

Semiannual Book Sale ends today, \$2 per book

By MOURA STEINBERG
For the Daily Facts

Phyllis Schildmeyer just had to have a second look. Schildmeyer of Yucaipa bought books during the opening hours of the Friends of A.K. Smiley Public Library's Semiannual Sale's on Tuesday.

She was back again on Thursday.

"I was thrilled with what I got," said Schildmeyer, who purchased a set of books — and four more books to add to her home library.

Repeat customers are a new trend at the sale, said volunteers with the group, which raises money to help the library during these budget cutting times.

Today is the last day of the sale, with all books priced at \$2.

"We got two cookbooks, there was a great selection of books," said Judy Allard, about her purchases earlier in the week.

Allard, 66, of Redlands expects that there will be people shopping today at the sale.

"I think people will go when it's less expensive," she said.

Allard, 66, said that she and her husband wanted to help support the library by buying books during the sale.

"It's a good cause," she said. "Even if you spend \$2 and pass the book on to somebody, you've helped the support the library."

Usually the last two days — when all books are \$2 — bring in the bargain shoppers, said Friends volunteers.

During the last week, volunteers have seen more shoppers — and higher sales than in recent book sales.

"As the prices go down, more people come in," said Jim James, a Friends volunteer on Friday.

More than 139 books were sold during the first two hours on Friday, which is usually a slow sale day, said volunteers.

"The sale success means more funds that the Friends will have to help advance the

library's service to the community," said Larry Burgess, library director.

Burgess, who is a charter member of the Friends, has seen the volunteer group consistently support every division of the library to help advance their service to the community.

From books and periodicals, to special collections — and even endowments — the library director has seen the group give to the library since

the group's start in 1973.

"During this five-year economic crisis, they have literally helped us to save service and acquisitions," said Burgess.

The success of Friends fundraising reflects the deep-seated generosity that runs through Redlands and also the many people who hold the library's interests at heart, he said.

"Many are avid patrons," said Burgess. "Others rarely come in but firmly believe in

the importance of a library where all people may come to freely access whatever interests them."

Burgess said the love affair with the book started when Redlands was founded, which led residents to call for the establishment of a library in 1894. That led Albert Smiley — a man who loved books and Redlands — to go out and borrow money to donate a library building in 1898.

And that love affair — with books and the library — contin-

ues today, as the record book sales reflect.

"What would we do without the library in Redlands?" said Allard. "It's priceless to us."

Allard goes to the library to buy and check out books, while enjoying the peaceful feeling while in the historic building.

"We don't want it to go away," she said. "This is a big part of Redlands."

Moura Steinberg is a member of the Friends of the A.K. Smiley Public Library.

Semiannual Book Sale

Friends of A.K. Smiley Public Library hosts the semiannual book sale, which ends today in the Assembly Room of the library.

HOURS AND PRICES

\$2 per book, 2 to 4 p.m. today

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM EVENTS

Family Fun with 'Star Struck'

Spring is the perfect time for star-gazing, even in the daytime. Explore the stars at the San Bernardino County Museum April 2, for a Family Fun Day, "Star Struck!" This program is included with paid museum admission.

Travel into space when you enter the StarLab inflatable planetarium. Find out more about the stars that you see while you look at constellations, and listen to star stories from around the world. StarLab show times are 11 and 11:45 a.m. and 1, 1:45, 2:30 and 3:15 p.m. Seating is limited; timed passes will be available at the Museum's front desk starting at 9 a.m. This show is most suitable for children older than 4.

The San Bernardino County Museum is at 2024 Orange Tree Lane, at the California Street exit from Interstate 10 in Redlands. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for military and seniors, \$5 for students, \$4 for children 5 to 12 and free for children younger than 5 and Museum Association members. Parking is free.

The museum is accessible to people with disabilities. If assistive listening devices or other auxiliary aids are needed in order to participate in museum exhibits or programs, requests should be made through Museum Visitor Services at least three days before visiting the museum.

Information: www.sbcounty-museum.org, 909-307-2669, ext. 229, or (TDD) 909-792-1462

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