

From the Director's Desk

Is there a soul out there who really cares how many items we have in our collection? I don't think that number matters to our patrons. I think numbers like the following matter:

- We offer four technology classes monthly.
- We offer one-on-one computer help five or six times per week.
- Our Wi-Fi is lightning (140,000 mph) fast 😊

- 1,000+ kids signed up for our Summer Reading Club.
- There are more public libraries in America (16,776) than there are McDonald's restaurants.
- Our average user checks out 15 items per year worth approximately \$490.
- We are open 65 hours per week to the more than 1,000 people who come through our doors daily.

- We subscribe to 263 magazines and newspapers – and more online.



These are numbers that tell our real story – numbers that reflect people and how they use their library, our services, and the value of those services. Might make a math lover out of this English major yet!

- Nancy Hammeke Marshall, Executive Director



Adult Literacy Program

Our Adult Literacy program helps almost 200 adults improve their reading, writing and math skills, prepare for their high school equivalency diploma, the GED, and other tests. Those whose native language is not English benefit from our services, too. In addition to individual tutoring sessions, these adults can attend "Conversation Please!" – a class that meets on Monday nights and Tuesday mornings – and "Idioms and Grammar in Conversation" on Wednesdays. A writing class meets on Tuesday afternoons.

We will offer training for new tutors on Sept. 23 and 25 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at Abington Free Library. Additional training sessions (support meetings) for all tutors are offered once a month, along with weekly scheduled training opportunities in the area.

For information, please stop by the Adult Literacy office at Abington Free Library, call 215-885-5183, or email Rob Naborn at AbLit1@yahoo.com. Literacy office hours are: Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and by appointment.

- Rob Naborn, Program Coordinator

Thank You to Our Recent Significant Donors

Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries

Anonymous	Johnson & Johnson (Baxter matching gift)
Diversified Search	Kind Family Foundation
Dollar General for Adult Literacy	Helene Maruschak and Michael Maruschak
Stanley Greene	Patricia Timmins
Hoag Family	

Reference Department News - An Anonymous Collector Lives On

Late last year, we received a *LARGE* gift of music CDs. The man who brought them in told Circulation staff that his brother had died, leaving a large collection of CDs. With nowhere to put them, he brought them to us, hoping we could give them a good home.

At a rough count, the collection consists of 600+ CDs, nearly all of them classical music. The collector was a genuine audiophile of refined and very particular taste. Virtually all of the discs are in pristine condition, and many contain reviews, carefully clipped from audio magazines and journals.

Although the collection surveys some 900 years of Western art music, from Gregorian chant to 20th century masterworks, the collector had a special interest in the music of 19th century German Romantic composers and late 19th and 20th century British composers, as well as an abiding passion for the

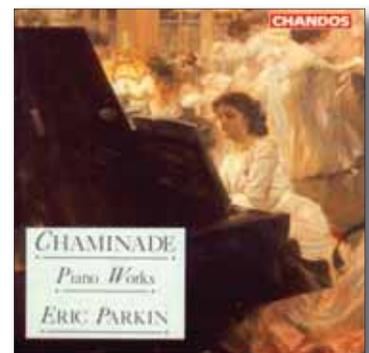
recorded works of the Philadelphia Orchestra and violinist Isaac Stern.

This collection has enabled us to replace a large number of music CDs, many having been in our collection since 1999 or even earlier. For instance, we have replaced CDs of the entire Brahms orchestral cycle, nearly all of the Mahler symphonies, and a number of Wagner operas. It has allowed us to fill in significant gaps in our classical music collection (e.g., complete piano works of Ravel, major cycles of Schumann and Schubert piano works, and major Italian, Czech and Russian operas), as well as to make significant additions to the music collection held at our Roslyn branch. One particularly noteworthy addition is a set of 14 CDs of Gregorian chant performed by the monks of Solesmes, France, whose mission is the preservation and revival of the Gregorian chant tradition. Finally, discs that have no

place in our collections are given to the Book Cellar, so the proceeds of these sales ultimately benefit both libraries.

Sadly, our generous benefactor didn't leave his name, so this is the only way we have of letting him know how deeply we appreciate his brother's collection.

As work progresses on the CDs, we thank our anonymous audiophile for his loving care of this superb collection.



• Michael Rechel, Head, Technical Services

Roslyn Branch Library

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

PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIMES

begin Sept. 16 and continue through Dec. 5.
Ages 3-6: Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Ages 2-3: Thursdays at 11 a.m.
Registration begins Aug. 26.

PAJAMA PARTY

Ages 3-6
Mondays from 6:30-7 p.m.:
Sept. 16, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, Dec. 9.
Stories, songs, fingerplays, and crafts.
Children are invited to wear their pajamas
and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle.
Registration begins Aug. 26. Register
separately for each program.

BABY DAYS

Ages 5 months-2 years
Tuesdays at 11 a.m.:
Sept. 17, 24; Nov. 5, 12; Dec. 3, 10.
Babies and caregivers will sing songs, read
stories, and do fingerplays.
Registration begins Aug. 27.

LEGO BLOCK PARTY!

Ages 5-12
Monday, Sept. 23, from 7-8 p.m.
Be creative! Design and build a one-of-a
kind Lego structure based on a given theme.
Registration begins Sept 3. Limited to 15
participants. Legos will be provided but
cannot be taken home.

MEET PIPPI LONGSTOCKING

Ages 3-8. Monday, Sept. 30, from 7-8 p.m.
Come help us celebrate Sweden's favorite
storybook hero, Pippi Longstocking. Act out
Pippi's antics by becoming "thing-finders,"
playing Pippi's games, creating a Dala horse
craft and tasting Pippi's famous cookies. This
program is brought to you by the American
Swedish Historical Museum. Registration
begins Sept. 9.

THE BUS FOR US

Ages 3-6. Monday, Oct. 7, from 6:30-7:15 p.m.
This year's selection for the "One Book
Every Young Child" program is The Bus for
Us, a picture book by author and illustrator
Suzanne Bloom. The book introduces Gus,
Tess, their friends and pets, and explores the
many interactions found in waiting for the
school bus. This award-winning program
includes a traveling trunk of games, toys and
activities. On Oct. 7, come to Roslyn Library
to hear the story and have fun doing related
activities. Registration begins Sept. 16.

Get the latest at abingtonfreelibrary.org

SCIENCETELLERS

Ages 6-12
Oct. 21, from 7-8 p.m.
Celia has to give me the date and time.
Use science experiments to tell stories.
Registration begins Sept. 30.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Ages 2-5
Monday, Oct. 28, from 6:30-7:15 p.m.
Stories, dancing, a fun Halloween craft and
refreshments. Children should wear their
costumes. Registration begins October 7.
Limited to 15 children.

DOC BRESLER'S CAVITY BUSTERS

Ages 2-7
Monday, Nov. 4, from 6:30-7 p.m.
Oral hygiene information for both children
and their parents in a fast-paced, interactive
program.

COWGIRL KATE AND HER HORSE, COCOA DISCUSSION GROUP

books by Erica Silverman
Ages 5-9
Monday, Nov. 25, from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Registration begins Nov. 4.



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/kids

PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES

Session 1 begins week of Sept. 9 and continues
through week of Oct. 14. Registration begins
Aug. 26. **Session 2** begins week of Nov. 4 and
continues through week of Dec. 9. Registration
begins Oct. 21. Two-year-olds meet on
Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.; three- to five-year-
olds on Mondays, 10:30-11 a.m. (No session
on Columbus Day, Oct. 14.)

RAINY DAY KATE CRAFT

Ages 3-6, attending with parents/caregivers
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6:30-7:15 p.m.
Join guest reader Isabella Carrozza for a reading
of Rainy Day Kate by Lenore Blegvad. Make a
"rainy day friend" using paper bags, yarn, pipe
cleaners and more. Registration begins Sept. 16.

DROP-IN STORY TIMES

All ages
Thursdays, 11-11:30 a.m., Oct. 3 through May 15
(No session on Nov. 28, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.)
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. 21 and 28, 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. 9, Nov. 13,
December date to be announced.
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. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7
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. 16.

SCIENCETELLERS PRESENTS "POTIONS"

Ages 4 and up
Tuesday, Oct. 29, 7-8 p.m.
Popping potions, buckets of fog ... explore
the mysteries of matter during this interactive
science show. Registration begins Oct. 21.

TODDLER STORY TIMES

Ages 12-23 months
Five Wednesdays: Oct. 23 and 30; Nov. 6, 13,
20, 10:30-11 a.m.
Children must be walking independently and
attend with parents/caregivers. Registration
begins Oct. 14.

CHILDREN'S E-BOOKS AVAILABLE
THROUGH OVERDRIVE ADVANTAGE
Looking for children's e-books? Log onto
OverDrive using your Abington library card
number and see our recently added titles by
R.J. Palacio, Christopher Paul Curtis, Patricia
Reilly Giff and others. More titles will be added
as they become available.

Teen Programs at Abington Free Library

To find out more, stop by the Information Desk, call 215-885-5180, ext. 13, visit abingtonfreelibrary.org/teens or email LCummings@mclinc.org.

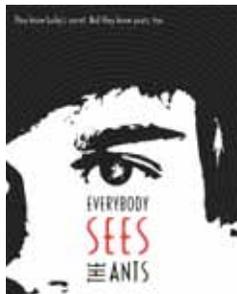
MEET THE AUTHOR AT TEEN BOOK CLUB

Ages 14 and up. Tuesday, Aug. 6, 6-7 p.m.

Everybody Sees the Ants by A.S. King

Come talk about the book and meet the award-winning author!. Sponsored by the Friends of Abington Libraries, and part of the "One Summer, One Book" program of Montgomery County libraries.

Register online, by phone, or at the Information desk.



COLLEGE ESSAY BOOT CAMP

Wednesday, Aug. 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Attention high school juniors and seniors!

This program will boost your resume and college application essay writing skills.

Learn tips that will sharpen your written presentation to college admissions officers.

Beat the crowds and the crunch time by getting your application writing skills in shape now! Pizza will be served. Presented by Linda George, professional writing coach.

Register online, by phone, or at the Information desk.

CHESS FOR BEGINNERS

Ages 8 and up. Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sept. 26 – Nov. 21

Don't know how to play chess? Learn the basics from Richard Arrayo. No registration necessary; just drop in!

JOIN AB-TAB

Abington Free Library's Teen Advisory Board Get active at the library by planning teen programs and selecting books. Earn community service hours. Check us out at our next meeting on Monday, Sept. 16, from 6 to 7 p.m., or pick up an application at the Information desk.

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

A YEAR OF AUSTEN IN BOOKS AND FILMS

Read the book and/or watch the film, come discuss.

Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

Sept. 12: Mansfield Park

Nov. 14: Persuasion

Feb. 13: Northanger Abbey

April 17: Pride and Prejudice



PROF. KLEIN SPEAKS

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Shorday Room

Sept. 17: The Heart of Country

(Music...)

Sept. 24: Some Secrets to Happiness

Oct. 1: What Aristotle Can Do for You

THE RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Shorday Room

Led by Dr. Karen Weekes

Sept. 18: Life of Pi, the film directed by Ang Lee

Oct. 16: The Round House by Louise Erdrich

Nov. 20: Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit by Jeanette Winterson

March 5: Half of a Yellow Sun

by Chimamanda Adichie

April 2: Poet: Robert Penn Warren

May 7: Going After Cacciato by Tim O'Brien



SOCIETY HILL AND OLD CITY

Sun., Sept. 22, at 2 p.m.

Author Robert Morris Skaler will present a program, including slide images from his book Society Hill and Old City.

WORLD WAR II LECTURE SERIES

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

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Every first Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

No registration required. Walk-ins welcome!

SOCRATES CAFÉ

Every second Wednesday of the month from

10:30 a.m.-noon. Giving Philosophy Back

to the People. Let's discuss ... What is truth?

What is justice? What is moderation?

OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Every second Tuesday of the month from 7-8:45 p.m.

Those planning to attend are encouraged to bring mementos of their experiences related to the theme of the meeting. All are welcome.

CORMAC MCCARTHY BOOK DISCUSSION

Tues., Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. We'll discuss All the Pretty Horses, led by Chad Whitman.



WIRED WEDNESDAYS

Every first Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m.:

Learn about our online catalog, your patron account, and how to use online databases to learn a language, search newspapers, trace your family tree, and much more!

Every second and third Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m., and every fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.:

Get answers to your questions and learn how to download free e-books from the library's Overdrive catalog to your Nook, Kindle, iPad or other device.

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.



News & Views of the Friends of Abington Libraries

Learn about our activities: Call 215-885-5180, ext. 36, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/about-us/friends

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 is Saturday, Sept. 7, at 9:30 a.m. Please join us. New members are always welcome. We are looking for new fund-raising ideas; please bring your suggestions. Coffee, tea and cake are available. Additional meeting dates are Nov. 9, Feb. 8 and May 10.

Friends Executive Board for 2013-2014:

Linda Connelly, president

Linda Jarow, vice president

Jay Freedman, treasurer

Ruth Gebhardtshauer, corresponding secretary

Ellen Baxter, corresponding secretary



FRIENDS FALL ACTIVITIES

Fall Book and Flower Sale: Saturday, Sept. 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in front of Abington Library. Rain or shine. All books will be half price. Colorful mums will be on sale.

SCARECROW CONTEST: month of

October. Scarecrows should resemble a character from your favorite children's or young adult books and will be on display in the lobby. Entry forms and contest rules will be available at the Circulation Desk.

MIMI ZABEL JEWELRY AUCTION:

month of November. Please start dropping off your jewelry at the Circulation Desk.

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE: Tuesday,

Nov. 5. Please consider donating home-baked goods to this event.

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. Donated books arrive every day. Please come by and browse through our extensive collection. We are located in the lower level of the Abington Free Library. All our books, movies and music are for sale at bargain prices!

HOW CAN YOU HELP THE FRIENDS?

Donate books, movies, audio books, music and jewelry. Donations are gratefully accepted daily at the Circulation Desk. Support our annual appeal in June. Become a member and help with Friends' activities.

Last fiscal year the Friends donated \$46,000 to the libraries. Thanks to all of you who support the BookCellar and our fund-raising activities. Please remember to return your annual contribution form.

- Linda Connelly, President, The Friends of Abington Township Public Libraries



On Saturday, Dec. 14, 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 will be donated to the libraries. (Look for the voucher number on our website in a month or two.) Voucher number may be used at any Barnes & Noble location on Dec. 14.

Online shoppers can make purchases with the voucher number at bn.com/bookfairs from Saturday, Dec. 14, through midnight Thursday, Dec. 19.

You can pick up a voucher this fall at Roslyn or Abington Library, or find it online at abingtonfreelibrary.org. Contact Celia Frankford at 215-886-9818 or email cfrankford@mlinc.org.



Abington Free Library
1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001
215-885-5180, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Circulation Desk ext. 12
Information Desk..... ext. 13
Children's Department ext. 28
Executive Director ext. 14
Office ext. 15
Adult Literacy ext. 27
Friends of the Library . ext. 36
Hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 9:30-9
Fri. and Sat.: 9:30-5, Sun.: 1-5

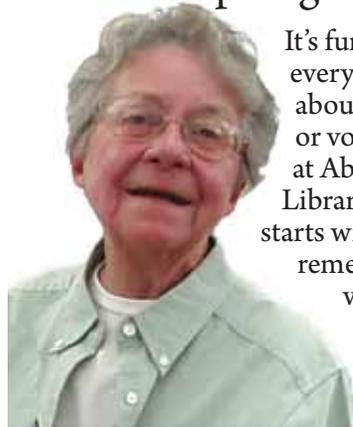
Roslyn Branch Library
2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001
215-886-9818, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Hours: Mon., 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Tues., Thurs. & Fri., 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat., 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

AskAbington@gmail.com

The Ab Lib Behind-the-Scenes Staff
Nancy Hammeke Marshall
Editor-in-Chief
Karen Burnham
Editor/Gadfly
Cathy Kress
Copy Editor
Lois Odabas
Staff Writer

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Volunteer Spotlight - Joan Rarick



It's funny, but every story about working or volunteering at Abington Library invariably starts with fondly remembered visits to a small town library, redolent of dusty

books and the allure of ever more stories to be read.

For Joan Rarick, who volunteers at the front desk preparing hold requests for pickup, that library was in Mahanoy City, in upstate Pennsylvania, where she was born and grew up.

Joan attended nursing school at Pottsville Hospital. She got married and worked as an emergency room nurse until the birth of her first child. Her

husband's new job brought the Raricks to the Philadelphia area.

Joan stayed home for 10 years, until their three children were in school, then started a long career in long-term care, eventually becoming a nursing home administrator.

After she retired about six years ago, Joan stopped by the library one day to pick up a book and got chatting with her friend Jackie Guyton, the Head of the Circulation Department. Jackie may have looked a bit overwhelmed that day, because Joan offered to help and has been coming in ever since. Her administrative skills are clearly on display when she marshals her crew of volunteers to process up to a hundred books at a time.

In her "spare" time, Joan volunteers for Aid for Friends, through her church, Living Word Lutheran of Roslyn. She and her buddies there cook, freeze and

deliver meals for the homebound elderly.

In her other spare time, Joan loves to visit with her far-flung family, including seven grandchildren. She has daughters living in Cupertino, CA, and Chicago, and a son in Atlanta. Among many interesting tidbits are that her twin grandsons were born in London, and her son's company designed the glass dome over the swimming pool at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Joan also enjoys celebrating many holidays with her multi-cultural family, which includes three different religions.

She and her husband have also traveled to Denmark, Amsterdam and London.

Everyone who knows Joan comes away with the overwhelming impression of a helpful and caring person. We are so lucky she is willing to share some of her "spare" time with us.



- Lois Odabas, Staff Writer