



# Palm Reader News

Volume 9, Number 3

Summer 2011

Newsletter for Friends of Fort Myers Library

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Carol Rooksby Weidlich

Board Meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month. Members are welcome to attend.

As a Friend of the Fort Myers Library, your membership helps to strengthen the resources and services of the Library.

## From the President ~

Well, it's that time of year again: animated groups getting together, heated discussions, bickering, and name-calling. No, I'm not talking about baseball or your summer vacation but rather our national budget-setting process. Even in times of prosperity, coming to consensus about how our tax money will be spent has presented a challenge. Fortunately, we do not expect to see such bickering at the local level but, with dwindling resources, it is crucial that we, as library advocates, make our voices heard. Letter writing and phone calls to national and state representatives work well but to make a local impact, let your County Board members know that you support the library system – do it in person and at commission meetings. Library staff, programs and overall resources may well depend on your help and support.

Lee County will have its next budget meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. At this meeting they will set the maximum millage rate. This rate or a lower millage rate will be adopted at the September budget hearings. These will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 5:05 pm in Lee County Courthouse chambers. The last meeting will decide the County operating budget for 2011-2012. Fort Myers Friends will be there, will you?

Also, mark your calendar for the next End of Summer Friends Blow-Out Book Sale, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 9AM to 2 PM. As you know, proceeds from sales are used to support library programs, especially those for children. Volunteers are desperately needed to set-up and break-down this sale. While you're there, treat yourself to real bargains in books. For more information on how you can help with the above activities, email us at [information@fortmyersfriends.org](mailto:information@fortmyersfriends.org).

See you in the library!

*Byron Wallace*

## SPECIAL– END OF SUMMER

### Friends Blow-Out Book Sale

### Library Meeting Room

**Saturday, August 27, 2011**

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**\$3.00/bag\***

\*Shopping bag provided by the Friends



[www.FortMyersFriends.org](http://www.FortMyersFriends.org)

**VISIT OUR BOOK STORE!**

Each time you visit the Fort Myers Library, check to see what's been added to the Friends Book Store.

It's just around the corner from the Circulation Desk.

Donations are on the honor system, and nothing is over \$2.00.

**ATTENTION All History Buffs...**

Local southwest Florida history lovers are encouraged to read Naples author **Maureen Sullivan-Hartung's** new book **Hidden History of Everglades City and Points Nearby**. This book explores the history of the last frontier known as Everglades City as it was in pioneer days. You'll read tales of the strong men and courageous women who settled this area.



Photo by Linda Chatterton

The Friends of the Fort Myers Library invite you to meet writer, author and photographer Maureen Sullivan-Hartung. Learn about her experiences in preparing to write this book at our **Meet the Author Event** on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at the Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library, 2050 Central Avenue in downtown Fort Myers.

The program is free and open to the public but space is limited. Reservations are recommended. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing following the presentation.

If you'd like more information about Ms. Sullivan-Hartung, please visit her website at [www.maureenwrites.com](http://www.maureenwrites.com).

*Carolyn Ford*  
Secretary

**Welcome New and Renewing Members**

**New Members**

Gayle Cook

**Renewed Members**

Ed Barton

David Cook

Peter Eisenhardt

Mary Enstrom

Trudi Foreso

Gene and Nan Gibson

Rick and Madeleine Plummer

Martha Whitehouse

Bettie Willis

**REMEMBER:** your **Library Card** is for borrowing books and other materials from the Lee County Library System; and that your **Friends of the Fort Myers Library Membership Card** shows that you support the **Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library** financially.

Please urge your friends to join or reinstate their membership.

*Robert Gibson*  
Treasurer

**HELP WANTED**

Volunteers to assist in setting-up and tearing-down at our Saturday, August 27th Book Sale. Please contact Carolyn Ford [cfordgen2004@earthlink.net](mailto:cfordgen2004@earthlink.net).

## Gift Books: A Lasting Dedication

The Friends of the Fort Myers Library invite you to:

### *Celebrate a Life*

Celebrate a birthday, holiday or special occasion by donating a book to the library in the name of a special person, group or business.

### *Recognize a Life*

Recognize an accomplishment in someone's life. Remember a birthday, anniversary or milestone in someone's life with the special gift of a book for the library's collection.

### *Honor a Memory*

What better way to remember someone than to make a gift of a book. A contribution to the library is a meaningful way in which the memory of a deceased relative, friend or colleague can be preserved.

Gift Books directly connect individuals and groups to the Fort Myers-Lee County Library. Designation of your Memorial Book Gift extends the value and impact of the life you seek to recognize.

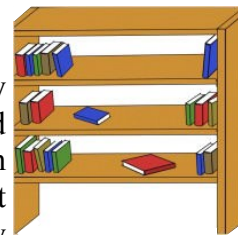
When a memorial gift is made, the family of the honoree will be notified, advising them of your thoughtfulness. In addition, you will receive acknowledgment of your gift to the library. A book-plate will be placed in the fly-leaf of the memorial volume. It will state the honored person's name as well as the donor(s).

Book Gift Request forms are available at the Library's Circulation Desk and Reference Desk.



## Libraries Without Books

Drexel University's new Library Learning Terrace, which opened just last month, does not contain a single bound volume. Instead, it has rows of computers and plenty of seating offering access to the Philadelphia university's 70 million electronic items.



Scott Erdy, designer of the new library, says open, flexible space allows student and staff "knowledge transfer," a concept reinforced by Danuta Nitecki, dean of Drexel's libraries. *"We don't just house books, we house learning,"* she says.

Drexel University is not alone. Kansas State University's engineering library went primarily bookless in 2000. Last year, Stanford University pruned all but 10,000 printed volumes from its new engineering library, making more room for large tables and study areas. And the University of Texas at San Antonio ditched print in lieu of electronic material when it opened its engineering library in 2010.

Tim Newcomb has an article in Time Magazine that makes for fascinating reading. I suspect this trend will affect all librarians and probably most genealogists as well. Our concept of *"what is a library?"* is changing rapidly.

You can read *Is a Bookless Library Still a Library?* by Tim Newcomb at <http://goo.gl/lkfPQ>.

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter  
July 18, 2011

The previous article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com).

## Libraries . . . House our dreams.

— Nikki Giovanni in  
American Libraries, May 1996





## Notes from the Fort Myers Library Staff

### 2011 One World, Many Stories, Read to Me, and You Are Here Teen Read & Win...

It has been a hectic summer. The kids got out of school on June 10 and go back on August 8. We have jammed six Summer Reading Program events, two special events provided by the Golisano Children's Museum of Naples, seven Teens Read & Win events, fourteen Bored Room programs, four Family Story Times, three Baby/Parent Rhyme Times, and even provided programs for group visits into this short time span.



The kids programs have included storytelling, puppetry, magic and live animals all featuring an international theme. We had 259 children registered for the Summer Reading Program for children ages 4-11.

The Teens Read & Win program had 74 registered participants ages 11-18 and 44 children younger than 3 years of age have received a free book with the Read To Me program.

A special note must be made that with the budget cuts this year to the system's programming funds, we received only eight board books to distribute to the Read to Me children and a limited quantity of books for the Children's and Teen Reading Incentives. Through board book purchases made by the Friends and donations of children and teen books



to the Friends from the community, we have been able to supplement both the Teen and Read to Me program books to allow each child to receive at least one free book over the



summer. Many different groups have attended both planned and Bored Room programs. The YMCA walks three different age groups to the library each summer. We have provided programs for them including gaming, art and crafts, and



board games. Our Bored Room programs are not advertised on the monthly online calendar. They are held throughout the week to keep our youth occupied in

constructive and fun ways. Our children and teens have enjoyed many Bored Room activities such as chalk art, large art wall drawings, Perler Beading, book making, Ugly dolls craft, Wii gaming, Movie & Popcorn, the X-Box game "Cars", Duct Tape Crafts, Grab Bag Crafts, Fun Foam Crafts, Water Colors, and Bead Making. Some of the staff donated drinks, fruit roll ups, candy, stickers, games, popcorn, craft supplies, and items to give away



for the End of the Summer Party. The Bored Rooms are made possible by the collaboration of our Reference, Youth Services and Telephone Reference staff. Thanks to everyone for their



assistance with cutting, gluing, planning and presenting the Bored Room programs. The Bored Room programs have the added benefit of allowing the kids to

learn something new, have fun, be creative and have an opportunity to interact with the staff in a more personal way.

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The Teens' End of the Summer Party was enjoyed by all. **"You Are Here"** was this year's theme and the teens traveled through books. Donated items



from staff, patrons and from the Friends made this year another fun party for all who attended. Several volunteers assisted and we had a full house. This year we used funding from the Friends to



purchase pizza, and beverages for the party and prizes including: computer memory sticks, gift cards, back to school items, and movie

gift cards.

Parents, grandparents, moms and dads, day care groups, brothers, sisters and the list goes on...the library offers so many things for all of those looking for something new to do! Read, relax, movies, crafts, social activities, music, dance, gaming, and more! That is why the Fort Myers Library is busy. That is why we all work together to make our place special. Thank you, Friends of the Library, for being an integral part of this summer.



*Sherry T. Hill*

Senior Librarian - Youth Services

*Kathleen Beebe*

Young Adult Librarian



2011 Teen End of Summer Party Beaded Bracelets and Necklaces for Teen Giveaways.

## Keep Learning with



Is there a subject you're interested in learning more about? Maybe photography, computers, gardening, or creative writing? The Lee County Library System now offers a new subscription service, UniversalClass™, on its website where you can take FREE online classes on these topics and hundreds more. Without a subscription, you might pay as much as \$100 per class, but because the Lee County Library System subscribes to this site, classes are free to library card holders.

All classes are taken online and are available to you 24/7. While there is no limit to the number of classes you can take, you can only be enrolled in up to five classes at any one time. There's no hurry to finish, either – you're allowed up to six months to complete each class. There are even online instructors you can communicate with if you need help, plus a chat room where you can interact with other students.

I know, you're probably wondering, *"Will there be tests?!"* The answer is "yes," but you can take as much time as you need to complete each test, and at least there aren't any surprise quizzes! A certificate is awarded once the class is successfully completed. Plus you don't need to be a computer genius to take an online class through UniversalClass™ - there's a list of FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) and also a "demo course" that leads you through the steps.

Over 500 classes offered on almost any imaginable topic, so there's sure to be something for everyone. To access UniversalClass™: go to the library's website at [www.library.lee-county.com](http://www.library.lee-county.com), then click on the **Life Long Learning** tab, where you will find the link to UniversalClass™. A Lee County Library Card is needed to sign up for a course.

Why not learn something new today?

*Julie Pierce*

Head of Reference

## Friends of the Fort Myers Library

Membership Application (please print)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:  K-12 \$5  Individual \$10  Family \$15  Contributor \$30  Benefactor \$50

Volunteer Application: I am interested in helping with:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Sales                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing Newsletter Articles      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Programs                | <input type="checkbox"/> Preparing Newsletter for Mailing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developing Fund Raising Projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)           |

Please make your check payable to: Friends of the Fort Myers Library, Inc.

Please mail it to: **Friends of the Fort Myers Library, Inc.**  
2050 Central Avenue  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

**BECOME A FRIEND TODAY!**



**Friends of the Fort Myers Library, Inc.**  
2050 Central Avenue  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

**National Friends of  
the Libraries Week  
October 16-22, 2011**

