



Suncoast Information Specialists Info

Vol. 32 #4 September/October 2017

Hurricane Irma

Check out below for some afterthoughts after Hurricane Irma hit our area. Some great tips from our members!

Special Thanks

Special Thanks to hosts Ericka Dow and Hal Harmon and speakers Alicia Chalmers and Ann Hardy.

Did You Know?

Suncoast Information Specialists is a professional association of librarians and information specialists in the greater Tampa Bay area, dedicated to providing an open forum for the discussion of mutual concerns and the exchange of ideas in the realm of information management and dissemination. For membership forms and directions on how to join, please go to:
<http://www.suninfospec.org/membership>

Upcoming Meeting

When: October TBD

Time: TBD

Where: TBD

Directions: TBD

Program: Kira Smith and Kelly McDonald, TBLC, will speak on their Ask-a-Librarian program and virtual reference.

Cost: Food for students is \$5, members/guests \$10, see meeting page below for info

RSVP: <http://www.suninfospec.org/meeting>

Questions?: Please contact Carrie Cullen at carriecullen@mail.usf.edu

August Meeting Overview

The August SIS meeting was a discussion on "Turning Outward in Sarasota-Manatee: The Harwood Public Innovators Experience." Representatives from Manatee and Sarasota public libraries, as well a representative from The Patterson Foundation, who participated in a 2 ½-day Harwood Institute Public Innovators Lab discussed community conversations to help enact positive changes in their communities.

Meeting minutes can be found here:

<http://www.suninfospec.org/meeting/minutes>

Meeting photos can be found here:

<http://www.suninfospec.org/photos>

Tidbits

- **Congrats** are in order! **Deborah Henry is retiring as the Science Librarian at Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, USFSP.** Congrats!

Events

- Over the past few years, **Palm Harbor Library has introduced innovative hands-on Makerspace initiatives.** The **newest interactive service is a cooking program called "Let Us Cook @ Palm Harbor Library!"**

This instructive series of food programs will be presented monthly at the library by various cooks and chefs using a mobile kitchen on topics ranging from "Holiday Side Dishes", "Vegetarian Meals", "Making Cookies with Santa", "Cooking 101", Diabetic Diet" and even "Pet Food".

This completely free public program is to inform and educate community members about the joys of food making and eating well. It offers an opportunity to open a whole new world to some and enhance it further for others.

Would you like to know more about this neat program? Please check out the like below:
<http://palmharborlibrary.org/library/news.html>

Hurricane Irma - Afterthoughts

Please enjoy some storm preparation thoughts from our members after Hurricane Irma. Thanks everyone for sharing!

- Have a Little Free Library? It is a good idea to have the ability to remove the library from its post. The post should survive just fine and the Library can survive for use another day!
- Huge thanks to Polk County Library Cooperative's IT staff! They were on hand to get their libraries' public computers and Wi-Fi back up quickly so the community could get access to the Internet.
- Had a difficult time contacting staff during and after Irma? Check out the free app Remind. Remind is used by teachers to send mass texts to students and parents. It is an app administrators can have on their phone and staff can text a special phone number to subscribe. It is a great alternative to emails and individual text messages that waste precious power and bandwidth. <https://www.remind.com/>
- The Florida Library Association has established a Florida Library Disaster Relief Fund to collect donations to assist libraries impacted by Hurricane Irma. Donations can be undesignated, or the donor can name a specific library to receive the donation. The donate link is on the FLA homepage, <http://www.flalib.org/>.
- Let's stay prepared not only during hurricane season, but before and after. Staff training is key, face-to-face if possible. What we learn needs to be practiced and newer staff members need to be indoctrinated when they come on board.

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Membership

Announcements - Share promotions, upcoming library events, announcements, successes and achievements with your fellow SIS members, and / or..

Ideas - Do you have an idea for a presentation? Do you have recommendations for meeting venues? Do you know someone who would be perfect to speak at a meeting? Would you like to volunteer your services? If so, please contact the Editor or one of the Officers, or send an email message to: suninfospec@gmail.com

Employment Opportunities - Please post *employment opportunities* to the SIS-L elist by sending an email to sis-l@mailman.it.usf.edu. The list reaches 270+ subscribers in the Tampa Bay area. See <http://www.suninfospec.org/list> for additional information about subscribing or posting to the list.

Email: suninfospec@gmail.com

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Facebook:

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Questions about SIS? Feel free to contact any one of the SIS Officers listed to the left of this page!