# The NOTIFLYER

Newsletter # 80 The FRIENDS of the MIMS / SCOTTSMOOR LIBRARY January 1, 2016

## "COOK THE BOOK" BOOK CLUB

Everyone's invited to join the "Cook the Book" Book Club on **January 21, 2016 at 6:00pm**. The "Cook the Book" club will cook and share recipes from the *South Beach Diet Cookbook* by Arthur Agastston. Registration required. Club is open to public. Check with Reference Librarian Beth for details – **264-5080** – on which recipes to prepare.

## FRIENDS MEETING

FRIENDS of the Mims/Scottsmoor Library General Meeting will be **Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016** at **noon**. Free. We invite you to join FRIENDS for $5 a year. New members are warmly welcomed.

## ATTENTION READERS 9-13

Beginning **January 4 at 3:30 - 4:30pm** Children ages 9-13 are invited to join Ms. Ruth to Read and Listen to *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. Snacks will be provided. This event is planned to continue weekly. Contact: Ruth Shaw

## LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

On **Thursday, January 7 at 1:30pm** the Mims/ Scottsmoor Library Book Club will discuss *Big Stone Gap* by Adriana Trigiani. Refreshments will be provided. Copies of the books are available for checkout at the Reference Desk.

## GARDENING FOR BEGINNERS

A new activity is tentatively scheduled for **January 27, 2016** at **1:30pm**. The first class will discuss Propagation techniques. The cost for the class will be $15.00; materials are provided. Call for info: 264-5080.

## KIDS ENJOY CREATIVE WRITING

On **Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 3:30pm** the Creative Writing Club meets. Bring a notebook and create stories. Children ages 7 and up are invited to join Ms. Brittany and Ms. Ruth for writing activities, crafts and refreshments. 264-5080

## ADULT COLORING CLUB

On **January 19 at 2:00 - 3:00 PM,** Adults are invited to join in this new relaxing hobby. All materials are provided. Contact: Sandra Chafin

## PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

**Each Friday at 10:30am -** Join Ms. Sandy for stories and a craft

## WATERCOLOR PAINTING CLASS

**January 7, 2016 at 6:00 pm** Watercolor Painting with Rosemary Daly. $10 fee includes materials and instruction. Call 264-5080 to register.

## TEDDY BEARS INVITED, TOO

**January 7, 2016 at 6:30pm** - Children are invited to join Ms. Sandy in their pajamas for a bedtime story. Refreshments provided.

## HIKING THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

**January 28, 2016 at 6:30pm** - Local author, David Miller, describes his experiences on the Appalachian Trail and the writing of his books: *AWOL on the Appalachian Trail* and The *A. T. Guide: a Handbook for Hiking the Appalachian Trail*. This program is free and open to the public.

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## LET'S HOPE HE'S WRONG!!

In Ted Koppel's new book, "Lights Out," he strongly warns Americans of the dangers and hardships that will befall us if someone takes down the electrical grid, thus cutting off our electricity for weeks, months, or longer! How long could your family survive without electricity? Mr. Koppel is convinced such a disaster is likely to occur.

At the Miami Book Fair recently, Mr. Koppel, an award-winning journalist, explained his view that despite all the talk by some politicians about an influx of refugees, we really should be worried about cyber-criminals who have the capacity to take down one or part of all our electrical power grids!

A hurricane may take out electricity for days, but the impact of all or part of a power grid down could be that "tens of millions of Americans would be without power for a matter of weeks or months." That threat is why he believes that worry about refugees seems not very important.

Imagine if New York City or Miami had no power for months. Most apartment dwellers have maybe enough food for a day or two. There's no storehouse of food available for them. For emergencies, such as a hurricane, The Red Cross, FEMA, and Dept. of Homeland Security all recommend a two-day supply of food and water, batteries, a battery-powered radio, and extra money. That advice, Mr. Koppel warns, will not cut it in case of a cyber-attack on our power grid!

FPL spends huge amounts of money on security; however, smaller investor-owned electrical companies tend to be more interested in profit than security. Today there are 3200 or more power companies, all linked, and the internet is vulnerable.

This is not just Ted Koppel sounding the alarm. President Obama, in two successive State of the Union Speeches, warned Americans about the danger of cyber-attackers going after our infrastructure, and he specifically mentioned the power industry. Such an attack could cause cascading outages that will be far beyond what we've known from natural disasters.

Most Americans value both privacy and security. Balancing these two significant interests during this dangerous time is a challenge. Both individuals and the federal legislators must plan now for the aftermath of a cyber-attack on the electrical grid.

*The library held a contest to guess the number of books making up the Christmas tree. The winner will be announced on the library's Facebook page.*

"Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generations and nations."
--Henry David Thoreau