

## It's Finally Happening!

Work on preparing the bare-bones space at 7470 Gulf Blvd. to house the temporary library while the existing one is being repaired and restored started in early April. New carpet and restroom tile were laid down, new baseboards were put into place, and electrical outlets and overhead lighting were installed. Meanwhile, the Library closed to the public and the staff started marking and moving the Library materi-

als that would find a new home at the temporary location. All their diligent work made the move proceed more quickly and smoothly than originally thought.

### Preparation of the Temporary Location

Much work had to be done to the space before part of the Library could be moved into it. Here's some work in progress:



## Moving Out...





## Betcinda's Space *By BETCINDA KETTELLS, DIRECTOR*

The St. Pete Beach Public Library is back in business! We have relocated to 7470 Gulf Blvd. and have your favorite books, DVDs, magazines, newspapers, CD books, and music available for perusing! The computers and printers are here; the Friends of the Library bookstore is here; and the staff is ready to serve! I know that's a lot of exclamation marks, but you'll have to pardon our excitement. The move was tricky; the pandemic made everything trickier. We're happy to move forward.

I imagine that you, like we, want everything to be normal again. We've heard from so many people that this would all be more bearable if we had...new books, or more puzzles, or a movie to take our minds off it all. We opened back up on June 1, handed out summer reading bags of goodies to the kids and got the adults stocked up on a fresh batch

of materials. Of course, you never lost access to our online materials but we'd love to show you our new location and chat with you--see how you've fared--ask what else we can do for you--talk about toilet paper if you still want to.

As a librarian, I read books from cover to cover, including the end in which the author thanks people. As with any move, the Library's move from 73rd Avenue to Gulf Boulevard would not have been possible without the following: The Friends of the Library, our dedicated volunteers, many staff from the City of St. Pete Beach, the Library Advisory Board, and the Mayor and Commissioners who have dedicated themselves to making improvements to the library. The Library staff and I are so grateful for all the help and offers of help. Please visit us, and see what we've accomplished together!

## Congratulations to...

**Betcinda Kettells** upon being named "Director," which better describes her responsibility for the duties she has always performed; **Abigail Davis**,

MLIS, the new Public Services Librarian; and **Jennifer Ledford**, promoted from Library Clerk to Library Assistant.



### FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Muriel Desloovere  
 VICE PRESIDENT Steve Traiman (also writer)  
 RECORDING SECRETARY Bill Thompson (also bookstore assistant, email)  
 TREASURER Moon Metz  
 DIRECTORS: Judy Cohan (membership, book reviewer), Donna Dowden (publicity), Charlie Kabbash, Susan Lorenz, Jeanne O'Hanlon, Alice Thomas (assistant, transportation), Zelda Troiano (membership, email, publicity), Ron Waters (bookstore)  
 EDITOR Lorrie Bellinger

Contact the Friends: Phone (727) 363-9238  
[stpetebeachfriends@yahoo.com](mailto:stpetebeachfriends@yahoo.com)

*Tidings* is published by the Friends of the St Pete Beach Library to provide the community with news about the library's and the Friends' activities. New members are always welcome. To join, please use the membership form on the back of this newsletter.

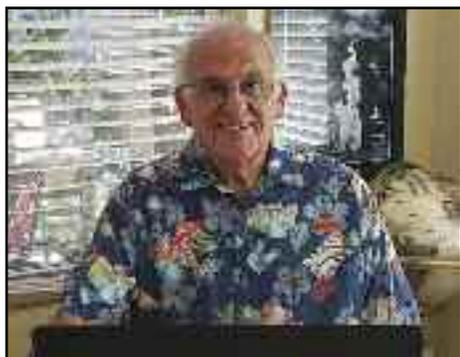
# Tidings News

## Moving In ... Moved In!



## Tidings News

### Introducing the newest members of the Friends' Board of Directors:



Charlie Kabbash graduated from Seton Hall University with a B.A. in History. He served in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged as a PFC. He is the owner of 414 Associates and 414 Associates South in St Pete Beach, real estate enterprises, and the founder and board member of Sona Bank, N.A. which has multiple branches in Virginia and Maryland. He is also the president of the Don CeSar Property Owners Association. In addition to becoming a member of the board of directors of the Friends of the St Pete Beach Public Library, he is a member of and contributor to the Dali Museum and the Straz Center in Tampa.

### Susan Lorenz:

My husband and I moved to Largo Florida in 1997 and for the last ten years we have been living in South Pasadena. I have always been an avid reader and a member of every library I have ever lived near. In addition to being a library volunteer, and now a member of the Friends' Board of Directors, I enjoy making quilts and other sewing projects. Yes, I have been busy this spring making face masks for family and neighbors. For this past year, I have been learning how to kayak and exploring the shoreline near my home.

## Libraries More Popular Than Movies—Really!

In January 2020, Literary Hub, a daily publication of all things books, reported the results of a recent Gallup poll: In 2019, more Americans went to the library than to the movies! On average, trips to the library occur about once a month, and twice as often by women than by men. Going to the library

is also more popular than attending live concerts or theatrical events, visiting museums, gambling casinos, and national parks, and going to amusement or theme parks, and zoos. The article can be found at <https://lithub.com/in-2019-more-americans-went-to-the-library-than-to-the-movies-yes-really/>



**New Amazon Program Enables Shoppers To Easily Donate To Their Favorite Nonprofits**

AMAZON has a fundraising program that's really simple to use. Part of every \$\$\$\$ you spend will be donated by Amazon directly to the Friends of the St Pete Beach Library. It's really simple ... when making a purchase from Amazon, use this new address:

**[www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)**

In the preference box, just type in Friends of St. Pete Beach Library and make this your permanent choice of a "Charity". That way, every time you shop, the Friends of the St. Pete Beach Library will receive a donation from Amazon.

# Tidings News

## It's Official!



## Meanwhile ...



### On the Bookshelf

## 'The Giver of Stars' by Jojo Moyes

During the great depression of the 1930's, Eleanor Roosevelt, using the WPA project, saw a way to increase literacy and at the same time create acceptable and respectable jobs for the impoverished women of Appalachia. And thus was born "The Pack Horse Library Project" For \$28 a month these women rode on horseback with book and magazine laden saddlebags through all kinds of weather and terrain, sometimes covering as many as 50-80 miles each week, greeted warmly or with shotguns, they continued until the project ended in 1943. It has been estimated that over 100,000 people benefitted by this project.

The women in Jojo Moyes well written book include Alice, an Englishwoman who meets and marries the son of a coal mine owner while he is travelling in England, Margery, an independent woman who lives by her own rules, Izzy, an over-protected young woman born with a deformed club

foot who has never ridden a horse, Beth who has eight brothers and needs to break free, and Sophia, a woman of "color" who has lost her job at a "colored" library in another town, and violates the segregation laws by becoming part of this "white" library.

Alice, forced to live in the same house as her demanding and cruel father-in-law, ostracized by the local women for her strange accent and unconventional dress, volunteers to head this project, and along with the other volunteers has to battle against the objections of the powerful men of the small Kentucky coal mining town. They fight in their quiet way to overcome the bigotry, isolation and violence that exists in this depression era environment. Together they create just one of many in the brigade of "pack horse librarians".

What these and many women just like them accomplished was truly remarkable. A worthy and entertaining read, available in all formats.



## 2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

\_\_\_\_\_ **New** \_\_\_\_\_ **Renewal**

Membership dues and other donations to the Friends may be tax-deductible.  
Ask your financial advisor.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to Friends of the S.P.B. Library)

### Suggested Membership Levels:

Individual \$15 • Family \$25 • Donor/Business \$50

Life \$100 Individual/\$150 Couple • Business \$250

Mail completed form and check to:

Friends of the Library

365 73rd Avenue, St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

or bring to the library during business hours.

I would like to help with:

\_\_\_ Book Store/Sales

\_\_\_ Publicity/Promotion

\_\_\_ Programs

\_\_\_ Fundraising

\_\_\_ Membership

\_\_\_ Board Officer

Friends of the St. Pete Beach Library  
365 73rd Avenue  
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706