DIRECTOR'S REPORT OCTOBER 2026

CHPL Staff Celebrate Banned Books Week: Oct. 4-10

Elby's Retirement Celebration

PROGRAMS

- Learning to Play American Mah Jongg - all Sept/Oct/Nov classes full
- Senior Fest Outreach [pictured] - Sept 28
- Family Karaoke Night (w. Youth Services) - Oct 2
- Singalong Story Time [staffed/attended] - Oct 9
- CHSEPTA Lobby Tables - Oct 10, 11
- Yoga for Everyone [attended] - Oct 11
- Bridging History - 100 Years of the Ben Franklin Bridge: Shaping Cherry Hill (Twp event) - Oct 14 [pictured, p. 2]
- Halloween Costume Grab clean-up - Oct 15

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ADA Preparedness & Deaf Accessibility System (3hr training) - Sept 18
- Equalis Group Info Session - Sept 23
- LLNJ: Adventures in Administration - Sept 24
- Library of Things for Disaster Response - Sept 24
- Newsreel Demo - Oct 6
- LLNJ Wellness Wednesday - Oct 7
- What Are "Reasonable" Library Costs? - Oct 13
- NJLA Admin/Mgmt: AI in the Library - Oct 13

MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Friends Meeting - Sept 16
- Flat Roof Project Meeting - Sept 17
- SAIL Executive Board - Sept 23
- Elby Wang's Retirement Party [pictured] - Sept 24
- 2026 Best Books Committee - Oct 1
- Romance Con Committee - Oct 1
- Graduate Student Interview - Oct 5
- Supervisors Meeting – Oct 8
- Sunshine Committee - Oct 9
- Interviews:
  - Circulation Assistant (PT) - Sept 16, 17
  - Youth Services Librarian (PT) - Sept 16
  - Adult Services Librarian (FT) - Sept 25 (3)
- Weekly meetings with H. Holroyd

DESK SHIFTS

- Reference & Adult Services - Sept. 15, 16
- Youth Services - Sept. 22

Dyslexia Display - CHSEPTA Partnership

'Bridging History: 100 Years of the Ben Franklin Bridge'

'Are the Farm Friends here yet?'

AROUND THE BUILDING

- Total # of Visitors
  - September - 17,665
- Wireless
  - September – 2,294 total users (avg. 173/day)
- Recent
  - First of 2 water bottle filling stations installed
  - Banned Books Week: Oct 4-10 [pictured, p. 1]
  - Halloween Costume Collection: Sep 14-Oct 11
    - Pickup Event: Oct 14 (223)
- Upcoming
  - Wrapping Paper Collection: Oct 17-Nov 15
    - Pickup Event: Nov 17
  - Flea Market - Oct 18 (Vendors - SOLD OUT)
  - Romance Con - Oct 24
  - Trick or Treat - Oct 30
  - Murder Mystery Night - Oct 30 (SOLD OUT)
  - Friends Book Sale - November 3-8

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Circulation

- Total items circulated, Sept - 22,360
- Total new cardholders, Sept - 328
- Total active cardholders, Sept - 25,103
- Museum Passes – 27 museums
  - Sept – 154 checkouts
- Libby/Palace Project checkouts
  - Sept - 8,100
- Recent Highlights
  - Library Card Sign-Up Month in September
    - 328 New Members
    - 468 Memberships Renewed
    - 522 Raffle Entries → 8 Raffle Prize Winners
  - Kait Doyle started as a part-time Library Assistant.

Technical Services - Processing /Cataloging

- Items purchased, added to the collection
  - Sept - 674
- Items donated, added to the collection
  - Sept - 103
- OverDrive (Libby) – items ordered, added to the collection in September
  - eBooks = 156 titles (357 copies)
  - eAudiobooks = 282 titles (386 copies)
- Recent Highlights
  - OCLC Community Cataloging meeting
  - Koha 26.05 upgrade webinar
- Upcoming
  - Koha 26.05 upgrade - Oct 19 (approx.)
  - AspenCon 2026

Kelly & Tierney at CH Senior Fest

Jim Beer Concert

Adult Story Time Visit from Farm Friends

Reference & Adult Services

- Programming
  - Sept – 68 events (859 attendees)
- Outreach
  - Concoctions Book Club - 9/10 (11), 10/8 (12)
  - 9/28 Senior Fest (275)
- Recent Highlights
  - ESOL begins - 13 weekly classes
  - Tai Chi Chih Saturday (4 classes = 129 total attendees)
  - Learning How to Play American Mah Jongg (84)
  - 9/15 Learn to Play Cribbage (14)
  - 9/15 Discovering Your Purpose (25)
  - 9/16 WHYY Bridging Blocks: Power of Social Media (10)
  - 9/22 Debt Management 101 (13)
  - 9/23 Disaffected: Britain's Occupation of Philadelphia During the American Revolution (26)
  - 9/24 Make AI Work for You (23)
  - Yoga for Everyone - 9/20 (33), 9/27 (28), 10/11 (29)
  - 9/29 Mindfulness Drawing for Stress Relief (10)
  - 10/1 Story Time for Adults with Disabilities - featuring Farm Friends (41 attendees) [pictured]
  - 10/4 Jim Beer in Concert (35) [pictured]
  - 10/6 Adult Open Gaming: Cards & More (15)
  - 10/7 Citizenship Prep classes begin (6 sessions)
  - 10/8 Adult Craft: Galaxy Jars (10)
  - 10/14 Bridging History: 100 Years of the Ben Franklin Bridge (partnership with CH Twp) (137)
- Upcoming
  - 10/17 From Hearth & Home to the Battle: Black Colonial Presence in Revolutionary Era East & West Jersey
  - 10/18 Harvest Fest (Outreach)
  - 10/19 Surviving the Caregiving Journey
  - 10/20 What are the New Features of iOS 27 (4 sessions)
  - 10/21 WHYY Bridging Blocks: Voting
  - 10/27 Connected by Symbols: Celebrating Jewish Heritage
  - 10/27 Meet the Author: Mia Dalia
  - 10/27 Learn to Play Samba
  - 10/28 Aromatherapy Self-Care
  - 10/29 Cutting the Cable Cord
  - 11/1 A Visit with Ben Franklin
  - 11/11 Zaidy's War: A WW2 Story
- Ongoing:
    - Needlework Meetup
    - CHPL Book Club
    - Concoctions Book Club
    - Movie Monday
    - Must Watch Documentary
    - Community Conversations
    - Technology Classes (topics vary)
    - Silent Audiobook Walking Group (NEW)

Youth Services

- Ages 0-12
  - Sept – 27 programs (565 attendees)
- Grades 6-12 (Teens)
  - Sept – 17 programs (87 attendees)
- All Ages
  - Sept - 4 programs (238 participants)
- Outreach
  - 2 visits → 109 reached
- Recent Highlights
  - Talie Meza was selected for the NJLA Emerging Leaders program [pictured].
  - 9/10 Melissa Brinn presented CHPL's resources and services to CH Public school principals, department heads, and other faculty.
  - 9/13 Sharon Clarke & Jacquie Daddato hosted our annual 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Graduation Party (40 graduates → 80 people attended the celebration).
  - 9/18 + 9/26 Sarah O'Brien from Community Rocks presented two Kids Rock-Along concerts (115)
  - CHPL Teens on Twitch - Garrett Wilson & Melissa Brinn have rejuvenated our CHPL Teens Livestreaming channel, reaching viewers more regularly on both Twitch & Youtube, contacting gaming companies for free games to play on stream, and growing our viewership (avg. 10-20 viewers per stream).
  - 10/7 Stained Glass Earth for World Space Day
  - 10/14 Teen 3D Printing: Print Your Own Jack-O-Lantern
- Upcoming
  - 10/19 Stories in the Park: Barclay Farmstead
  - 10/26 Halloween Sugar Cookie Decorating
  - 10/31 Not-So-Spooky Sensory Play Date with Occupational Therapist Rebeca Sternbach
  - 11/15 Meet the Author, Tess Thomas: *Shibu's Tail*
- Ongoing:
    - Barking Book Buddies
    - Rhyme Time
    - Delicious Reads
    - Little Wiggles Baby Story Time
    - D&D for Teens
    - Tales for Twos
    - Art Explorers
    - Little Bookworm's Story Time
    - Music and Movement
    - Mindful Art for Teens & Tweens
    - CHPL Teens on Twitch

Talie is an NJLA Emerging Leader - and wins a CHPL Sunshine Award

CH Board of Education Supports the Freedom to Read

Nail Art for Teens & Tweens