



THE GOOD NEWS

A Newsletter for the Friends of East Lake Community Library

Volume 1 Issue 2

July 2019



Beyond the Bookstacks...

by Lois Eannel, Director

What a difference six months makes! At the start of 2019, we had completed the new addition (finally!), moved into our new workspaces, created our new Teen Room and Children's Room, and began booking our beautiful new Community Room with library programs, community meetings, and special events. In addition, using BP settlement funds approved by Pinellas County, we recently added a new parking lot at the front of the building to alleviate the critical situation of not enough spaces for patrons' cars.

Although we did not receive funding to complete the renovations for the main public area, we will be making some upgrades during the Labor Day weekend. Come September, you will see new flooring and carpeting (thanks to MSTU funds from Pinellas County), an updated computer area with additional workspaces for patrons with their own devices, and some new furniture. We will also be moving things around to improve space allocation.

The increase in programs and services has been phenomenal. Our creative, enthusiastic staff members have been coming up with all sorts of new ideas. Please check the monthly newsletter or the online calendar to view the plethora of free or low-cost offerings.—everything from Microsoft Office classes to ghostly tales! What are we planning for the end of the year? A BIG celebration is on the horizon - our 20th Anniversary in November. Hard to believe that this little library that started as a storefront and finally had its own building in 1999 has now grown to be the community center of the East Lake corridor!

Two special events planned for the anniversary are **“Turn Back the Clock - Turn Back the**

Years!” on Sunday, November 3rd, from 1:00 - 4:00 PM, culminating with a free special concert. Dave DeLuca will be presenting a “Rat Pack Flashback” – songs by Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and Dean Martin. Then, on Saturday and Sunday, November 23rd & 24th, the library will be going back in time for **Murder, Maestro, Please** - A Roaring 20's Murder Mystery - a fun-filled fundraiser with hilarious scripts and some familiar “suspects.” Don't miss it!

And now we are beginning a “New Chapter,” a Strategic Plan for 2019- 2022; this is a roadmap for future goals and objectives with plenty of detours that can result in innovative and creative outcomes. The plan will include strategies and initiatives that support the evolving needs of our community, guide our decisions, and shape our budgeting and resource allocation. The plan defines our key priorities, allowing us to rationalize what successful pursuits we continue, what new initiatives we begin, and what activities we modify or suspend in the interest of maximizing the impact.

Please take the time to view the new beautifully designed visual strategic plan on the library's website (eastlakelibrary.org) or pick up a print copy at the Member Services Desk. It is your support and enthusiasm for East Lake Community Library that makes it a destination for many and a community center for all! If you have any ideas or suggestions that you would like to see as part of our strategic plan, please do not hesitate to e-mail me (lois-e@eastlakelibrary.org) with your thoughts. This is only the start. We now have four years to put ideas into an action plan that raises our library to the next level!

Thank you for all of your support for our library. It has been a wonderful ride so far and there is no telling how far we can go!



Book Nook News



The Book Nook is the resale shop just inside the front door of the East Lake Community Library that is managed and staffed by the Friends of East Lake Community Library, an all-volunteer organization. We rely on donations from patrons to fill the shelves.

Not all items donated to the Book Nook are sold by us. Some new books and gently used books go directly into the library collection for adults and children. Some donated items deemed to have value are listed on Amazon and Ebay websites.

Thank you to all who support us through the donation slot located in the south wall of the library next to the return materials' slots. When sorting items to donate, use this question as your guide: "Would I buy this

book today from the Book Nook"? If your answer is "yes", send it our way. If you have doubts or your answer is "not really" please donate those to Goodwill or dispose of them elsewhere.

Donation Do's

- Adult hardback and paperback fiction and non-fiction copyrighted in the past 10 years
- Any children's books in good condition
- Teen books copyrighted in the last 5 years
- Classic books regardless of copyright
- Puzzles and games with no pieces missing
- CDs, DVDs and Audio Books
- Magazines 4 months old or newer

Donation Don'ts

- Anything moldy, wet or stinky
- VHS and Cassette tapes
- Encyclopedias
- Reader's Digest Condensed Books
- National Geographic Book Sets

Do check out two of our best sellers in the Book Nook: Gift Baskets and Critter and a Book!

All money raised through the sale of items in the Book Nook goes to enhance our East Lake Community Library.

Volunteering

by Colleen Davis

Looking for new ways to decrease the stress in your life? Try volunteering! We know that may sound a little odd, but volunteering has been proven to reduce stress as noted by the Mayo Clinic's ["6 Health Benefits of Volunteering"](#) article. Through interacting with new people and donating your time to help others you can develop a new sense of appreciation for yourself. Learning to appreciate all you're doing for the community not only decreases your stress, but it teaches you healthy ways to manage your time and biggest priorities. So, the next time you're looking for ways to decrease stress try volunteering at our library and know that you're not just helping those in need – you're helping yourself as well. We have various days, time-slots and opportunities available, just ask! We would love to have you here at the library with us!

Thank You to Rotary of East Lake Sunrise

In April, the Rotary Club of East Lake Sunrise gave a \$1,000 grant to the Friends of East Lake Community Library. These funds will be used to unveil a series of "Ready, Set, Read" Kits that promote early literacy and social interaction between parents (or caregivers, teachers, grandparents, etc.) and young children. The Youth Services Department will be working on these kits over the next four months with the ultimate goal of having ten self-contained theme kits, each in its own rolling duffle bag, that includes books, toys, puzzles, games, movies, and activity sheets on specific topics of interest to preschoolers; these kits will focus on such subjects as dinosaurs, outer space, community helpers, transportation, etc. The kits can be checked out and returned to the Children's Room while parents can keep the reproducible activity sheets to reinforce skills and learning with their children. We thank the Friends of East Lake Community Library and the Rotary Club for funding this project and providing a new service to the families of our community.

Pictured from left to right: Friends Board Members Susan Wolf and Sharon Bressen, Library Director Lois Eannel, Rotary Board Members Tim Lima and Dan Depies, Friends Board Members Barbara Schultz and Marcia Giza.



Friends of East Lake Community Library Upcoming Concerts 2019 – 2020

Mark your calendar! The Friends have planned a number of concerts for the upcoming 2019-2020 season.

- October 13, 2019 ***Friction Farm*** is a folk duo comprised of Aidan Quinn and Christine Stay. They wrote and recorded a collection of songs, each inspired by a book. They will perform a program playing the songs and discussing the creative journey from book to song.
- January 12, 2020 ***Bonnie Whitehurst***, a local musician, is a composer, music teacher, and an experienced and popular Tampa Bay harpist. She will perform a concert of folk music on a variety of instruments.
- February 9, 2020 The popular ***Gulf Coast Jazz Quartet*** returns to the library. Comprised of guitar, keyboards, drums and bass guitar, the quartet delight audience members with unique arrangements of classic jazz standards and jazz arrangements of popular songs.
- March 8, 2020 ***Peter Fletcher***, classical guitarist, returns for another virtuoso performance. After several appearances at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Fletcher has assembled a performance repertoire that is both familiar and thought provoking, as well as highly entertaining.
- April 19, 2020 ***Eclectique***, a classical flute duo comprised of Randy Blue and Deborah Venezia, will perform an interactive program entitled A Musical Journey Around the World.
- May 17, 2020*** ***A special interactive classical concert just for children is planned! More details will be provided in future newsletters.***

Many Ways to Donate to the Library



The Friends of the East Lake Community Library and the East Lake Community Library Foundation have printed brochures that outline several ways to make donations to the library.

Some patrons and community members have found creative ways to make donations of their time, talents and treasures. Some volunteer, some donate books and other resalable items to the Book Nook, one young man had a garage sale and donated monies collected.

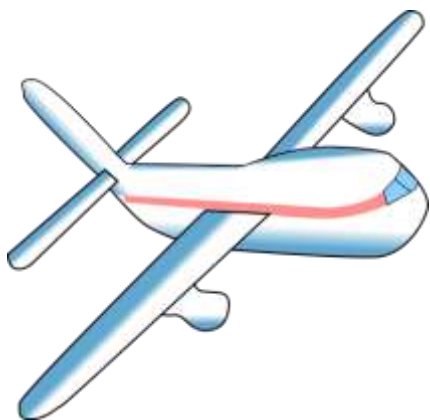
Since 2013, travel agent Miki Durand Schnackel, has donated \$1,500 to the Friends for travel booked by library volunteers and patrons. For each trip booked and taken, she makes a cash donation to the Friends of East Lake Community Library. Cruise Planners provides worldwide travel services, not just cruises. You can make your travel plans through her company and will be notified when her donation, on your behalf, is made.

Miki Durand Schnackel

Email: floridacuriseplanners@gmail.com

Phone: (727) 856-9100

Be sure to mention that you are a patron of the library.



Friends Board of Directors Meetings

The Board of Directors of Friends of East Lake Community, Inc. meet at the library on the second Thursday of the month at 10 a.m.

The mission of the Friends shall be to promote and enhance library services and facilities of ELCL, to foster closer relationships between the library and its community, and to raise funds in support of the library, its materials and resources.

If you think you might like to participate in Friends activities or even serve on the Board, plan to attend one of our upcoming meetings. For more information call Friends President, Barbara Cole, at (717) 856-2726. There are many committees on which to serve: Book Nook, Budget, Community Resource Center, Concert Series, Fundraising, Little Free Libraries, Membership, Nominating and Online Sales.

Call for information or just show up at a meeting. All are welcome!



Yes, we are on social media with our Facebook Page for the Friends of the East Lake Community Library. Find us on Facebook at this link [https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-](https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-East-Lake-Community-Library-787983384690790/)

[East-Lake-Community-Library-787983384690790/](https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-East-Lake-Community-Library-787983384690790/). And then "Like US".

We use Facebook to keep you up to date with the monthly sales in the Book Nook, our fundraising events, the new books available in the Read Book Collection, gift baskets, greeting cards, items for sale on eBay and Amazon, Amazon Smile program, concerts, and many more activities of the Friends.

Please join us on Facebook and be "My Friend." Share our postings with your friends, and more and more people will find out what is going on at our East Lake Community Library.



Judi Burr



Judi Burr currently serves as the Membership Chair, Parliamentarian and Bylaws Coordinator for the Friends of East Lake Community Library.

Judi grew up in New York – Brooklyn, Astoria and Wantagh. She earned her BA in Mathematics from St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn and her MA in Mathematical Education from Columbia University's Teacher College. Right after graduation from Columbia, Judi joined Chase Manhattan Bank (JPMorgan Chase) where she spent her entire career in Human Resources. Primarily working in the NY area, she also worked

overseas in Hong Kong, Australia, France and England. In 2004 JPMorgan Chase assigned Judi to Tampa as a Human Resources Executive supporting the Credit Card Business Customer Service function throughout the US. Since retiring, she helped established Dreadnought Consulting to continue her work in HR and now assists small businesses with various projects. Additionally, she assists her husband Lawrence, a naval historian and writer, with research for his books, which has resulted in her becoming a published photographer of naval ships.

Judi loves libraries, which led her to become a Pinellas Public Library Cooperative (PPLC) Board Member in 2011 and where she served as the Chair from October 2011 to September 2013. Beyond libraries, Judi is an avid stamp collector since her teens and she boasts of an extensive first day covers collection for the US and UN. Both Lawrence and Judi love cooking and traveling especially if it is to see their grandchildren.

We are on the Good List...

SANTA

is coming...

BRING YOUR CAMERA/CELL PHONE
FOR A FAMILY PHOTO WITH HIM!

Saturday, December 7

12:30 to 3:00 pm

Children & grown-ups who believe

3:00- 3:30 pm

Calm pets with family

A \$5 donation to the Friends will be collected
at sign up in November at the library desk.

Walk-ins will be fit in if time permits.



Brouwer's poinsettias

6", 8" and 10 " poinsettias will be ready
for pick up.

Watch the road sign for when to order!

Foundation News



With the summer heat on the rise, we've been staying inside the library to keep cool at the East Lake Community Library Foundation. With more parking available outside and space to stretch out inside in our community room, it hasn't been bad at all! Plus, we've been using that time to update programs and content.

ELCL Foundation board members participated in the Library's planning meeting in March, providing input on the Strategic Plan 2019-2022 (available in the Library and online). To support these long-term ambitions, the Foundation continues to grow the endowment available for larger projects. More recently, we received a significant donation to name the Deanna and Tom

Bennett Community Room. We are so grateful for the generosity of our community and we take this as a sign of greater things to come!

In partnership with the Friends of East Lake Community Library, we've teamed up to simplify and structure donations received from our business community as well. We've expanded the Community Resource Center, and our new program is now called Corporate Community Partnerships. Existing partners continue to receive the same benefits and will have the opportunity to get more when they give more. If you have or know someone who has a business in the East Lake area, go to <http://bit.ly/ELCLCorpPartners> to learn more and offer support to our Library.

Finally, we've just launched a new channel on YouTube! This month we've featured Deanna Bennett, who shared some perspectives on why the East Lake Community Library is so important to her and why she feels strongly about providing continued financial support. Over the next few months we will add more content around our programs, donors, and ways to contribute to the ELCL Foundation. Go to <http://bit.ly/ELCLFoundationChannel> to subscribe for updates as new videos are published.

The ELCL Foundation supports the East Lake Community Library through funding capital improvement projects with 100% of funds going directly to these projects, thanks to our board of community volunteers. Whether through cash or matching grants, appreciated securities or real estate, or bequests through a will or living trust, we hope you'll consider our foundation as a way for a direct, high-impact opportunity to give back directly within your community. Create *your* library legacy through charitable giving!



Why Shop at smile.amazon.com?

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- ◆ Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from all eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Friends of East Lake Community Library

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- ◆ Go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device – Log-in (or create an account)
- ◆ Select a charitable organization [Friends of East Lake Community Library] from the Charity search window
- ◆ AmazonSmile will remember your selection --- then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.
- ◆ Add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and do your shopping at AmazonSmile

► Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

- ◆ Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile.
- ◆ Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are the same

You shop -- Amazon gives --

Your East Lake Community Library benefits