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Abington Community Taskforce

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The Abington
Township
Public Library
Newsletter

The Ab Lib



From our Director - Annual Appeal ... Staff Spotlight - Frank Tholey ... Volunteer Spotlight - Garrett D. Page, Esq. ... Reference Department News - Non-Fiction Booklists, New Reference Books, Book Displays ... Halloween Photos ... Get Your Ab Lib! ... Miss Ellanie - Nancy gets Willow Grove NAACP Awards, Holland Glen ... Friends Calendar of Events: [Adults](#) | [Young Adults/Teens](#) | [Children](#) | [Roslyn Branch](#)

The Ab Lib from Winter 2006-2007 Vol. 5, No. 4

From our Director



As we approach the end of 2006, the Library looks once again to the community it serves so well for financial support.

2006 has been a great year for Abington Township Public Library. Our resources now include wireless Internet access and new databases like the [Historical New York Times \(1851-2003\)](#) and [Price It!](#), an online antique appraisal service. You, our patron, are our highest priority, and every upgrade and new service is offered with you in mind.

And here are some of the fun (and educational) ways our library has served the community this year: we have had [snakes, skinks, lizards and therapy dogs available to hold, pet and read to in our Children's Department](#). Our Roslyn branch has hosted programs on [gardening and bicycle safety](#), along with countless children's programs. It also reaches out to the homebound. We have had stimulating [discussions about books](#), yes, but also about travel, college admissions, and music appreciation. We provided [guitar lessons, origami instruction, scrapbooking and journaling classes](#). We have hosted interesting and varied discussions and debates in our [Socrates Café](#). All of these activities, when added to the [superior collection of books, magazines, CDs and DVDs](#), add up to a wonderful place to come to visit, sit and read, do some research on the Internet and probably run into a friend or neighbor who is doing the same!

The library has seen an 8% increase in patron registrations this year – 67% of Abington Township's population has a [library card](#). The library is the go-to place for the [young, not so young](#) and [seniors](#). It is a hub of activity and a community treasure.

However, library funding from the Commonwealth is still below what was received in 2002. We need your support! [Please consider making a generous gift to the Abington Township Public Library.](#)

Thank you.

- Nancy Hammeke Marshall



Volunteer Spotlight – Garrett D. Page, Esq.

Garrett Page is a busy man. He was interviewed for this article after dropping his son, Gary (14), at school for basketball, and before working on Thanksgiving baskets for local homebound people through his church, Salem Baptist Church of Jenkintown. Later his daughter, Lauren (7) got dropped at dance class.

Garrett has more contact numbers than anyone associated with the Library. He is in his second term as Montgomery County Treasurer, and is Treasurer and Tax Claim Director of Montgomery County. He's on the Pennsylvania State Committee as well as several boards, and is president of the Abington Library Trustees. And, oh yes, he has his own law practice, with emphasis in civil rights, personal injury, estates, family law, and criminal law. Yet Garrett is easy-going and down-to-earth. Comfortable with public speaking he gets poignant points across with clarity. To hear him is a pleasure.

His family, (three brothers and one sister) started out in Germantown and moved to Roslyn in 1979. Garrett and his younger brother, Glenn, went to Central High, a magnet school. When told, "Congratulations! Isn't that the genius school?" he will say, "Well, they made an exception in my case." Only when pushed, he admits that he won the Barnwell Award given to straight-A students. His gymnastics team was in the City Championships in 1971. He attended Swarthmore College, switched from pre-med to pre-law, and received his law degree at North Carolina Central Law School. He opened his own practice after being a Montgomery County public defender for seven years.

Garrett knows the insides of libraries. Often he and his brother walked 20 minutes to his first library at West Oak Lane. He took refuge at Abington Free Library while studying for the bar. He is impressed with all that Abington's libraries have to offer, especially its Adult Literacy Program.

Garrett credits his parents as his first influences. They taught him to depend on the church for strength and to reciprocate. A junior deacon at 14, he's now a deacon, on the Lay Evangelism team, prison ministry, etc. As a deacon, he was honored to introduce Miss Rosa Parks when she spoke at Salem Baptist 15 years ago. Weekends are dedicated to family, with church on Sunday. A major influence and natural-born organizer, Trish, his wife, will graduate from Penn State Abington this year and intends to teach. Also warmly remembered as his mentors are Emeritus Pastor Robert Johnson Smith I and his son (the II) and Jon Fox, who, thank goodness, endorsed Garrett for Library Trustee.



Hobbies? Garrett coached gymnastics at a North Carolina YMCA, while in law school. He is assistant-coach for his daughter's t-ball team. He emphasizes that he has *started* golf. Just a beginner, he is enthusiastic about the sport.

There isn't room to list all of Garrett's awards, committees, boards, charities, loved ones and attributes. When asked what drives him to do so much, Garrett smiled and

said: "Fighting for the underdog."

– Karen Burnham



Staff Spotlight – Frank Tholey

Read more about him at abg.mclinc.org

If you think everything's "just peachy" at Abington Library it's because we have a maintenance man who is peachy keen.

Frank Tholey was born in Willow Grove, where he still lives, and graduated from Upper Moreland High School. He came to work at Abington Library in 1985, after a stint of making all types of mechanical and electronic controllers for the Honeywell Corporation in Fort Washington.

That experience has come in handy, because fixing mechanical and electrical systems is a big part of Frank's job at the library. "Call Frank," is close to being a mantra for our weekend staff. Too hot, too cold or the sump-pump alarm is screeching? "Call Frank." And, "just peachy" is close to being a mantra for Frank. It's his usual reply when you ask him how things are going.

Frank's mechanical bent runs outside of the library, too. In his spare time, he is part of "Tholey Racing Dynamics," which is another name for Frank, his brother, a nephew and a lot of friends hanging out in the driveway, fixing cars.

Nevertheless, the roster of cars Frank has rebuilt is impressive. He and his brother, whom Frank describes as a mechanical genius, got their start fixing "Mom and Dad's cars." After a while, it occurred to them to build their own car, and they bought the remains of a 1942 Ford pickup truck. All that's left of the original is the cab and the body and 18 inches of the frame; the rest was totally rebuilt. Frank drives it to work sometimes and shows it at car shows as far away as Oklahoma and Canada. For the record, he also shows at the Glenside and the Roslyn Valley car shows.



Other cars that the Tholeys have fixed up include several Chevilles, a '67 Nova and a '69 Camaro. Right now, Frank is working on 1946 Buick Roadmaster Club Coupe.

What he likes most about working at the library is the interesting people he meets, both the staff and the patrons.

- Lois Odabas

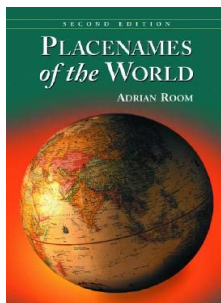


Halloween photos online

Reference Department News

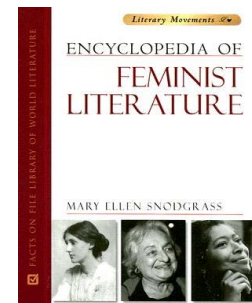
For more information call 215-885-5180, ext. 13 or <http://abg.mclinc.org>

As another busy year comes to a close, our Reference Librarians continue to work hard to improve our services and provide current and accurate information to our patrons. To that end, we have begun compiling a [series of non-fiction booklists](#). For years now the library has provided you with [fiction booklists](#), but these [non-fiction lists](#) are something new for us. We hope that they will help you find information on particular subject matter and also be of interest to those of you who prefer to read non-fiction. You can find copies of the lists on the display rack outside the computer lab (near the information desk) and online versions are accessible from our library website abg.mclinc.org by clicking on the ["booklists"](#) link under the [Reading Room heading](#). Some of these lists include [coin collecting](#), [building codes](#), and [personal finance](#). Check them out!



Our department head, Mimi Satterthwaite, has purchased several new reference titles that should be of value to many of you. These include: [Placenames of the World](#), [The Encyclopedia of Feminist Literature](#) and [Purdon's Pennsylvania Statutes and Consolidated Statutes](#). Purdon's should prove to be a valuable resource for finding information about Pennsylvania laws. In addition to these hard copy purchases, we have also purchased a new online database

called ["Price-It!"](#) This database allows the user to search antique items and see auction prices received for similar items. You can access it from [our homepage](#) by clicking on the ["e-resources"](#) link under [Information/Reference](#) and then the link for ["Price-It!"](#) on the left side of the page.





Also, look for our monthly book displays in a new location, just inside the front doors of the Library to the left near the rental bookshelves. Each month Deanna Collins, a member of our Reference staff, provides a display of books and materials on a wide variety of subjects. If you have an idea for a book display, please stop by the information desk and let us know what you would like to see on the display shelf.

Looking forward to serving you in 2007.

- The Reference Staff



Miss Ellanie

For more information: <http://abg.mclinc.org>

NANCY GETS NAACP AWARD

Our Director, Nancy Hammeke Marshall, recently received the Community Service Award from the Willow Grove NAACP. The honor was bestowed on October 22 at the group's Freedom Fund Dinner, ably and pleasantly presided over by Dr. Donald Clark, President, and Margot Clark, Banquet Chair. Elva Bell, former

library trustee and frequent library user, presented Nancy with the award "for her contribution to one of our community's treasures, the Abington Free Library, and her outreach support to our Youth Council in accommodating their Black History Programs." Nancy also received a state House of Representatives Citation and a Congressional Certificate of Merit Award, which applaud her work on the library renovations and innovative programs such as Abington READS!, Park Pals and the WWII Lecture Series.



HOLLAND-GLEN IN HATBORO

It's possible, but difficult, for one person to make a difference. A like-minded group can do more. So at the end of the year, the library staff pulls together and gives to a local charity. A few years ago, Jackie Egitto, a then Penn State Abington student and daughter of staffer Trudy, inspired us to give to 4 Diamonds for children's cancer research at Hershey Hospital. The next year our staff, through the newly formed Charity Committee, gave to PhilAbundance, which feeds the homeless.

This year it's [Holland-Glen in Hatboro](http://hollandglen.org). About 30 children and adults receive skilled nursing care there around the clock in a home-like setting. For years our Director, Nancy, has contributed items on their wish-list and has told us of the extreme needs this facility has. Find their wish-list on hollandglen.org.

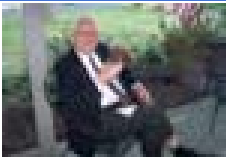
- Miss Ellanie (as told to Karen Burnham)

Friends of Abington Libraries - News & Views

To learn about our activities, call 215-885-5180, ext. 36,

<http://abg.mclinc.org/friends/index.htm>

IN MEMORIAM – The Friends have been saddened to learn of the recent death of Mr. George Werthner. George was a longtime



member of the Friends and will be remembered for his good humor and active support of our libraries. George was the husband of JoAnn Werthner, a past president of the Friends and presently a member of the library's Board of Trustees. The Friends extend their heartfelt condolences to JoAnn and her family.

SILENT AUCTION – Our recently completed Silent Auction was an over-the-top success! The Friends can report an unprecedented income of more than \$2,000 from auction sales. Due to popular demand, the Friends may hold another auction in about six months.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS – A great gift for family and friends, Entertainment Books are again available for \$25 at both Abington Free Library and Roslyn Branch Library. Savings for dining out and entertainment far exceed the cost, and the price is the same as last year!

VISIT OUR BOOKCELLAR – A daily influx of new books is available for your review and purchase. We are located in the lower level of Abington Free Library next to the Children's Department. Used books, movies and music in a myriad of formats are for sale at bargain prices. Our hours are: Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri: noon-4p.m.; Wed: noon-8:30 p.m.; Sat: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

BECOME A MEMBER! BECOME A BOOKCELLAR VOLUNTEER! – Join our sociable group to enjoy the comradery and satisfaction of helping our libraries grow. Attend our next meeting at Abington Free Library, Jan 20 at 9:30 a.m.

The Friends of the Library are volunteers dedicated to supporting our libraries. All proceeds benefit library activities.

- Friends of Abington Township Public Library, Bill Tinsman, President



READ ALL ABOUT IT! GET YOUR AB LIB! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

If you have not received this newsletter by mail and would like to,

call 215-885-5180, ext. 15

or email your request through our website, abg.mclinc.org

and leave your name and address.

We'll make sure you get a free copy.

You can also ask to get the newsletter paperless via email,

or read past and present issues online at abg.mclinc.org/ablib/index.htm.

Roslyn Branch Library - Winter 2006-2007

For information: 215-886-9818 or <http://abg.mclinc.org/roslyn/index.htm>

2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, PA 19001

TEENS WANTED

Roslyn Branch is looking for teens to create and lead programs for elementary age children. Possible ideas include skits, games, journaling, creative writing, etc. You will be awarded service hours for your time.

PAJAMA PARTY

Jan 8, Feb 12, March 19, 6:30-7 p.m. - Stories, songs, fingerplays, and crafts. Children are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle. Registration begins Dec 28.

WINTER STORY TIMES

Jan 22 through March 15. Registration begins Jan 4.
Ages 3-6: Mondays at 1:30 p.m. - Jan 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 26, March 5, 12.
Ages 2-3: Thursdays at 11 a.m. - Jan 25, Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1, 8, 15.

DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION (Dr. Seuss's birthday is March 2.)

Registration begins Feb 8.
Feb 26: ages 2-5 - 6-6:30 p.m., ages 6-12 - 7-8 p.m. - Stories, crafts and refreshments.

Wear green and celebrate

ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

March 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Dancing, folktales, crafts and refreshments K-6th grade. Registration begins Feb 26.

BOOK SALE

25¢ per book. Sponsored by the Friends of the Abington Library. Proceeds benefit Abington and Roslyn libraries.

Children's Department at Abington Free Library - Winter 2006-2007

For information please call 215-885-5180, ext. 28.

<http://abg.mclinc.org/childrens/index.htm>

HOLIDAY DROP-IN STORY TIME

Dec 28, 11-11:45 a.m. - All ages welcome.
No advance registration required.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

A CELEBRATION OF GRANDPARENTS

Dec 29, 11-11:45 a.m. - Intergenerational story/craft program for ages 4-8 and their grandparents, great-grandparents, great-aunts/uncles, or special older friends.
No advance registration required.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (ages 7-9)

Jan 6, Feb 3, March 3 and April 7, 10:15-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:30 a.m. (Register for one session per date.) Children read to licensed therapy dogs in small groups. Great fun for all! Registration begins Dec 11. Children do not have to attend on all four dates.

WINTER PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES

Jan 8 through Feb 12.
Two-year-olds: Tuesdays, 10-10:45 a.m. Registration begins Dec 26.
Three-year-olds: Mondays, 10:30-11 a.m.
No advance registration required.
Four- and five-year-olds: Thursdays, 2-2:30 p.m. No advance registration required.

TODDLER STORY TIMES (ages 12-23 months)

First session: Jan 17, 24, 31, 10:30-11 a.m.

For children who are walking independently and their parents/caregivers. Registration for Abington Township residents begins Jan 10; out-of-township residents Jan 14.

Second session: Feb 28 & March 7, 21, 28, 10:30-11 a.m. (No program on March 14)
Registration for Abington Township residents begins Feb 21; out-of-township residents, Feb 25.

BABY STORY TIMES (ages 6 months and up)

Jan 19, 26 and Feb 2, 10:30-11 a.m. - For children who are not yet walking and their parents/ caregivers Registration for Abington Township residents begins Jan 12; out-of-township residents, Jan 16.

DROP-IN STORY TIMES

Tuesdays, 11-11:30 a.m. Led by members of Jenkintown Kiwanis Club. All ages welcome; no advance registration required. All children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

Young Adult/Teens at Abington Free Library - Winter 2006-2007

For information: Linda Jones, Young Adult librarian, 215-885-5180, ext. 13,

You may also ask at the adult information desk or go to

http://abg.mclinc.org/teen_website/index.htm.

Reading Olympics

The Senior High School Reading Olympics discussion group will

meet monthly for **Pizza** and a lively discussion of select genre titles for each month. Come join us!

Abington Collaborative Project

Helpful, trusted websites for homework - interests - life -
abg.mclinc.org

Wireless library = hotspot

Audio to Go
downloadable audio books -
abg.mclinc.org

Adult Programs at Abington Free Library - Winter 2006-2007

For information: 215-885-5180, ext. 15, <http://abg.mclinc.org/calendar/allEvents.htm>

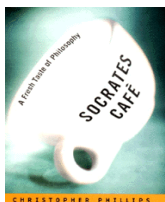


WWII LECTURE SERIES

Every third Tuesday at 3 and 7 p.m.

Dec 19 - [Battle in Stalingrad](#), Mikhail Rabinovich.

Jan 16 - [Wars of My Life](#) by Frank Senko.



SOCRATES CAFÉ

Every second Wednesday from 10:30 - noon

Every fourth Friday from 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Giving Philosophy Back to the People.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Every first Thursday at 1 p.m.

Jan 4 - [The Blind Assassin by Margaret Atwood](#)

Feb 1 - [The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls](#)

March 1 - [Sandra Day O'Connor: How the First Woman on the Supreme Court Became Its Most Influential Justice](#) by Joan Biskupic

April 5 - [Father Joe by Tony Hendra](#)

No registration required. Walk-ins welcome!



OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Every second Tuesday, 7-8:45 p.m.

[Check out our website!](#)

Jan 9 - Show and Tell, Your Family Heirlooms, Individual Stories

Feb 13 - Valentine Love & Marriage Story Telling

March 13 - Cass Donovan of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania

April 10 - "A History of Churches of Montgomery County" with David Rowland, president OYRHS at Williamson's Restaurant.



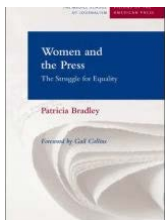
ADULT LITERACY EVENTS - 215-885-5183

Reading comprehension for ESL & GED students

Jan 10, 17, 24, 31. 7-8:30 p.m.

New Cycle for NET Students

Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, Dec 20, 27 10-11:30 a.m.



WOMEN AND THE PRESS:

the Struggle for Equality

March 27, 7 p.m. - [Patricia Bradley, Ph.D.](#)

will discuss her book, *Women and the Press the Struggle for Equality*, a history of women in media from 19th century to the rise of Katie Couric. Dr. Bradley also uncovers many stories of "lost sisters".



GUITAR WORKSHOP SERIES IS FULL.

This series will continue through April.

If interested in future series, please give us your name, age and the best way to contact you. We'll put you on the waiting list.



WRITER'S SUPPORT GROUP

April 2, May 7, June 4, 7 p.m. - Sheva Friedman. For all levels of experience and interest.

RUTH R. ABEL MEMORIAL SEMINAR

April 18, 7 p.m. Shorday Room.

Poetry packets will be available in the spring.

Dr. Richard Tyre is our discussion leader. Registration is a must!

WIN WITH ARISTOTLE



May 10, 17, 24, 10 a.m. Shorday Room
Prof. Burton Klein will show us how to
win life's arguments with Aristotle's teachings.

Library Trustees

Garrett D. Page, Esq.,
President

Thomas E. Tyler, Esq.,
Vice- President

Elaine Shay, *Treasurer*

Teresa Scroggins,
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Barbara A. Jacobs

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JoAnn Werthner

Abington Free Library

1030 Old York Road, Abington,
19001

215-885-5180

<http://abg.mclinc.org>

Circulation Desk ext. 12

Information Desk ext. 13

Children's Department ext. 28

Executive Director ext. 14

Adult Literacy ext. 27

Friends of the Library ext. 36

Hours Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. - 9
p.m.

Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun. 2 -
5 p.m

**The Ab Lib Behind-the-
Scenes Staff**

Nancy Hammeke Marshall –
Editor-in-Chief

Karen Burnham – *Editor/Gadfly*

Cathy Kress – *Copy Editor*

Roslyn Branch Library

2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001
215-886-9818

<http://abg.mclinc.org/roslyn/index.htm>

Hours

Monday, 11-9

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 11-6
and Saturday, 11-2

Roslyn Branch is closed on
Wednesdays and Sundays.

How do I ... get a library card?

Go

Abington Free Library

1030 Old York Road
Abington, PA 19001, US
215-885-5180

Hours:

M-Thurs 9:30-9, Fri & Sa 9:30-5, Su 1-5

Roslyn Branch Library

2412 Avondale Avenue
Roslyn, PA 19001, US
215-886-9818

Hours:

M 11-9, Tu, Th, F 11-6, Sa 11-2

Ask the Director, Nancy Hammeke Marshall
215-885-5180x14, nhammekemarshall@mclinc.org

MCLINC Libraries | Administration



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