

From the Director's Desk - Survey Says...

More than 800 of you participated in the recent Library survey, and I am happy to report the results were overwhelmingly positive! Words used to describe us: friendly, helpful, excellent and awesome. Even those responses that were a little critical included praise. 98.5% of respondents said that the Library is important to their family and 99.3% said that it is important to the community. Wow! These are very high numbers, and they indicate a high level of support for the library and the role it plays in the community.

We want you to know that we listened to your suggestions, and some have already been implemented, including:

- Additional quiet study space (two new small meeting rooms)
- Additional hours (summer Saturdays)
- Increased Wi-Fi coverage and speed
- More space in Roslyn (New ADA-compliant bathroom and an additional parking space are a start.)

In the coming months, the Board and staff will continue working with our consultants to implement many other suggestions, some of which will require thorough study. We hope you'll enjoy watching our progress.



Our Adult Literacy Program shared the good news that their 2014-2015 grant via the Delaware Valley Literacy Council was approved. Congratulations to all involved!

- Nancy Hammeke Marshall,
Executive Director



small-group classes for English language learners to practice their English skills as they learn about our government and culture.

We will be training new tutors on Oct. 20 and Oct. 27, in the evening. We also offer training for our volunteer tutors on various topics throughout the year. For more information, please stop by the Literacy Office at Abington Free Library or contact us at 215-885-5183, or AbingtonLiteracy@mclinc.org.

Literacy Office hours:
Monday through Thursday
10 a.m. – 1 p.m., and by appointment.

- Elizabeth Sperling, Literacy Coordinator

Adult Literacy Program

For over 30 years, the Adult Literacy Program has been pairing trained volunteer tutors with adults looking to improve their literacy skills. Our tutors help over 100 adults increase their job prospects and gain confidence by helping them improve their reading and writing skills. We help students prepare for their high school equivalency diploma, the GED and other tests, and work with foreign-born residents learning English for the first time. We also offer

Thank You to Our Recent Significant Donors

Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries

ACE Charitable Foundation (matching funds for donation by Julie and Thomas Wamser)	Catherine Keim
Glenn Boyd and Debra Ann Cipriani, M.D.	Virginia Klipstein
Vickie and Pete Brown	Christopher Kretschan
James Cook	Michael Maruschak
	Old York Road Genealogical Society
	Joanne Schwartz

Reference Department News - LearningExpress

LearningExpress Library has a new look and updated resources. This web library offers a variety of learning centers for all ages. Whatever your goal, LearningExpress Library can help you succeed at school, at work or in life. Resources include:

Adult Learning Center: Build math, writing and reading skills; prepare for graduate school; prepare for U.S. citizenship test.

Career Center: Try entrance exam practice tests; learn about careers and workplace skills; explore military and officer training.

College Preparation Center: Find help for taking tests – ACT, SAT, AP, TOEFL and THEA – and college essay writing.

High School Equivalency: Learn about basic skills; try a GED practice test (or GED in Spanish) and social science, math and language arts practice tests.

School Center: Learn ways to improve reading, writing and math for elementary and middle school students.

- You can find this resource from our website. Look for Navigation on the left-hand side and then click on eResources. Once there, look for LearningExpress in the alphabetical listing.



Please stop by the Information Desk or call 215-885-5180, ext. 13, for assistance with these valuable resources.

- Mimi Satterthwaite and her staff
Email : AskAbington@gmail.com

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. 15 and continue through Dec. 11.
Ages 3-6: Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Ages 2-3: Thursdays at 11 a.m.
Registration begins Aug. 25.

LEARN THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF HOME DOWNSIZING

from a senior real estate specialist, Patricia McDonald, who will help you with the process and lower the stress.
Monday, Sept. 22, at 7 p.m.
Registration begins Sept. 2.



STRIPES OF ALL TYPES - Ages 3-8

Monday, Sept. 15, from 6:30-7:15 p.m.
Written and illustrated by Susan Stockdale, Stripes is this year's choice for Pennsylvania's One Book, Every Young Child program. Come hear the story at Roslyn.
Registration begins Aug. 25. The first 10 people to sign up will get a free copy of the book!



PAJAMA PARTIES - Ages 3-6

Three Mondays: Sept. 29, Nov. 10, Dec. 15
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. 8. Register separately for each program.

LEGO BLOCK PARTY! - Ages 5-12

Monday, Oct. 6, 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 15. Limited to 15 participants. Legos will be provided but cannot be taken home.

PARSLEY - THE AMAZING QUIET HERB

Monday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m.
Master gardener Jane Irvin-Klotz
Learn how to use this wonderful herb to enhance your life.

HALLOWEEN PARTY - Ages 2-5

Monday, Oct. 27, 6:30-7:15 p.m.
Stories, dancing, a fun Halloween craft and refreshments. Children should wear their costumes. Registration begins Oct. 6. Limited to 15 children.



BABY DAYS - Ages 5 months-2 years

Two Mondays: Nov. 3 and Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m.
Three Tuesdays: Nov. 4, Nov. 18 and Dec. 2, 11 a.m.
Babies and caregivers will sing songs, read stories and do fingerplays.
Registration begins Oct. 13.

TROUBLE NAVIGATING COMPUTERS?

On Saturday mornings from 11-noon at the Roslyn Library we have computer docents available to help you! Call 215-886-9818 to register.

Take the 200 BOOK CHALLENGE!

For families with children who have not yet started kindergarten, even newborns! Pick up a reading log at Roslyn or Abington libraries and record the number of books you read to your child. Upon completion, receive a small prize, a certificate and get your picture taken for submission to the local newspaper.



Both libraries offer FREE Wi-Fi!



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. 8 and continues through week of Oct. 13.
Registration begins Aug. 25. Session 2 begins week of Nov. 3 and continues through week of Dec. 8. Registration begins Oct. 20. Two-year-olds meet on Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.; three- to five-year-olds on Mondays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

STRAW STRUCTURES - Grades 2 and up

Thursday, Oct. 2, 6:45-8 p.m.
Take a look at famous architecture with science instructor Sandy Maxwell. Then use clips and 12-inch straws to meet creative design challenges. Build tall, free-standing structures and bridges between tables.
Registration begins Sept. 16.

PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTIES - Ages 3-5

Three Wednesdays: Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17
7-7:45 p.m.
No registration required for these evening story times. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.



DROP-IN STORY TIMES - All ages

Thursdays, 11-11:30 a.m., Oct. 2 through May 21 (No session on Nov. 27, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.)
Story times led by Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members and library staff. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver. No registration required.

STORY TIMES WITH JEAN AND NIJI

All ages
Two Mondays: Oct. 20 and 27
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.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS

Grades 1-5
Three Saturdays: Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6
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. 15.

TODDLER STORY TIMES

Ages 12-23 months
Four Wednesdays:
Oct. 22 and 29; Nov. 5 and 12
10:30-11 a.m.
Children attend with parents/caregivers.
Registration begins Oct. 13.



MODEL TRAIN DEMONSTRATION

All ages welcome
Thursday, Nov. 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Interested in model trains? Learn about this exciting hobby from members of the Keystone N-Trak model railroad club in Dublin, Pa. The presentation will include a working N-scale train layout and tips on how to get started. Registration begins Oct. 30.

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.

TEEN BOOK CLUB - Ages 12-18

Wednesday, Oct. 1, and Monday, Dec. 1
Chat about books! Visit the library website to see what books we're reading.

JOIN AB-TAB - Ages 12-18

The Teen Advisory Board meets once a month to share ideas and plan programs for teens. Get service hours and meet new friends! Apply at the Information Desk.



Get the latest at <http://abingtonfreelibrary.org>

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

PROF. KLEIN SPEAKS

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Shorday Room
Sept. 9: Exclusive Land Tours Do THIS...
Sept. 16: Through the Years...
Broadway's Best Musicals...
Sept. 23: Coping with Today... It AIN'T Easy...

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Sept. 10 and Dec. 10, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
courtesy of Abington Health, Lorraine Paradis, RN

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. 10 (film): *Waltz with Bashir*
Borrow the film and watch it before the event.
Oct. 15: *Anagrams* by Lorrie Moore
Nov. 12: *The Secret Scripture* by Sebastian Barry
March 18: *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt
April 8: Poetry by Maya Angelou
May 6: *The Circle* by Dave Eggers

Launch Party for Joseph Hoeffel's book THE IRAQ LIE: HOW THE WHITE HOUSE SOLD THE WAR

Sunday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m.
All proceeds benefit Abington Libraries

RITTENHOUSE SQUARE ROBERT MORRIS SKALER

Sunday, Sept. 21, at 2 p.m.
Our forensic architect is back to discuss Rittenhouse Square: From Swamp to Swank.

BOOKCELLAR

The Friends are a group of volunteers dedicated to fostering public awareness of the Abington Township Public Libraries and to supporting, through a variety of fund-raising efforts, the Libraries' mission to provide the best possible resources for the community.

If you'd like to learn about our activities, go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/about-us/friends; or call 215-885-5180, ext. 36; or speak with one of our members.

The Friends meet in the Community Room on the lower level of Abington Free Library. Our next meeting is **Saturday, Sept. 13, at 9:30 a.m.** New members (and new ideas) are *always* welcome. Please join us and bring your suggestions! Coffee, tea and pastries are provided. Additional meeting dates are Nov. 8, Feb. 14 and May 9.

Friends Executive Board for 2014-2015:

Elizabeth Christian, President
Ellen Baxter, Vice President
Terry Biansco, Corresponding Secretary
Jay Freedman, Treasurer
Ruth Gebhardtshauer, Recording Secretary

Abington Township Shade Tree Commission
LET'S TALK TREES
Two Mondays from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Sept. 22: Right Tree - Right Place.
Oct. 6: Care for Trees - Young and Old

COMMON SENSE WEIGHT LOSS

Tuesday, Oct. 7, at 7 p.m.
R. Scott Thornton, M.D., will be here to answer your questions and sign his book, *Ask Your Gynecologist*.

WITCHES AND VAMPIRES AND DEMONS, OH MY!

Thursday, Oct. 30, from 7-8:30 p.m.
A discussion of the All Souls Trilogy by Deborah Harkness: *A Discovery of Witches*, *Shadow of Night*, *The Book of Life*.

MILITARY MEMORIES

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.

OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

FALL BOOK AND PLANT SIDEWALK SALE:

Saturday, Sept. 20, 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. Create a scarecrow resembling a character from your favorite children's or young adult book. Entry forms and contest rules will be available at the Circulation Desk and on the website. Scarecrows will be displayed in the lobby of Abington Library.

MIMI ZABEL JEWELRY SILENT AUCTION:

month of November. This is a great opportunity to purge your jewelry box of items you no longer wear and benefit your library. Please drop jewelry donations at the Circulation Desk, *at your earliest convenience*. Last year we raised \$2,351; your donations will help us beat that total this year!

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE: Tuesday, Nov. 4. Contributions of home-baked goods are needed for this event and will be greatly appreciated.

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.

Disclaimer: 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 Abington Township Public Library.

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

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. 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. BookCellar books are also sold on Amazon. Due to a high volume of book donations (a good thing!), donations will now be accepted at the Circulation Desk on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays only.

HOW CAN YOU HELP THE FRIENDS?

Donate (in good condition please) books, movies, audio books, music and jewelry. Support our annual appeal in June. Become a member, share your ideas and help with Friends activities.

Last year the Friends donated \$41,000 to the libraries, and an additional \$12,000 to the very worthwhile Adult Literacy Program. We are grateful to all of you who support the BookCellar and other fund-raising activities. Please remember to return your annual contribution form. Many thanks to those who have already contributed!

- Liz Christian, President, The Friends of Abington Township Public Libraries

BOOKFAIR
at Barnes & Noble
on Dec. 13

The Abington Township Public Library Newsletter
AB LIB
abingtonfreelibrary.org

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Support Abington Township Public Libraries!
On Saturday, Dec. 13, there will be a bookfair at the Barnes & Noble in Willow Grove, 102 Park Ave. Activities from 9 a.m.-3 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. Voucher number may be used at any Barnes & Noble location on Dec. 13.

Online shoppers can make purchases with the voucher number at bn.com/bookfairs from Saturday, Dec. 13, through midnight Thursday, Dec. 18.

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 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

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Volunteer Spotlight - Barbara A. Jacobs



Barb Jacobs is a member of our library's Board of Directors. One of her favorite

activities is gardening. She also likes to can and preserve the fruits of her gardening labors.

Like her garden, Barb has deep roots in the Abington area. She attended Abington schools, and after graduation worked for a surgical group at Abington Hospital.

Today she is secretary of the board at Cheltenham Savings Bank, and an associate broker for Koerwer Real Estate.

Barb loves to read, so she was happy to join the board when asked, in 1999. She believes passionately in libraries, which she describes as meeting places where people can expand their education, explore their interests, and find answers and advice. Barb says Abington Library fulfills all these needs, as well as offering exceptional children's programs.

"I don't believe libraries will ever die out," she says.

Barb is very close to her family, which includes her son, daughter-in-law, and two teen-age granddaughters. The 16-year-old is an able horse-woman, training to be a jumper. The 13-year-old wants to be an actress.

Barb is active in the community beyond the library. She is a member of Jenkintown Rotary Club, co-chairs the Evening Auxiliary of Abington Hospital, and serves on the YMCA Board of Directors. She loves to travel, enjoys gardening, meeting new people and experiencing new activities. "I enjoy everything I do," she says.

Abington Library is so lucky to have Barb's bright and generous spirit on our board.

- Lois Odabas, Staff Writer

