

*News Release*



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#121011-LIBFRIENDS

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***Santa Rosa County Libraries Hold Membership Drive in  
Conjunction with  
Friends of Libraries Week***

Santa Rosa County libraries will spend the week of Oct. 22-27 celebrating its Friends of the Library groups as part of the annual celebration of National Friends of Libraries Week. Santa Rosa County libraries enjoy support from four Friends of the Library groups in Gulf Breeze, Milton, Navarre, and Pace libraries.

“Our library would be much poorer without the Friends,” said library director Gwen Wilson. “The funds they raise definitely put the icing on the cake. I think most patrons would be surprised to learn how many of the services and programs they enjoy are supported by the Friends.” During the last fiscal year, county Friends groups collectively contributed over \$40,000 to Santa Rosa County libraries.

These dedicated volunteers host popular used book sales and operate used book stores to raise much needed funds. In addition to raising money, they advocate for libraries and sponsor special programs and events.

Right now, new members are needed to actively volunteer their time to assist the groups with fundraising efforts. “The library has always played such an important role in my life and in my family’s life,” said Pace Friends president Jennifer Richardson. “I truly enjoy being able to give something back – and being an active member of this group is fun!”

Celebration activities include a week-long membership drive based on the themes of friendship and fun. Have you joined your Friends of the Library? Library lovers everywhere are invited and encouraged to join their local Friends of the Library group. Please contact the library at (850) 981-7323 to learn more about the week’s activities and to find out how to join your local Friends group.

*The Santa Rosa County Library System is a department of the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners. Libraries are located in Gulf Breeze, Jay, Milton, Navarre, and Pace. Find additional information at [www.santarosa.fl.gov/libraries](http://www.santarosa.fl.gov/libraries) or call (850) 981-7323 (READ).*

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