The NOTIFLYER

Newsletter # 70 The FRIENDS of the MIMS / SCOTTSMOOR LIBRARY January 9, 2015

BIG NEWS!!

Soon, our library will again be open on Tuesdays and the library will be open 40 hours a week!! Interviews for new positions are being conducted now.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Thursday, February 5th at **1:30pm** Mims/Scottsmoor Library Book Club. Please join us for a discussion of the book Galileo's Daughter by Dava Sobel. Copies are available for checkout at the Reference Desk. The public is invited. Free.

COMPUTER CLASS

Beginning Computer Class is available. Topics include: terminology, how to use a mouse, word processing, the internet, and email. Call 264-5080 for details. Registration is required. Cost is $20/class. Space is limited.

DID YOU SEE?

The Washington Post and Amazon named War of the Whales one of the Best Books of 2014.

HONOR FLIGHT

On **Thursday, Jan 22nd at 6:30pm** learn about *Space Coast Honor Flight*: find out how to volunteer, contribute, or designate a veteran to receive a free Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. Speaker Stu Glass will present the program and will be happy to answer questions. The mission of *SCHF* is to take World War II and Korean War Veterans to visit their War Memorials in Washington D.C. This is a unique opportunity to show gratitude to these Heroes who made it possible for us to enjoy the freedoms we have today.

ALITERATES

According to an article in The Washington Post (May 2001), an aliterate is someone who can read, but chooses not to. American historian Daniel Boorstin, back in 1984, noted that only about half of all Americans read regularly every year. This leads to the "twin menaces" of illiteracy and aliteracy.

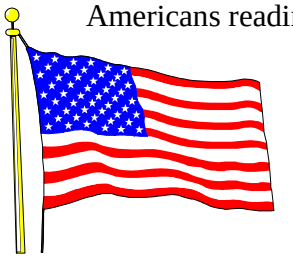
Americans pride ourselves on being a largely literate First World country, while at the same time our day-to-day life often stresses listening to audio books, playing computer games, watching TV, scanning the Internet, or seeing a movie instead of reading the book on which the movie was based.

While symbols (example: road signs) and icons can help us communicate quickly, reading for meaning remains an important skill, especially in a democracy that depends on well-informed citizens.

In the article, Prof. Kylene Beers, who has studied the evils of aliteracy, describes two types of reading: efferent and aesthetic. Efferent reading is purposeful reading, "the kind students are taught day after day in schools." It is reading for something useful, such as answers for a test.

Aesthetic is reading "for the sheer bliss of it." Aesthetic readers connect emotionally to the story. Beers believes that "more students should be shown the marvels of reading for pleasure." To be a good reader you must visualize the text.

Here's hoping that 2015 finds millions more Americans reading for the sheer bliss of it!



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DONATIONS, PLEASE!

A gentle reminder from Friends of the Mims/Scottsmoor Library: After you finish reading the books, and watching the DVDs, that you enjoyed over the holidays, please donate them to our library. Your donations will be greatly appreciated! Just bring your items to the front desk.

FEBRUARY 13 ROMANCE BOOK AND BAKE SALE

Friday, **February 13**, 9am-5pm, the Friends will sell romance books and chocolate goodies prior to Valentine's Day. Yum! Books prices are extremely low, starting at 25 cents a book.

NOTE: Many volunteers are needed to help with our general Book and Bake Sale on **March 12 and 13.** Please sign up at the Friends General Meeting, **Thursday February 12**, at noon, to volunteer to help with the March sale. Thanks! (No volunteers = no sale.)

BOOKS ARE POWERFUL

"…We believe books are the most powerful force in the universe and history supports us. This power is why it was illegal to teach slaves to read. It is why oppressive regimes have burned books, and today it is why girls are tortured and shot {in some countries} when they attempt to attend school. The power of books is why science and democracy flourished when Gutenberg invented his printing press, and why Americans took an extraordinary leap forward when we established our system of public libraries."
----Kyle Zimmer, speaking at recent National Book Awards Program

24 YEARS IN ALASKA

In November, Polly Hall spoke at our library and entertained the audience by describing her fascinating but sometimes difficult life in Alaska. Whether traveling by bush plane or camping out, she thrilled to gorgeous sights. For Polly, Alaska was a constantly surprising adventure. Sometimes, however, Alaska offered stunning challenges as well. Imagine life in a rental house that had no utilities---only a hose! Imagine if your only entertainment consisted of a radio powered by batteries.

Life on a mountaintop offered breathtaking views. Driving down the mountain on snow-filled roads, however, required both bravery and new skills to avoid accidents and/or injury.

The author created her book, Adventure of a Lifetime: 24 years in Alaska, from her journals and from letters written by friends. What an adventure it was! The library thanks her for sharing it with us.

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GUTENBERG'S PRESS

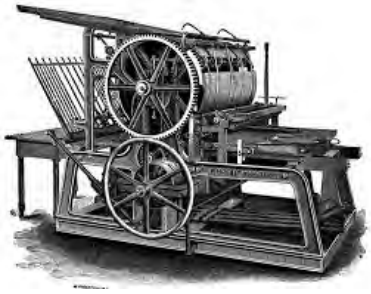
Johannes Gutenberg (c. 1398-1468) was a German blacksmith, goldsmith, printer, and publisher who introduced printing to Europe. His invention of mechanical movable type printing started the Printing Revolution, and is widely regarded as the most important event of the modern period.

Further, his printing press played a key role in the development of the Renaissance, Reformation, the Age of Enlightenment, and the scientific revolution. His invention laid the foundation for the modern knowledge-based economy and the spread of learning to the masses.

Having mass production of printed books, instead of having to write each book by hand, made printing and selling books economically possible for printers and buyers alike.

Mass communications permanently altered the structure of society. Relatively unrestricted circulation of information transcended borders, increased literacy of the masses, improved education, and bolstered the emerging middle classes.

In the 19th century, the replacement of the hand-operated Gutenberg–style press by steam-powered rotary presses allowed printing on an industrial scale. Thanks, Mr. Gutenberg!



ELECTIONS HELP

Staff from the Supervisor of Elections Office will assist with voter registration, with address or name changes, and with answers to your questions on **January 14,** 10:30 am-1:30 pm at our library.

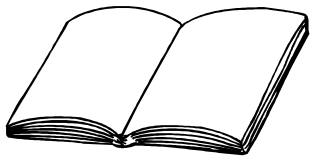
MALALA: THE GIRL WHO WAS SHOT FOR GOING TO SCHOOL

---BBC NEWS magazine, Oct. 7, 2013

When Malala Yousafzay was born in Pakistan in 1997, it was still peaceful. Her world was not one of wealth and privilege, but was an environment dominated by learning. Many girls there wanted and still want to become doctors. In 2008, however, a local leader warned that all female education had to cease, or schools would suffer the consequences.

On October 9, 2012, Malala was shot in the head by Taliban gunmen. Her "crime"? She spoke up for the rights of girls to be educated. After weeks in intensive care, Malala survived. She marked her 16th birthday with a live address from UN headquarters, and she has been lauded by a former British prime minister as "an icon of courage and hope."

At the UN, Mala continued to stress the importance of education for all: "One child, one teacher, one book, one person can change the world." In 2013, she was named one of *Time Magazine's* most influential people. She also was awarded the ***2014 Nobel Peace Prize***. Her book is titled: I Am Malala.

PAJAMA STORY TIME

On Thursday, **January 29**, Ms. Sandy will present Pajama Story Time for kids at 7 pm. Children are invited to wear their pajamas and join Ms. Sandy for a bedtime story. Milk and cookies will be served. Free.