

News Release

Spooky Stories and Shared Connections: Brightspeed and Little Free Library[®] Ring in Halloween with a New Community Book Box in Columbia

Brightspeed and Little Free Library unveil new book-sharing box for local community

Columbia, PA – **October 27, 2025** – Just in time for Halloween, Brightspeed and Little Free Library [®] unveiled a new community book-sharing box for neighbors in Columbia, Pennsylvania's historic downtown, decorated in festive, spooky style and ready to spark imaginations.

To celebrate the launch of the North 2nd Street library, Brightspeed, one of the nation's largest fiber broadband builders, and local steward, Kayla Wilkinson, hosted a family-friendly event filled with stories, cider and community connection. A local children's author read their latest book while kids enjoyed Brightspeed-themed coloring pages and donuts. Wilkinson also hosted a small bake sale during the event, with proceeds benefitting the shared box.

"Books have the power to spark imagination and build connections," said Wilkinson, who will help maintain the box in her community. "Our neighborhood loves seeing fresh titles pop up, and this partnership means even more families have access to the joy of reading and sharing in that passion together."

The Columbia Little Free Library is part of Brightspeed's national initiative to bridge both the digital and literacy divides, sponsoring libraries in 28 underserved cities across 20 states. By partnering with Little Free Library, Brightspeed aims to bring books and access to knowledge to communities known as "book deserts," where reading materials are limited.

"Partnering with Little Free Library aligns perfectly with our mission," said Sabrina Anderson, local marketing manager at Brightspeed. "We believe true connectivity extends beyond providing fast internet; it means building meaningful connections within our communities. Access to knowledge is the foundation of strong communities, and through these libraries, we're helping to make books accessible to everyone, one library at a time."

As Brightspeed continues expanding its fiber internet footprint in the region, connecting people to education, remote work, and healthcare, this partnership with Little Free Library further underscores the company's investment in the communities it serves. Once complete, Brightspeed's fiber network now reaches more than 135,000 homes and businesses in Pennsylvania, including more than 26,500 in Lancaster County.

This collaboration helps ensure a future where access to resources, whether digital or physical, is no longer limited by zip codes. Learn more about the partnership here.

About Brightspeed

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C. and with assets and associated operations in 20 states, Brightspeed provides broadband and telecommunications services through a network platform capable of serving more than 7.3 million homes and businesses. Our 4,000 employees are committed to building a future where more communities benefit from a more connected life, deploying a state-of-the-art fiber network and a customer experience that makes being connected as simple as it should be. For more information, please visit www.brightspeed.com.

About Little Free Library

Little Free Library® (LFL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that builds community, inspires readers and expands book access for all through a global network of volunteer-led Little Free Library book-sharing boxes. There are more than 180,000 registered Little Free Libraries worldwide in all 50 states, in 121 countries and on all seven continents. Through them, over 400 million books have been shared since 2009. LFL received the 2020 World Literacy Award as well as honors from the Library of Congress, National Book Foundation and others. The organization grants Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved areas through its Impact Library and Indigenous Library programs and champions diverse books through its Read in Color initiative. To learn more, visit LittleFreeLibrary.org.

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