



- Nancy Hammeke Marshall
 Executive Director
 Abington Township
 Public Libraries

From the Director's Desk

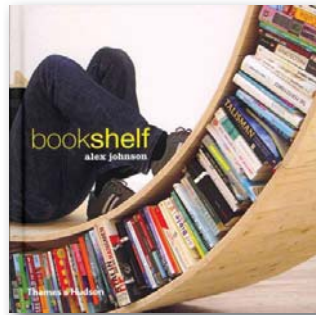
Something circulating around the Internet (thanks to librarian Phil Bradley):

“Librarians are there:

“To help, aid, assist. To teach, collate, enthuse. To catalogue, index, arrange, organize. To find, discover, promote, display. To interest, intrigue, amuse and amaze. To instill wonder. To help children, adults, old people, the underprivileged, the rich, the poor, those with voices and those without. To protect resources, to archive them, to store them, to save them for the future. To provide differing viewpoints, to engender thought, conversation, research, fun. To provide the best answer possible, to match the answer to the enquirer, to provide just enough information without overwhelming the user, but enough to always help. To better a local community, a company, a school, a college, an organization, a country, the world.”

What are we here NOT to do? Make money. Accept advertising. Track your transactions. In this time of Google, we are different – public libraries have different values and mindsets. We are here to be useful to YOU. And, judging by the thousands of people in here every week (35,270 people used our libraries in July) we're doing it right. See you at the Library: Abington's living room.

Beautiful Book of the Month: Bookshelf, by Alex Johnson



For those who still collect the physical book, this is pure design delight.

Thank You to Our Recent Significant Donors

Friends of the
 Abington Township
 Public Libraries

Ellen Baxter (matching gift from
 Johnson & Johnson)

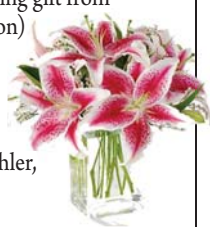
Estate of Elva Bell

Virginia Klipstein

Dimitra and Bill Kohler,
 and T.R. Seiler

JoAnne and John Rooney

Audrey Scott



Reference Department News

Wired Wednesdays!



Don't miss
 “Wired Wednesdays”
 at Abington Free Library,
 from 2-3 p.m.
 in the Community Room.

What does this mean for you?

Get answers to your questions and learn how to download ebooks from the library's Overdrive catalog to your device. Stop by on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of the month.

On the first Wednesday of the month, stop by and learn about the online catalog, your patron account and the depth of online resources that are available to you as a resident of Abington Township, Montgomery County and Pennsylvania.

To register, stop by the
 Information Desk;
 call 215-885-5180, ext. 13;
 or email :
 AskAbington@gmail.com.

- Mimi Satterthwaite
 and her staff at the
 Information Desk

Adult Literacy Program

For more information, stop by the Adult Literacy office, call 215-885-5183, or send an email to AbLit1@yahoo.com.

The Adult Literacy Program helps over a hundred students a year improve their literacy skills. We pair volunteer tutors with adults who want to improve their reading, writing or math skills, as well as adults who are learning English for the first time. We help students prepare for their high school equivalency diploma, the GED, and other tests. We also offer small-group classes for English language learners.

We will be training new tutors in October. Support meetings for all tutors are offered once a month beginning in September.

To learn more about our program, or to sign up to become a tutor, please stop by the Adult Literacy office, in the lower level of Abington Free Library.

You may call 215-885-5183 or
 email us at AbLit1@yahoo.com.

- Elizabeth Sperling,
 Tutor/Student Coordinator

- Rob Naborn,
 Program Coordinator

Roslyn Branch Library

For information and to register for these programs, email cfrankford@mclinc.org, call 215-886-9818, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/roslyn

COMPOSTING FOR BEGINNERS: Learn to turn ordinary soil into super gardening gold!
Monday, Sept. 24, 7-8 p.m.
Discover the basics of making compost from yard, garden and kitchen waste. Using bins, sheet composting and worms will also be covered. The presenter is Montgomery County Master Gardener Peggy Rastielo.
Registration begins Sept. 4.

BABY DAYS (Ages 5 months-2 years)
Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
Sept. 4, 11, Nov. 13, 20, Dec. 4, 11
Babies and caregivers will sing songs, read stories and do finger plays. Register now for September sessions.

PAJAMA PARTIES (Ages 3-6)
Mondays: Sept. 10, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, Dec. 10 from 6:30-7 p.m.
Stories * Songs * Fingerplays * Crafts Children are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle. Register for each program separately.

PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIMES
begin Oct. 1 and continue through Nov. 29.
Note: No story time on Oct. 11, Nov. 22 and 26.
Ages 3-6: Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Ages 2-3: Thursdays at 11 a.m.
Registration begins Sept. 10.

DOLPHINS (Ages 5-9)
Monday, Oct. 1, 7-8 p.m.
Read any books about dolphins, fiction or non-fiction, and come to the library prepared to share what you know. We have a collection of dolphin books available to borrow at the Roslyn Library. After a short discussion we will make a dolphin craft and enjoy a snack.
Registration begins Sept. 10.



HALLOWEEN PARTY (Ages 2-5)
Monday, Oct. 29, 6:30-7:15 p.m.
Wear a costume and join us for some spooky fun! We will read stories, dance, make a Halloween craft and have refreshments.
Registration begins Oct. 8.
Limited to 15 children.



CELEBRATION OF THE MERCY WATSON SERIES by Kate DiCamillo.
Monday, Nov. 5, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Ages 5-8
Mercy Watson is a pig. She lives with Mr. and Mrs. Watson and enjoys hot toast with a great deal of butter on it. She is a porcine wonder! Read any or all of Mercy Watson's adventures and come prepared to share what you've read with a group. We'll do some fun crafts and enjoy a snack. Registration begins Oct. 15.

Children's Department at Abington Free Library

For more information or to register for these FREE programs, call 215-885-5180, ext. 28, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/childrens.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES
Session 1 begins week of Sept. 10 and continues through week of Oct. 15. Registration begins Aug. 27.
Session 2 begins week of Nov. 5 and continues through week of Dec. 10. Registration begins Oct. 22.
Two-year-olds meet on Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m., three- to five-year-olds on Mondays, 10:30-11 a.m.

STORIES IN THE SKY (for homeschoolers in grades 2-7)
Wednesday, Sept. 27, 1-2 p.m.
Presented by the American Swedish Historical Museum
Discover how the Northern Lights have inspired authors, musicians and artists throughout the ages.
Limit 30 children. Registration begins Aug. 27.

DROP-IN STORY TIMES (all ages)
Thursdays, 11-11:30 a.m., Oct. 4 through May 23, 2013 (No sessions on Nov. 22 & Dec. 20 & 27)
Story times led by Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver. No registration required.

STORY TIMES WITH JEAN AND NIJI (all ages)
Two Mondays, Oct. 22 & 29, 10:30-11 a.m.
Enjoy read-alouds with Jean Campellone and her yellow Lab, Niji, a registered therapy dog. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTIES (ages 3-5)
Three Wednesdays: Oct. 10, Nov. 14 & Dec. 5, 7-7:45 p.m.
No registration required for these evening story times. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (ages 6-10)
Three Saturdays: Oct. 6, Nov. 3, & Dec. 1 10:15-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:30 a.m.
Children practice reading aloud in small groups to registered therapy dogs. Registration begins Sept. 17.

CREEPY COOKING (ages 6 and up)
Tuesday, Oct. 23, 7-8 p.m.
Make bloody eyeballs, spooky spiders and other ghoulishly good treats! Registration begins Oct. 15. (Not recommended for children with food allergies.)

TODDLER STORY TIMES (ages 12-23 months)
Five Wednesdays, Oct. 31; Nov. 7, 14, 28, & Dec. 5, 10:30-11 a.m. (No session on Nov. 21) Children must be walking independently and attend with parents/caregivers. Registration begins Oct. 22.

LEGO BUILDING WITH BRICKS 4 KIDZ (grades 3-6)
Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7-8 p.m.
Work in teams to build a cool, motorized space satellite!
All LEGO kits provided.
Limit 30 children.
Registration begins Nov. 19.



Teen Programs at Abington Free Library

To register for these FREE programs, stop by the Information Desk, call 215-885-5180, ext. 13, or email LCummings@mclinc.org.

MEMBERS NEEDED FOR NEW TEEN ADVISORY BOARD
Meetings will start this fall.
Become a leader at the library and earn service learning hours. You can help us select new teen books, plan programs, and coordinate fund-raisers. Come to the Adult Information Desk for a membership application.



COLLEGE ADMISSION SUCCESS WORKSHOP with Byron Goldstein
Monday, Oct. 1, 7 p.m.
Families and students can learn about the admission process for Ivy League and high-level colleges.

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT with PHEAA representative Frances McKeown
Thursday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.
Learn about financial aid for college and how to apply for it.

POWER UP YOUR GRADES (Grades 9-12)
Wednesday, Nov. 7, 6 p.m.

Give your grades a boost by learning to use the library's online and print resources. Covers English, math, social studies, science, foreign languages, and SAT/ACT/AP test prep. Pizza included!

COLLEGE PLANNING FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES with Rachel Sobel, Ph.D.
Tuesday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m.

Dr. Sobel will talk to parents and students about navigating the college planning process for those with learning disabilities, ADHD, autism spectrum disorders, and psychological/medical diagnoses.



Harry Potter Quizzo

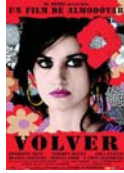
(Grades 8-12)
Wednesday, Nov. 28, 7 p.m.
Think you know everything about the Harry Potter books? Compete in wizarding teams to win this fun Quizzo night. Enjoy Harry's favorite snacks, too!

Adult Programs at Abington Free Library

To register for these FREE programs, visit the Library Office, call 215-885-5180, ext. 15, email kburnham@mclinc.org, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org

WORLD WAR II LECTURE SERIES

Every third Tuesday of the month at 3 and 7 p.m.



THE RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Shorday Silent Study Room

Discussions led by Dr. Karen Weekes.

Sept. 12 - *Volver*, written and directed by Pedro Almodovar

Oct. 10 - *The Woman Warrior* by Maxine Hong Kingston

Nov. 14 - *White Noise* by Don DeLillo (Spring 2013 dates TBA)

March - *Alias Grace* by Margaret Atwood

April - Poetry of Adrienne Rich

May - *Maus* by Art Spiegelman

Don't miss "WIRED WEDNESDAYS" from 2-3 p.m. in the Community Room.

See the article on the front page!

COMPUTER CLASSES

Abington Free Library offers a one-hour class, one-on-one with a volunteer computer aide, tailored to a person's need. The class could cover basic computer skills, the Internet, email, Microsoft Word or Excel. To register, or for more information, visit the Information Desk; call 215-885-5180, ext.13; or email AskAbington@gmail.com.

Find out about
10839009
on the back page.

LEONARD BERNSTEIN: AMERICAN IDOL, AMERICAN IDEALIST

Thursday, Sept. 13, from 7-8:30 p.m.

For half a century, beginning in the 1940s, Leonard Bernstein was one of the most charismatic presences on the American arts scene. This presentation is a portal to understanding one of America's most colossal but enigmatic musicians.

Commonwealth Speaker Karl Middleman, of the Philadelphia Classical Symphony, gives a conductor's perspective on what made Leonard Bernstein great. He also explores Bernstein's engagement with social issues and talks about Bernstein's time in Philadelphia at the Curtis Institute of Music. Video and audio recordings bring Bernstein's story to life. Thank you to our sponsors: PHC and Jenkintown Lyceum. *This presentation is a program of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Pennsylvania Humanities Council, a nonprofit organization, inspires individuals to enjoy and share a life of learning.*



PROF. BURTON KLEIN SPEAKS

Abington Library's favorite professor returns! Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Shorday Room

Oct. 4 - Golly, a Surprise - It WAS Correct for a Change...

Oct. 11 - Would You Like to Change Your Personality?

Oct. 18 - Why THEY Got the Job!!!



BROAD STREET AS IT LOOKED IN 1900

A slide presentation by forensic architect Robert Morris Skaler, author of *Philadelphia's Broad Street, South and North*.

Sunday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m.

South Broad Street began to develop as a cultural street with the building of the ornate Academy of Music in 1857. While prosperous, North Broad Street was never really as fashionable to Philadelphia's traditional elite class ensconced south of Market, around Rittenhouse Square. Perhaps to compensate for this lack of social standing, residents of North Broad built their houses grander than those with a "south" Broad Street address. Following his lecture Mr. Skaler will sign copies of his book.



News & Views of the Friends of Abington Libraries

Learn about our activities: Call 215-885-5180, ext. 36, or read about us at abingtonfreelibrary.org



The Friends raise funds for and foster public awareness of the Abington Township Public Libraries.

The Friends meet in the Community Room in the lower level of Abington Free Library. Our next meeting date is Saturday, Sept. 8, at 9:30 a.m. Please join us. New members are always welcome. Coffee, tea and cake are available. Additional meeting dates are Nov. 10, Feb. 9 and May 11.

Friends Executive Board for 2012-2013:

Linda Connelly, president;
Linda Jarow, vice president;
Elizabeth Christian, treasurer;
Alice Hungerford, corresponding secretary;
Ellen Baxter, corresponding secretary.

Friends Fall Activities

Fall Book and Apple Festival:

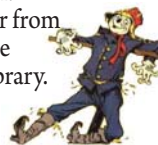
Saturday, Sept. 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in front of Abington Library. Rain or shine. All books will be half price.



Locally grown apples will be available for sale that day in 5-pound bags for \$6.50. You can choose between Fuji, Gala, Golden Delicious and Jonagold varieties. You can also preorder your apples, to be sure you get the varieties that you want, and pick them up on Sept. 22. Order forms are available at the circulation desk until Saturday, Sept. 8. We also will be selling candy and caramel apples along with cups of apple cider.

Scarecrow Contest: month of October.

Scarecrows should resemble a character from your favorite children's book and will be on display in the lobby of Abington Library. Entry forms and contest rules will be available at the circulation desk.



Book Lover's Calendar for 2013 will be on sale starting in October at the Abington circulation desk and in the BookCellar. Give the bibliophiles on your gift list an item they will surely enjoy.

Mimi Zabel Jewelry Auction: month of November. Please drop off your jewelry at the circulation desk.

Election Day bake sale: Tuesday, Nov. 6. Please consider donating home-baked goods to this event.

BookCellar

BookCellar hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, noon to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, noon to 8:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. New books arrive every day. Please come by and browse through our extensive collection. We are located in the lower level of Abington Free Library, next to the Children's Department. All of our books, movies and music are for sale at bargain prices!

How you can help the Friends

Donate books, movies, audio books, music and current textbooks. Donations are gratefully accepted daily at the circulation desk. Donate jewelry. Become a member. Volunteer at the BookCellar or help with Friends' activities.

Donate online through [Just Give.org](http://JustGive.org)

Last fiscal year the Friends donated \$50,000 to the library. Thanks to all of you who support the BookCellar and our fund-raising activities.

Linda Connelly, president, The Friends of Abington Township Public Libraries

BOOKFAIR at Barnes & Noble on Dec. 8

10839009

The AB LIB

Abington Township Public Library Newsletter
abingtonfreelibrary.org Fall 2012 Vol. 11, No. 2

Support Abington Township Public Libraries! On Saturday, Dec. 8, all day, there will be a bookfair at the Barnes & Noble in Willow Grove, 102 Park Ave. Activities from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. include crafts, Legos and a scavenger hunt.

A percentage of the net sales using the voucher number **10839009** will be donated to the libraries.

Voucher number **10839009** may be used at any Barnes & Noble location on Dec. 8.

Online shoppers can make purchases with the voucher number at bn.com/bookfairs

from Saturday, Dec. 8, through midnight Thursday, Dec. 13. Pick up a voucher at Roslyn or Abington Library, or online at abingtonfreelibrary.org. Contact Celia Frankford at 215-886-9818 or email cfrankford@mclinc.org.

Abington Free Library

1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001
215-885-5180, abingtonfreelibrary.org

Circulation Deskext. 12

Information Desk.....ext. 13

Children's Department...ext. 28

Executive Directorext. 14

Officeext. 15

Adult Literacyext. 27

Friends of the Libraryext. 36

Hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 9:30-9

Fri. and Sat.: 9:30-5, Sun.: 1-5

Roslyn Branch Library

2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001
215-886-9818, abingtonfreelibrary.org

Hours: Mon., 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Tues., Thurs. & Fri., 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sat., 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

AskAbington@gmail.com

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Staff Spotlight - Laurel Howard



Laurel Howard was, in her own words, a Preacher's Kid, the daughter of a Moravian minister. Born in Bethlehem, Pa., she has lived in Ohio, California and Michigan.

It was in Ohio, where she lived from about kindergarten to the end of her freshman year in high school, that she developed her affinity for libraries. Like the best characters in children's literature, Laurel spent her summers at the local library, reading and writing with her girlfriend.

Yorba Linda, California, was, again in her own words, "total culture shock." But she loved it. She loved the beaches and the laid-back lifestyle. Even earthquakes and wildfires that came as close as the ridge above her family's house did not dissuade her. She never wanted to leave.

But then she met the cousin of a friend, a young man from Michigan. After corresponding for a year, she went out to Michigan to be near him. It never occurred to her that she would never live in California again, but that's what happened.

After Laurel and Chuck married, he was accepted into a master's in education program at Temple University. He taught for 17 years, before changing careers and becoming a lawyer.

After a few years of living in Germantown, they moved to Abington, where they have spent years lovingly restoring an odd, 100-year-old building that was once a meetinghouse for the local fire company. When they moved in, the third floor was only accessible from the outside.

In addition to carpentry, tiling, plumbing and house-painting, Laurel's other talents include weaving and photography. Before



her children were born, Laurel worked in a yarn shop in Manayunk, teaching weaving and tapestry, spinning and natural yarn dyeing.

Laurel started working at Abington Free Library in 1999, when the youngest of their five children was 9 years old. She just needed to get out of the house, she says. She works as a page three days a week, putting books back on the shelves where they belong, along with shifts at the circulation desk here and at the Roslyn Branch.

And California? She actually did get back once. On a train. With all five kids stretched out in sleeping bags on the floor. After Chicago, she says, the train becomes a double-decker, with a glass ceiling. It's spectacular. They traveled north through Idaho, then stopped in San Francisco before continuing on to Los Angeles, where a relative got them all into Disneyland for free. They took the southern route home, passing through the Colorado Rockies. It took a month, but what a trip.

 - Lois Odabas