

From the Director's Desk – The Purple Library is Green

Libraries were Green long before anybody else. We recycle and reuse books by passing them along from person to person. Many of our DVDs are viewed a hundred times before they finally wear out. Our magazines and newspapers are read dozens of times by dozens of people. Libraries save paper, people save money; the impact on the environment is less.

We're Green because people who can't afford to buy books or magazines, rent DVDs or go on-line at home have access to a free source of unlimited information, along with trained professionals to guide them. We're Green because we provide a community "living room," a place for people to gather, to talk, to think, to meet their neighbors. And, when you're all gathered here, you are saving on electricity usage in your own homes!

But our staff thought we should be doing more – something more concretely Green. Over the past few years, under the able guidance of our building manager, Rick Guyton, the library has implemented the following changes and enhancements:

- We stumble around in the (semi) dark until the majority of the staff arrives at 9 a.m.
- We installed a new heat pump at the Roslyn Branch, and electric use there has decreased by 40%.
- We replaced all the 1957 windows with double-pane insulated windows.
- We adjusted the interior and exterior lights and interior blowers to more closely coincide with actual library hours and usage.
- We reset the power options on all the computers.
- We turned off three copiers (for good, we think).

We've always recycled, asked our volunteers to cut up used paper and old flyers into scrap paper, and kept the building a little cold in the winter and a little warm in the summer. Now, if I could only muster up the resolve to walk to work at least three days a week... If any of this has encouraged you to want to become a little Greener, we have scads of books on the subject to help you along. Look in 363.7 in adult or children's non-fiction. Your Mother Earth will thank you! - Nancy Hammeke Marshall

Volunteer Spotlight - Carolyn Moore

You can set your watch every Tuesday at 10:05 a.m. by the bright smile entering the Technical Services Department. It belongs to Carolyn Moore, a volunteer par excellence, who says, "Literature has been a large part of my life, so I decided to volunteer at Abington Library, and I look forward to Tuesday mornings, working with its friendly staff."

Carolyn is no stranger to the library environment. This soft-spoken, busy lady is an ordained deacon at the Salem Baptist Church of Jenkintown and takes an active role in its many ministries, including the food cupboard and visiting nursing homes. She also works in the church's William J. Lucas Library, a member of the Delaware Valley Library Association of Churches and Synagogues.

Carolyn credits her mother, who said, "A room without books is as a body without a soul," as the inspiration for her life-long love affair with books. She recalls Saturday trips to the library followed by ice cream cones, and sitting around the kitchen table with her four siblings, reading aloud as their mother cooked. Greek and Roman mythology were a favorite; Carolyn's passion was poetry. She loved James Whitcomb Riley's "The Raggedy Man" and memorized "The House by the Side of the Road" by Sam Walter Foss.

Carolyn hails from Brooklyn but grew up in a small New Jersey town near Staten Island. She fondly remembers ferry trips with her grandfather, "Papa," who also took the children to the bank to open savings accounts; Carolyn was proud of her very own bankbook. Perhaps, this led to her career choice at Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, where she worked for 25 years.

Learning and respect were the hallmarks of her childhood, and she refers to herself as "a product of the New Jersey school system." Her talents include dancing and drawing; at one time she considered becoming a ballerina. Instead, she combined the two and drew ballerinas, influenced by Edgar Degas' dancers.

Carolyn has a "wonderful" son and daughter-in-law and dotes on her two granddaughters, 8 and 9½ years old. "Nana" and the girls garden, cook, shop and read poetry together.

A recent retiree, Carolyn Moore looks forward to traveling abroad, particularly to Greece, Italy and Paris.

When you're ready to begin your travels, Carolyn, I wish you bon voyage, but please come back. We need you. And your smile. - Joy Fine

Reference Department News

215-885-5180, ext. 13 or abingtonfreelibrary.org



A great Night Out

This year the Abington Free Library was represented at Abington Night Out on Aug 4. As those in attendance know well, the weather could not have been better. We certainly were fortunate for our first year. We registered patrons, handed out flyers, offered free books to those who were interested and engaged many young children in a craft. We enjoyed the opportunity to be able to come to you and meet you in the community!

The Reference Department will offer computer classes in the fall.

Please watch for our sign-up in the Library or call 215-885-5180, ext. 13.

Please Support Your Library! Upstairs **Special** Fiction Book Sale! Bi-annually in June and December: \$5/Bag or 25¢/Book



Thank You to Our Recent Significant Donors



Abington Civic Club
Charles and Elizabeth Birkhead
John Epright DDS

Dr. Vincent and Barbara Ferrara
Stanley and Katherine Greene
Joseph and Therese Procino

Review Club of Montgomery County
Daniel and Geraldine Ryan
Paul Stone

Roslyn Branch Library

For information and to register for these programs, call 215-886-9818, go to abingtonfreelibrary.org or visit the Roslyn Branch Library, 2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, PA 19001.

CREATIVE WRITING

Oct 6 and 13 at 6:30 p.m. For children ages 8 to 14.
Participate in a creative writing program taught by local teens.
Each session will last 40 minutes.
The basics of writing with a creative edge will be covered.
Registration begins Sept 15.
Hurry! There is a limit of 15 participants.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES

begin Oct 6 and continue through Nov 20.
Ages 3-6 will be on Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Ages 2-3 will be on Thursdays at 11 a.m.
There will be no story time on Nov 6 and Nov 10.
Registration begins Sept 8.

PAJAMA PARTIES

Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15 from 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 Sept 29.



TEENS WANTED 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.



HALLOWEEN PARTY

Wear a costume! Join the fun!

Monday Oct 27

Ages 2-5: 6-6:30 p.m.

Ages 6-12: 7-8 p.m.

Stories, songs, games, crafts and refreshments! Registration begins Oct 6.

BABY DAYS

Nov 25, Dec 4, 11 and 18 at 11 a.m.

Babies and caregivers will sing songs, read stories and do finger plays. The program is for babies 8 months to 2 years. Register for each program separately. Registration begins Nov 4.

GREAT SELECTION!

Look for our expanding **Large Print** collection for borrowing.

ROSLYN BOOK SALE! Ongoing.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. All book-sale books are 25¢.

Children's Department at Abington Free Library

For information please call 215-885-5180, ext. 28. abingtonfreelibrary.org/children

All programs held in the Library's Community Room, Lower Level.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES

Fall Session #1 – Run weeks of Sept 8-Oct 13.

Fall Session #2 - Run weeks of Nov 3-Dec 8.

(No 4- and 5-year-old session on Nov 27)

2-YEAR-OLDS

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Parents/caregivers attend this lapsit program with their children. Advance registration is required.

Registration for Session #1 is now underway.

Registration for Session #2 begins Oct 20.

3-YEAR-OLDS

Mondays, 10:30-11 a.m.

Children may attend independently or with parents/caregivers.

No advance registration is required.

4- and 5-YEAR-OLDS

Thursdays, 2-2:30 p.m.

Children are encouraged to attend independently.

No advance registration is required.

DROP-IN STORY TIMES

FOR CAREGIVERS AND CHILDREN

Join us every Thursday

11-11:30 a.m., Oct 2-May 21, 2009

(No sessions on Nov 27, Dec 25 or Jan 1.)

These informal story times will be led by members of the Jenkintown Kiwanis Club in cooperation with the Children's Department staff.

Come discover new stories and enjoy old favorites.

No pre-registration is required. All ages are welcome.

Parents/caregivers must attend with their children.



NEW! See Tumblebooks online story library for children via a link on our website.

Check our website for additional children's program announcements!
abingtonfreelibrary.org

DOGGONE GOOD READERS

Three Saturdays: Oct 4, Nov 1 and Dec 6

10:15-10:45 OR 11-11:30 a.m. Ages 6-10

Get to know lots of friendly dogs! Meet other kids who love dogs and books.

Practice reading in an exciting new way.

Registration begins Monday, Sept 15.

Children do not have to attend all three Saturdays.

DOGGONE GOOD STORY TIMES

For children ages 3 and up

Two Mondays: Oct 20 and 27, 10:30-11 a.m.

Listen to stories read by former elementary school teacher Karen Udell. Pet her gentle golden retriever, Mitzi, a certified therapy dog.

No advanced registration required.

All children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

TODDLER STORY TIMES

For children ages 12-23 months and their parents/caregivers

Four Wednesdays: Oct 22, 29 and Nov 5, 12 10:30-11 a.m.

Registration begins on the following dates:

Abington Township residents: Monday, Oct 13

Out-of-township residents: Friday, Oct 17

Please call 215-885-5180, ext. 28, to register. All children registered must be walking independently. These programs are designed for one-on-one interaction between parent/caregiver and child. Please arrange for care of siblings during this time.

HALLOWEEN MYSTERY PARTY

Thursday, Oct 23, 7-8 p.m. Ages 6-10

Solve the case of the stolen pumpkins . . .

Compete in a secret message relay . . .

Take the "Remember the Clues" challenge . . .

Make an "I Spy" collage!

Registration begins Monday, October 13.

RAINBOW MAGIC FAIRIES PARTY

Celebrating Ruby, Amber, Sunny, Fern, Sky, Inky and Heather!

Thursday, Nov 6, 7-8 p.m. AGES 6-9

Registration begins Monday, Oct 27.

LENI LENAPE PROGRAM

Friday, Nov 14, 10:30-11 a.m.

For homeschoolers in grades K-6

Registration begins Monday, Nov 3.



Adult Literacy Events

Literacy Phone: 215-885-5183

TRAINING FOR NEW TUTORS - Sept 22 and 24, from 6:30-8:45 p.m.

Through its Adult Literacy Program, the Abington Free Library offers **FREE** tutoring to adults who are unable to read or who need help improving their reading, writing or math skills.

Learning to read can change a life . . . help make it happen!

For more information: Visit the Literacy Program Office, located on the lower level of the Library, call Rob Naborn at 215-885-5183 or email us at AbLit1@yahoo.com.





Teen Programs at Abington Free Library

To register for these FREE programs, stop by the Information Desk, call 215-885-5180, ext. 13, or e-mail from the library website, abingtonfreelibrary.org.



TEEN JOURNALING

Altered book artists welcome!

Wednesdays, from 6:30-8 p.m.

Sept 24 – Oct 15

Join Diana Trout (artist and journaling enthusiast) for creative journaling.

Use art, poetry and writing to put your thoughts on paper. Bring your own journal or notebook, other supplies provided.

TEEN CHESS

Every Friday, 3:30-5 p.m.

Starting Oct 3

For experienced and beginning players.

Includes instruction.

WHAT IS YOUR HOUSE MADE OF?

Young Adult Science Show and Tell

Thursday, Oct 16 from 7-8 p.m. Ages 12 to adult

Retired handyman David Koenigsberg will show dozens of small samples of the materials used to build houses: woods, metals, plastics, floors, walls, ceilings, interiors, exteriors. What are they made of? How are they made? How are they used? What holds them together?

Non-technical, in plain English.

A workshop for high school students and parents **HIGH LEVEL AND IVY LEAGUE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS: HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATE THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS**

Workshop leader: Byron L. Goldstein, M.A.

Independent college admissions counselor

Monday, Oct 27 at 7 pm

Find out about: school selection, essay preparation, teacher recommendations, resume preparation and presentation, transcript review, interviews, campus tours, financial aid.



Adult Programs at Abington Free Library

1030 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001, 215-885-5180, ext. 15, abingtonfreelibrary.org

WWII LECTURE SERIES

Every 3rd Tuesday at 3 and 7 p.m.

Check the website and flyers!

RUTH ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK DISCUSSION

Edward Pettit is our discussion leader.

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Shorday Silent Study Room

Sept 17 - The Station Agent (film)

Oct 15 - The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz

Nov 12 - The Painted Veil by W. Somerset Maugham

Dec 10 - Proust Was a Neuroscientist by Jonah Lehrer, Guest Lecturer: Dr. Robert Abel.

The books may be purchased in the Library Office for \$9 each.

DON'T GET SCAMMED

Thursday Sept 18 at 11 a.m.

Richard Saunders, member of AARP's statewide Consumer Task Force, will show us how to prevent investment fraud schemes that particularly target seniors and pre-seniors.

BLACK KNIGHTS AND DEAD PARROTS: MONTY PYTHON AND PHILOSOPHY

Sept 25 from 7-8:45 p.m.

As undergraduates at Cambridge and Oxford in the 1960s, the future members of the seminal British comedy troupe Monty Python studied ideas that are at the heart of modern philosophical thinking. Not surprisingly, the philosophy they learned crept into some of their funniest sketches.

Gary Hardcastle will use clips of several of Monty Python's best-known skits to illustrate and explain what philosophers do, why they do it and why what they do is important. In short: what philosophy is all about, and a rare opportunity to learn philosophy while giggling.



This FREE presentation is a program of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, a Federal-State partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The PHC inspires people to come together and share a life of learning. Since 1973, the PHC has provided resources that empower local groups to help their communities explore history, literature, the arts, and the ideas that shape the human experience.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Every 1st Thursday at 1 p.m.

Oct 2 - Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Nov 6 - Loving Frank by Nancy Horan

Dec 4 - The Nine by Jeffrey Toobin

No registration required. Walk-ins welcome!

OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Every 2nd Tuesday, from 7-8:45 p.m.

Oct 14 - Rest in Peace: Stone & Symbolism

Nov 11 - Internet Update

Dec 9 - Preserving the Past

SOCRATES CAFÉ

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 10:30-noon AND

Every 4th Friday of the month from 7-8:30 p.m.

Giving Philosophy Back to the People. Let's discuss ... What is truth? What is moderation? Any and every question under the sun!

FOLK GUITAR WORKSHOP SERIES

Oct 15, 29 and Nov 12, Nov 25, Dec 10 at 7 p.m.

For ages 15 and up.

Instructor Rich Kaufman will bring some guitars to lessons.

MULTI-GENERATIONAL HARP ENSEMBLE

Oct 19 from 3-5 p.m.

Come join us for an afternoon of Irish, Scottish and medieval music played by Ellen Tepper and her students.

ANTIQUES GEMS SHOW

Terry O'Sullivan, Gemological Resources Inc.

Nov 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Discussion of estate and period pieces.

Winners of a drawing will receive an informal evaluation.

AN AFTERNOON WITH GEORGE GUIDALL:

The Art and Artifice of Audiobook Narration



April 19 at 2:30 p.m.

Recipient of two Audie Awards and more than 50 Ear Phone Awards, Mr. Guidall will read from some of his 900+ books he has recorded and tell us of the process, preparation and performance decisions that have made him a favorite.



Miss Ellanie - How to Get It All: Request Pointers

You've just watched season one of *Lost*, *Wired*, *Entourage*, *Mad Men* or *Sex and the City* on Library DVD and you'd like to see season two. So you went to our website: abingtonfreelibrary.org, to the catalog, found season two and requested it. When you got the call (or email – get notification about your reserves through email today!) you went to the Library to pick it up. The DVD in your hand is season two, but it's only disc 3 of 4! Turns out that season two has four DVDs all in their own individual cases. How do you get the whole season so you can watch it in its proper sequence? Here's how

Again, go to our website, and click on "Catalog." Type in the title you want. When you see the item you want, click "Availability." If there are multiple discs in separate cases, you'll see them listed here. If you see  let your cursor hover over the icon to see which disc it represents. To place a request, click on  next to the version(s) you want. Type in your library card number and password to log in to your account, then hit "Submit Request." The following message will then pop up:

"Do you want to request this specific item or the first available copy of this title?" Pick "This item only" to ensure your choice.



A few more points:

1. You can change where you pick up your requested item from the Pickup Library list.
2. You can delay your request until a future date. Type the date in the Activation Date box in the format mm/dd/year (for example, 01/30/2009 for Jan 30, 2009).
3. Your request may not be successful if your patron account is blocked or if the requested material does not circulate. A message is displayed if your request cannot be placed. Also, a message may inform you that you cannot request a hold on a specific copy. For example, the item may be lost or may not circulate.

And it's always a good idea to check your account to make sure that everything went through as you want.

– Miss Ellanie (as told to Karen Burnham)

Did You Know ...

that Abington Free Library and Roslyn Branch Library both celebrate Halloween in a big way? Library staff members wear costumes on a theme thought up well in advance and kept secret till the big day!

Celebrate with us! Come to the Library in your costume!



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 hold their meetings in the Community Room in the lower level of Abington Free Library. We'll meet on the following Saturday mornings at 9:30: Sept 20, Nov 15, Feb 21 and May 16. The annual meeting, our Picnic in the Park, will be June 8, 5:45 p.m., at Alverthorpe Park.

Fall Activities:

- Election Day Bake Sale – Nov 4
- Bangles, Baubles & Bids – the month of November – The Friends' Annual Jewelry & Collectibles Silent Auction
- Early 2009 – Design-a-Bookmark Contest for children grades K-12

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE FRIENDS:

- Donate books, movies, audiobooks, music and current textbooks.
- Donate jewelry and small collectibles now through the end of October.
- Love to bake? Donate your favorite cake, cookies, pie or bread on Nov 4.
- Volunteer at the Bookcellar or help with Friends' activities.
- Become a member.

NEW BOOKS ARRIVE EVERY DAY AT OUR BOOKCELLAR – Please come by and browse through our extensive collection. We are located in the lower level of the Abington Free Library, next to the Children's Department. All of our books, movies and music are for sale at bargain prices!



BOOKCELLAR hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, noon-4 p.m.; Wednesday, noon-8:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Donations are gratefully accepted daily at the Circulation Desk.

All proceeds from the Friends' activities go directly to support the township libraries.

– Lydia Parke, president, The Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries

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.-Fri. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun. 2 - 5 p.m.
Closed Sundays in August.

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.



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Staff Spotlight – Andy Simpson

A familiar smile at Abington Library belongs to Andy Simpson, known to dozens of 4 to 5 year olds (and former 4 to 5 year olds) as “Miss Andy.”

Andy is in charge of the 4- and 5-year-old story time. She also answers questions at the desk and designs the bulletin boards. She knows many of the children who frequent the library by name, ooohs and ahhs over their accomplishments, and keeps the most rambunctious from climbing the shelves.

Andy grew up in Cheltenham Village and still remembers the little library that once stood at the corner of Old Soldiers Road and Central Avenue. She remembers it as the kind of library where the librarian was always shushing people, but she still liked going there.

She went through the parochial school system, graduating from Cardinal Dougherty High School. After high school, she worked at a bank and then in a lawyers office. She stopped working when she got married, and went on to have three children. Today, she and her husband have three grandchildren, ages 4, 2 and 7 months.

Andy came to the library in 1995, after working as a gym teacher at her old elementary school. She originally worked

part time in the processing department, covering new books and repairing old ones. Since 1999, she has been a full-time library assistant in the Children’s Department.

She is known by her co-workers for her incredible talents and artistic endeavors. She says that artiness is “...in my blood.” Her mother painted, and sewed matching Easter outfits for all her children, as well as taking art classes. Andy has followed suit; she has taken water color classes, as well as basket making and quilting. She is responsible for almost all of the wonderful decorations and bulletin boards you see in the Children’s Department.



Andy is also known for her cheerfulness, her sense of humor, and her total delight in her three grandkids.

- Lois Odabas