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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Thanksgiving Eve: A time for William Penn, Charlie Brown, and Reading's first responders**

For immediate release – The Reading Public Library at Fifth and Franklin streets will be buzzing with activity the afternoon of Thanksgiving Eve with three concurrent celebrations.

The first event marks the acceptance of the official loan of “A Collection of the Works of William Penn,” published in London in 1726, from RPL’s sister library, the Reading Central Library of the United Kingdom. The two-volume 18th-century references will be on display will be available for public viewing through the end of 2025.

The collection is a comprehensive compilation of the writings of William Penn (1644–1718), the English Quaker and founder of the Pennsylvania Colony. It includes a variety of his works, such as essays, letters, and sermons, which offer insights into his religious beliefs, political ideas, and vision for a just and peaceful society.

Former Reading UK Mayor Tony Jones is making a special trip to Reading, personally carrying and presenting the volumes to RPL officials during a private ceremony. Jones has visited our Reading several times in the last quarter century, helping to strengthen the ties between the cities.

Following the book presentation, Jones, who now serves as public governor of the Reading, UK, ambulance service, will present a special plaque from the chief executive of his EMS unit to Michael Sninsky, Reading, PA, EMS deputy chief, for our EMS part of the Reading Fire Department.

Finally – beginning at 2 p.m., the library will officially observe the decennial of Reading’s famed “Charlie Brown tree” that drew international press coverage in 2014.

The original “Snoopy doghouse” will be displayed aside the library’s entrance on the main landing alongside a special – albeit smaller – Charlie Brown homage tree.

The public is encouraged to join the celebration, which will include photo opportunities with the tree and doghouse, and refreshments.

RPL Executive Director Melissa Adams worked with Reading City Council President Donna Reed and Councilor Chris Miller to bring the anniversary celebration to the entrance of the main library.

“I couldn’t be more pleased about this marking this anniversary,” said Reed. “What many – including myself, unfortunately – saw as an ugly tree back then did, in a few weeks’ time, bring our community together and Reading was, in turn, positively reflected on the world stage.”

The library will offer several showings of “A Charlie Brown Christmas” and will have a display featuring Charlie Brown books. The Reading Rotary Club will be providing hot chocolate, DoubleTree by Hilton of Reading will provide their famous chocolate chip cookies, and the Greater Reading Chamber Alliance is contributing peppermint patties and candy canes.

In addition, a certain visitor, based in the North Pole, will be making every attempt to stop by!

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