New program lets library patrons borrow at other facilities

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If you’ve ever gone to the library and couldn’t find the book you were looking for, a new program at the Boynton Beach City Library might help quench that thirst for knowledge.

Library spokeswoman Karen Abramson said the Sunshine Library Card program allows patrons to borrow outside the city’s library.

Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach State College libraries, the county library system and the School District of Palm Beach County Professional Library can be accessed through this new program.

Boynton Beach City Library Executive Director Craig Clark said because the library participates in the Southeast Florida Library Information Network, it can be part of the program.

“It expands resources,” he said. “A Boynton citizen may not have been able to go to a FAU library before but now because of this, our citizens with a Boynton library card can use any of the FAU facilities.”

Clark said the premise of not being a student and being able to use FAU libraries and other colleges is the key aspect of this program.

“If someone is looking for advanced level resources like a book on physics of solar cells that we don’t have in our collection here, they can go there [FAU],” he said.

He said if a person visits the city library and can’t find something, a book can be looked up in the system and the person would be on their way to a participating library.

“You know things like advanced design concepts for engineers,” he said. “Public libraries are generalized collections.”

Clark said about five people have signed up so far for the program and he expects many more. Applications are available at the Reference Desk on the second floor of the library at 208 S. Seacrest Blvd.

City Commissioner Bill Orrlove said the program is a great idea, especially in a down economic time, in which more and more people are using public libraries to learn for free.

“I’m always looking for films and music,” he said. “Boynton usually fulfills my appetite for both but there have been some occasions I have looked in other libraries.”

Orrlove said the program is beneficial to anyone looking for continued education.

For information, call 561-742-6390.