



Palm Reader News

Volume 9, Number 4

Fall 2011

Newsletter for Friends of Fort Myers Library

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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 ~

The week of October 16–22 is nationally recognized as Friends of Libraries Week. This year the Board of County Commissioners designated the week as Friends of the Library Week in Lee County. We are one of fourteen Friends groups in Lee County that raised and expended over \$125,000 last year for Lee County Libraries, as well as volunteered thousands of hours of time. I want to personally thank those who have helped us by volunteering and fundraising. This enables staff to provide programs, events and materials that are not included in the budget because of the economic climate. I would be remiss if I didn't invite you to join us in this commitment.

October is also Family History Month which was celebrated at the Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library with a series of Saturday programs based on using genealogical records to provide clues to family history. These programs are usually overbooked because of their popularity and the limited seating capacity of the meeting room. It's another reason to look forward to the new library.

The new downtown library seems to be on schedule for a ground breaking the early part of next year. The current schedule calls for the City of Fort Myers to approve a Planned Unit Development for the library complex on November 7. We appreciate the support of both the City and the County on this project.

See you in the library!
Byron Wallace

HOLIDAY BOOK SALE

Library Meeting Room

Saturday, December 10, 2011

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

\$3.00/bag*

*Shopping bag provided by the Friends



Welcome New and Renewing Members

New Members

*Connie Lizak
Isaiah Towles Philip
Charles Runnells*

Renewed Members

Mary Smelter

REMEMBER: Your **Library Card** is for borrowing books and other materials from the Lee County Library System.

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. **Looking for a holiday gift?** Think about giving a **Friends of the Fort Myers Library Membership**.

Robert Gibson
Treasurer

VISIT OUR BOOK STORE!

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. Enjoy reading tales of the strong men and courageous women who settled this area.



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.

Support the Southwest Florida Reading Festival by attending:



Wednesday, November 16
6 pm-8 pm
Colonial Country Club
9181 Independence Way
Fort Myers

6 pm-7 pm Wine Tasting and Hors d'Oeuvres
7 pm-8 pm Discussion and Book Signing with best-selling author Andrew Gross.

For more information please visit <http://www.readfest.org/> or call 239-533-4826.



Friday, December 2
6 pm-8 pm
Bell Tower Shops
Corner U.S. 41 and
Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers

Come and enjoy spirits and scrumptious chocolate creations from area restaurants and businesses.

Gift Books: A Lasting Dedication

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 bookplate 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. What a special holiday gift this would make.



The holiday season is quickly approaching. Here are some new holiday themed books to help celebrate this time of year.

An Angel for Christmas by Heather Graham - The MacDougal family learns the true meaning of the family.

When Elves Attack by Tim Dorsey - A joyous Christmas greeting from the criminal nutbars of the sunshine state.

Holiday Crafting and Baking with Kids by Jessica Strand - This is a guide to gifts, sweets, and treats for the whole family.

The Book of (Holiday) Awesome by Neil Pasricha - This book focuses on all the awesome things that make holidays great.

Pearl Harbor Christmas by Stanley Weintraub - A historical look at the December 1941 holiday season.

An Amazing Book Sale

No two ways about it--the August 27 Book Sale was a smashing success. We were busy all day, as over 300 customers browsed and bought and bought and bought. For \$3.00 per bag they could pack a lot of books into one of our bags, and they did! The selection was good, as we had both hardcover and softcover books, plus CDs and DVDs. There was an amazing quantity of children's books, all of which sold quickly.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the next Friends' Book Sale on Saturday, December 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thank You to Publix

The Publix tradition of giving to the community is legendary. The Friends of the Fort Myers Library are grateful to the Publix store at Summerlin Crossing for donating plastic grocery bags for our August Book Sale.

Friends Donate Subscription to Library

The Friends have provided the Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library with a two-year subscription to *Practical Homeschooling*, a magazine devoted to homeschoolers. Each issue contains curriculum ideas, product reviews, and articles of interest by nationally recognized columnists. Look for the latest issue coming soon to the magazine area at the library.

Carolyn Ford
Secretary

HELP WANTED

Volunteers to assist in setting-up and tearing-down at our Saturday, December 10th Book Sale.

Please contact Carolyn Ford
cfordgen2004@earthlink.net.



Notes from the Fort Myers Library Staff

Adult Programming

September and October have been very busy months for programming. We started the month with a travel program, *Made in Chongqing!*, which took us to China. The sounds and sights of China, as well as beautiful displays, accompanied the talk, as well as snacks and chopstick practice – with popcorn! 42 people attended.



Continuing with an Asian flavor, we presented *Learn Kumihimo With Mary*. Kumihimo is an ancient Japanese braiding technique for making beautiful cords which we made into bracelets. This was very popular and several patrons have come in



to show us bracelets they have made since the program. This craft can be simple or very complex and can utilize many types of fibers, beads, etc. We plan to have another program which will include beads in the braid sometime in the future. If

you would like to learn more about kumihimo, the books *Braids: 250 Patterns From Japan, Peru, and Beyond* by Rodrick Owen and *The Beginners Guide to Braiding: The craft of Kumihimo* by Jacqui Carey show some fabulous examples. Or, you could come to our next kumihimo program.



Florida Butterfly Gardening was fascinating with Tom Becker of the Florida Yards and Neighbor-

hoods program. A guided tour (with samples!) of the Butterfly Garden at Terry Park followed Tom's presentation.



Our annual *Halloween Spider* beadwork program was popular, with 16 attending. The spiders are cute and easy to bead, with lots of spider attitude!

I usually invite *Habitat for Humanity* to speak a couple of times a year. The program is informative and inspiring. I like to think that the information our patrons find at the library may help them buy a home.

Public Records with Tell Mel was a very informative program. Melanie Payne, Consumer Columnist for the *The News-Press*, covered the steps and sources for checking out someone you are thinking of hiring to do work at your home... and described some of the terrible things that can happen if you don't check.

Coming up in November we'll be having a CEU-eligible program called *Bedbugs!* It will be presented by Karen Headlee of the Lee County IFAS, and will provide useful tips for preventing and dealing with bedbug issues.

November also will feature two craft programs: *Create a Beaded Snowflake*, and *Card Stitching for the Holidays & All Year 'Round*. Both should be fun, and participants will go home with lovely completed projects.

And for the last minute planners among us, there is *Holiday\$ on the Cheap!* Celia Hill of the Lee County IFAS will present a program with ideas for low cost, great fun holidays when you haven't had time to plan.

Part of our responsibility is to provide programs which benefit all of our community. I hope you will join us for future programs, and that you have safe and happy holidays.

Linda Kroeker

Reference Librarian

eBooks at the Library

Holiday shopping is rapidly approaching and you may be tempted to reach for your credit card to purchase an eReader to take advantage of the fantastic collection of eBooks offered by the Lee County Library System. Before you do, however, grab your library card instead; you may already own a device that will give you all the access you need. Tablets, laptops, and PCs are already equipped to handle eReader software and if you have a smart phone, there's probably an app for that, too.



Still in the market for an eReader? Good news...as of September 21, Kindle is now compatible with our eBook system.

The library offers thousands of titles for borrowing as eBooks in our special digital collection catalog called Download Depot.



This offshoot of the main Web site is searchable just like the traditional book catalog. The library purchases licenses to eBooks, so just like with physical books, you may find that the most popular titles are checked out when you decide to download them. You may place a hold and we will notify you by email when a copy is available for checkout. You will then have a 3-day window of availability to download the title. When you place a hold on an eBook and it becomes available for checkout, you will receive an email alerting you to the start of your 3-day window of availability. eBooks automatically check themselves back in at the end of the lending period (7 or 14 days, you choose) so you never incur an overdue fee!

If you ever hoped to read some of the “classics” of literature, let us show you how to access free books in the public domain available through various Web sites on the Internet. Librarians at the Reference Desk are always available for assistance – No Appointment Necessary! You could store them on your eReader and make that goal a reality.

We know that new technology can be a little daunting, but it doesn't have to be. The Download Depot site has some great video tutorials and we have prepared instructional sheets to help you. There has never been a more exciting time to be a reader. Let us introduce to you all the Lee County Library System has to offer.

Laura Cifelli

Reference Librarian

The Digital Bookmobile is coming to Fort Myers!

A community outreach vehicle for public libraries to promote downloadable eBooks, audiobooks, music, and video, this nationally touring vehicle is a high-tech update of the traditional bookmobile that has served communities for decades. The Digital Bookmobile will be available for patrons from 10 am to 4 pm on Tuesday, November 15th at 1st Street and Royal Palm Avenue, the site of our soon to be, new Fort Myers-Lee County Public Library.

The Digital bookmobile is equipped with broadband Internet-connected PCs, high-definition monitors, premium sound systems, and a variety of portable media players. Interactive computer stations give visitors an opportunity to search the digital media collection, use supported mobile devices, and sample eBooks, audiobooks, music, and video from the library.



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!



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2050 Central Avenue
Fort Myers, FL 33901

