Martin County Library System

Florida Library History Project

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/flstud_pub

Part of the American Studies Commons, and the Community-based Research Commons

Scholar Commons Citation
http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/flstud_pub/81
Florida Library History Project

Martin County Library System

1903  Woman's Club Charter indicates formation of Library as first of three priorities.

1916  Woman's Club of Stuart purchased the Christian Endeavor Hall in Stuart for Library and meeting place.

CEH destroyed by hurricane. Woman's Club deed property to City of Stuart and City applies to Federal WPA program to rebuild Library. When completed, City returned property to Woman's Club.

1933  WPA building on Albany Avenue completed as a public Library for Stuart.

1934  Ocean Boulevard land for Library donated by Willard Kiplinger.

1955  Library Association (Friends of the Stuart Library) founded.

1956  Opened the Martin County Public Library on Ocean Boulevard. W. Kiplinger donated remaining 2 lots on block to Woman's Club.

1957  Addition to Stuart Library brought total to 6,500 SF.

1962  Old bookmobile retired.

1968  Addition to Stuart Library brought total to present 18,270 SF.

6/82  Friends of the Hobe Sound library founded.

1976  Opened Hobe Sound Branch in renovated rental quarters. 3,800 SF.


1985  Trailer placed in Indiantown (Opened 20 hrs./wk.).

10/86  Friends of the Jensen Beach Library founded.

11/88  Friends of the Indiantown Library founded.

6/89  Opened Jensen Beach Branch in renovated, (Post Office) rental quarters. 4,700 SF (4,264 sf net).

10/89  Friends of the Palm City Library founded.

5/91  Opened new Indiantown Branch. 5,009 SF.

10/91  Selected Library operations.

10/91  Began operating County Law Library.
12/91 Purchased 5 acres on US Hwy. 1 for permanent Hobe Sound Branch. Approximately 5 acres, to be shared with District.

2/92 Chautauqua South programming established as public-private collaborative division of library system.

10/92 County Law Library became official branch (ordinance) and State statute. Community Answers (information collaborative) established, precursor to MCNET.

12/92 Community Answers (information collaborative) established, precursor to MCNET.

10/93 Began dial access into library's on-line (SIRSI) catalog for general public.

10/94 Migrate main library software to County SUN platform.

12/94 Stuart/main library connected to county network via fiber-optics.

6/95 Open Palm City Branch, 10,000 SF.

3/96 Referendum for 1% for one year sales surtax passed by referendum to help fund 5 year Library capital expansion program.

12/96 Refurbished bookmobile into Story Express, outreach to children and daycare workers.

5/97 Library Netscape system begun.

7/97 Began construction, new Stuart main library (39,000 SF).

8/97 Law Library electronic services begun.

1997 Hobe Sound Branch working drawings in progress (10,500 SF).

IN PLANNING STAGES: Systemwide CD-ROM network - Prolepsis. Remote access to Law Library. Mid-County Library, Salerno Road site, 15,000 SF. Jensen Beach Library, 10,000 SF. Indiantown Branch Library addition, 10,000 SF.