

FRIENDS OF UPPER TAMPA BAY REGIONAL LIBRARY CHAPTER

By Maureen B. Gauzza, President

We had very informative speakers at our Friends Chapter Meeting on August 21st. They were as follows:

Israel Grajales mentioned that the third and final public meeting for the Architectural rendering was conducted on August 19th and went over the latest drawings and answered questions. He announced that sometime around December 15th the Groundbreaking ceremony would take place for the UTB Library.

Ms. Jan Stein, Public Art for Hillsborough County said the Committee would be formed and meeting shortly for UTB Library Art. In 1989 Hillsborough County adopted a Public Art Ordinance in order to enhance buildings. The ordinance also creates a Public Art Committee (PAC) to recommend works of public art to the BOCC.

Tyler Bowser, Manager of Starbucks at Citrus Park Mall spoke on the "Family and Friends" August 29th Event, and on the Starbucks Literacy Program. We wish Tyler well and we appreciate his Community support for our Friends Chapter and future UTB Library.

A special thank you to Kim Muentner (Fundraising Chair), Cindy Gormley, Pat Pekala, and Pat Lomot for all that they did to help make the "Friends and Family Night" such a success. The proceeds from for this event were \$845.34. And thank you to Tyler Bowser for making it possible.

The Comprehensive Library Plan has been sent from the Library Board to the County Administrator's office for review. It now includes all of our census tracts for our area that we noticed was not included. Once this plan is presented to the BOCC it will go out for public meetings and comments and back for approval. We will keep you posted.

The planning Committee meeting for the Holiday Event Dec. 5th at Aston Gardens was held recently. Aston Gardens and the Grapevine are sponsoring this event, and we will be having a silent auction. The Committee is working very hard to make this event a great success. You can call Kim at 818-4688 to volunteer to help with this event or if you have anything to donate for the silent auction. We conduct Fundraising Events to enhance the programs and services for the UTB Library, and also to promote Community awareness of the UTB Library needs that are not included in the budget at the present time, and to achieve some of the items included on our Friends Chapter's "Wish List" that have been voted on by the Chapter Members at our various Friends Meetings since the Spring of 2000.

Remember, you can now join the Friends of UTB Regional Library Chapter for 15 months at the price of 12 months and be a member from now through December 2004 when the Library doors open! Members have voting privileges at our meetings, and we encourage all to attend and keep up to date on the happenings of the UTB Chapter and Library. Our members have made an enormous difference in the future UTB Library and we are very grateful to each and every one of them.