

C. H. Booth Library

Welcome From Director Brenda McKinley

Connect at C.H. Booth Library! Our friendly and knowledgeable staff truly enjoys making connections with our patrons, both in the library and out in our community. Here are a few of my favorites:

- Our experienced Children's Librarian and staff teaching early literacy skills through Story Times or Mother Goose on the Loose or bringing that experience right into the classroom with an in-school visit.
- Our enthusiastic Young Adult Librarian inspiring (and being inspired by) our creative, well-read, service oriented group of teens in the Young Adult Council or inviting one hundred 7th graders into the library for a before-hours library tour full of fun, games and the chance to check out a great book.
- Our expert Reference Librarians doing one-on-one technology training or introducing local business groups to the wide range of resources in the library supporting business owners, entrepreneurs and job seekers.
- Our Circulation Department staff helping a reader discover that perfect novel or gathering those perfect reads together for delivery to one of our homebound patrons.

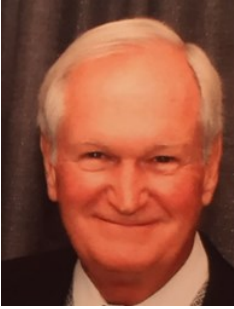


Director Brenda McKinley

I also love to see library patrons make connections when they come to the library. They might be checking out a favorite book, attending a program, lecture or workshop, participating in a book discussion or writing group, spending time in our maker space designing with the library's 3D printer or exploring basic robotics, playing a game of chess or scrabble, chatting with a neighbor over a cup of coffee, or catching up with the news of the world in the periodicals room.

Whether it is online with our newly redesigned website or through the front doors, I encourage everyone to discover all the different connections that you can make at the library. We have a wealth of materials and resources to enrich and educate. We welcome you!

A Year of Continuity and Change



President of the Board of Trustees Robert Geckle

Your Board is committed to its charge to provide oversight and direction for your library. Our guiding principles are to ensure that the library continues to be an important academic, cultural and social force in

the Newtown community. During this year, every Board member devoted time, talent, and energy on several important initiatives. Our focus was on completing a search for a new director, enhanced fund raising, policy reviews, and the development of a multi-year strategy for the library.

Our Director, Brenda McKinley, is now embarking on her second year of leadership. While sustaining our important heritage, she is keenly focused on implementing programs and initiatives that will ensure the library remains relevant in a changing environment.

Our fundraising initiatives continued to focus on providing involvement and fun for all members of our community. The 5th Annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning is now a much-anticipated event. We also added an entertaining fundraiser in the spring. Both complement our important Annual Fund Drive. Last, but not least, our multi-year strategic plan process is underway. We will be actively seeking community input during the early spring of 2016.

As you read, you will see how your giving sustains the role of our library as a transformative force for Newtown residents of all ages...an educational partner, a source of discovery, a personal refuge, and a place to connect with friends and neighbors.

We are extremely grateful for the support of the Friends of the Library, the Town of Newtown, and especially our over 750 individual donors. Thank you!

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The C. H. Booth Staff

Have a question about your account? Our outgoing and personable circulation staff is available to answer any question you may have regarding your account - by phone or in person. The circulation staff is here to help you; services include circulating, renewing, and requesting items for our patrons. Looking for something to read? Our staff will help you find your next favorite book, suggesting titles based on your individual interests and tastes. We also have copiers, printers, fax machine, scanner, charging station, wireless, even wireless printing - and a Friends Café for a coffee break!



Kate Sheehan - Head of Technical Services/Systems
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 Darlene Spencer - Children's Technical Services
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 Randi Rote - Circulation Desk
 Brenda McKinley - Director
 Kim Weber - Head of Young Adult Services

Adam Liscinsky - Custodian
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 Alana Bennon - Head of Children's Services
 Fran Ashbolt - Circulation Desk
 Margaret Larsen - Circulation Desk
 Lisa Cohane - Children's Services

 Missing from photo:
 Andy McCulloch - Head of Reference Services
 Kathy Liscinsky - Children's Services
 Pat Martin - Circulation Desk
 Leslie Quinn - Circulation Desk

Connecting the Community...

chbMakers

In step with the International maker movement, it was a big year in 2015 for chbMAKERS, our community's one and only maker space! Thanks to a very successful fundraiser spearheaded by our Board of Trustees we were able to purchase a second, larger 3D printer, new Raspberry Pi kits, additional Arduino kits, an Ozobot and new LittleBits components. We outgrew our utility cart and have moved much of the equipment and many of our classes to a corner of the library just beyond the Young Adult Department.

**chbMakers
multi-purpose
studio coming
in 2016!**

Exciting news! In 2016 we'll start work on a Board and grant-funded multi-purpose studio, a gathering place where Newtowners of all ages will be able to learn new skills, create their own projects and connect with other makers in the community. chb-MAKERS welcomes all to our free, drop-in crafting and tinkering workshops. Join us for hands-on projects and skill-sharing in electronics, crafts, media, and more!

Businesses Large and Small

are welcome to learn, share and network at the library. In January we'll launch a variety of new initiatives and resources with a special Small Business Open House, and will kick off a new series of Brown Bag Business Hour programs. We encourage small businesses, home-based workers, and entrepreneurs to make the library your office---we have meeting space with Skype and other virtual communication tools, the Virtual Small Business Development Center, and print and online business resources. Visit our website to connect online to Consumer Reports, Transparent Language, Valueline, and Universal Class offering over 500 classes - all free with your library card! Contact the Reference department for more information, or come up to the third floor for hands-on assistance.

Children

are our connection to the future. The library supports and strengthens your connection to your child through our early music and movement classes and story times. Our up-to-date collection of books, CDs and DVDs supports the Common Core, providing children with fiction and non-fiction on all reading levels. Our enrichment workshops explore science, technology, engineering, art and math. A monthly "Books and Legos" program emphasizes creative responses to literature, encouraging children to use their imagination as they build with Lego bricks. Lego WeDo workshops introduce children to programming. Visit our website to see what's happening at the library. Connect your child to new learning experiences through story times, crafts, and the many programs leading your child to a lifelong love of learning and reading!

Expanding Your Life!

Browse...

our ever-expanding collections of DVDs, CDs, downloadables and, of course, BOOKS! Check our website to sign up for Wowbrary and have information on our newest books, DVDs and CDs delivered to your email. Connect to databases like Consumer Reports or Valueline, take an online class, learn a language - all available with your library card.



Programs...

updated daily on our website range from reading groups to crafts to lectures. You will find something of interest to entertain, educate and challenge. From a Downton Abbey tea to a stress relieving yoga class or clever craft, there is sure to be a program for you!

Find your place...

a spot to collaborate with classmates and friends, a comfortable chair tucked away in a corner, a quiet study carrel, a table in the café to relax and chat, even a jigsaw puzzle to provide a little stress relief.



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DID YOU KNOW...

During FY14/15 over 140,000 people visited the library?



Of Newtown's 28,152 residents there are 23,320 registered cardholders?



We circulated
223,616
items



We held 909
programs
attended by
11,438 patrons



We logged
39,885 uses of
our online
resources

The Booth Library is valuable to the community!

The American Library Association's Library Value Calculator sets our value to Newtown at \$4,416,998 - over four times our budget!