

“More than Books”

Santa's December Schedule

If your child wasn't among the throng of children who came to the library Sunday afternoon, November 23 to see Santa when he stopped here during the Downtown Mistletoe walk, not to worry! There are lots of opportunities to visit with Santa in December.

Santa will be keeping office hours at the library every Tuesday and Thursday evening, between 5 and 7 p.m. continuing through Thursday, December 18. Santa will also be working weekends from 1 to 3 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday through December 21.

Come early on any one of the Tuesdays, at 4:30 p.m., and hear Youth Services Supervisor Anna Doyle present a pre-Santa story time that will focus on holiday stories. On Tuesday, December 9, there will also be a special Holiday Pajama Story Time beginning at 6:30 p.m. Teddy bears are invited to this one.

Santa's visits as well as a little gift for the children from Santa are courtesy of FHN.

Please Donate to the Holiday Children's Book Drive

The library will have a decorated barrel in the lobby to collect children's books for distribution in Salvation Army holiday baskets for needy families. Bring new or like-new books to the library by Friday, December 19. The book you donate may well be the first a child owns.

Cash donations for the purchase of books are welcomed as well. Youth Services Supervisor Anna Doyle will personally select books for older children with any cash donations the library receives. I know how much harder it is to buy for older kids, but it is important that they, along with their younger brothers and sisters, have books in their holiday baskets.

Community Festival of Trees

As long as I can convince FHN to locate its Community Festival of Trees at the library I'll never have to worry about holiday decorating, and this year the public gets to enjoy 25 trees decorated by local not-for-profit groups competing for cash prizes.

You don't have to be on the panel of judges to vote for your favorite. In addition to first, second, and third prize from the judges, there's also a People's Choice Award. Vote early and often, before Sunday, December 21, and your favorite may be a winner.

Library Bags

If you're looking for a gift or something useful for yourself that is considerably less than the \$50 that "The Lost Freeport Photos" book costs, consider a sturdy canvas bag with a drawing of the library on one side and our logo on the other. Only \$6.

Oops! I almost referred to them book bags, after all the time I spend promoting the library as "More than Books on a Shelf." They're perfect for toting all your library items, DVDs, CDs, and magazines, as well as books. They're also a good size for a basic all-round tote.

Holiday Closings

In the interest of helping you plan ahead: the library will be closed on Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25 for the Christmas holidays. The library will also close Thursday, January 1 for the New Year's holiday.