – Fire Dept.

Girls Can Do Anything!!!!

As the first female Battalion Chief of the Tucson Fire and single mother of two - how did she do it? Learning early on that “girls can do anything,” this driven, dedicated professional, and parent has weathered a lot nay-saying, name-calling, and insults - “You don’t look like a Fire Chief!” In spite of it all this woman has taken her place in a traditionally male dominated field.

What has the journey been like for this working woman? What were the obstacles, barriers, prejudices, and misconceptions about women in the Fire Department?

15. Book: Christian Mutamba

Title: Is There Hope for Africa?

Christian was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo and lived part of his childhood in Belgium, speaks three different languages and is familiar with Spanish and Lingala.

With famine, severe poverty, illness and disease, corruption, and wars is there hope for Africa? Should we be concerned about Africa’s fate? Is Africa’s fate our fate? Should we do nothing and let nature and the universe exact the consequences?

16. Book: Liana Perez

Title: 5 Generations of Tucson History

Liana grew up hearing stories from her grandparents about Arizona during its territorial years, and what it was like living in Tucson during the early 1900’s. Her grandmother’s pride and joy were her photo albums filled with priceless pictures of Tucson. Water running in the Santa Cruz River? Myth or misconception?

Engage in a conversation and take a journey through photos and stories of Tucson’s rich history and culture.

17. Book: Vicki Reza

Title: Women in Non-Traditional Careers – Police Officer

We have come a long way since the first woman Police Officer was sworn in nearly 100 years ago, however, there is still work to do.

How does a woman achieve success in a male dominated field? What are the obstacles and barriers and how does one overcome them? What are the stigmas, prejudices, and fears that hang like a cloud over women who choose the career of Police Officer? What stigmas and prejudices do Officers encounter daily? What does it take to achieve and succeed?

Talk to this Officer to find what her journey has been like.

18. Books: Various

Title: Welcome to America – Through the Eyes of Immigrants

What is it like to leave your homeland and enter a new and very different and strange world? How does one navigate the culture, the customs, the language, and the social structure? What were the myths and stereotypes of America as seen through the eyes of immigrants and newly sworn citizens? What are our own biases and prejudices as it relates to new members of America? What are our myths and misconceptions about the Book's country of origin?