

Friends Groups Donate Wii to Libraries

The Friends of Central Ridge, Coastal Region and Homosassa Public libraries have donated the popular Wii game hardware and software to the libraries. These donations will allow the library system to create age-specific and intergenerational programming for youth and adults similar to what other libraries are doing across the nation. The Central Ridge Library in Beverly Hills has already used its Wii equipment at the graduation celebration for the Cyber Buddies program where youth volunteers met regularly with area seniors to explore and learn the use of computers, from the very basics of using Windows to using the Web, working with digital pictures, online services, and even game systems.

Programs are being developed at the Coastal Region and Homosassa Public Libraries for Tweens and Teens with the anticipation of incorporating the Wii equipment into programs for all ages.

The Wii game system has been acclaimed as a breakthrough in technology which provides a platform to promote problem solving, physical rehabilitation and learning. Gaming research has shown positive effects on literacy development, critical problem-solving skills, and creative thinking.



Library Friends Jean Racine, Barbara Gilley and Betty Smith try out the new Wii "Rock Band" equipment while learning about the library's plans.