The NOTIFLYER

Newsletter # 59 The FRIENDS of the MIMS / SCOTTSMOOR LIBRARY May 1, 2013

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

This summer most of the Brevard County Libraries are participating in a summer reading program. The summer book club selection is *The Age of Miracles*, a novel by Karen Thompson Walker.

Our library will have two programs as part of the Summer Reading Program. One part will be a book discussion group. For the second part, the public is invited to a program on how to save seeds from your own garden. The book discussion meeting will be **June 27 at 6:30 pm** and is open to all.

On **June 20 at 6:30 pm** Master Gardener Lucia Chankersingh will show you how to gain the most from your gardening experience while you become more self-sufficient. Save money by taking advantage of what grows best in your garden.

To encourage participation in this program the Friends have purchased several copies of the book *The Age of Miracles.* These books will be available for checkout at the Mims/Scottsmoor Library.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Preschool Story Times: **Fridays** at **10:30 am**

COMPUTER SMARTS

Learn beginning computer: Contact Beth, our delightful Reference Librarian, to sign up for a series of four computer sessions. Cost for the four sessions is only $20.00. Call (**264-5080**) to learn class dates. You'll learn: Introduction to a Computer (starting with how to turn it on); Internet Basics; Using E-mail; and Word Processing (writing letters, adding underlining and italics, etc.)

FLOOR NEEDS REPAIR

Our needs-to-be-replaced library is once again having structural problems. Places on the floor are unsafe to walk on now. Repairs are scheduled.

FRIENDS - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The annual election of officers for Friends will occur at the **May 9** meeting **at noon**. New volunteers are needed to serve as officers for our wonderful Friends group. Please volunteer!

HISTORICAL HOUSES OF NORTH BREVARD

Thursday, May 16, 6:30 pm "Historical Houses of North Brevard" will be the topic of speaker Joan Harper's program. The public is invited to attend this free presentation detailing the histories of the houses depicted on the afghan displayed at the Mims/ Scottsmoor Library.

MAKE YOUR OWN BEADED EARRINGS

Thursday, May 30, 6 pm Beaded Earrings Class. Craft 2 pairs of beaded earrings with materials and instruction provided by Normandie. Cost is $10. Please call **264-5080** to register.

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"CHASING BONES"

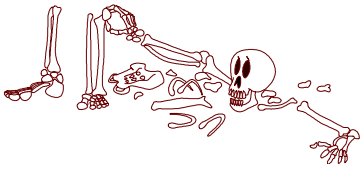
by Dr. Rachel K. Wentz

On April 25, at our library, Dr. Wentz held the audience's attention throughout her presentation. With PowerPoint slides to illustrate her talk, she described her amazing careers. After enjoying a thirteen-year career as a firefighter/paramedic in Orlando, she became a bioarchaeologist. Dr. Wentz not only earned a Masters and a PhD in Anthropology, she also studied in exotic and sometimes primitive locations around the world. These locations included London, Paris, Italy, St. Croix, Ukraine, and the Carribean.

Archaeology is one of the four sub-fields within Anthropology. Archaeology is the study of the life and culture of the past, especially ancient peoples, as by excavation of ancient cities, artifacts, etc. Anthropology is the study of humans, esp. of the variety, physical and cultural characteristics, distribution, customs, social relationships, etc., of humanity.

One of the most fascinating parts of the presentation concerned Dr. Wentz's work in Titusville, at Windover. A backhoe operator working for a developer discovered a skull at Windover in 1982. Work on the Windover Farms Subdivision stopped. Archaeologist Glen Doran from Florida State University examined the skull, which was scientifically determined to be over 7,000 years old! In fact, Windover turned out to be "one of the most important archaeological sites ever discovered."

Because the skeletons at Windover were found in a "mortuary pond" the bones were well-preserved. Mortuary ponds are found only in Florida. After three years of fieldwork, the remains of 168 individuals had been excavated. Dr. Wentz reviewed her work at Windover, and answered questions about the scientific knowledge gained there.



As Dr. Wentz noted, "we can literally read the past through the artifacts left behind." Thus, archaeology helps us to understand how people lived in early history and---especially relevant to this audience---in early Florida history. Still, there is much more to this book than the study of skeletons. "Chasing Bones" is autobiography as well as archaeology. Readers will travel to fascinating places and will learn unusual details about excavating for artifacts, conducting scientific research, understanding local history, valuing Florida's environment, and appreciating the link between the past and the present.

Start reading; no doubt you'll find your attention captured by this unusual but true story. Look for other books by Dr. Wentz as well, and be sure to hear her speak if you have the opportunity.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER PROGRAM

The Children's Summer Program, "*Dig into Reading*," will begin on June 5, 2013. Each event is free and begins at 10:30am.

Jun 5 – Katie Adams, storyteller – "Pirate Tale"
Jun 12 – Wildlife Tree will bring animals
Jun 19 – Riverwalk will bring creatures in a Touch Tank
Jun 26 – Central Florida Anthropological Society will excavate a chocolate chip cookie
Jul 4 – Make a July 4th craft with Ms. Sandy
Jul 10 – Space Coast Therapy Dogs will visit
Jul 17 – Dr. Dan, the Magic Man
Jul 24 – Brevard Extension Service will help children make radish necklaces
Jul 31 – end of summer party