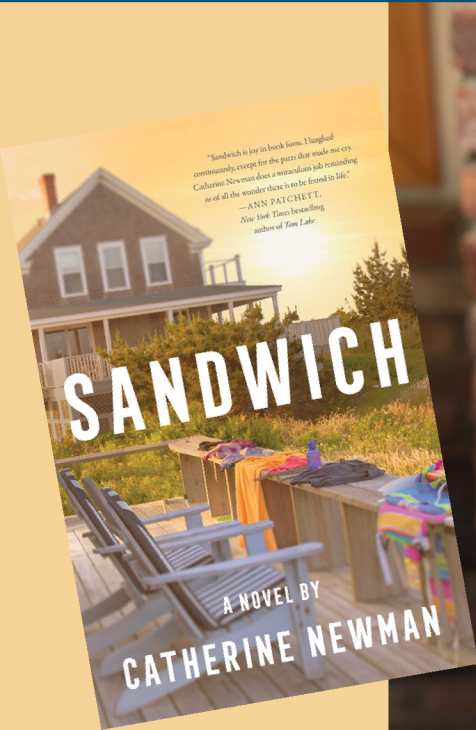


GECRC ANNUAL LITERARY EVENT FUNDRAISER

FEATURING NY TIMES BEST SELLING AUTHOR



CATHERINE NEWMAN



THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

Arrowhead Golf Club, Wheaton

EVENT GRACIOUSLY SPONSORED BY

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What started as an annual donation to GECRC has grown into the Kiwanis Snack Pack Program which supports more than 275 GECRC students a year.

**Kiwanis has been an important supporter and community partner of
GECRC for more than a decade!**

Kiwanis is able to support GECRC in significant ways thanks to year round fundraising. Watch for their onion and hanging flower basket sales in the spring. Funds raised are donated to many local organizations. For more information on the Kiwanis Club of Glen Ellyn, contact GECRC board member Penny Linneweh at plinneweh@comcast.net



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WELCOME!



Welcome! Your presence speaks volumes about your love of literacy and your commitment to nurturing it right here in our community.

While "potential" is everywhere, "opportunity" isn't always as accessible. In Glen Ellyn, the Children's Resource Center (GECRC) exists to bridge that gap for under-resourced students. Because of community support like yours and our dedicated volunteers, more and more local students gain not just reading and math skills but also the confidence and connections to chase their dreams. You help make all of that possible!

We're thrilled to host Catherine Newman, an author who explores life's complexities and the power of human connection—themes that resonate profoundly this year. As we celebrate, we also fondly remember Janis Pfister, a beloved board member who embraced the Literary Event as a powerful opportunity to invest directly in young readers. Tonight, let's honor her legacy.

"Maybe grief is love imploding. Or maybe it's love expanding. I don't know... So you might as well love as much as you can. And as recklessly. Like it's your last resort, because it is." — Catherine Newman, *Sandwich*

Every dollar you donate fuels our proven after-school and summer programs in Districts 41 and 89. Every raffle ticket purchased delivers critical resources right where they're needed: in our own backyards. Thank you for believing in our students and for partnering with us to build a better Glen Ellyn for everyone!

Sincerely,

Alan Taylor
GECRC Board President



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Thank you to the
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ABOUT US...



Learning, Laughter & Life Skills — All After School!

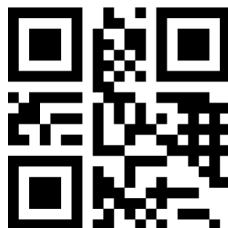
At the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center (GECRC), we believe every child deserves the tools to thrive — in school and in life! That's why we offer free, high-impact after-school and summer programs to more than 275 K-8 students every year across District 41 and District 89 schools.

Our superpower? Tutoring, mentorship, and a whole lot of heart. We mix academic support with social-emotional learning, fun enrichment activities, and meaningful community connections to help kids grow confident, curious, and ready for the future.

Plus, our six-week Summer Program keeps the learning (and joy!) going strong for 200+ students when school's out.

With the help of amazing volunteers, passionate staff, and supportive families, GECRC is lighting the path from kindergarten to career dreams —one high-five at a time.

Learn more about GECRC at www.gecrc.com or scan the code below:



OUR FEATURED AUTHOR

CATHERINE NEWMAN



Catherine Newman has written numerous columns, articles, and canned-bean recipes for magazines and newspapers, and her essays have been widely anthologized. She is the author of the *New York Times*' bestselling novel *Sandwich* and *We All Want Impossible Things*; the memoirs *Waiting for Birdy* and *Catastrophic Happiness*; the middle-grade novel *One Mixed-Up Night*; and the bestselling kids' life-skills books *How to Be a Person* and *What Can I Say?* She lives in Amherst, Massachusetts.

2025 Literary Event Committee

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**Fondly remembered*

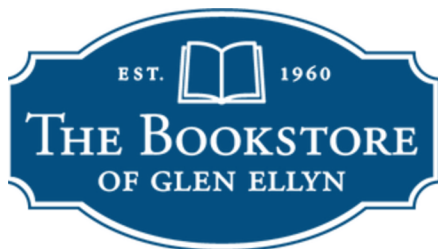


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*Program Aide,
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Cho Pyone

Burmese Translator

HOW TO VOLUNTEER



Love helping kids? Got a knack for math or reading? Become a Volunteer Tutor and make a big difference in just one hour a day!

You'll be matched with one of our awesome K-8 students to help with math homework, reading, and to build some serious learning confidence along the way.

Tutoring Times (Pick what works for you):

- Hadley (Junior High): 3:30–4:30 pm
- Glen Crest Middle School: 2:30–3:30 pm
- Churchill, Lincoln and Park View Elementary: 4:30–5:30 pm

Who Can Volunteer?

We're looking for adults, college students and high school students who want to give back. Whether you can help once a week, a few times a month, or more—we'll work with your schedule!

It's flexible. It's fun. It's incredibly rewarding.

Find your perfect volunteer fit on the GECRC website or scan the code below.





To Celebrating a Love of
Reading... and the Stories
That Bring Us Together.



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Thank you Midge* and Dan Anderson
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GECRC Literary Event



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Arrowhead Book Club

Beach Reads & Bubbly - Alison Hunt, Gina Berglund, Kristin Hayward, Kristin Livermore, Jen Dietzler, Melissa Walti

Bound By Books - Lisa Tylke, Carrie Morris, Kathleen Doyle, Eileen Glynn, Melisa Scott, Mary DiCarlo, Libby Dixon, Maureen Winans

Gather & Grow - The GardenWorks Project - GardenWorks Project extends an invitation to join; meetings are held at the Wheaton Public Library

Glen Ellyn Senior Center Book Club -Members of the GE Senior Center

Go! Go! Sporty Girls Book Club - Jen Dietzler

Greenfield Book Club - Paul Winans, Jordan Leen, Kay Fillingham, Mike Nitz, Dennis Jarrard, Emma Winans, Maureen Winans

Lincoln Hill Book Club - Jen Bair, Belinda Reiser, Beth Bengtson, Lisa Dagley, Kim Donham, Karyn Hartman, Joan Klaus

Novels & Neighbors - Nicole Baedke, Sonia Bhagwakar, Rita Filiaggi, Diane Hissam-Luper, Sarah Hubbuch, Priya Jacobs, Lisa Klank, Janet Lara, Jennifer Preston, Stephanie Sherva, Jen Solak, Lisa Tylke, Laura Ulepica, Noemi Villanueva, Kristina Wirth, Jen Zecher

Smile Sweat Shine Coaching Book Club - Katie LaDow, Jessica Bernardi, Abby Markham, Amy Thorpe, Beth Showalter, Katie Patel, Kristin Kendrick, Laura Gartner, Maggie Kelsey, Shannon Conner, Tillie Radebaugh

TBC (The Book Club) - Celia Rodee, Cleo Burtis, Teresa Coldiron, Lynn Day, Diana Durkin, Ginny Reynolds, Sylvia Rodee, Kris Thompson, Misse Wilhelm

Women on Fire Book Club - Robin Carroll, Jen Ikens, Jodi Herbold, Christina Lavin, Lisa Hardesty, Laura Ulepica, Andrea Pfeiffer, Karen Winter

World's Greatest Book Club - Kathy Lawson, Carol McElvain, Anne Roberts, Colleen Statz

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In Fond Remembrance of Janis Pfister



GECRC board member and Literary Event Chair Janis Pfister's legacy of kindness, generosity and unwavering optimism will continue to inspire all who knew her.

A passionate educator, Janis made a profound impact on the Glen Ellyn community, not only as a teacher, but also as a devoted GECRC board member and volunteer. She gracefully moved between individually tutoring students to bolstering our after school program tutoring methods with her years of experience. Her leadership extended to chairing our premier annual Literary Event fundraiser, where she demonstrated her dedication to GECRC's mission and the students we serve. Janis understood the importance of volunteering at all levels, and her contributions helped ensure that students received the care and support they truly deserved. Janis' tremendous light and spirit will live on in the countless lives she touched.



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(SEE NEXT PAGE)



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Stop in to visit GECRC Board Member Evelyn Rodriguez's team!
