



INFORMATION:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**DESERT FOOTHILLS LIBRARY INSTALLS NEIGHBORHOOD BOOK EXCHANGE
IN CAREFREE DESERT GARDENS**

Promoting Literacy and a Love for Reading

CAREFREE, Ariz., (May, 2017)- The Desert Foothills Library Association (DFL) and the Town of Carefree have joined forces to install a neighborhood book exchange called a "Little Free Library" within the Carefree Desert Gardens located on 101 Easy Street in downtown Carefree, Arizona.

The "Little Free Library" project was underwritten by longtime Carefree residents, Linda and Mark Putney, on behalf of the Desert Foothills Library and is a neighborhood book exchange that promotes literacy and the love of reading. The Town of Carefree installed the "Little Free Library" located adjacent to the Gila monster playground for easy access by children and adults. Everyone visiting the Carefree Desert Gardens is encouraged to stop, reach into the little green house, select a favorite book to read or leave a book for someone else to find. The Little Free Library works on the honor system and volunteers from the Desert Foothills will continue to steward the house and fill the box with books from Chapter2 Bookstore, which is located inside the Desert Foothills Library.

"Including a "Little Free Library" in our Carefree Desert Gardens in conjunction with the Desert Foothills Library is a great addition to our tranquil and whimsical garden setting," shared Carefree Mayor Les Peterson. "Reading a good book in a beautiful environment is a wonderful way to encourage children and adult minds and imaginations to grow and wander."

DFL and the Town of Carefree will join the "Little Free Library" organization as "stewards" and be featured on the Little Free Library World Map, listing locations of each house, a photo, GPS coordinates and other pertinent information at littlefreelibrary.org.

"I am very excited to have the opportunity of collaborating with the Town of Carefree to create a Little Free Library for the community", said Desert Foothills Library Executive Director David Court. "Desert Foothills Library is primarily funded by donations from local residents and it is fitting that this new addition is also funded in this way."

The Carefree Desert Garden is the crown jewel of Carefree and one of only two public botanical gardens in the Valley where couples and families can stroll and enjoy rare and fascinating desert plant specimens on a self-guided walking tour.

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About the Desert Foothills Library

The Desert Foothills Library is open seven days a week and serves the entire desert foothills community with culturally enriching programs, educational events and quality services for children and adults. Home to Chapter2Books, the largest used book store in the North Valley, the Desert Foothills Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit privately-funded, public library supported by contributions from individuals and community-minded organizations that recognize the importance of providing meaningful educational and social opportunities for life-long learning. Desert Foothills Library is located at 38443 N. Schoolhouse Road, Cave Creek, AZ. For additional information, please visit www.dfla.org or call 480-488-2286.

About the Town of Carefree

Carefree is a scenic community of over 3,700 residents nestled in the Sonoran Desert Foothills. Incorporated in 1984, Carefree is regarded as one of the most inspiring and livable places in Arizona and centers its culture on desert lifestyle, architecture, culinary arts, health, wellness and community involvement. For more information VisitCarefree.com or call 480-488-3686.

