



# LIBRARY LINES

Glenside Free Library  
Serving Glenside, Wyncote, and Laverock



Vol. 19 No. 1

Winter 2011

## TURN THE PAGES FOR.....

- New Library Resources
- Words from our Library Commissioner
- Friends of Libraries Proclamation
- Forthcoming Activities for Children
- Volunteer News
- Frost Program Recap



## FRIENDS PROJECTS BRIGHTEN BUILDING, ENHANCE SERVICES

The Friends of the Glenside Library funded many great projects in 2011:

- The north entrance now features a Tribute Wall, with commemorative plaques and photos of the Library's faithful employees, volunteers, friends, and donors.
- Carpet tiles were installed in the north entrance, as well, further enhancing the booksale area.
- The copier-fax machine area received improved lighting.
- A colorful rug and end tables were added to the comfy seating area in Teen Central.
- Monthly thematic displays are now featured on a slatwall shelving unit in the new book area.
- New Large Print books are showcased on a unit near the windows in the reading room.
- Glenside's ever-popular movie nights now feature refreshments via a theater-style popcorn machine.
- A new Early Literacy Workstation, with even more educational games, was installed in the children's area.
- Self-pay printing, easy and convenient for staff and patrons alike, was recently added to our public computer area.
- The Friends also cover some of the costs of the library's computer licensing and software upgrades and pay for staff memberships in the Pennsylvania Library Association.
- ESL Civics classes at the Glenside Library are now served by a dedicated Language Learning collection, thanks to supplemental materials money provided by the Friends.
- The Friends contributed significant funds to the materials budget. In 2011, the Friends pledged even more to help expand the young adult, audiobook, music, and movie collections.

## DON AUSPITZ HELPS WITH USED BOOK SALE



If you're ever in the Library on Thursday nights, you may have seen a man working in the lobby. That's Don Auspitz; he volunteers his time organizing and maintaining the ongoing used book sale. Don answered the call from the Friends at about the time we needed volunteers to assist with the ever-expanding used book collection. Thanks to his diligence, the used book collection looks tidy and is replenished every week. Sales average about \$200 a month and benefit the Library.

Don was born in a small town near Saskatchewan, but moved with his family to Philadelphia in the third grade. He graduated from Temple University after majoring in English, and for about 38 years, worked as a freelance editor and proofreader. His love of books came early, as there was always a library nearby to check out books. Recalling his childhood, Don notes that he "stayed up all night on at least three occasions to finish *Scaramouche*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, and *39 Steps*," and read most of the *Oz* books. As an adult, he enjoys reading a variety of Russian and English authors, most notably, Jane Austen, whose novels he has read several times. Non-fiction, especially biographies, and books about Roman history are among

his other favorite genres. Not surprisingly, Don is also proficient in Latin.

What is most interesting about Don is not only his passion for books, but also his career as an accomplished professional, actor. He is the co-author and sole performer of a stage piece entitled "With Albert Einstein," which has been produced four times beginning in 1989 at the Walnut Street Theatre and at the Franklin Institute in 1993. Don lives with his wife in Glenside and likes to travel into Center City. He still performs in various venues around town.

The Friends are grateful to have the opportunity to work with Don, and his love of books has made him an outstanding volunteer.

## VOLUNTEERS CLEANUP LIBRARY GROUNDS

On Saturday, October 22nd, a group of volunteers trimmed the shrubs and tall grasses around the exterior of the Library in preparation for winter. Joe Trainer of the Glenside Library Friends, as well as Nicole Vangen, a volunteer, joined Stephanie Campbell, Glenside's Head Librarian. Stephanie not only trimmed the shrubs, but fortunately brought her truck, which was full of clippings after the morning's work. Nicole worked primarily on the side of the building facing the children's section, to artfully trim the hedges with the assistance of her daughter, Ella. Joe and Stephanie worked on the large grasses in the front. The landscaping work begins each spring with a general trim and clean up. Volunteers work through the spring and summer months to maintain the shrubs while the Township takes care of the lawns. If you would like to join us in our landscaping efforts, leave a note with one of the Library's wonderful staff and they will direct it to the Friends.

## GFL ADDS TO ITS E-RESOURCES

E-books continue to be one of libraries fastest growing collections in both size and popularity. Amazon's September announcement that Kindle users will now be able to get e-books from their local public library through Overdrive has greatly added to that.

Yes, that's right – Kindle users can now share in what Nook, Sony Reader, iPad, and Smartphone users have long been able to – FREE e-books. If you're concerned about it being difficult, not to worry –it's very easy to get an e-book on your Kindle – you can use any computer and you don't even need your USB cord. To date there are more than 5,000 e-books available to our patrons with almost all of them available for the Kindle.

If you don't have an e-reader but have a smartphone or iPad, you can go right to your app store and download the Overdrive App to get started. If you have questions about accessing e-books our librarians are always happy to help you and we have instructions available at all of the Cheltenham Township Library System branches and online at [www.cheltenhamlibraries.org](http://www.cheltenhamlibraries.org).

## SIGN UP FOR WOWBRARY!

The Library's newest service is Wowbrary! When you sign up you'll get an e-mail each Wednesday alerting you to every NEW book, audiobook, dvd, and more that the Cheltenham Township Library system added to its collection that week. From the e-mail you can read reviews and request the items you're interested in borrowing. Get in the queue for your favorite author early! Go to [www.wowbrary.org](http://www.wowbrary.org) and enter your zip code to subscribe.

## JOIN THE LIBRARY'S SUSTAINABILITY CAMPAIGN

"Why buy when you can borrow," is our motto. Collaborative consumption is both fiscally and environmentally responsible. The value of sharing over ownership is shaping new business models every day from ZipCar to Rent-That-Toy. Timesharing has begotten couchsurfing.

Libraries have been "green" from day one in our methods and materials. Use one of our public computers or bring your laptop for free wi-fi. Read our newspapers and magazines, from Wall Street Journal to Yoga Journal. Listen to the audio CD of David Owen's "Green Metropolis" or download the e-audio of "Hot, Flat, and Crowded," by Thomas Friedman. Read the print book "Triumph of the City," by Edward Glaeser or the ebook "Go Green, Live Rich," by David Bach.

The right and economical thing to do is all around us, and we, as libraries, can point you to it. The Glenside Library and all CTLS libraries plan to embark on a year of sustainability-themed programs in 2012. We will incorporate a lot of things we are already doing (plant swaps, gardening and composting programs, recycled arts and crafts classes) and try new ideas. Our community is teeming with potential partners to create fun and informational activities for all ages. Watch our calendars for more details!

Contact Stephanie Campbell, Glenside's Head Librarian, if you would like to get involved as a volunteer, sponsor, presenter, or partner.



# ***A Proclamation***

## of the Board of Commissioners of Cheltenham Township

*Whereas,* The Friends of the East Cheltenham, Elkins Park, Glenside and La Mott libraries raise money that elevates the branches of the Cheltenham Township Library System from good to great. Their fund-raising is essential to supporting additional programming, much needed equipment, children’s summer reading and special events throughout the year; and

*Whereas,* Recognizing the importance of libraries as cornerstones of the community, the Friends also advocate on behalf of the Library System to ensure it receives vital resources to provide patrons of all ages with a wide variety of opportunities, including print and electronic materials, expert research assistance, readers’ advisories and expansive children’s services; and

*Whereas,* The Friends are entirely volunteer organizations. Members donate their time and energy to bettering their respective libraries and, by extension, the entire community. Their dedication and good works deserve universal praise and stand as outstanding examples of positive civic engagement.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARVEY PORTNER, President of the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP, do hereby proclaim October 16 – 22, 2011, as “**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY WEEK** in Cheltenham Township.” In doing so, the Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the entire community, gratefully thanks the Friends of the Library for all they do to enhance the library and community and urges everyone to consider joining their inspiring ranks.

DONE IN ELKINS PARK, PENNSYLVANIA, under our hands and the Seal of the Township of Cheltenham, this Nineteenth Day of October, A.D., 2011, in the year of the Township of Cheltenham the one hundred and twelfth.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP**



By: Harvey Portner  
President

Attest: David G. Kravitz  
Township Manager and Secretary

## TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONER SERVES AS LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER

By Kathy Hampton\*

I have been a Cheltenham Township Commissioner for two years and soon after the 2009 election was appointed to the Cheltenham Library System's Board of Trustees, commonly referred to as the Library Board. I appreciated the appointment made by the President of the Township Board of Commissioners at the time, Morton "Mickey" Simon. My appointment is a great opportunity for me to represent both the Township and Library System's interests.

As part of the taxing body of Cheltenham, the Township Commissioners are charged with fiscal and budgetary concerns for public services and entities such as Fire, Parks & Recreation, and Public Works as well as the Cheltenham Library System. As a liaison I am hopeful that I can bridge any gaps, raise awareness, and build consensus between Township Administration and the Library System – to continue and advance the services, programs, and all operations of the System.

Most appealing in serving on the Library Board is the fact that I am a librarian myself. I am considered a special librarian as my experience and training has been in the area of law and librarianship. I attended the Catholic University of America and received a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS). Research, reference, management of resources, contracts, budgets, collection development and acquisition, technical services, training for attorneys, law firm marketing, administrative departments, and staff have been my responsibility for the last 15 years.

I am fortunate to have had this experience, but it is quite different from working with what I call "real libraries". "Real libraries" are those that serve communities in total. The public library serves the true information needs of the community in which it sits. It also serves as a resource and conduit of communication in varied areas as many frequent the library for meetings, gatherings, receipt of community newsletters, announcements, and programs. My roles in Cheltenham provide a wonderful opportunity

to be exposed to the community and gain insight into the public user's information needs and actual usage of library resources.

During my early months on the Township Board, I became aware of the built in advocacy the Library System has in the form of the Friends of the Library. As an inexperienced public librarian, the Friends of the Library were new to me, but I quickly realized the value such an organization brings. I whole heartedly believe in this booster club for the Library System. The essence of serving comes from time and talents that individuals contribute to their community. The Friends of the Library in Cheltenham have historically met the challenges to support the Library in a variety of ways. As an advocate of the Library, I recognize that continued community involvement is key to maintain dynamic services and programs that are currently available to users.

There have been many Township Commissioners who have sat on the Cheltenham Library Board so this dual role is nothing new to this community. What is new about these dual roles is my service to them. My service offers a fresh set of eyes and ears to both Boards while being respectful of all Board Members' varying views and consideration of changes in the communities throughout Cheltenham.

*\*The reflections above represent my personal thoughts and opinions and do not reflect the opinions of Cheltenham Township Commissioners nor the Board of Trustees of the Cheltenham Library System.*



## **STATISTICS SHOW LIBRARIES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER**

For most of 2011, Glenside's circulation was 50 percent higher than 2010. More than 130,000 books, audiobooks, magazines, and movies have been borrowed so far this year.

In addition to the business of lending, Glenside takes great pride in its role as a community meeting place – a friendly environment in which to learn, have fun, interact with neighbors. Residents cross the Library threshold more than 100,000 times per year and nearly 4,000 partake of Library programs.

Montgomery County gained 50,000 people in the last decade. While Cheltenham's population remained virtually unchanged at around 37,000 residents, the demographics show what Library staff already suspected: school-aged children are our highest population group. Our township is the place more and more families choose to call home. Movie nights and children's activities are the most popular programs. And we send home books by the bagful.

Ages 45 to 54 are the second largest group, and Glenside works hard to keep up with the reading and recreation habits of this active population. The Library fills more than 2,000 requests per month for materials on waiting lists or held at other county libraries. And our reading room is often filled with teleworkers, tutors, and researchers.

So disregard those persistent rumors that libraries are a thing of the past, that the Internet will replace librarians. Though they may look and sound a lot different than in the past, libraries are more vitally important and more heavily used than ever!

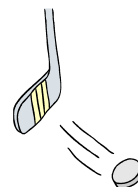
## **SUMMER READING A HUGE HIT WITH "ONE WORLD, MANY STORIES @ YOUR LIBRARY"**

A world of fun was had by all with multicultural events and activities throughout July and August. Some of the Summer Reading Club highlights included Candy Sushi and a Henna Party.

A Tween Book Club met weekly throughout the summer, reading and discussing *Stargirl* (Jerry Spinelli) and *Flipped* (Wendelin Van Draanen). Special events for all ages featured storytelling, music and art, magic, puppets, and Egyptian dancing. To top off a successful summer of reading, more than 100 residents were on hand when the Phillie Phanatic appeared as the highly-anticipated guest at our World Cultures Festival, held right outside Glenside Library.

The amount of participation in the Glenside Summer Reading Club reflects another successful year. 172 children participated and read for a total of 1,059 hours. Tween and teen numbers rose to 55 participants and a total of 450 books altogether. The adults were busy reading as well: 19 adults participated, reading a total of 104 books!

Tweens and teens earned chances to win various raffle prizes, including gift cards to Best Buy, Target, iTunes, Barnes & Noble, Burholme Park Golf Center, and Sprinkles Ice Cream Parlour. One grand-prize winner got to take home a hockey puck signed by former Philadelphia Flyer Mike Richards!

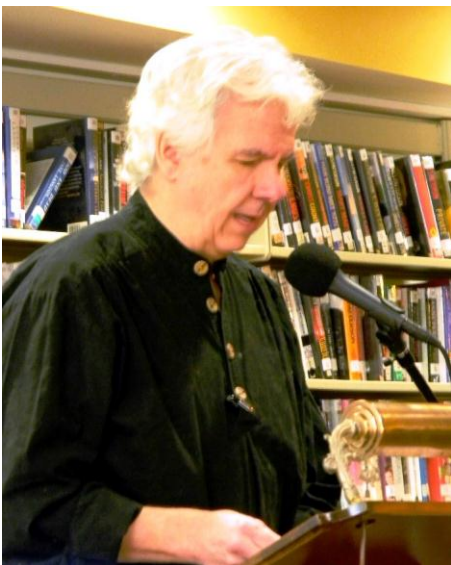


## LOCAL AUTHOR GREGORY FROST GIVES HALLOWEEN-THEMED READING

It was a dark and stormy night. Really, it was. What better time to settle in and listen to a spooky story? On October 28, prolific fantasy/sci-fi/horror author Gregory Frost gave a reading at the library, sponsored by the Friends.

Children's librarian Carrie Sturgill's Thursday night teen group was on hand--and in costume--for the event. They were treated to Frost's supernatural story "The Comeuppance of Creegus Maxin," as well as an excerpt from his 2002 novel *Fitcher's Brides*, a chilling reworking of the Bluebeard fairy tale.

Frost is director of the Writing Workshop at Swarthmore College and has been a finalist for every major fantasy, science fiction, and horror award. A resident of Merion Station, PA, his most recent publications include the fantasy duology *Shadowbridge* and *Lord Tophet*.



Author Gregory Frost reads from his work.

### SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF GFL

Enclosed is my donation of \_\_\_\_\_ payable to the Friends of Glenside Library.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This contribution is in honor of / in memory of (please circle the appropriate designation):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities with the Friends.

Email or Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your completed form may be left at the Library's circulation desk.

*Friends contributions help supplement the Library's materials budget. As state library funding decreases, your support is needed more than ever.*



**Friends of Glenside Free Library**  
215 South Keswick Avenue  
Glenside, PA 19038  
215-885-0455

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**

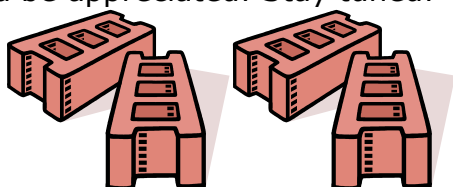
Jenkintown, PA  
Permit No. 2312

address service requested

## **WHAT'S NEW FOR 2012 FOR YOUTH?**

In addition to continuing our regular programs, there are several upcoming events to look forward to in 2012. Thanks to another district grant, we'll have the opportunity to invite an American Sign Language interpreter to lead a storytime or instructional session for kids.

We also hope to extend the Tail Waggin' Tutors program into next year. Additional ideas include hosting a writing workshop with local authors and starting a Lego club. The first step is to gather a LOT of Legos, so any donations to get us going would be appreciated! Stay tuned!



## **TODDLER, PRESCHOOL, TWEEN, TEEN – SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT THE GFL**

Programs for children and teens have expanded this year to include some exciting new initiatives. In January 2011, Thursday Night Live kicked off as a weekly activity night for middle-school and high-school kids. Attendance has reached a high of 16 tweens and the group's enthusiasm continues to spread!

Special events for children have included composting and kite-making workshops in the spring; *Science in the Summer*; *Let's Read Math* (a district grant provided by Verizon); and "A Not-So-Scary Halloween Story." November brought cooking classes for kids and the start of our Tail Waggin' Tutors program, where children practice reading with Therapy Dogs International volunteers.