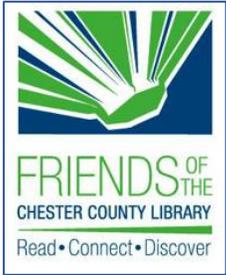


FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Improving the lives of library users through advocacy, service, and funding

Spring 2022



CHECK US OUT

Spring has almost sprung, so it's the perfect time to share about the exciting and surprising things within our stacks and spaces at the Chester County Library! Read on to meet our new director, find out about two programs that have gotten a little help from The Friends, get the scoop on the [Friends Spring Book Sale](#), and much more.

A FRESH FACE: NEW DIRECTOR MARY GAZDIK

The Chester County Library and Henrietta Hankin Branch is thrilled to welcome our new director, Mary Gazdik. At the end of January, Mary began her tenure, succeeding Marguerite Dube, who retired last April.

Mary comes to us from the Middletown Free Library in Delaware County, where she worked as the director for ten years. She's also worked as a librarian and library director at various other libraries throughout Pennsylvania, including the Cheltenham Library System in Glenside and the Narberth Library.

Although Mary's work at CCL will encompass everything from library operations to fundraising, Mary's passion is maker spaces. Simply put, these are spaces with tools to help people make things. The Henrietta Hankin Branch recently introduced their maker space with a Cricut machine and other crafting tools, while the Chester County Library's Jacobs Technology Center hosts a 3D printer (**RIGHT: Mary with the library's 3D printer—yes, we have one!**)

Mary hopes to expand the library's reach even more by using her years of experience connecting library patrons and the community to various technologies and, most importantly, inspiring their curiosity and creativity. A recent event she enjoyed was the Build a Better Book Conference at the University of Colorado Boulder, which focused on inspiring kids to use maker spaces to create multi-modal books, games, and graphics that can be seen, touched, and heard. The joy Mary gets from inspiring others to expand their skills and create will absolutely be an asset to the library, and further our future goals.

When she's not working or writing (Mary's the author of two books about maker spaces), Mary spends time with her family, reading graphic novels (*Superman for All Seasons* by Jeph Loeb is a favorite), and roller skating. If you see Mary around the library, be sure to say, "Welcome!"



WHAT ARE THE FRIENDS FOR?

TECH FOR ALL

Jamie Claxton, Information Literacy Librarian, shared scoop about the exciting work of the library's **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee**, particularly its **Assistive Technology Project**, which is working to make the library's Jacobs Technology Center (JTC) more accessible for those with visual impairments and other physical and learning disabilities.



Jamie cheered the work of her coworker, Remy May, who has formed relationships with a host of community groups, including the Chester County Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, to mine their knowledge and learn of their needs.

The Friends recently provided funds to purchase a variety of technology for this endeavor, including trackballs, trackpads, and touchscreen computer monitors. These new additions promise to make navigating the library's computers easier and more accessible for all.



TALKING & LEARNING

Jamie was equally excited to share about the library's **Daytime and Evening English Conversation Groups**. Held virtually, these meetings are helmed by Conversation Facilitators who help participants practice their English in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Free and open to the public (with registration), this event has helped and inspired many, including a participant from South Korea.

The Friends have provided funds for facilitators and to purchase digital and print subscriptions to *News for You*, an online and print publication that features easy-to-read news stories that help readers learn how to read, write, and understand the English language. For more information on this group, visit www.ccls.org and click on Events.

DID YOU KNOW?

The JTC has ALL of these for public use!

3D Printer · Button-making Machine · Digitizing Machine · Laminating Machine & More. Come visit!



THE FRIENDS SPRING BOOK SALE IS BACK...

APRIL 8, 9 & 10

...and better than ever!

This spring, you'll find recent bestsellers and books in a variety of subjects, including history, music, art, religion, romance, science, humor, sports, gardening, and crafts, plus CDs and DVDs. All available for purchase at bargain prices. Also...

Special Book Room

We have a large collection of art and photography books, books about trains and motorcycles, some DC comic books, Nancy Drew mysteries, and a large number of current fiction and nonfiction books and

LIKE NEW children's books.

Follow the signs to visit!

The sale starts on **Friday, April 8 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. for members of the Friends of the Chester County Library.** All Friday night attendees must have a current membership before they get into line outside the Struble Room. Place-saving using boxes, crates, etc. is not permitted.

Memberships start at \$15 for an individual and \$20 per household and can be purchased in advance by mailing in the membership form (available at the Library or on the Friends website) or by purchasing a membership at the Library's Main Checkout Desk prior to 4:30 p.m. on Friday night. Memberships can also be purchased on Friday night beginning at 5 p.m. at the membership table. **Memberships can also be purchased online using a PayPal account but this must be done prior to April 6 to attend the Friday night sale.**

The sale is **open to the public starting on Saturday, April 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, April 10 is Bag Sale Day, which takes place from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** We supply the bag; you fill it and pay \$10. Show your current Friends membership card and pay only \$7 per bag. For less than a whole bag, the books will be sold at half-price.

All proceeds from the Book Sale benefit the Chester County Library. **PLEASE NOTE:** We accept cash, checks or PayPal only. No credit cards.

The Friends would like to thank the many volunteers who work to make Our Book Sales a success. We could not do it without you.

Friends Meetings

- The Board meets at the library on the first Tuesday of each month, with the exception of July.
- The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Chester County Library is held the first Tuesday in December.
- Contact us at cclfriends@ccls.org for more information.

The Friends of the Chester County Library
450 Exton Square Parkway
Exton, PA 19341
www.chescolibraries.org/about
610-344-4433

SAVE THE DATES!
Fall Book Sale
10/7 - 10/9





LET'S CELEBRATE LIBRARIES

National Library Week runs from **April 3 - 9**. First celebrated in 1958, this event is sponsored by the American Library Association and celebrates our nation's libraries and library workers' contributions, while also promoting library use and support. It's observed in school, public, academic, and special libraries across the country every April.

This year's theme is **"Connect with Your Library."** Within the week, there are several events, which you can learn about at www.ala.org. Be sure to celebrate with us—and share an email or word of thanks with our hardworking librarians and library workers!

BOOK ENDS

What's your reading pleasure? Physical books? eBooks? Audiobooks? Magazines? Newspapers? All of them?

No matter which format you love, the Chester County Library offers several apps that enable you to borrow books, magazines, and newspapers—all for free! Visit www.ccls.org and click the eMaterials tab. Or check out our **newly designed online library catalog** to place a hold on a physical book. Or stop in and browse the stacks. We'd love to see you!

FICTION

- The Maid* by Nita Prose
- Honor* by Thrity Umrigar
- Reminders of Him* by Colleen Hoover
- Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone* by Diana Gabaldon
- The Christie Affair* by Nina de Gramont
- Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson
- The Paris Apartment* by Lucy Foley



MEMOIR & NONFICTION

- The Betrayal of Anne Frank: A Cold Case Investigation* by Rosemary Sullivan
- The First Kennedys* by Neal Thompson
- What My Bones Know* by Stephanie Foo

Hear, Hear: Give These Audiobooks a Listen

Looking for an audiobook to make your commute, chores, or down time more entertaining? These titles are 5-star listens and available to borrow from the library using the Libby app from Overdrive.

Celebrity Narrator The always-wonderful Tom Hanks narrates *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett

Powerful Memoir *Crying in H Mart*, written and narrated by Michelle Zauner.

Philly Proud *Will*, written and narrated by Will Smith

Humor and Heart *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by TJ Klune, narrated by actor Daniel Henning

Historical Fiction *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah, narrated by Julia Whelan

Popular Fiction *Cloud Cuckoo Land* by Anthony Doerr, narrated by Marin Ireland and Simon Jones

Mystery *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave, narrated by Rebecca Lowman

