

Friends of the Library News



The Friends section of this newsletter has been funded by the Friends of the East Greenbush Community Library. Many Friends contribute to this portion of the newsletter. If you have an idea, article, or story to share, please contact us at foegcl@gmail.com.

Children's Festival & Book Sale

On a beautiful end-of-summer day over 600 children and adults jumped, slid, ate, drew, read and had a lot of fun at the library. The 12th annual children's festival and book sale was a spectacular success! This community event is sponsored by the Friends of the East Greenbush Community Library and hosted by the Library. All the activities, snacks and "raffle" tickets were free to attendees, which was a happy surprise to some families. Low-priced, good quality books for children and teens were quickly scooped up and filled bags and boxes to overflowing. JoJo outdid herself with beautiful and creative face painting. TOTS the Clown made all the kids exclaim over her balloon animals, swords and other creations. Thanks to Hannaford for supplying plastic bags and Kristy's Barn for the deal on the delicious donuts.

Congratulations to our happy raffle winners:

Bonney and Dawn—16 Handles Gift Cards
 Emma—Fashion Headband Kit
 Melissa, Lucas, Mya and Peter—Bowling Gift Cards
 Tammi and Nallely—Regal Cinemas Gift Cards
 Tara—Wind Chime Kit
 Caitlin—Window Art Kit

The festival and book sale brought in over \$3,000 for the Friends and it was a great day for our community to enjoy the library, the festivities, and each other.

Alma Ryan, retired Elementary/Secondary
 Teacher and grandmother, posted:

***"Thank you for the best Children's Festival ever!
 My grandson enjoyed all the fun and choosing
 books. It means so much to me."***



As always, we thank the MANY volunteers who give of their time, talent, and resources in making our book sales so successful. Special thanks to the leadership team led by Linda Murphy, who is always a pleasure to work alongside. Also, we thank those who set up tables, sorted books and CDs, bought refreshments, and in all ways that made the day a pleasure for our community (especially the children). Kudos to Molly Chatt (Head of Youth Services) for her expertise and to Jill Dugas Hughes (Director) and staff for all they did to make this event happen.



*Slides are so much fun,
 let's go again!*



TOTS The Clown
Captivates with her balloon creations



JoJo's Fabulous Faces
Creating rainbows and smiles



*These boys are enjoying their new
 books on the patio*



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Our Volunteers Are Incredible!

On November 2, 2018, the Library Board of Trustees, with the support of the Friends and library staff, hosted a dessert reception at the library to honor and celebrate our incredible volunteers. Throughout the year volunteers give us their valuable time, energy, enthusiasm and wisdom to help the library fulfill its mission—to inspire ideas, strengthen community and enrich lives.



Some of the many ways that volunteers serve our community include serving as a member of the Library Board of Trustees or Friends member, assisting at library events and supporting programs—such as Tech Time and Genealogy. Also by supporting book sales; a year-round effort that entails preparing books (sorting, organizing, hefting), scheduling volunteers (over 85 hours, 200+ volunteers). Other important work includes shelving books, processing old magazines to be repurposed, light maintenance and creating handmade bookmarks—a favorite gift that the volunteers are proud to make and that the patrons love to receive.



Needless to say, our volunteers are incredible! Each year, we select one of the many extraordinary volunteers to receive the “Volunteer of the Year” award. This year, Kate Hafner, a long-time Friends member, Governing

Council member and volunteer was honored for her dedication and tireless efforts. Kate has served the community for over 11 years. In addition to serving as the Secretary for the Friends, she works tirelessly preparing for book sales (3 days a week, 6 hours per week) and helping orchestrate efforts on the day of the sales. Kate is also very knowledgeable about books. Through the years, she has identified several rare books and secured buyers to bring in additional funds to the library. She is truly a gem! By conservative estimates, Kate volunteers over 300 hours each year—that’s over 3,300 hours to date. Congratulations Kate! and thank you for all that you do. Also, we thank ALL of our volunteers for their continuous support and for selecting the library as their way to contribute. A special thank you to the library staff who often volunteer their time and share their knowledge with our community.

Anyone can become a library volunteer! The library partners with the school district, local support organizations for individuals with disabilities and the Friends to provide important opportunities for people to contribute to the community. Visit the Circulation Desk for more information.

HO HO Holiday Shopping

When you do your online holiday shopping, think about shopping at **smile.amazon.com**. When you shop using smile.amazon.com, Amazon automatically donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the Friends of the East Greenbush



Community Library. The shopping experience is identical to Amazon.com and there is no cost to the Friends or to AmazonSmile customers. It is an effortless way to provide the Friends with funds for the many programs that benefit the East Greenbush Community Library. Although .5% may not seem like much, every little bit counts, and it is free money, so why not? Simply go to **smile.amazon.com**. You will be greeted with a little information about Amazon Smile, and on the left side of the page, a message stating “Your shopping will support Friends of the East Greenbush Community Library.” It’s magic! From there, click the “Start Shopping” to start all your holiday browsing and buying. Best of all, the Amazon Smile program is available all year long, not just at the holidays.

Be a Friend and a Volunteer

The East Greenbush Community Library is a great place, it gives the community a chance to better themselves, enjoy themselves, and find resources for their entire family. The Friends help raise needed dollars that make the EGCL not only better, but a continuing source of community enjoyment. If the task you perform as volunteer seems unimportant, it is a part of a bigger whole and thus a vital part of a very important mission. Whether it’s sorting books once a month, donating books, or serving on the Friends board, you are basically giving dollars to the library. You are a philanthropist! Every day, people of all ages and backgrounds turn to the library to find jobs or go online, to get help with homework or complex research projects, to start on a business plan, connect with people or simply find a space to relax and read. For every person who loves the library, there is a story about what the library means to them.



Be a part of something BIG!
Become a Member or Volunteer today.

Contact us at foegcl@gmail.com

The Friends meet at 6:30 pm on the third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November in the East Greenbush Community Library.