

Board of Trustees Spotlight: Tanya Area

Monday, June 27, 2022

Tell us a little about yourself.

I am a Cecil County transplant. I was born in Lawton, OK, the oldest of two daughters. My dad was career army so we moved a lot before settling in Virginia Beach, VA. I went on to get my bachelors degree in English with a Literature Emphasis from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. I met my husband at ODU and after marrying we moved to Washington state. He was a career Naval Officer, so we moved approximately every 2 years. Retiring after 24 years he took a job at APG; which moved us to Cecil County. I'm a mom, foster-mom, and adoptive mom of 10 children and recently graduated to Yaya, upon the birth of our first grandson and granddaughter. I enjoy travelling and reading. We've now lived in Cecil County for 8 years and consider it home.



What led you to want to serve on the Library's Board of Trustees?

I was first approached about the opportunity to apply to be on the Library's Board of Trustees by Vice Chair Joanne Morton. I wasn't even aware the library had a Board of Trustees prior to this. I saw this as an opportunity to get involved in the community, as before, moving so often I didn't have that chance. As a homeschool family we were already very involved in the programming offered by the library so applying to the Board seemed like a natural next step.

What do you love about the Library?

The depth and breadth of the programs offered by the Cecil County Library system is far superior to any library system our family has ever experienced. The librarians are relational. One of my fondest memories was during the opening of the new North East Branch. Libraries and subsequently programming had been shut down due to COVID for many months. However, as we reached the top of the stairs one of the teen librarians walked right up to my son Preston and said, "Preston it is so good to see you, I've missed you." That meant the world to him and to me.

What's something you wish other community members knew about the Library?

I really wish every community member would take the time to step into any one of the CCPL branches at least once. Talk to a librarian, ask for a tour or for a run down of available resources. If each person did this they would quickly learn that the libraries of Cecil County are so much more than a place to get books. There are programs/classes for all ages from birth to senior citizens. There are print books, digital books, movies, technology, job help, small business assistance, and the list goes on and on. The libraries of Cecil County are really a community center of support for all citizens in all walks of life.

What's something you've recently read and would recommend?

The Alice Network by Kate Quinn is the last book that really stuck with me for weeks after reading it. It had been in my TBR pile for months and when it finally made it's way too the top it was one of those books that had me wishing I had read it sooner. I never cease to be amazed by the myriad of stories that result from WWI and WWII. I enjoy learning how the war affected everyone differently and how they responded to the war.