Spring 2015

Thank You Luncheon Celebrates Volunteers

Above: Joe and Susanne Amico, Bookstore Volunteers. Below from left: Bookstore Manager Karen Crawford, Vice-President Suellen Williams, and Library Volunteer Marg Markman.

Every year the Friends of the Fruitville Library host a thank-you luncheon for volunteers who donate their time and talents to the Fruitville Library. Sixty volunteers were feted on February 11, at the Founder’s Club.

Library Manager Ann Ivey saluted the crowd, citing the extraordinary spirit of the volunteers, who contributed over 11,000 hours to the library.

Above from left: Library Volunteers Annie Carter and Janet Parker and Fran Delapenha, Bookstore Volunteer and Friends Board Member.

Below from left: Library Volunteer Arlene Sullivan and Youth Librarian Jennifer Hitchcock
There are so many ways you can make a difference! We invite you to join us as volunteers at the Library.

If you have just a few hours a week to volunteer, we have a wide range of opportunities for you to make new friends, perhaps learn a new skill, and know the great satisfaction of being a volunteer with the Friends of the Fruitville Library.

Please ask in our bookstore or send me an email if you would like to learn more about volunteering at the Fruitville Library. bcassell@pitt.edu

Beth Cassell
Greetings from the Library Manager

Ann Ivey

The Friends of the Fruitville Library hosted the annual Volunteer luncheon at the Founders Club this month. The luncheon was truly lovely and it was a pleasure to see so many of our volunteers together. Thank you to the Friends of Fruitville Library for their hard work in hosting such an elegant luncheon.

As mentioned at the luncheon, volunteer hours in 2014 equaled 5.5 full time equivalent staff. The dedication and hard work of our volunteers enables us to be such a successful library.

Fruitville Library is a very busy library. When I started 8 years ago we circulated 33,000 materials a month. Last month we reached our highest number ever, circulating over 58,000. We simply could not continue to offer the high level of customer service without the commitment and hard work from each of you.

Ann Ivey

Programs for Adults At Fruitville Library

The Fruitville Library Readers
Join us the first Thursday of each month: Session 1 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. or Session 2 from 3 to 4 p.m... Please register at Fruitville Library reference desk or call 861-2518. Seating is limited; registration is required. Watch for the announcement of the next cycle of books selected by the group.

Master Gardener’s Corner
Stop by the table to ask questions or pick up informational brochures about Florida-friendly gardening. 4th Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Conversation Café
Practice speaking English! Sponsored by the Literacy Council of Sarasota. Please call 941-955-0421 to register as an ESOL learner with the Literacy Council of Sarasota. Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Conference Room

Socrates Café
The Society for Philosophical Inquiry is comprised of philosophical inquirers of all ages and walks of life. Its members strive to form communities of philosophical inquiry. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Suncoast Mobile Career Center
An eleven-station computer lab on wheels with state-of-the-art equipment complete with Internet access has most of the resources available in the Resource Rooms of Suncoast Workforce, our local one-stop career center.

Job seekers may use the Mobile Career Center to conduct an online job search, receive referrals to employers with available positions, write resumes and cover letters, evaluate work skills, study software applications with Microsoft Tutorials, and much more. All services are available at NO COST to job seekers.

2015 Schedule at Fruitville Public Library:
First Monday of each month: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
BUY A BRICK
PAVE THE PATH

The gift of an engraved brick is a perfect way to honor a loved one or celebrate a family event. Businesses can demonstrate their community spirit in a permanent display. Show your commitment to literacy and support Library programs with a tax-deductible purchase. Just stop by the Friends Bookstore and fill out an order form.

For more information, go to our website at:

www.friendsofthefruitvillelibrary.org.

Jonathan Sullivan, pictured above, scored 100% on 4 Book-to-Movie quizzes in the Fruitville Library On-Line Contest for 2014. His prize, an Ipod Nano, was provided by the Friends of the Fruitville Library.
See You at the Library~~
There are so many Reasons to Visit Fruitville Public Library!

2014-2015 FRIENDS Members

We want to acknowledge the following returning and new members of the Friends of Fruitville Library. If you don’t find your name here, please let us know that you want to continue to support the Fruitville Library through membership in the Friends. If you have acquaintances who are not members of the Friends, please let them know that you value your library and support it in this way.

Joe & Susanne Amico, Pat and Shelley Black, Claire Blumenstein, Brook Bowman, Joan and Richard Boyce, Lee Byron, Frank and Beth Cassell, Pat Chattaway, Patrick Cosgrove, Karen Crawford, Marinell Davis, Fran Delapenha, Douglas Ferry, Hope and Gary Flemming, Linda Gorden, Marilyn Gormley, Lee and Mary Hasselbring, James and Mary Hill, Denise Hodgson, Dee Homer, Georgia and Mike Huff, Alvin Hyman, Ann Ivey, Janet Jelinek, Carol Jensen, Mary Kehoe, John and Barb Kerwin, Melvin and Karen Klein, Sarah Lane, Chris Lee, James Long, Donna Marcantonio, Marg Markman, Deb Marqua Dominic and Roberta Martia, Natalie McCulloch, Audrey Morell, Mary O’Hara, Sandra Olson, Helen Petryshyn, Elsie Pitts, Sharon and Bob Reitsch, Mary Rosner, Madelaine and George Ruhl, Mary Lou Schulz, Neil Scott, Harris Scholman, Rube and Eileen Seltzer, David Kessler & Susan Serling, Janice & John Shanahan, Phillip and Tamayo Shope, Ardith Stansell, Shannon Staub, Lynn and Kathy Stokes, Steve & Connie Tulin, Patrica Ward, Elaine and Bill Warren, Anne Whiteside, Joseph and Jo Wiecynski, Suellen Williams

Heart Our thanks to the Knitting and Crocheting Group headed by Cora Bishop! The crafters contributed over $1200 to the Friends of Fruitville Library. This generous donation represented all the proceeds from their Christmas Bazaar.

Programs for Adults

Computer Classes
Classes are held in the Meeting Room of the Fruitville Public Library. Classes are lecture style and last approximately one hour. For a schedule, more information about specific classes, and to register for any of these classes stop by the Reference Desk or call (941) 861-2518.

Adult Knitting and Crochet Club
All skill levels are welcome. Use our materials or bring your own. (Instructor-supplied yarns and needles or hooks remain with the instructor.) Knitting is every Monday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Crocheting is every Wednesday from 10:15 to 12 noon.

Programs for Children and Teens
The Friends of the Fruitville Library support programs year round for children of all ages and for teens. Because of their popularity, many programs require registration. See a librarian for postings and to reserve a place.

A Community Resource
Did you know? Fruitville Public Library makes meeting rooms available to neighborhood non-profit organizations. Last year about 60 not-for-profit organizations held a total of 569 meetings. For reservations for your meeting, contact Ann Ivey, Library Manager.

AARP Tax Assistance
AARP Foundation Tax-Aide offers free assistance for federal returns. AARP Volunteers at the library begin assisting the final client of the day 30 minutes to one hour before the last time listed. Continues through Apr. 14, Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
WHY MULCH MATTERS

By Lorraine Wolfinger, Master Gardener

There is nothing like a fresh layer of mulch to make a garden look its best. Early spring is a good time to think about adding a 2" to 3" layer of mulch to garden beds. In addition to giving the garden a nicer look, mulch helps maintain soil moisture during dry periods and helps hold in heat on cold days. Mulch inhibits weed growth, and can improve the soil as it decomposes, reducing the need for artificial fertilizers.

There are many different types of mulch. Some free and natural sources include raked or fallen leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings. Sarasota County sometimes offers free re-cycled mulch for homeowners to pick up. Call (941) 861-5000 for more information and locations. Bagged or bulk loads of mulch are available at garden centers. Melaleuca and eucalyptus mulches are good choices, but cypress mulch is not recommended because the harvesting of native cypress trees can harm wetlands.

Make sure not to pile mulch around the base of trees and other plants. Pull the mulch back from the plants so the trunk or stems are exposed. Mulch should be replenished once or twice per year to maintain the 2-3 inch depth. It takes about 3 bags of mulch (6 cubic feet) to cover 25 sq feet at a depth of 3 inches.

Start the spring with a fresh layer of mulch! Your garden will thank you with healthier plants and fewer weeds for many months to come.

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Support Your Library – Consign With the Friends!

Items accepted at Woman’s Exchange:  Purses  Jewelry  Linens  Kitchen Items  Wall Art  Decorative Treasures  Dishes & Glasses (sets of 4 or more)

All items must be clean and in good condition. Drop off items at the Fruitville Library Bookstore and we’ll take them to the Woman’s Exchange. WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE SPONSORING LIBRARY PROGRAMS!  THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The Board of the Friends of the Fruitville Library
In 2002, Rory Stewart, a Scottish academic, author, diplomat, and Conservative, began a 32-day trek walking from Herat, Afghanistan, east to Kabul. As he says in his preface to *The Places in Between*, (2004) “I'm not good at explaining why I walked across Afghanistan. Perhaps I did it because it was an adventure.” In general he is treated well by the wide range of people he meets: “heroes and rogues, tribal elders and teenage soldiers, Taliban commanders and foreign-aid workers.” The Taliban have fallen, but their mark is evident in burned and empty hamlets. Muslim etiquette dictates that a stranger be welcomed, fed and offered a place to sleep. Too, the fact that he is accompanied by a mastiff he calls Babur may also explain why he was never attacked. Stewart muses, as he walks, about the idea that walking is “a central part of what it means to be human.” He writes in a straightforward engaging style and offers a personal view of Afghanistan not reported on by the mainstream press.

A must-read for anyone thinking about hiking the Appalachian Trail, is *Hiking Through* (2010) by Paul V. Stutzman. “Thru-hiking” is the term used by trail-hikers for those completing the 2,176 mile trek from Georgia to Maine. Stutzman had frequently sought the quiet of the Ohio woods when his life was stressful, and knew that he wanted to do more walking—someday. That day arrived in March, 2008, after his wife of 32 years died of cancer, and he was ready to move forward. Stutzman relates his trip not day by day, mile by mile, but with enough detail that the reader celebrates his achievements and comforts him in his blunders. He drew strongly on his Mennonite faith to sustain him at his low points. He benefited from the advice of experienced hikers and the numerous non-hikers who left “care packages” at shelters along the way, and invited him in for a warm shower and a hearty meal. The dust jacket says Stutzman “hopes the book will convince others not to take their spouses for granted.” It does that and offers spectacular scenery along the way.

For a different view on hiking, consider *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, (2012) by Rachel Joyce, her first novel. Harold Fry, a retired brewery sales rep, lives in the south of England, with his wife, Maureen. When he gets a letter from a former co-worker, who is in hospice, he writes her a letter and then sets out to mail it at the corner postbox. It is such a nice day he decides he must deliver the letter in person, coming to believe that his friend, Queenie Hennessy, will live as long as he does. Fry decides he must deliver the letter in person, coming to believe that his friend, Queenie Hennessy, will live as long as he does. Fry goes on without telling her where and why he was going, she misses him. When he finally contacts her and explains, Maureen accepts his reasons and comes to admire him, a feeling she hasn't had for a long time. One critic called the book a “novel of unsentimental charm...never cloying.” Indeed, there is sadness and there is laughter, memories and the steady pace of Harold's day north, into a better understanding of himself, Maureen and their life together.

If you like dogs, look for *Dogtripping: 25 Rescues, 11 Volunteers, and 3 RVs on Our Canine Cross-Country Adventure*, (2013) wherein the author, David Rosenfelt, rescues Golden Retrievers, mostly, from people who can no longer care for them, from vets who call him, and from the side of the road in California. He determines to move a group of 25 dogs (from the 4,000 he and his wife Debbie have rescued over a 17-year period) to Maine, with the assistance of Team Woofabago. The subtitle tells it all and their trip across the U.S. is as expected, full of dealing with feeding and walking 25 dogs and trying to keep them quiet in the hotel parking lot where they spent one night. I did have a slight problem with the editing, done apparently by someone who doesn't know when to use “lie” instead of “lay.” Rosenfelt is a screen writer and some of the book reads like a made-for-television script, but it is rewarding because of its premise and the dedication of the author to giving the dogs a second chance.

*Only Pack What You Can Carry* (2011) by Janice Holly Booth, is not a book advising you not to take 4 pairs of shoes on a two-day weekend getaway, but about another kind of journey. Again, the subtitle sets you straight: *My path to inner strength, confidence and self-knowledge.* It really does not fall into the genre of “self-help” but possibly instead “self-actualization,” in her case, achieved by conquering her fear of climbing in slot canyons. Booth determined to give herself a year to pull herself “out of the ashes” of sadness and despair that had gripped her. Ultimately she went to the slot canyons of Utah, having signed up for a three-day canyoneering school, near Zion National Park. There are suggested exercises for those interested in introspection, but Booth’s life and what she made of it may provide enough personal insight.
FRIENDS OF THE FRUITVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____________________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________

City, State, Zip: _____________________________________________

E-Mail: _____________________________________________________

Telephone Number __________________________________________

I have included a contribution in the amount of $ ______________________

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Fruitville Public Library
100 Coburn Road
Sarasota, FL  34240

Our Membership Year Runs from October 2014– October 2015, but it’s never too late to join and support the Friends.

* * * Membership Fees Are Tax Deductible  * *  *THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!