Annual Holiday Celebration
December 17
Everybody’s invited to the Friends’ Holiday Celebration at the Library on Monday, December 17 at 7 P.M. Mike Bayer and fellow members of the Symphonic Band of the Palm Beaches Brass Ensemble will lead us in a medley of carols. Then we’ll all enjoy the Friends’ fabulous spread of shrimp, dips, salads, cheeses, and other goodies. Come and bring your friends for an evening of holiday cheer. All are welcome.

Annual General Meeting January 24, 2019
Here’s your chance to choose the Friends’ officers for 2019. This year’s officers are:

President: Teresa Wilhelm
Vice President: Debbie Loyal
Treasurer: Denise Anderson
Secretary: Sid Patchett

Directors:
Ilona Balfour
Kathy Gundlach
Jane Hand
Fr. David Kennedy
Rosemary Mouring
Carol Thomas
Ellen Tuggle

If you would like to serve on our Board please contact Sid Patchett by e-mail at Sidpatchett@yahoo.com before January 24.

Friends Holiday FREE BOOK Giveaway
For the third year the Friends will be offering, free, every book on its sales table from Monday, December 17 to Monday, December 31. Yes, all books will be free: novels, picture books, travel writing, how to manuals, mysteries, and children’s books. We’ll have bags for you to carry them home. Don’t miss out on this once a year chance.

Historical Talk about Lantana’s Evergreen and other local cemeteries, January 24
At our January meeting local historians Janet Devries and Ginger Pederson will speak about the how the cemeteries reveal the history of towns. The meeting starts at 7 P.M. at the Library. There will be light refreshments after the talk. All are welcome.
Two Friends’ Members Publish Memoirs

Our board member Ilona Balfour published Return of the Swallows: the Memoir of Dorothy, Countess Praschma. Ilona’s mother married a German count in the 1930s in South Africa and returned with Ilona and her other children and the count to Germany just in time for the beginning of World War II. Her husband, imprisoned by the Nazis, died in a camp while his family took refuge in Czechoslovakia in relatives’ castles. The children were dispersed at the end of the War. Soviet troops occupied the area and only a South African travel document branded them by the Countess spared the family the usual fate of the vanquished in East Europe. This document enabled the Countess to round up her children and take them to England and later to South Africa where Ilona grew up. The Countess’s memoir gives a vivid picture of war conditions for East European nobility.

Plenty of adventures also occur in Louise Barfknecht’s Leaving Detroit: a Travel Memoir of backpacking around the world to Italy. With the desire to leave a riot torn Detroit and live in a more beautiful place, Bob and Louise decide to go the long way around traveling west through the Far East, through India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Eastern Europe. Louise does a great job of describing the perils of road travel where serendipity, luck, and intelligent persistence pay off. Readers will enjoy Louise’s vivid, colorful description of what they saw along the way, how they learned Italian, and made a life in Florence, Italy.

Come in and borrow a Library copy of both these great reads.

The Library Needs You

Lantana’s Library is unique: apart from its Director and 2 part-time assistants, all its services are the work of your friends and neighbors who are volunteers. The cheerful person who checks your books in and out, keeps the books in order on our shelves, and tutors somebody on how to use a computer is a volunteer. We are always looking for new recruits.

This year we need book processors. The job requires no computer expertise, just skills. We’ll teach you in attaching book jackets or plastic covers to our new books so they are ready for borrowers.

We are also looking for a marketing guru who can design print brochures, reading lists, and social media posts that will entice folks to use our services.

However you can help and whatever your skills, we have a spot for you. Become a part of your community that makes a difference. Join our team. If you’re not sure how you can help call Sid Patchett at 540-5740 or e-mail him at sidpatchett@yahoo.com.