

Okaloosa County News Release

Contact: Sheila Ortyl, Mary Esther Library 850-243-5731; Vicky Stever, OCPLC 850-609-5102



Mary Esther Library Aids Oklahoma Tornado Victims

A local library is reaching out to victims of tragedy hundreds of miles away. The Mary Esther Public Library will host a blood drive and benefit cook-out on June 14th to aid Oklahoma tornado victims. “When a catastrophe like the tornado occurs, people want to help. We know what it’s like to be storm victims,” said Sheila Ortyl, library director. “Libraries are the heart of their communities. The Mary Esther Library and the City of Mary Esther are providing a means for our community to show its heartfelt support to the folks in Oklahoma.”

Hours for the bloodmobile are 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. ; advance appointments can be booked online at www.fbsdonor.org referencing account number W4249. Outback Steakhouse is a community partner with the blood drive, providing incentive gifts to donors. The Friends of the Mary Esther Library will grill hamburgers and hot dogs at the library from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All proceeds from the sales of \$5 lunches, which include a sandwich, chips and drink, will go to the Salvation Army for relief efforts in Oklahoma.

Mary Esther Public Library is located at 100 W. Hollywood Boulevard in Mary Esther. Operating hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Contact the library at 850-243-5731 for further information.

###