The Friends of the Library are celebrating their 35th Anniversary this year, and plans are underway for a special recognition dinner.

“It is a credit to the North Miami community to have an organization survive and thrive for 35 years”, said Sharon Sbrissa, Friends treasurer, past president and one of the founders.

Stay tuned for more details.

The Summer Reading Program finished with a big party on August 4th - FAMILY FUN DAY.

The Friends of the Library sponsored the prizes for 1st and 2nd place winners in three categories:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL

The Friends sponsored a Scavenger Hunt at the Library with prizes ranging from books to games to school supplies for the winners. Children searched the library to find books, authors, different genres of reading from poetry to mystery novels to books in foreign languages. It was a fun learning experience. And, they could pick their own prize to take home.

Costumed characters, stilt walkers, magicians entertained the crowds. A major book backpack giveaway was a popular table as were sno cones on a hot day. There was much to do - art projects to reading to a dog. It just goes to prove Libraries Rock!

See more photos on page 3
While many organizations and businesses are in the summer doldrums, the library is going full steam ahead! Teens are learning to cook and work together as a team and everyone has participated in the Summer Reading program (read about Family Fun Day). Our new youth director is only part-time, imagine what programs could be implemented if she were full time! We could more thoroughly support the American Library Association’s (ALA) theme this year of “LIBRARIES = STRONG COMMUNITIES”. Speak to your city councilperson about more funding. It’s budget time in the city!

Two ‘shout outs’: our Friends group is 35 years young this summer and our director, Lucia, continues to bring accolades to our library. She was appointed to the very prestigious Caldecott committee, responsible for selecting the ONE CHILDRENS’ PICTURE BOOK to receive the Caldecott award for 2018. We are extremely proud. Be sure and thank Lucia and her staff for the tremendous work that they do.
The end of summer is a good time to look back and to look inward as we prepare to move forward. September 30th marks the end of FY 2018 and the start of the new FY 2019, a new fiscal year for which we will diligently prepare. On Friday, September 7th the Library will close to the public to hold its first Staff Development Day, an all-day workshop facilitated by Dr. Keita Joy and hosted by the City’s Personnel Department. This summer, attendance at programs and enrollment in the Library’s Reading Program saw record hikes! Also, this year, our library was selected to be one of five libraries to host a future visit from the President of the American Library Association (ALA) on February 9th, 2019. North Miami Library will be highlighted as part of ALA’s national advocacy campaign “Libraries = Strong Communities.” I am also very honored and excited to have been selected as a member of the 2019 Caldecott Award Selection Committee. Serving on the Caldecott Committee is a yearlong commitment culminating in January 2019 to select the best picture book for children published in the United States in 2018. Be on the lookout for new and exciting programs and initiatives because “Libraries = Strong Communities!”
The Greater North Miami Historical Society Digitization Project, which was funded by a Southeast Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN) grant and funds from Councilman Scott Galvin, has been completed! Ximena Valdivia, a member of the Historical Society, an archivist by profession and manager of the Barry University Archives, first completed the description and enhancement of descriptions for the original 375+ images that were scanned during 2017. Ximena went through materials in the Society’s Archive in the basement of City Hall and at the Library. She added another 400+ images from photographs and various documents. There are 801 images in FIU’s dPanther Repository. The Society purchased a 4TB external hard drive, so all our digitized items have been saved which allows access to those materials. Work continues the digitization of GNMH archives on a volunteer basis.

Georgette Spratling is the Library’s new Teen Coordinator. She has had 6 years of Program Management experience at the University of Miami in the College of Arts and Sciences, where she created, initiated and managed programming for all liberal arts programs. She has a degree in sociology from Florida A & M University and Master’s in Liberal Arts from the University of Miami. Since joining the library staff, she has created a number of successful Teen programs. Her latest project is the Career Online High School.

The Career Online High School student earns an accredited high school diploma as well as a workforce readiness certificate. The program is 100% online, which means students can access their course materials from anywhere, at any time. There’s no need to purchase any additional materials, as the program is all-inclusive. And, unlike traditional schools, our cutting-edge high school diploma program was designed with the adult learner in mind. As an accredited high school program, students can transfer in previously earned high school credits, which means they do not have to repeat courses they’ve completed in the past, helping them graduate faster.

The Book Club meets at 7 pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Alaska Coffee Roasting Company, 13130 Biscayne Blvd., and is open to the public. Come join us for a beverage, a bite and a bit of stimulating conversation. The books selected for discussion and the meeting dates coming up are:

**NEWS & NOTES**

**NORTH MIAMI HISTORY PRESERVED**

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**NEW LIBRARY STAFFER:**

**GEORGETTE SPRA TLING**

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**MY NOMi: A TEEN GUIDE BOOK DESCRIPTION**

**TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & THURSDAYS, THRU - 8/16, 1 pm - 4 pm**

In this four-week series teens will produce a community guidebook, highlighting local places, services and things-to-do in North Miami that interest teens. Teens will document themselves, their friends and neighborhoods and will produce a hand-bound Teens’ Guidebook to be exhibited and shared with library patrons and the public. The final books will be published to the web. For those teens who have an interest in art and various artistic mediums, register at nomilibrary.eventbrite.com

**MEDITATION WORKSHOPS**

**4TH SATURDAYS, AUGUST 25TH – DECEMBER 28TH, 10 am -12:30 pm**

Meditation Instructor Lawrence Huff invites you to learn the most advanced, yet most ancient, method of inner meditation. Now used in veterans hospitals, heart clinics and by professional athletes, participants will learn and do guided meditation, simple stretching exercises and partake in a post-meditation discussion.

**SEPTEMBER**

**SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH**

It is a time when the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide join to remind parents, caregivers and students that signing up for a library card is the first step towards academic achievement and lifelong learning.

**KICK OFF FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

**SEPTEMBER 15 – OCTOBER 12 IS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

The North Miami Public Library will celebrate all month long with author presentations, storytelling, & different cultural events to commemorate Hispanic heritage. Stay tuned and visit our website northmiamifl.gov, our social media pages, facebook.com/nomilibrary, our Instagram page @NoMiLibrary and the City of North Miami website, northmiamifl.gov for more updates!

**ENGLISH CAFÉ**

**THURSDAYS 11 am - 12:30 pm**

Practice English in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere, through guided casual conversation, over a cup of coffee or tea. Guided by a qualified volunteer instructor, this class gives new English language learners a chance to enhance and refine conversational English skills.

**CALLING ALL DONORS**

Help our organization uplift the North Miami community by sending us a donation to further expand our mission.

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

Advocate for the North Miami Public Library patrons, staff, volunteers, and citizens by raising funds to purchase reading materials, equipment, supplies, refreshments, field trips, professional services, and free to the public programs that enhance intergenerational literacy.

This 35 year old organization has a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. Donations are tax deductible and an official letter of receipt will be sent to each donor.

**SEND DONATIONS TO:**

Sharon Sbrissa, Treasurer,
Friends of the North Miami Public Library,
835 NE 132 Street,
North Miami, FL, 33161

Friends of the North Miami Public Library