Endowment Fund Event

“The Friends of the Allen Public Library provides for the needs of the Library today: the Endowment Fund will provide for the needs of the Library in the future.”

That was the message delivered by Scott White, president of the Endowment Fund Board of Trustees, to almost 100 political, civic and business leaders as well as library staff and patrons who gathered last month at the Senior Recreation Center for an evening of music, food and fellowship.

The event, hosted by the Board of Trustees, was a celebration of the library’s dramatic growth from an idea of a small group of civic-minded women 40 years ago. Two of those founding members, Ruth Pringle and Wilma Smith, were on hand and recognized with a standing ovation.

Food was provided by The Woodlands and a string quartet from the Allen Philharmonic performed throughout the evening. The event included a historical video and presentations by Mayor Steve Terrell, who offered his personal insight into the important role the Library has played in the growth of the city, and Library Director Jeff Timbs, who shared his vision for the Library’s future. White then told the audience that the same visionary thinking that four decades ago saw the need for a Library, is once again on display in the creation of an Endowment Fund. “Federal and state funding for libraries is being cut as never before,” he said, “but by building a strong endowment fund we can help ensure that our Library has the resources it needs in the future to remain a premier cultural asset in Allen, Collin County and all of North Texas for our children and their children.”

The evening concluded with a video of 2008 Library highlights and a raffle of products and services provided by local businesses. At its annual meeting, the Endowment Fund Board of Trustees filled three expiring terms and elected officers for the coming year. Board members Dr. Joe Farmer and Gayle Boon were elected to second terms and Worley Stein, president of Allen Banking Center/American National Bank, was also elected to the board. Officers for the coming year will be Dwight Burns, president; Dr. Farmer, vice president; Dr. Eileen Tollett, secretary; George Chatham, treasurer.

More information on the Endowment Fund and ways you can help build the fund is available at www.allenfriends.org/endowmentfund.html.

Recycle-A-Book 2008

Recycle-A-Book Week will be November 17-21. Last year over 6,500 BOOKS were donated. Wow! Allen/Lovejoy students have Big “Texas-Sized” Hearts, so this year we’re shooting for 8,000!

We encourage every school to participate. Students can bring two or more gently-used books to their school and take one home. We especially need books in Spanish.

We ask for help from each school’s PTA volunteers and Environmental Clubs. All the books collected are sorted according to age and then donated to organizations, most whom are local.

If you would like to participate and donate your books, contact your child’s school or PTA for details.

The Friends of the Allen Public Library is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting the Allen Public Library by providing funds and programs that would not otherwise be possible.
The Books Are In

Collin County Civil War Living Historians

It's time to start reading! Books are now available at the library for purchase. Remember that any book you purchase for the Library/Allen Reads program will be divided into three stations: the medical station features discussion about general medical practices such as leeching, blistering and bleeding, sanitation habits that often caused dysentry; leading causes of death; and how wounds were treated. In a period that lacked knowledge of bacteria, treatment of the soldier's life was often based on superstitions and magical thinking. For example, soldiers were told to avoid water, which was thought to cause many illnesses. As a result, soldiers often died of dehydration.

The program is free and will be divided into three stations:

1. The first station presents a variety of images that show the lives of soldiers during the war. These images include pictures of soldiers in uniform, written descriptions of their daily routines, and photographs of the battlefield. The purpose of this station is to provide a visual representation of the soldiers' experiences.

2. The second station features presentation of the life of a woman during the Civil War. Women played important roles in supporting the war efforts, often working as nurses, waitresses, and laundresses. The station will include written descriptions of their daily routines, as well as images of women in uniform and photographs of the battlefield.

3. The third station presents a variety of images that show the lives of civilians during the war. These images include pictures of women and children, written descriptions of their daily routines, and photographs of the battlefield. The purpose of this station is to provide a visual representation of the civilians' experiences.

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