

The AB LIB

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Abington Township Public Library Newsletter
abingtonfreelibrary.org Winter 2010-11 Vol. 9, No. 3

From the Director's Desk

Dear Library Patron, Friend and Investor,

This is written to ask you to assist your Library in continuing to serve you and your fellow citizens of this great community. We are reaching out to ask for your support, and to remind you of some of the wonderful accomplishments and numerous services the Abington Free Library and Roslyn Branch have offered to the citizens of Abington – and beyond – as the Number 1 library in the MCLINC consortium. We also need to tell you about the ongoing challenge we face in light of serious funding reductions due to State budget cuts both this and last year.

The Abington Township Public Library set another record this past year for both levels of patronage and delivery of services. Almost 400,000 users (along with 350,000 virtual users who entered through our website www.abingtonfreelibrary.org) entered our doors to utilize books, magazines, DVDs, downloadable books, access the Internet, or just to revel in the quiet buzz of learning and share in the Library's unique sense of community.

The funding shortfalls means the Library needs your assistance to continue offering programs that meet all Abington residents' interests. Programs like adult and children's book discussions, Abington Reads!, Doggone Good Readers, pre-school education and story times, free lectures, Baby Days, World War II lectures, teen journaling classes, and on and on. This list does not come close to covering the more than 300 programs the library offered last year, including, for example, all that is accomplished in our Adult Literacy Program, which makes a significant difference to hundreds of lives.

The most recent State budget cut funding to libraries dramatically, and it impacts our ability to provide this unmatched variety of programming. Therefore, your investment in and commitment to the Library is essential to assure that important services and unique programs are not curtailed. Please invest, give, donate or bequeath, to the full extent of your capabilities. Your gift will help us meet the needs of the more than a thousand families, students, teachers, children, and seniors who visit our Library each day.

Thank you for your kind consideration and support.



- Ken Kind
Vice-President,
Board of Trustees

- Nancy Hammeke Marshall
Executive Director

Reference Department News

For more information call 215-885-5180, ext. 13 or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/information

We are here to assist you with your computer questions, find and reserve books, begin research or help identify a science fair project. As science fair season approaches, we are happy to



have a new five-volume resource to offer: Experiment Central: understanding scientific principles through projects (2nd ed.) by M. Rae Nelson. Begin a keyword search in our online catalog using terms such as "experiment central" and "acid rain," or "experiment central" and "magnetism" and you will find this source. The books are located in the Reference Collection at 507.8 NEL 2010.

Another great resource for science experiments is Science Online (developed by Facts on File). This resource can be accessed by all patrons in the library, and Abington Township residents can also access it remotely. Science Online can be found at: <http://abg.mclinc.org/information/databases/ScienceOnline.htm>.

Additional help for science research is available through the POWER Library, an online resource funded by the state. Two relevant databases within the POWER Library are Science Full Text Select and the "Science" section of SIRS Discoverer, designed for students in grades one through nine.

Please stop by and let us know if you need assistance accessing these resources.



- Mimi Satterthwaite
and her staff at the
Information Desk

215-885-5180 ext. 13

Roslyn Branch Library

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



PAJAMA PARTIES for ages 3-6
Mondays, Jan. 10, Feb. 7, and March 21
from 6:30-7 p.m.
Stories, songs, finger plays, crafts.
Children are invited to wear their pajamas
and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle.
Registration begins Dec. 27. Please register
for each program separately.

WINTER STORY TIMES
begin Feb. 1 and continue through March 17.
Ages 3-6: Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
Ages 2-3: Thursdays at 11 a.m.
This program is meant for the child and
parent/caregiver to enjoy as a pair.
Registration begins Jan. 11.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Monday, March 7, from 7-8 p.m.
For children K-6th grade
Enjoy an evening of Irish culture and dance
with the Timoney Irish Dancers. Learn
Irish step and folk dancing. Refreshments
provided.
Registration begins Feb. 14.

SILLY JOE SINGS for ages 2 and up
Monday, Jan. 31, at 6:30 p.m.
Silly Joe will sing songs, tell stories
and lead sing-a-longs.
Children will be encouraged
to clap, sing, dance and act silly.
Registration begins Jan. 10.



DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY* CELEBRATION!
Join us on Feb. 28 for a fantastic celebration!
Stories, crafts and refreshments.
6-6:30 p.m. - ages 2-5; 7-8 p.m. - ages 6-12
Registration begins Feb. 7.
*Dr. Seuss' actual birthday is March 2.

On Saturday, Dec. 11, all day, there will be a bookfair at the
Barnes & Noble
in Willow Grove, 102 Park Ave., to benefit Abington Libraries.

Activities from 10-4 p.m. include
crafts, story times and a scavenger hunt.

Support Abington Libraries by shopping with a Bookfair voucher.
A percentage of the net sales using the voucher
will be donated to the libraries.
Purchases of food or drink in the Café, CDs, DVDs,
the Nook eReader and its accessories also will contribute to the total.

Note: The voucher may be used at any Barnes & Noble
location on Dec. 11. Online shoppers can help by making
purchases at bn.com/bookfairs
from Saturday, Dec. 11 through Thursday, Dec. 16,
using the voucher number.

Pick up a voucher soon at Roslyn or Abington Library,
or on the website: abingtonfreelibrary.org.

Teen Programs at Abington Free Library

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

CHESS, SCRABBLE, OTHELLO
and other mind games
Fridays, 3:45-5 p.m. Grades 6-12. Adults
welcome! Chess, checkers, Othello, and
other board games.

ADMISSION TO INDEPENDENT HIGH SCHOOL
If your child is applying for...

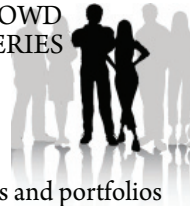
- Admission to an independent high school
- Admission to college
- Employment
- Does he know what sets him apart to increase the chance of winning a spot in the school or job of his choice?
- Can she speak confidently about her skills and strengths in an interview or on a written application?

3-DIMENSIONAL ART
Tween event (Grades 5-8)
Thursday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m.

Create 3-dimensional art by collaging
wooden shapes, found objects, and paint
to invent creatures, characters, and art
objects.

Registration begins on Monday, Jan. 3.
Space is limited to 20 students.

We can help your child stand out from the CROWD
DON'T MISS THIS FREE WORKSHOP SERIES
Presented by Ultimate Success 2
Thursdays at 7 p.m.
Dec. 16 - Overview of the search process
Jan. 13 - Researching schools
Feb. 3 - Tools for successful interviews, resumes and portfolios



**HIGH-LEVEL AND IVY
LEAGUE COLLEGE
ADMISSIONS:**

How to Successfully Navigate
the Admissions Process

Monday, March 14,
from 7-8 p.m.

Workshop leader:
Byron L. Goldstein, M.A.
*Independent College
Admissions Counselor*



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: Feb. 12 and May 14. The annual
meeting, our Picnic in the Park, will be June 13, 5:45 p.m., at
Alverthorpe Park.

Winter Activities:

- Design-a-Bookmark Contest for children grades K-12.
Check at libraries or library website for details.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE FRIENDS:

- Donate books, movies, audiobooks, music and current textbooks.
- Volunteer at the BookCellar or help with Friends' activities.
- Become a member.
- Donate online now using [Just Give.org](http://JustGive.org)
Go to the website, abingtonfreelibrary.org for details.



**NEW BOOKS ARRIVE EVERY
DAY AT OUR BOOKCELLAR**
– Please come by and browse
though our extensive collection.
We are located in the lower level
of the Abington Free Library, next
to the Children's Department. All
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

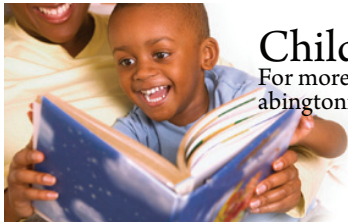
Coming in February
Antique Gem



Show and
Appraisal



by
Terry O'Sullivan
of Gemological Resources, Inc.,
Glenside, PA



Children's Department at Abington Free Library

For more information or to register for these FREE programs, call 215-885-5180, ext. 28 starting at 10 a.m., or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/childrens. All programs held in the Library's Community Room, Lower Level, unless otherwise noted.

PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTIES (ages 3-5)

Six Wednesdays: Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 9, April 13 and May 11, 7-7:30 p.m.

No registration is required for these evening story times.

HANDBUILDING CLAY SNOWFLAKES (ages 7 and up)

Tuesday, Dec. 28, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Create and paint your own clay snowflake. Registration begins Monday, Dec. 20. Pick up finished snowflakes starting Jan. 13 at 6 p.m.

WINTER PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES (ages 2-5)

Winter story times begin the week of Jan. 10 and continue through the week of Feb. 14; registration begins Dec. 27.

Spring story times begin the week of March 7 and continue through the week of April 11; registration begins Feb. 21.

Two-year-olds meet on Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Three-, four- and five-year-olds meet on Mondays, 10:30-11 a.m.

DROP-IN STORY TIMES (all ages)

Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members lead these story times every Thursday at 11 a.m. through May 26. No registration required.

TODDLER STORY TIMES (ages 12-23 months with parents/caregivers)

Three Wednesdays: Jan. 26 and Feb. 2 and 9, 10:30-11 a.m.

Registration begins Jan. 10.

¡VAMOS ALLÍ! A SPANISH LANGUAGE ADVENTURE (ages 3-7 with parent/caregivers)

Tuesday, Jan. 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Everyday Spanish comes alive in this interactive, multimedia story for children. Registration begins Jan. 10.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (grades 1-5)

Three Saturdays: Feb. 5, March 5 and April 2 10:15-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:30 a.m. (choose one session per date)

Children read aloud in small groups to certified therapy dogs. Registration begins Jan. 17.

STORY TIMES WITH JEAN AND NIJI (ages 3 and up)

Two Mondays: Feb. 21 and 28, 10:30-11 a.m.

Join Jean Campellone and her therapy dog, Niji, for stories and songs. No registration required.

A VISIT FROM THE PAST: EDWARD "NED" HECTOR, BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR HERO (ages 6 and up)

Tuesday, Feb. 22, 7-8 p.m.

Artilleryman Hector shares his experiences in the Battle of Brandywine and George Washington's army. Registration begins Feb. 14.

"BORN IN THE USA" (homeschoolers in grades K-5)

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 1-1:45 p.m.

Explore various habitats with Zoo on Wheels. Registration begins Feb. 7.

Check out our preschool story time kits, available in the Children's Department. Recently updated themes include Feelings, Folk Tales, Farm, Birthday and Weather. Kits include read-aloud books, music CDs, puzzles, puppets and more. Great for group sharing!



Adult Programs at Abington Free Library

To register for these FREE programs, visit the Library Office, call 215-885-5180, ext. 15, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org

THE RUTH R. ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Shorday Room. Details to be posted on website soon: abingtonfreelibrary.org.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Every first Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. No registration required. Walk-ins welcome! Jan. 6 - The Solitude of Prime Numbers, Paolo Giordano. Presenter: Geri Tyler

Feb. 3 - The Help, Kathryn Stockett. Presenter: Dagmar Burgess

March 3 - The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, Mary Ann Shaffer. Presenter: Terry Lampa

April 7 - Lush Life, Richard Price. Presenter: Dolly Ketterer

WWII LECTURE SERIES

Every third Tuesday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Details to be posted on website soon: abingtonfreelibrary.org.

FREEDOM: FRANZEN'S GREAT GREEN AMERICAN NOVEL



Abington Township Public Library and Briar Bush Nature Center are pleased to present a book discussion on Freedom by Jonathan Franzen.

Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room

This title may be borrowed from the library system or buy it in Briar Bush's gift shop.

READING TOGETHER

Sunday, April 10 at 2 p.m. Get inspired by author Diane Frankenstein to find out everything you need to know to raise a child who loves to read.



OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

Dec. 14 - DNA: A Genealogy Update

Jan. 11 - Show and Tell: My Treasured Past

Feb. 8 - Love and Marriage

March 8 - Finding Your Way – Using Maps in Genealogy Research

April 12 - Annual Dinner at Williamson Restaurant. Speaker: Dr. Nancy K. Loane, author of Following the Drum: Women at the Valley Forge Encampment.

SOCRATES CAFÉ

Every second Wednesday of the month from 10:30-noon

AND every fourth Friday of the month from 7-8:30 p.m.

Adult Literacy Program

For additional information, please stop by the Adult Literacy office, or call 215-885-5183 or email us at AbLit1@yahoo.com.

Our Adult Literacy Program helps over a hundred students improve their reading, writing and math skills. We also help students 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, they can attend *Conversation Please!* classes on Monday nights and Tuesday mornings, and our new ESL class, *English Literacy and Civics*, on Thursdays.

We will offer training for new tutors in the spring (most likely in April). Support

meetings for all tutors are offered once a month, along with weekly scheduled training opportunities in the area.

- Elizabeth Sperling, Tutor/Student Coordinator

- Rob Naborn, Program Coordinator



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AB LIB

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abingtonfreelibrary.org Winter 2010-11 Vol. 9, No. 3

Volunteers with the Friends of the Library have done the work behind our Election Day Bake Sales for years. Library staff has encouraged people to bake, and they have faithfully responded with delicious treats. All these efforts have generated around \$250 each sale. This past Election Day was different. We were inundated with baked goods! Friends Andi Freedman and Linda Connelly stayed an extra three and a half hours staffing the table on Election Day. Even so, we had an entire table's worth to sell the day after. All in all, this bake sale produced \$686. What made the difference? An adorable flyer featuring an easy form made by our own Andy Simpson. (See more of her work all over Abington Free Library's Children's Department.) She humbly denies her role in this, but 54 people signed up through her flyer. So many gave their time, ingredients and talents to benefit the Libraries ... so the Libraries can benefit you. Many, many thanks to all involved!

Abington Free Library

1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001
215-885-5180, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Circulation Deskext. 12
Information Deskext. 13
Children's Department...ext. 28
Executive Directorext. 14
Officeext. 15
Adult Literacyext. 27
Friends of the Libraryext. 36
Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sat., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun., 2 - 5 p.m.

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.

The Ab Lib Behind-the-Scenes Staff

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Volunteer Spotlight - Lydia Parke

Just how important are the Friends of the Abington Library? Consider the story of Lydia Parke, the president of the Friends group (also the past vice president, past recording secretary and yes, even past president). She is a second-generation Friend. Her mother, Betty Macht, was instrumental in establishing Abington Free Library in its current location.

Lydia grew up in Abington and attended the Abington schools. She went to Skidmore College in upstate New York and found that her schooling had prepared her well for college. That's why she moved back to Abington when she was



Ever on the job, Lydia points out the winning bookmarks from last year's Friends Bookmark Contest. Look for more details in January.

raising her own children.

Lydia majored in biology in college and earned a master's in microbiology from Hahnemann. When her children were small she took a part-time job in an ophthalmologist's office in Jenkintown and eventually became the surgical coordinator.

That experience led her to accept a part-time job as research coordinator at the Philadelphia College of Optometry (now Salus University).

In that position, she coordinated interesting research projects studying the benefits of vision screening in pre-schoolers. Working through the Head Start program in Philadelphia, her research eventually determined that lay screeners could be trained to accurately identify children who needed further examinations.

When that project ended, she became the manager of regulatory affairs for Salus University, assuring that all research met federal standards for safety. She has since been promoted to the position of assistant director for research.

Lydia joined the Friends when her children were small and attending story

times at the library. Her children attended all the programs the library had to offer and were avid participants in the Summer Reading Club. Helping out was a way of giving back.

One of her favorite programs is the Design a Bookmark contest, now in its third year. Prizes are given out in all grades, from kindergarten to 12th, and the winning designs are printed and handed out at both Abington Library and the Roslyn Branch.

The Friends also run the Book Cellar, which was one of the first library book sales to become pretty much a full-time operation, a book store instead of a book sale. They also sponsor the wonderful election day bake sales, an annual silent auction of jewelry, and many other fun fund-raisers. Out of that, they have donated many thousands of dollars to the library, funding such things as the Computer Center and the electronic display sign on Old York Road.

In her spare time, Lydia enjoys relaxing with her couch potato Bouvier, an 80-pound dog who likes to, well, sit in her lap!

- Lois Odabas