About the Process

“Lutz Locomotion” is a hand carved brick mural. The mural was carved from wet, unfired brick. Once completed, the individual bricks were dismantled, numbered for ease in reconstruction, dried and fired. The bricks were then shipped to Lutz and installed. Brick was chosen for this project because it is relatively easy to carve; it compliments the exterior of the building and is extremely durable.

Artists Intent

The artist decided to highlight trains for the theme of this project after meeting with members of the community and based upon his own knowledge of the area. The artwork echoes the train depot across the parking lot and creates a focal point at the entrance to the building. The image was taken from actual photos of a timber train, its engineer and coalman and serves to highlight the important role trains had in helping the community of Lutz grow into the dynamic center it is today.

Artist: Charles Sharrod Partin
Title: Lutz Locomotion
Year Completed: 2007
Medium: Brick Mural
Location: Lutz Library
Established in 1989, the Hillsborough County Public Art Program is responsible for oversight of the commission and purchase of artworks by contemporary artists in all media. The Board of County Commission appointed Public Art Committee recommends appropriate artwork for sites throughout Hillsborough County. The seven-member citizen committee works with members of the community to select artwork that is artistically significant, reflective of the County’s cultural diversity, and complementary to the site.

About the Artist: Charles Sharrod Partin spent 30 years designing award winning schools, homes, office buildings and churches. Then in 1995, he decided to devote his time exclusively to specializing in ceramic sculpture and large scale three dimensional carved brick murals. Mr. Partin’s work has been widely exhibited, and his large brick murals have been commissioned for many significant buildings throughout the United States and Canada. He has studios in New Port Richey, Florida, and at the Endicott Brick Company in Nebraska and has served on the Pasco Fine Arts Council since its inception.

Site Description: Lutz Station was named after William P. Lutz, an engineer with the Tampa Northern Railroad. It was a usual stop along his route to pick up wood. His brother Charles built a saw mill in the area and a winding rail line known as the “Pea Vine” to bring logs to the main railroad line. Lutz Junction was where the two railroad lines intersected. In 2000, a replica of the original train depot was constructed very near the Library to commemorate the prominent role of the train in the growth of this vibrant community.