

This nomination is for the following award: **Outstanding Citizen Award**

First Name **Andrew**

Last Name **Breidenbaugh**

Library Affiliation (if applicable) **Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library**

Title (if applicable) **Director of Library Services**

Street Address **102 E. 7th Ave.**

City, State, ZIP **Tampa, FL 33602**

Telephone Number **813-273-3660**

E-mail Address [breidenbaugha@hillsboroughcounty.org](mailto:breidenbaugha@hillsboroughcounty.org)

Are you nominating an individual or a group/organization for this award? **Individual**

First Name **Jim**

Last Name **Duffy**

Library Affiliation (if applicable) **Friends of the Library of Tampa-Hillsborough, Inc.**

Title (if applicable)

Street Address **705 Winterbrooke Way**

City, State, ZIP **Sun City Center, FL 33573**

Telephone Number **813-634-1396**

E-mail Address [jduffy1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jduffy1@tampabay.rr.com)

Will you be submitting any supporting documentation? **Yes**

If you would like us to review web pages in consideration of this application (including videos or other supporting materials that are stored online), please enter the Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) below.

<https://www.cftampabay.org/library>; <http://www.tbo.com/news/south-shore/2008/nov/05/ss-southshore-regional-library-turns-2-ar-226576>;

<http://www.hcplc.org/hcplc/thpl/board/2011/minutes/april.pdf>; <http://www.tbo.com/south-shore/students-are-the-beneficiaries-of-the-festival-of-trees-584616>; <http://www.tbo.com/south-shore/south-shore-library-changes-mission-to-reflect-changing-times-20140101>;

<http://www.observernews.net/2016/12/07/duffy>

Essay **Jim Duffy has a lengthy and substantive record of contributions in support of the excellence of libraries in Hillsborough County, Florida. A retired executive and south Hillsborough County resident, Mr. Duffy has worked tirelessly for more than a decade to ensure that Hillsborough County libraries continue their record of excellence. His work has included capacity building, advocacy, and even back-breaking manual labor! Mr. Duffy began his efforts as a member of the SouthShore Round Table, an alliance of the Chambers of Commerce and civic organizations of Riverview, Apollo Beach, Ruskin, and other surrounding cities in south Hillsborough County. One of the tasks he took on as a member was the effort to build capacity and support among elected officials for the construction of the 40,000 square foot SouthShore Regional Library in Ruskin. Prior to the construction of the building itself, Mr. Duffy was instrumental in the formation of the new SouthShore Friends of the Library. He worked with a group of like-minded citizens and provided the leadership needed to form the group, develop**

bylaws, elect officers, and organize a campaign to build support for the new library. Their efforts were successful and after the completion of the building in 2006, Mr. Duffy volunteered thousands of hours of his time for the set up and operation of a used book store at the library in order to raise funds for library programming. He worked tirelessly sorting and transporting used books and donations. Due to his leadership, Mr. Duffy was elected President of the SouthShore Chapter of the Friends of the Library and spent many years in that role. Because of his success and his willingness to assist other chapters, Mr. Duffy was elected to the council of the countywide Friends of the Library of Tampa-Hillsborough, Inc. During his time of service on this council he worked to improve the function of the board. His experience as an executive and tenacious negotiating skills helped the Friends secure a contract for vending machines to be placed in libraries throughout Hillsborough County. The proceeds from this contract generate enough revenue to support the administrative operating costs of the Friends. Mr. Duffy has been a tireless campaigner and advocate for libraries. As a result of this record of service Mr. Duffy was appointed by the Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners to serve on the Hillsborough County Library Advisory Board. This board provides important policy direction and advises the Library Director on policy and budget matters. Mr. Duffy served on the Library Board from 2012 through 2014. He participated in all three Library Board Committees (Budget, Planning and Policy, & Bylaws) and chaired the Budget Committee in 2013. He also led an ad-hoc committee that worked to revise the monthly statistical report. During his tenure Mr. Duffy assisted the Library Board with refinements to their budget and performance measurement oversight practices. Mr. Duffy's outstanding record of service and his contributions to the SouthShore Regional Library, the library system, and the Friends of the Library led the Library Board to name SouthShore Library's largest meeting room the Jim and Joann Duffy Community Room. Despite his retirement from the Library Board and the Friends, Mr. Duffy continues to support the library in real and important ways. In December of 2016, Mr. Duffy announced the formation of the Tampa-Hillsborough Children's Library Foundation in partnership with the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. This new foundation, initially funded with a personal gift of \$250,000 from Mr. Duffy, marks a profound achievement in library service to children in Hillsborough County. Twice yearly distributions from the foundation will fund programs for children and their parents. The programs will focus on encouraging use of the library. Mr. Duffy continues to work on raising funds for the foundation. From community organizer to friend to board member and fundraising philanthropist, Jim Duffy's record of service to libraries in Hillsborough County is so extensive and personal, in both depth and length, that he is a worthy candidate for the Outstanding Citizen Award and a role model for others to follow.

**Summary** Jim Duffy has a substantive record of contributions in support of libraries in Hillsborough County. Mr. Duffy built support among elected officials for construction of the 40,000 square foot SouthShore Library in Ruskin. He was instrumental in the formation of the SouthShore Friends of the Library and served as its President for many years. He used his time on the Library Board and countywide Friends Council to initiate positive change and increase organizational oversight. He volunteered thousands of hours of his time to raise funds for library programming. In 2016, Mr. Duffy donated \$250,000 to form the Tampa-Hillsborough Children's Library Foundation. Jim Duffy's record of service to libraries is so extensive and personal that he is a worthy candidate for the Outstanding Citizen Award.

**Excitement builds over plans for library**

Tampa Bay Times (FL) (Published as St. Petersburg Times (FL)) - March 25, 2005

**Author/Byline:** EDDY RAMIREZ **Section:** BRANDON TIMES **Page:** 17 **Readability:** 9-12 grade level (Lexile: 1140)

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A new development project is generating quite a buzz among Ruskin residents.

The talk is not about a proposed subdivision of homes.

This time a new library, Hillsborough's largest, has the community excited.

The South County Regional Library will be built just off 19th Avenue between Shields Middle and Cypress Creek Elementary schools to meet the needs of southeast Hillsborough.

At 40,000 square feet, the facility will be more than five times the size of the Ruskin Branch Library on Dickman Drive, the only public library south of the Alafia River.

"It's long overdue," said David Wulschleger, the county's library system operations manager. "Hopefully, this new library will be accessible to more people."

The \$11-million facility was designed by GouldEvans Associates, the architectural minds behind the Ford Amphitheatre and Stetson College of Law.

Construction on the new library is expected to begin this summer and be completed by next summer.

When it opens, the shelves will be stocked with more than 100,000 books, magazines, videos, music CDs and other reference materials. It will house a genealogy department, arts resource room, a cafe, public meeting rooms and about 50 computers with Internet access. By comparison, the Ruskin branch occupies 7,400 square feet and shelves 60,000 volumes.

Suzanne Prach is working with the county to relocate 300 art books and at least 170 paintings from the home of John Crawford, a longtime resident of Sun City Center. Crawford has agreed to donate his art collection to the library to serve as study guides to library patrons.

"He has paintings of many scenes of south Hillsborough that are no longer there or that have changed in one way or another," Prach said.

Jim Duffy of Sun City Center said he hopes the library will become a meeting point for the growing population in south Hillsborough and enhance the character of the region.

"It's a valuable asset," he said. "It could be a focal point that will help us have a community identity."

Duffy is organizing a Friends of the Library group that will act as a support network for the library. They will have a used bookstore off the foyer to help raise money for library programs and events. Duffy wants the group to include residents from the various communities in south Hillsborough.

For more information on becoming a Friend of the Library, call 634-1396.