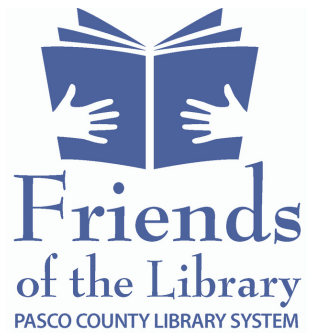




Spring 2022

Friends Newsletter

Updates from Your Libraries



Starkey Ranch TLC Dedication

On Wednesday, February 16th, the Starkey Ranch Theatre Library Cultural Center celebrated the opening of the Starkey Ranch Joint Use Complex. It is a first-of-its-kind partnership that includes the Starkey Ranch K-8 school, Pasco County Parks and Recreation, and Pasco County Public Libraries. The dedication ceremony began with a steel drum performance by the Starkey Ranch K-8 students. It was shortly followed by the ribbon cutting ceremony that included speeches from the architects, Commissioner Chairwoman Kathryn Starkey, Starkey Ranch K-8 Principal Cortney Gantt, Regional Branch Manager Mary Beth Isaacson, and other dignitaries involved in the partnership. After the ribbon cutting ceremony, parents and community members were encouraged to tour the school and theatre, library, cultural center. At the library, staff showcased the three Makerspaces with various activities that included Open Lego Build, beginners sewing and a presentation on ceramics. The countywide Friends of the Library also graciously funded a concert for the Theatre – which was performed by the Richey Community Orchestra. The Starkey Ranch Joint Use Complex is a great example of how collaboration and hard work can benefit the community. We are excited to see the amazing things that this partnership will bring into fruition.



FRIEND SPOTLIGHT

Ginger Fredricksen



Ginger is an avid reader who sought a way to help her community. A benefit of volunteering is that it gives one purpose. Previously she participated in <https://worldbooknight.org/> which provides new free books to those lacking access. Teens enthusiastically received the novels she distributed through Baycare Behavioral Health. She responded to libraries' call for volunteers. On her first visit to LOL she was amazed. "Our library provides so much for our area. It was so different from the libraries I grew up in. I can't believe all this is going on." As a volunteer, she began sorting donated books to raise funds to support library programs. For three years she has served as the Treasurer. Her work provides seamless support to library activities taking place at the nearby Rec Center. Even with monthly core group lunches, the larger sense of community is missing since COVID and the remodel. Our Friends are eagerly anticipating getting into the renovated building. "The people who utilize the library form such a community and that makes it a great place."



News from the Branches

Centennial Park

"The Centennial Park Friends of the Library have been working hard to regroup and rekindle involvement with the library after Centennial Park's reopening in 2021. Their regular meetings and positive attitude of promoting the library have helped draw renewed attention to monthly book clubs and Friends memberships. They have welcomed into their group a couple new members who have given wonderful contributions to both the Friends and Libraries. Kaitlyn Hodge is a current LIS student who has taken up the responsibility of the Friends' Facebook social media postings. Laurie Jackus is a retired art teacher who will be leading some art classes in Centennial Park's new Loft Makerspace. Classes will be starting in April. Welcome to both and many thanks to all of our Friends!"

Hudson

Programming is making a strong comeback here at Hudson. In January, our Friends funded a month-long series of health and wellness classes for community members to learn more about strategies for healthy eating, as well as some tips for cooking more nutritious meals. We've hosted very successful craft programs for adults, teens, and children. These have included a variety of topics including basic sewing and canvas painting. Our teen group is bouncing back as well, attending programs and volunteering their time. Studio D&D is an exciting new program, enhancing a Dungeons and Dragons game with lighting and sound effects to give people a new type of experience. It's awesome to see all types of groups back in the building!

Hugh Embry

Hugh Embry Library is still under remodel, but we have some updates about some new and exciting things to come. There will be a Butterfly Garden, ramp improvement for better accessibility, a raised ceiling and bay windows for a more inviting and brighter sitting area, new study rooms, and public spaces. This is a great time to be a Friend of the Hugh Embry Library. For our current Friends, please don't forget to renew your membership.

Land O' Lakes

Here is a preview of our remodel update! Follow us on [Facebook](#) to learn more.



New River

The New River Library is getting ready for its Re-Dedication Ceremony on April 21, 2022, at 10:00 AM. It will be the perfect time to meet County Commissioner Mike Moore and the staff of New River Library. You can also take this chance to tour the facility, and learn about all the programs that we offer at the library. This April, we will be starting the "Little Seeds of Hope" adaptive gardening program for children with disabilities and other special needs. We now feature artists monthly at the library. This April, enjoy the art displays from the Zephyrhills Art Club, Wesley Chapel High School, and the Global Art for Peace Project, which is a global art exchange program for peace. The staff and volunteers have put together an installation called "Pennants for Peace", this art piece will be exchanged with our art partners in Australia. We are looking forward to seeing all of your RSVP's for the Re-dedication ceremony!



Events Calendar

Click [here](#) for the latest events & programs!

Starkey Ranch TLC

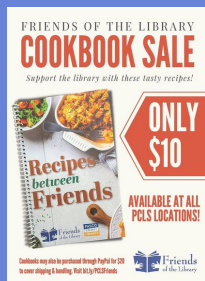
Wonderful things are happening at Starkey Ranch TLC! This April, we are featuring "A Journey to Jazz" with the Florida Jazz Express, a special lecture in the theatre by Dali Museum Librarian, Shaina Buckles Harkness, and many more! We are also excited to announce that we are getting a Friends of the Starkey Ranch TLC started. If you would like to be one of our founding members, please contact us at (727) 815 - 7126. For more information on Friends of the Library, please visit our [website](#).

Regency Park

Registrations are now open for our many featured programs and events. We were previously having our Storytime at Lake Lisa Park, but starting this April, Storytime will be held at Regency Park. We are also featuring a Tiny Art Show for our Teen patrons, and Friday Afternoon Films for everyone. For more information on our events, please visit our [website](#), or follow us on Facebook @regencyparklibrary.

South Holiday

The South Holiday Library is still closed for renovation. However, staff is busy bringing library services to the greater Holiday area with Beach Storytime at Anclote River Park and helping with Literacy Week at Gulfside Elementary. Beginning March 26th the South Holiday Library will be hosting a Community Resource Fair at St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church located at 4843 Mile Stretch Dr. Holiday, FL 34690 from 10AM to 12PM. This fair will bring Pasco County partners and departments together at one location. "This project was funded under the provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Florida's ARPA program is administered by the Department of State's Division of Library and Information Services."



Friends Cookbooks are available for purchase at all PCLS locations for just \$10! Support the library and learn some new recipes



Check out our newly redesigned website!

www.pascolibraries.org