



FRIENDS of the TOWSON LIBRARY

December, 2012

Volume 12, Number 1

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Our 18th annual Friends Book Sale was a great success. We grossed over \$15,000. We can thank many people for this achievement -- from the people who sort the book donations, to the army of people who unpack our storage room the day before the sale, and the volunteers who work the sale days -- but most importantly the contributors and patrons of our four day book sale. Please continue to help us get out the word about book donations and the next sale dates, April 11 to April 14th 2013.

Over the summer our manager of the Towson branch, Jennifer Haire retired. We have been so fortunate to have her as our Towson Library Manager since 1999. She is a great supporter of the Friends and together we made many wonderful improvements to the Towson Library. During her tenure the upstairs Café area was established and improved. She spearheaded the painting of the dragon feature in the reading garden. She brought us the lovely Sneaks quilt. Not to mention all the programming, seating and shelving that she bought with Friends contributions. She was such a pleasure to work with. Jennifer will be missed. We wish her many happy years in retirement.

In September 2012 we warmly welcomed the new manager of the Towson Branch,

Lisa Hughes. Lisa started her library career at the Towson branch in 1985. Since then she has worked at Cockeysville, Hereford, Reisterstown, and North Point. For 1996 to 2010 Lisa worked in the Carroll County library system. Please join us in welcoming Lisa back to Towson as our new branch manager. The Friends look forward to many productive years working with Lisa to enhance the Towson Library for all our patrons.

Membership renewal letters will go out in January 2013; please send your renewals promptly. We have set a goal of adding 60 plus new members to our roles. Encourage your friends, family and neighbors to become members of the Friends of the Towson Library. New members will receive a lovely canvas book bag or while supplies last a 365 day calendar The Book Lovers Calendar for 2013. One membership benefit is free admission to 'first choice' night - a good time to find just what you are seeking for your own library.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Friends of the Towson Library!

Sincerely,

Fay Citerone,

president, Friends of the Towson Library

I cannot live without books...*Thomas Jefferson*

Manager's Letter

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for the warm welcome you have given me as the new library manager of the Towson Branch.

Jennifer Haire is a talented, warm, thoughtful and caring person who did a wonderful job here in her long career at BCPL and she will surely be missed. I want you to know that I will try to do my best to continue the strong relationship she built with you and with the Towson community.

I appreciate very much your interest and assistance as a Friend of the Towson Library, and I'm looking forward to seeing all of you and working with you to continue to make the Towson Branch the heart of our community.

Warmly,

Lisa Hughes, Towson Branch Manager



Donations needed for 19th Annual Friends Book Sale

April 11 to April 14, 2013

Our primary fundraiser for the year!

We are now seeking donations of nearly new or gently used books, DVDs, CDs, and videos through March 2013. We do not accept Readers Digest condensed books, textbooks, encyclopedias, or vinyl records. Please bring your donations to the Accounts desk on the main floor of the library...and ask the librarian for a tax receipt (if you plan to take a charitable tax deduction). This is a good way to share your cherished books with others. Encourage your neighbors, co-workers, relatives, and friends to donate their media to this worthy cause!



A big thank you to Jerry's Pizza of Towson. They generously donated pizza for our Volunteers who helped set up the book sale Wednesday, April 11, 2012.

3M™ Cloud Library

A New Service for BCPL Patrons

by Lisa Hughes, Towson Branch Manager

We are very excited about a new service we initiated earlier this year, the 3M™ Cloud Library. This is a new e-book vendor, and BCPL is one of only 10 library systems nationwide that is working with 3M™ to fine-tune their product before it is made available nationwide to other libraries. The 3M™ Cloud Library application is an innovative way to browse, borrow and read popular fiction and non-fiction e-books from Baltimore County Public Library. What most library customers enjoy about the 3M™ Cloud Library is its ease of use and quick download capability.

Devices on which you can use the 3M™ Cloud Library include PC computers, any Android powered devices, iOS powered devices such as the iPhone, iPod Touch iPad, and Mac, and the Nook, Kobo, and some Sony e-readers. It is not currently compatible with the Kindle or with Mac computers which run on the OS X platform.

To access and download the e-books, all you need to do is first get the app (an abbreviation for application, a piece of software that allows the program to run on your device). You can get this free software by going to the 3M™ Cloud Library web page at <http://ebook.3m.com/library/patrons> or to the iTunes App store and downloading the app as directed. Once you have the app, you can open and select your state (Maryland) and register as a user of

Baltimore County Public Library by typing in your library card number.

Then you can go directly to the 3M™ Cloud Library and browse the collection, checkout your titles, and download them quickly to your device. You may check out up to 6 e-books at a time for 3 weeks. You may also place holds on up to 6 titles, and there is no need to return titles; they will expire at the end of the loan period. On all but Windows PCs, you may also return your titles early, so you can borrow more e-books. Renewals are not available, however, but with e-books you'll never pay an extended loan fee.

The 3M™ Cloud Library is a separate set of e-books from the ones that are available through Overdrive, the other vendor we offer. Unlike Overdrive, however, it does not offer audiobooks.

At the Towson and Catonsville branches, there is also a Discovery Terminal available. The Discovery Terminal allows you to search for and check out e-books from the 3M™ Cloud Library. When you open the 3M app on your device (and log into your 3M account if needed), the titles will appear in the app under the My Books tab.

We'd be happy to show you how to use the Discovery Terminal the next time you're in the branch, so please stop by and let us introduce you to our newest exciting service.

Towson Library Garden

This spring and summer, a small but dedicated group of volunteers met the first Monday of each month for about an hour to clean-up the Towson Reading Garden. This Fall, a professional landscaping crew has been hired to rework three problem sections of the garden. The goal is to make the garden easier to maintain, prevent erosion and increase the winter interest. It's a lovely spot to read a book. Check it out.

If you are interested in helping next year, feel free to join us the first Monday of the month April-October, 5pm-6pm, to help maintain the Towson library garden. Contact Fay Citerone, fay.citerone@gmail.com or 410 339-5375 for additional information.

SAVE THE DATE - The Friends of the Towson Library's annual meeting is the evening of **May 7, 2013**. Our speaker will be Dr. Peter Beilenson, author of *Tapping into the Wire: the Real Urban Crisis*. The Amazon.com review says "... delivers a compelling, highly readable examination of urban policy and public health issues affecting cities across the nation." Dr. Beilenson was Baltimore City Health Commissioner for 13 years and most recently Howard County Health Officer for the past 5 1/2 years. He is presently the CEO of The Evergreen Health Co-operative.

Dr. Beilenson's presentation will be followed by a short question and answer period. His book will be available for purchase and signing.

Help us save on printing and postage. Send an email to fay.citerone@gmail.com to request e-delivery of this newsletter.

FIRST CLASS



Friends of the Towson Library

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FoTL Mission: To increase and improve the services, facilities, and resources of the Towson Library.