



FRIENDS ANNUAL APPEAL

*"Your library provides many services for you – your contributing to the
Friends Annual Appeal provides services to your library!"*

Dear Friend,

For nearly 60 years, the *Friends of the Library of Collier County*, a non-profit organization, has raised funds to expand and enhance the programs and services in your county's 10 branch library system. Our continuing mission is to improve reading and literacy across the county --from Everglades City to Marco Island to Naples to Immokalee. The *Friends of the Library* provides funds to make possible many library programs for children, adults, senior citizens and library employees. While the economic environment has improved, county budgets for library activities remain lower than before the recession, making our continuing support to Collier County Libraries even more critical.

The *Friends* sponsor special events such as the Nick Linn Lecture Series, LEAP, the Bagels and Book Club Breakfasts and a Non-Fiction Lecture Series. LEAP (Library-Electronic-Assistance-Program) employs teenage students at seven library branches to provide personal help for library patrons with using computers, electronic equipment and library digital programs. Enclosed is a recent Naples News story highlighting the *Friends* numerous efforts to enhance the Collier County libraries value for its patrons. A Donor Board at the Naples Regional Library on Central Avenue publicly recognizes individuals and companies for their cumulative contributions over the years. Also the names of contributors who have given \$100 or more during our 2014- 2015 fiscal year are listed on the *Friends*' website.

Will you please join me in making a fully tax deductible contribution to the **Annual Appeal of the *Friends*** before the close of 2015? It makes a big difference in the lives of people of all ages in Collier County.

Please mail a check to Friends of the Library or stop by the Friends office located in the Naples Regional Library on Central Avenue to make a donation. For your convenience you can directly pay by using the *Friends* website: <http://www.collier-friends.org>. Finally, please remember this is not a request for your *Friends* annual membership dues. You will be alerted to the need to renew your membership at least one month prior to its expiration.

Thank you for your continued support of the *Friends* and your libraries.

Jon Zoler
President, Friends of the Library of Collier County