

Find more events and features at abingtonfreelibrary.org.

For the most up-to-date news on hours and services, see abingtonfreelibrary.org/news

Both Libraries offer free WiFi and loan HotSpots and WiFi enabled Chromebooks!



The Abington Township Public Libraries Newsletter



Fall 2023 Vol. 22, No. 2
abingtonfreelibrary.org

Browse our full calendar @ abingtonfreelibrary.org/events.

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Abington Free Library
1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001
215-885-5180, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Circulation Desk ext. 112
Information Desk ext. 113
Children's Department ext. 128
Executive Director ext. 114
Office ext. 115
Adult Literacy 215-885-5183
Friends of the Library ext. 136
Monday - Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday - Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Roslyn Branch Library
2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001
215-886-9818, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Monday: 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Friday: 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

The views and opinions expressed in various library programs are solely those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of the Abington Township Public Library or the Friends of the Abington Township Public Library.

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STAFF SPOTLIGHT - HELEN STAUS

When you think of the kindhearted library employee who seems to have worked in nearly every department, you're likely thinking of Helen Staus, our newest administrative assistant. Even starting as a page in the Children's Department back in 2005, she was a library expert. Helen has loved books, reading, and libraries all of her life.

Helen met her husband while they both worked at a local bookstore as young adults, and together they created a book-loving family. After having children, she volunteered at the Roslyn Elementary School library and loved the dynamic so much that she continued there for ten years. Was all of that dedication enough for Helen? Not even a little bit!

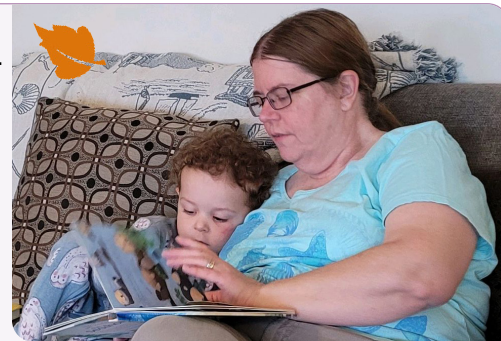
As Helen grew more experienced, she learned new roles in the Children's Department and beyond. After paging, she became a library assistant and then moved into the Reference Department, working with magazines

and newspapers, while simultaneously working at a nursery school. She also shared her talents at Roslyn Library.

Spending her time enriching the lives of children is her passion, and you can easily see this when she greets eager young readers passing by the Circulation Desk.

Now she will spend most of her time at the library taking on the role of administrative assistant in the office. Helen shared that she has a background in data entry and is looking forward to putting her skills to use in a new way. Just because she's in a different position doesn't mean you won't get to see her, however: Her favorite part of working here is seeing all of the regulars come through the door, and she'll make sure to say hello when she does her regular rotation at the Circulation Desk.

Helen loves seeing the Abington community rally around the library as a community center. She says the most important thing she has learned during



her time here is acceptance. Getting to meet so many people from all walks of life has allowed her to become a more open-minded person – a tip we can all take to heart!

Helen spends much of her time with her growing family of humans, four cats, and one dog. At the end of the day, she is a book lover at heart, and has inspired a multigenerational love of books and libraries in her home. If you stop by the library, you might even see her 2 1/2-year-old granddaughter, Mckenna, calling for her Gam Gam while stopping by for her latest book!

– Beth Jacksier,
Head of Technical Services

The Abington Township Public Libraries Newsletter



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abingtonfreelibrary.org Fall 2023 Vol. 22, No. 2

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



In the first six months of 2023, people visited the Abington and Roslyn libraries 230,000 times. You came for big events, like our Summer Reading Kick-Off Party; for book discussions, like the ones sponsored by a grant from the Yiddish Book Center; for play groups for families with young children, like the Playdate on Avondale series; and to try your hands at detective work at Murder Mystery Parties for teens and adults. You came to the libraries to study in the Shorday Room, to learn English with an Adult Literacy Program tutor, to use our computers or Wi-Fi, to work on the community puzzle, and to sign up for Summer Reading. And, of course, you came to borrow materials, to the tune of 184,000 items. You borrowed books, museum passes, connected Chromebooks, magazines, graphic novels, science and math kits, and so much more. It's been quite the year so far.

Our commitment to serving the Abington community goes beyond the walls of our two libraries. In 2023 we challenged ourselves to expand our reach and to bring the library to you. We did so by attending more than 40 events, like the Senior Fair at Salem Baptist Church, the Roslyn Pet Fair, Summer Meals at Crestmont Park, and the Earth Day Celebration at Briar Bush. We offered science storytimes at Alverthorpe Park, visited schools to promote Summer Reading, set up StoryWalks at Ardsley Kite Day, and brought Bark Pals, a read-to-the-dogs program, to the Roslyn Giant. We gave out books, registered people for library cards, sponsored performers, and led hands-on STEAM activities at events throughout Abington. It's wonderful to see you inside our libraries, but it's equally as great to connect outside of them.

Last month I joined several of my colleagues (including Roary, our dino-mascot!) at the Abington Pre-Night Out, and I had the pleasure of speaking with several hundred children, teens, and adults. Nearly to a person, everyone said how much they love the library. They told us how much the library means to them and how often they visit. They shared about their favorite books, beloved programs, and at which community event they had last seen library staff. On behalf of my library colleagues and our Board of Trustees, please allow me the opportunity to say thank you. Believe me, the feeling is mutual.

– Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Executive Director

RECENT SIGNIFICANT DONORS

The Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries

#1 Ladies Book Club	Judith Cohen	Arthur Magilner
AARP DSR@50+ Program	Commonwealth of PA Grant	Nancy Posel
R.I. and J.K. Abrams	– Sen. Art Haywood	Estate of Nancy M. Seitz
Book Club	James Cook	Lewis Somers IV
Gloria and Daniel Bors	Sherrie Diamond	Salvatore Valenti
Karen Burnham	Catharine Keim	
A.C. Camacho	Ruth and Richard Lufkin	

Introducing BOOKCHAT BY NOVELIST!

Looking to explore new titles, or find something similar to what you're currently enjoying?



DOGGONE GOOD READERS VIA ZOOM

Tuesdays, October 17, November 21, December 19, 7:00 – 7:35 p.m.
Practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog online! Grades 1 - 5.



STITCH N CHAT

@Abington:
Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
@Roslyn:
Fridays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



LOCAL AUTHOR EXPO

Saturday, September 23
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



THE FRIENDS BOOK AND PLANT SALE

Saturday, September 23
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

THE RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP

Led by Dr. Karen Weekes.

Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

September 20 (movie): *The Quiet Girl*

October 18: *Demon Copperhead*, by Barbara Kingsolver

November 15: *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight*, by Alexandra Fuller



REFERENCE NEWS

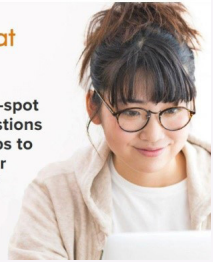
Introducing BookChat by Novelist

Looking to explore new titles, or find something similar to the book you're loving now? Staff at Abington and Roslyn are here to help, and we are expanding our resources to include BookChat by NoveList. BookChat allows you to live chat with a book expert to help you find your next great read from 1:00-9:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Access NoveList through our website and enter your Abington Library card number to start chatting! Or stop by the Information Desk and a Reference librarian can help you get started anytime we're open.

 BookChat
Powered by NoveList

Want on-the-spot book suggestions and other tips to improve your reading life?



Library of Things

Abington and Roslyn both have a Library of Things, a collection that goes beyond books, audio books and DVDs.

These collections include things like a turntable, pickleball racquets, T-Mobile Hotspots, WiFi-enabled Chromebooks, calculators, birding backpacks and SAT flash cards. And, there's more! Explore the Library of Things collection here: abingtonfreelibrary.org/library-things

~The Reference Department Staff

ROSLYN PROGRAMS

Please register online for all programs at abingtonfreelibrary.org/events.

STITCH AND CHAT
Fridays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Drop-in

PLAYDATE ON AVONDALE
Fridays, 10:30 a.m. – noon. Drop-in
Toys are most appropriate for ages 2 ½ to 6.

TODDLER TIME
Ages 18 months to 3 years
Tuesdays, 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
Fall I: September 19 – October 31
Registration starts September 5.
Fall II: November 14 – December 12
Registration starts October 24.

ROSLYN STORYTIME
Ages 3 to 5
Thursdays 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
August 31 – September 28
(No session on September 7.)
Register now.

Fall I: October 12 – November 2
Registration starts September 25.

Fall II: November 16 – December 14
Registration starts October 30.

THE GREAT KAPOK TREE
Traveling storytime with animals from the Barn Nature Center
Ages 3 to 8 with older siblings welcome
Monday, September 18, 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
Registration starts September 5.

GARDEN SERIES
For adults and older teens
September 25 & October 2, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Registration for either session starts September 11.

STRUCTURES IN THE GARDEN
Monday, September 25, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
With Master Gardener Kristi Wenrich

PROTECT YOUR GARDEN
Monday, October 2, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
With horticulturist Boris Kerzner

MONSTER WREATHS
Adults, teens, children ages 6 and up
Monday, October 16, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
One wreath per household
Registration starts October 2.

UNIVERSE OF SOUNDS
Ages 3 – 8
Monday, November 20, 2:00 p.m.
Registration starts November 6.

AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLE
Ages 4 and up
Monday, January 22, 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
Registration starts January 2.

VIRTUAL ART CLASSES
For adults and teens ages 14 and up
PAINTED ROCK OWL
Wednesday, January 24, 7:00 p.m.
Registration starts January 2.

FULL MOON OWL DRAWING
Wednesday, February 7, 7:00 p.m.
Registration starts January 15.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Please register online for all programs at abingtonfreelibrary.org/events.

TODDLER STORYTIMES
Ages 1 – 2
Tuesdays, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Fall I: September 12 – October 17
Registration starts August 28.

Fall II: November 7 – December 12
(no session November 21)
Registration starts October 23.
Join us for stories, songs, movement activities, and take-home crafts.

SCIENCE STORIES IN THE PARK
Alverthorpe Park: Mini-Golf Pavilion
Ages 3 – 5
Thursdays, September 21 – October 19
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Join us outdoors for exciting science-based stories and activities.
Registration for all sessions begins September 14.

FALL PRESCHOOL STORYTIMES
Ages 3 – 5
Thursdays, November 9 – December 14
(no session November 23)
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Enjoy stories, songs, and a take-home craft.
Registration begins one week before each storytime date.

WINTER TODDLER STORYTIMES
Ages 1 – 2
Tuesdays, January 9 – February 13
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Registration for all sessions begins December 18.

WINTER PRESCHOOL STORYTIMES
Ages 3 – 5
Thursdays, January 11 – February 15
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Registration begins one week before each story time date.

RAINBOW CONNECTIONS
Grades K – 5
Via Zoom. Register online to receive link.
Second Monday evening of every month.
For LGBTQ+ kids and allies. Meet new friends and talk about LGBTQ+ topics in a safe space.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (in-person)
Grades 1 – 5
Saturdays, October 7, November 4, December 2
10:00 – 10:30 a.m. OR 10:45 – 11:15 a.m.
Practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog! Choose one time slot per date. Registration begins three Mondays before each program date.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (VIRTUAL)
Grades 1 – 5
Via Zoom. Register online to receive link.
Tuesdays, October 17, November 21, December 19
7:00 – 7:35 p.m.
Practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog online!
Registration for all sessions starts September 26.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Register with Young Adult Librarian Sara Huff at shuff@mclinc.org, 215-885-5180 ext. 147, or abingtonfreelibrary.org/events

AB-TAB
Grades 6 - 12
Third Monday of every month, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
The Teen Advisory Board (Ab-TAB) is a group of teens who create service projects and help influence the library, especially with teen programming and the selection of library materials. No registration required – just come by!

Q CREW
Grades 6 - 12
Second Tuesday of every month, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
LGBTQ+ teens and allies are invited to join the Q Crew! Hang out with new friends and discuss the past, present, and future of LGBTQ+ issues in a safe space.

MURDER MYSTERY PARTY
Grades 6-12
Wednesday, October 25, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Can you solve the murder before it's too late? Put your detective skills to the test!

VIRTUAL SAT PRACTICE TEST Online
Saturday, September 23, 10:00 a.m. – noon
Take a free, full-length virtual practice exam and receive a detailed score report to improve your results on the real test. Exam provided by The Princeton Review.

ADULT PROGRAMS

THIRD ACT: AGING GRACEFULLY
Wednesdays: 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

September 20: Aging: What it Is, and What it Isn't
Led by Linda Schenker

September 27: Evolving Family and Social Relationships
Led by Linda Schenker

October 4: Qigong: Learning to Stretch and Exercise
Led by Susan Andrews

October 11: Transitioning from Your Home to a Senior Living Community
Led by Daniel Kaye

ADULTS READ YA BOOK CLUB
First Thursday of the month, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Adults, YA isn't just for teens! Join YA librarian Sara Huff for book discussions.

THE RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Led by Dr. Karen Weekes.
Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

September 20 (movie): *The Quiet Girl*

October 18: *Demon Copperhead*, by Barbara Kingsolver

November 15: *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight*, by Alexandra Fuller

STORIES OF EXILE
All programs at 7:00 p.m.

September 13: Theater Ariel's Production of "A Bintel Brief"

September 28: African Americans and the Gettysburg Campaign

November 1: "The Glatstein Chronicles," reading discussion

January 17: "The Orphanage," reading discussion

February 7: "Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen," documentary discussion
February 22: Baseball: Immigration and Assimilation

ABSTRACT ACRYLICS ADULT ART CLASS
Tuesday, September 19, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Learn the basics of painting with acrylics in this beginner-friendly course.

DIY HOBBIT DOORS
Adults and teens
Thursday, September 21, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Hobbit Day is September 22, so celebrate with us by making your own hobbit door! Hang it up on your door or set it on your bookshelf to show off your love for the Shire.

LOCAL AUTHOR EXPO & FRIENDS BOOK & PLANT SALE
Saturday, September 23, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTION TO PERMACULTURE GARDENING CLASS
Wednesday, October 11, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Join us for a gardening class with Boris Kerzner of Grow Our Food Landscaping where we will cover some concepts of permaculture.

AUTHOR TALK WITH ANNE HANSON
Thursday, October 12, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Anne Hanson will talk about her recent book, *Buried Secrets: Looking for Frank and Ida*.

PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS
Fridays, monthly (dates TBD), noon – 2:00 p.m.
Make an appointment for a free headshot with photographer Laurel Harish.
Registration required.

AUTHOR TALK WITH RUSTY ALLEN
Wednesday, October 18, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Rusty Allen will talk about his recent book *Ella's War*.

MURDER MYSTERY PARTY FOR ADULTS
Thursday, October 26, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Can you solve the murder before it's too late? Put your detective skills to the test!

WINTERFEST
Saturday, December 9, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

BECOME A FRIEND

The Friends of Abington Township Libraries invite you to join us in celebrating the fall with some wonderful events at Abington Free Library.



We will host a Fall Book and Plant Sale on Saturday, September 23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All of our gently used books will be half price that day, in the BookCellar and the Community Room on the lower level. A bag sale will run from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Community Room: Buy one of our bags and fill it to the brim with books for \$5.

The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) will partner with us to sell native plants, and to give lots of good advice on fall planting. Our fabulous bakers will be on hand, too, once again hosting a Bake Sale.

Come enjoy a day with fall flowers, books, cookies, raffle baskets, and the Friends of Abington Township Libraries. We would love to see you there.

The Friends Silent Jewelry Auction begins November 1, and bidding ends on November 30. You can donate jewelry until October 15 at the Circulation desk at Abington or Roslyn Library. All proceeds from our sales and the BookCellar store benefit both township libraries.

Friends of the Library Week is October 16-20. Please look for us as we celebrate that week. Election Day Bake Sale is Tuesday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Please come to our next meeting to learn more about what the Friends do to support and advocate for both township libraries.

We meet in the Community Room of Abington Library from 9:45 to 11:15 a.m. Upcoming meeting dates: September 9, November 11, February 10, 2024, and May 11, 2024.

– Terry Biansco, President of the Friends of Abington Library

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM



We train volunteer tutors and match them with students who want to improve their literacy skills. We also offer small classes where English language learners can practice English in a supportive environment.

We help adults:

- Improve their non-native English skills.
- Increase their reading, writing, or math skills.
- Prepare to pass a test – such as a high school equivalency test.
- Pass the U.S. citizenship test.

Many people in our community would appreciate your help. Become a volunteer tutor. No experience is necessary. We offer new tutor trainings three times a year. The next training will be in October.

For more information, contact the Adult Literacy Office: 215-885-5183 or ablit1@yahoo.com.

– Elizabeth Sperling, Program Coordinator

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!
267-245-7337 (Text us)



E-Newsletter sign up



Email us



Chat with a Librarian