

January 2023

Library Hours

Monday	9:30 a.m. –6 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. –6 p.m.
Wednes	9:30 a.m. –6 p.m.
Thursday	9:30 a.m. –6 p.m.
Friday	9:30 a.m. –6 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. –4 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

2023 Friends Board

Gail Young	President
Carm Sosik	V. President
Unfilled	Treasurer
Annette Heffelfinger	Secretary

Board Members:

Tory Bieber, Wendy Fritz, Karen Howard, Gerry Hynes, Kathi Malloy, Trish Ott, Joanne Yoder, Janet Yost

Friends Meetings:

3rd Tuesday at 2 p.m. via Zoom

2023 Library Board

Linda Foulke	President
Joshua Sprinkle	V. President
Harry Heffelfinger	Treasurer
Ann Pirnot	Secretary
Gerry Hynes	Corr. Sec.

Board members:

Holly Hildenbrand, Kathy Landis, Jennifer Lau, Sue Newmann

Board Meetings:

2nd Thursday at 7 p.m.

Library Staff

Janet Yost	Director
Jackee Sharayko	Asst. Director
Tara Sanders	Youth Librarian

Joanne Englehart, Mary Beth Friedle, Charlotte Hoare, Lori Balthaser

Better with Age

During the past few years, there have been times when people have felt isolated and alone. This has mental health consequences for many, but there were some groups that were more affected than others. One of those groups was seniors (age 55+).

A professor of medicine at the University of California stated, "after the pandemic hit, some seniors felt a dramatic worsening of loneliness and mental health problems such as anxiety and depression."

In response to this issue, the library has created a program where seniors can gather, hear speakers, play games, and make connections with others. "Better with Age" takes place on the third Friday of the month at 10 a.m. The initial get-together takes place on January 20. Participants are treated to refreshments.

The first meeting was designed to allow for introductions, playing games, and to discuss what they would like to see for the future of the program.

The February program focuses on downsizing your home. Having too many

things can impede people from relocating or getting health care into their homes.

This engaging presentation explores why belongings are important for some people and teaches practical, easy-to-follow tips on downsizing and decluttering. February's speaker from AARP will get us started.

Haas Financial Group will discuss estate planning in March. More specifically, they will promote resources that help organize important documents and information for your loved ones to settle our estates. This is a program everyone can benefit from no matter what age they are.

Future programs will involve art therapy, speaking about the benefits of chiropractic adjustments, and perhaps even a visit from the Wellness on Wheels van from the Berks Community Health Center.

Aside from all of these speakers, there will always be time to enjoy light refreshments, companionship, and to develop connections with others.

Invite a friend to attend with you. No registration is required.



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Youth Programs and Events

Namaste



Branching out and trying new programs is good for the body and mind.

Are you exploring ways to inspire movement and to help

instill calm in your children and your own mind in 2023?

Look no further than the once a month family yoga programs at the library, on the first Monday of each month February-May at 4:30 p.m. Instructor Diane Nolfie will provide a gentle yoga class that parents and their children can enjoy together.

Please bring your own mat. Registration is not required but encouraged.

Teen Programs

Teen Anime Club takes place on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 3:30 p.m. Join us to talk about your favorite anime and manga while enjoying snacks and drawing. No registration.

Teen Tuesday continues to provide a safe space for teens every Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to play board games, paint, draw, make crafts and more. Interested in joining us? No registration

Teen Book Drops are available at the beginning of the month. The books are free to keep and enjoy. Teens can select from several themes while supplies last.

Shoot for the Stars at KCL

Join us at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania for two FREE planetarium showings at KU's Grim Science Building on Thursday, April 6, when Kutztown public schools are closed.



During *Dinosaurs at Dusk*, our show at 10 a.m., viewers will travel back in time to meet the pterosaurs and the ancestors of modern-day birds: the feathered dinosaurs. Science content includes topics such as continental drift, proper motion of stars, asteroids and impacts, extinctions and the convergent development of flight among species.

During *Incoming!*, our show at 1:30 p.m., viewers will embark on a dynamic journey on the trail of asteroids and comets and get an up close look at the advanced technologies that allow scientists to detect asteroids before they reach Earth.

Both showings require registration and have a limited number of seats. To make sure your spot is saved, register for a show on our events calendar at kutztownlibrary.org or stop at the desk.

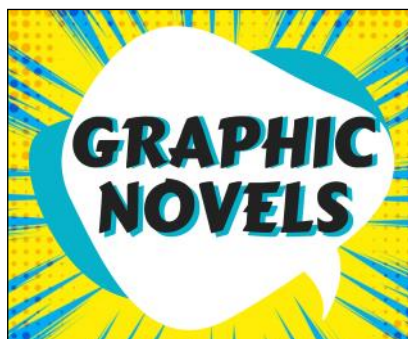
Reading is a passport to countless adventures.

~Mary Pope Osborn

Pow! Boom! Graphic Novels for Children Spark Interest in Reading

If you have stopped by the library within the last few months, you may have noticed that our Graphic Novel section now resides across from the DVDs and young adult novels. This is to ensure space for growth in this collection.

Graphic novels are vastly more than "easy reads." Many times, these stories are filled to the brim with complex characters and topics, gorgeous illustrations and a wide variety of art styles. Perfect for reluctant readers who are slow to start on their love of books, graphic novels open the door to literacy and a lifelong love of reading.



In *5 Reasons Your Child Should Read Graphic Novels* on www.today.com, G. Yang states, "When kids read enjoyable, complex, and compelling stories, they are motivated to read more, so graphic novels can be great stepping stones to longer text works." Our Youth Librarian suggests books like *Cat Kid Comic Club* by Dav Pilkey and *InvestiGATORS* by John Patrick Green for elementary readers, *Friends Forever* by

Shannon Hale and LeUyen Pham for middle school readers, and *Crumbs* by Danie Stirling and *Living with Viola* by Rosena Fung for high schoolers.

Stop by the library to give our graphic novels a try!

Preschool Storytimes

Share the Love of Reading



Reading to children stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. Language and listening skills are developed, while a love for books is also formed. Join Miss Tara for story times where children enjoy stories, songs, and movement. Caregivers get to have interaction with other adults.

All Storytimes are held at 10:30 a.m. and take place in person on Mondays and Tuesdays, and virtually on Thursdays.

Wiggly Wednesday, an opportunity to free play and connect with other children, is at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Links for virtual programs can be found at kutztownlibrary.org on the events calendar.

Book Discussions for Adults

There are two options for people who want to discuss books.

Currently we have an option that meets virtually on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.



When the weather gets warm, Literature & Libations will resume. This group meets on a Saturday at local wineries or breweries to discuss books with beverages optional. Previously settings have been at Setter Ridge, Vynecrest, and Folino's.

For both groups books are selected by the participants. They include popular fiction, non-fiction and young adult. Recent titles include *The Midnight Library*, *Great Circle*, *A Year in Provence*, and *The Sea of Tranquility*.

Books to be discussed are available at the library. Stop in today.

Looking for Something to Read? Try These Books.

Submitted by Gerry Hynes

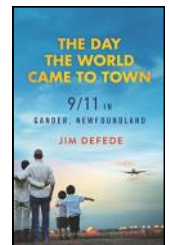
When my family and friends gathered for the holidays, someone inevitably asked, "So, what are you reading?" Answers varied as widely as everyone's hometowns.

Carol, who's from Missouri, recommended *Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah, the bestselling author of *The Nightingale* and *The Great Alone*. This novel is set during the Great Depression. The central character, a single mother, is a testament to hope, resilience, and the strength of the human spirit to survive adversity.



period detail makes these stories informative as well as fun.

Leah, in St. John's, Newfoundland, talked about *The Day the World Came to Town* by Jim DeFede, a true story set in a small town in Newfoundland, Canada. When 38 jetliners were forced to land at Gander International Airport by the closing of U.S. airspace on September 11, the people of Gander generously welcomed the stranded passengers. They are an inspiring example for us all.



Nancy, in Michigan, is a fan of historical fiction. Her

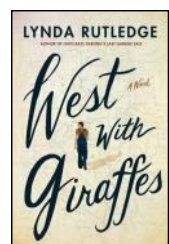
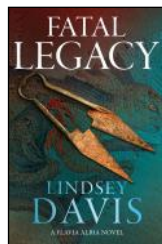
latest is *Gilded Mountain* by Kate Manning. The novel takes place in the early 1900s in a Colorado marble-mining town. Characters depict the poorest immigrant families and the wealthiest business owners; descriptions of their vastly different lives explain the origins of the labor union movement.

My own answer to "What are you reading?" is *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Set in 1938 and based on a true story, its narrator is a young orphan who's hired to help take two giraffes across the country from New York to their new home in the San Diego Zoo. The book explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals and the kindness of strangers.



Ben, in Berks County PA, just finished Michael Connelly's latest police procedural and runaway best seller, *Desert Star*. The protagonist, Harry Bosch, is a retired detective who solves cold cases. The character is so popular that he has his own Wikipedia page and TV series, appropriately titled "Bosch." Connelly's stories are gripping, often based on actual criminal files.

Katie, who lives near Houston, said she likes reading series, too. She's pre-ordered number 11 in the Flavia Albia mysteries, written by British author Lindsey Davis, due out next summer. In *Fatal Legacy*, Flavia is a private informer in ancient Rome, investigating murder and intrigue. The rich



The Plant Sale is Coming!

Are your winter dreams of a spring garden? Make a list and mark your calendar. Countryside Farm & Greenhouse is the place to be on Saturday, April 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Raindate is Sunday, April 30, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

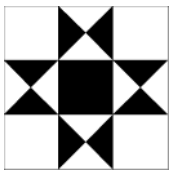
Shop the beautiful selection of healthy bedding plants, hanging baskets, perennials and annuals, vegetable plants, herbs, gift items, and more. It is the perfect time to pick up something special for Mother's Day on May 14.

Our featured author, Kevin McCloskey of Kutztown, is visiting from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. He'll share his series of natural science comics for young readers, published by TOON Books, NY. He's bringing his "Crankie Box," his handcrafted storytelling device that's been a hit at local schools. Go to his website at www.heimccloskey.com

No coupon is needed. Gift cards are excluded. Ten percent of sales go to support library programs.



Artwork and Quilts on Display



The library features a monthly display of works by local artists. The latest artists include Michael Daddario, Kutztown Area School District students, and Amanda Condict. Recent quilts have been made by Candace Edwards, Ann Thompson, and Valerie Glodzik.

Please contact the library if you have art that we can display.

Need a Passport or Photo?



If you are planning an international trip, now is the time to get started on the road to obtain or renew your passport.

The library processes applications weekday afternoons and evenings, and

Saturday mornings.

Passport photos can be taken without an appointment and are \$10. Digital photos for online passport renewals can be attained for \$10.

A passport book or card meets your PA Real ID needs. Both last for ten years for those 16 and older.

Call the library at 610-683-5820 to schedule a passport appointment or get your questions answered.

Book Sales

It's time to stock up for books to read during those lazy winter afternoons.

We have best sellers, paperbacks, how-to books, DVDs, CDs, audio books and puzzles. The library accepts cash, checks, and credit cards.

We are accepting donations of gently used items. We can not accept damaged books, encyclopedias, magazines, VHS tapes, or text books older than 5 years. Please drop off donations only when the library is open.

Regular sales are held on Thursdays 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Big Book Sale is scheduled for May 20. More about that soon.

Be sure to stop in and shop. There is something for everyone and you're supporting the library.



Love Sparkle? Shop the Jewelry Sale

Take a peek in our jewelry display case near the circulation desk. You will be amazed by the dazzling treasures inside. Most of the jewelry is priced at \$2.

Sales are so successful that our inventory is getting low. Please check your jewelry boxes and donate today.



WiFi Access From the Library

Are you looking for an affordable way to access the internet? The library has wireless hot spots that use T-Mobile data to provide you with unlimited internet access.

Hot spots are \$45 per month or \$15 per week. Use it everyday or whenever you need extra internet access. It's portable so take your hot spot with you on road trips and to sports games.

Try it risk free. If it doesn't work in your area, return it within three days for a full refund. Our hot spots are cheaper than most internet providers and you're supporting the library.





Bus Trip



The Philadelphia Flower Show is back!

This year's theme is: **"The Garden Electric!"**
That spark of joy that comes while giving or receiving flowers — this is the moment captured by this year's PHS Philadelphia Flower Show held at the Philadelphia Convention Center.

Leave the driving to us. No parking fees, tolls, or traffic to fight. This **fundraiser** supports the Friends of the Kutztown Community Library. **Seats are limited. Sign up today.** Your trip confirmation will be emailed.

Schedule:

- Depart 11:45 a.m. Bus leaves promptly from Weis parking lot.
- Arrive at Flower Show approx. 1:30 p.m.
- Leave Flower Show 5:30 p.m.
- Arrive at Kutztown approx. 7:30 p.m.

Questions? Call 610-683-5820

Details:

- Meals are not included. The Reading Terminal Market and many area restaurants are in walking distance.
- Admission, snack, and bus driver tip are included.
- KCL is not responsible for the safety of the passengers or their belongings. No refunds.

1. Name _____

Phone _____ email _____

2. Name _____

Phone _____ email _____

Number attending _____ x \$90 per person = _____



Make checks payable to the **Friends of KCL**, 70 Bieber Alley, Kutztown, PA 19530

How the Friends Help the Library

Submitted by Annette Heffelfinger

After a two-year (almost) fundraising hiatus, the Friends of the Kutztown Community Library made up for lost time in 2022. In April we started with our annual Plant Sale at Countryside, earning a “blooming” 10% of the sales for the library. Thanks to the Krause family for their generosity.

June saw us on our first bus trip, this time to Hershey Gardens, the Butterfly Atrium, and the Chocolate Museum. What a wonderful and delicious time we had.

In July the Friends helped bake goodies for the Board of Trustees’ fundraiser, Band, Brew & Barbecue, held at The Grove in Kempton.

Summer was a busy time for us too, as we were planning for our Friends of the Library Bingo in October. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the merchants we contacted for prizes. The Bingo was a big undertaking, but with the help of the Ladies Auxiliary at Lyons Fire Company, it was a huge success.

To end the year, we held a festive Holiday Tea at the historic Sayre Mansion in Bethlehem. This event was definitely the icing on a very productive year.

We would be remiss if we didn’t acknowledge the contributions of Linda Rodolff, who does a great job with used book sales, and Joanne Englehart, who arranges the jewelry donations.

So where does the money we raise go? The library needed electrical work, which hadn’t been budgeted, so we covered that. We paid for the additional adult fiction book shelves.

We always sponsor the Summer Quest, which so many children and adults enjoy.

Have you walked in the Kutztown Park lately and noticed the Story Walk®? We paid for a portion of the display. Other programs we supported are Berks Nature Place visits (dissect owl scat anyone?) and Beyond Kutztown, the varied and informative monthly zoom programs, crafts, speakers, etc. which featured a different theme and/or culture each month.

Since Kutztown Community Library wouldn’t be the great place it is without its board, staff, and volunteers, the Friends sponsored a wine and cheese mixer for volunteers, staff, and board as a thank-you and as a way to get to know each other better. We feel particularly grateful for our wonderful staff, so each of them got to do some spending for themselves with Amazon gift cards.

As we look forward to 2023, we invite everyone to join us on our trips (see Philadelphia Flower Show bus trip in March on page 5), at fundraisers, at meetings, (which are still on Zoom,) or in the library. Each of us has some talent, whether big or small, that can be used for YOUR library.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday at 2 p.m. via Zoom so you can attend where ever you are. Please join us.



Registration booth at Books, Brews & BBQ



Bingo at the Lyons Fire Company



Summer Quest with Jesse the Reptile Guy



Bus trip to Hershey Gardens



Shoppers at the Big Book Sale



Reader with a new book



Miss Tara shows off our StoryWalk®

Become a Friend of the Library

The Library needs Friends. Friends share a passion for books, discovery, and learning. Our commitment helps the library be a better place for patrons, including you.

The library's budget covers the basics: purchase of books and DVDs, care for the building, and hiring of the staff. The Friends step in for things not covered in the library's budget and are a vital part of supporting the many programs and activities. It is amazing the way your contribution helps enrich the lives in our community.

Friends receive the Gonser Gazette, the weekly eNewsletter, and advance notice of special events such as bus trips, book sales, and our Sayre Mansion Tea.

Proceeds from all these events directly benefit the Kutztown Community Library.

The Friends meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at 2 p.m. via Zoom. We welcome you to join us for these fun planning sessions.

As a Friend, you are a part of making our community library even better. A good portion of our money that we raise comes from our fundraisers; however, your membership dues are vital, too.

Please join or renew your Friends of the Library membership today. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. Thank you!



Following the rainbow dots to storytime



Gerry Hynes, Kathi Malloy, Trish Ott, and Annette Heffelfinger enjoy the tea at Sayre Mansion



Two girls show off their work made at the Paint Party



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

I would like to receive an eNewsletter. Email address: _____

Add me to these additional email lists:

We will not sell or pass on your email address.

- Adult programs Book Club Book Club Bus trips Friends meetings Youth Activities

Tax deductible membership dues are for the calendar year January 1 to December 31.

- \$10 Friend \$25 Family \$50 Contributor \$100 Benefactor
 \$250 Individual Lifetime Member \$350 Family Lifetime Member

In addition to my Friends membership, I am making a donation of \$ _____

New Renewal New address Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Please make checks payable to: **Friends of the KCL**, 70 Bieber Alley, Kutztown PA 19530

610-683-5820
kutztownlibrary.org



or current resident

Sign up for our eNewsletter

Don't miss out on exciting library news. Subscribe to our weekly eNewsletter for up-to-date news about programs and activities. Go to our website kutztownlibrary.org or email kutztownpl@berks.lib.pa.us.



Sign up for eNewsletter and choose one or all of our special interest categories: Adult Programs, Book Club, Bus trips, and Youth Activities.

Volunteers are Vital

Volunteers are a large part of the workforce in the library. They provide many services that help keep us running smoothly.

Are you interested in helping? We are looking for people who can:

- Shelve items
- Do garden work
- Hang signs around the community



KCL has openings at various times, six days a week. Come in and pick up an application today.

Community Room Giving Tree

A special person or event in your life provides an opportunity to make a meaningful gift to the library.

Preserve the memory of a loved one or honor someone special by making a gift donation to the library. Your donation will be honored with an engraved leaf or acorn placed on the Community Room Giving Tree.



Donations will be used to add to the Library's collection, purchase needed equipment and furniture, or provide library programs and services.

Giving Tree levels range from \$200 to \$5,000 or more. Honorees or families will be notified of your gift.

Please consider requesting donations to the Kutztown Community Library in lieu of flowers and including the library in your estate plans. KCL is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Contact us for more information.