Dear Library Friend and Patron,

January 1966

No, that’s not a misprint. Why does this article open with that simple date? Lyndon Johnson was president, We Can Work It Out by the Beatles topped the radio charts, and the book Up the Down Staircase opened our eyes about life at an urban high school. It was also the month that the Abington Township Public Library first opened its doors! Our location was on York Road, but in the lovely columned building where Jenkintown Library stands today. (Close observers can still see The Abington Library etched in stone above the entrance.) Even then, Abington Library was poised for success, as we outgrew our first site and moved to our present location only five years later.

Fast forward to January 2016, when our beloved and energetic Library will celebrate its 50th anniversary! Through it all, Abington’s two libraries – Abington Free Library and Roslyn Branch, which joined the system in 1967 – have been an unrivaled source of materials, literacy education, programming, technology, and other services that, frankly, nobody could have predicted 50 years ago. Our unparalleled Library staff is planning a full year of celebration and programming, based on the theme “Check out the Future!” With this annual appeal to you, our valuable friend and patron, we invite you to “check out” the imaginative and innovative future your libraries have in store. And part of that future will include a campaign by our Friends of the Library to create a garden in front of the library, for reading, rest or meeting friends. Enclosed, you will find more information about that garden, as well as the opportunity to help by purchasing a commemorative paver.

Last summer, Library Director Nancy Hammeke Marshall gave each Library Board member a copy of Biblio Tech: Why Libraries Matter More Than Ever in the Age of Google, which has become our road map for envisioning our Library’s future. The author, John Palfrey, makes the compelling case that local libraries matter now more than ever:

“Libraries must ensure that they function as both cultural and learning environments ... The sweet spot for libraries will be where the physical and the digital – where fun and learning – come together. Neither the analog nor the digital alone is sufficient in cultural and intellectual life. People are moving away from physical objects, by and large, as sources of discovery and information. But the need for human interaction – for humanity in the broadest sense – has never been greater. Libraries can thrive at precisely this intersection.”

As 2015 ends and we look forward to our 50th anniversary year, we again ask that you consider the Abington Township Public Library in your year-end gift-giving plans. You could see a tax benefit if you donate by the end of the year. Thank you for your continued support in helping to ensure that Abington’s libraries remain the thriving, responsive and innovative community resources you know them to be, now, and for another 50 years!

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Tyler
President, Board of Trustees

Nancy Hammeke Marshall
Executive Director

Spotlight on: Books

Here are just a few of the books featured this season:

- Teen Book Club
  - March 2
- Ruth and Robert Abel Memorial Book and Film Discussion Group
  - March 2
- Ruth and Robert Abel Memorial Book and Film Discussion Group
  - April 6
- Ruth and Robert Abel Memorial Book and Film Discussion Group
  - May 4

Find more about Abington and Roslyn Libraries:
Browse our full calendar @ abingtonfreelibrary.org/events
Get e-newsletters @ Email kburnham@mclinc.org and ask to be put on the events list.

Join Abington and Roslyn Libraries socially:
Facebook @ facebook.com/AbingtonLibrary
Instagram @ picasaweb.google.com/AbingtonTownshipPublicLibrary
Twitter @ twitter.com/AbingtonLibrary
YouTube @ youtube.com/user/AbingtonLibrary
Reviews and ratings can be viewed as well. Click on the “Full display” by offering recommendations and them. This is a great way to read bestsellers and avoid long waits. Watch for more details!

In addition, we offer instructional classes on the use of eReaders and how to access our OverDrive collection every Wednesday. Please drop in on a Wired Wednesday class at 2:00 p.m. on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Wednesday and at 5:30 p.m. on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Questions? Visit us at the Information Desk, call us at 215-885-5180, ext. 13, or email us at AskAbington@gmail.com.

- Mimi Satterthwaite and staff

### Roslyn Branch Library Events

For information or to register for these FREE programs, email CFrankford@mclinc.org, call 215-886-9818, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org.

**PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIMES**
Ages 3-6 meet Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Ages 2-3 meet Thursdays at 11 a.m.
Fall session continues through Dec. 3. Register now.

**PAJAMA PARTIES**
Ages 3-6
Mondays from 6:30-7 p.m.
Registration begins Jan. 4.
Children are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle.

**BABY DAYS**
Ages 5 months to 2 years
Fall: Nov. 10, 24, and Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.
Register now.
Winter: March 8 and 22 at 11 a.m.
Registration begins Feb. 16.

**PUPPETS PIZAZZ**
Monday, Dec. 21, at 6:30 p.m.

**PIRATE’S TREASURE MAGIC SHOW**
Monday, Jan. 18, at 6:30 p.m.

**TROUBLE NAVIGATING COMPUTERS?**
Saturdays, 11 a.m.-noon
Computer docents available to help you! Call to register.

### Children’s Programs at Abington Library

For more information or to register for these FREE programs, call 215-885-5180, ext. 28, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org.

**RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH YOGA!**
Ages 4-7
Mondays: Jan. 4, 11 and 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Snow date: Feb. 1)
Join Miss Courtney of Yoga Friends on an imaginary yoga journey that includes a story time, games and relaxation. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to participate.

**PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTIES**
Ages 3-5
Thursdays: Dec. 17, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 10, April 7, 7-7:45 p.m.
No registration required.
Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

**PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES**
Winter session begins week of Jan. 11 and continues through week of Feb. 22.
Spring session begins week of March 14 and continues through week of April 25.
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.
No registration required.

**DROP-IN STORY TIMES**
All ages
Thursdays: 11-11:30 a.m., through May 19
No session on Nov. 26, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.
Led by Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members and library staff. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver. No registration required.

### Wired Wednesdays

- Every first, second and third Wednesday at 2 p.m.
- Every fourth Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

**Computer Classes**
Register at the Information Desk. Call 215-885-5180, ext. 13; or email AskAbington@gmail.com.

**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.

### Coming Soon – Playaway Launchpads!

Loaded with educational apps, these convenient tablet devices will provide children with hours of learning and fun. Look for them this winter in the Juvenile Media section.
Adult Programs at Abington Library

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

RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Led by Dr. Karen Weekes

March 2 - The Luminaries by Eleanor Catton
April 6 - The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes
May 4 - Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee

DECAFFEINATED AND UNWIRED
Talk with a cuppa decaf and new friends every 4th Thursday, 10:30 a.m.

COLORING BOOK FOR ADULTS with Diana Trout
Thursday, Jan. 21, from 7-8:30 p.m.

DIY HIP CHICKS
Tuesday, March 29, at 6:30 p.m.
Tips for a gorgeous home on a budget

LOCAL AUTHOR EXPO
Saturday, April 16, from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

MILITARY MEMORIES
Every third Tuesday at 3 and 7 p.m.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Every first Thursday at 1 p.m.

SOCRATES CAFÉ
Every second Wednesday from 10:30 a.m.-noon

OLD YORK ROAD
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Every second Tuesday from 7-8:45 p.m.

Thank You to Our Recent Significant Donors

Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries
The Hon. & Mrs. Arlin Adams
James Cook
Daytime Book Discussion Group
Margaret Felton
G & B Construction Group Inc.
Janet & Lew Klein
Nancy Lincoln & Robert Harrison
Tink & Ralph McDevitt
McMills Family
NAMI of PA
Montgomery County
Sandy Pfeffer & Brendan G. O’Connell
Dimitra Seiler & William Kohler
Gordon P. Sweeney Jr.

Donate
Up to three paper bags per day of books, books-on-CD, music CDs and DVDs to Abington: Wed. - Sat. to Roslyn: Thurs. - Sat.

Thank you!

Adult Literacy Program

Over the last 31 years, the Adult Literacy Program has helped thousands of area residents improve their literacy skills. We train volunteer tutors to work one-on-one with adults who want to learn English, work on reading and writing skills, or prepare for the U.S. citizenship test, the GED, or other tests required to improve employment prospects. We also offer small group classes for English language learners. With the help of our terrific volunteers, our international students become acclimated to the U.S., obtain jobs, and become more empowered members of our community.

We are always looking for more volunteers. Our next New Tutor Training will be Monday, March 7 and Thursday, March 10, from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. Please call to register – 215-885-5183 – or send email to ablit1@yahoo.com. We also offer programs throughout the year on topics of interest to our tutors.

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

– Elizabeth Sperling,
BOOKFAIR at Barnes & Noble on Dec. 12

On Saturday, Dec. 12, 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 11712650 will be donated to the libraries. Voucher number may be used at any Barnes & Noble location on Dec. 12.

Online shoppers can make purchases with the voucher number 11712650 at bn.com/bookfairs from Dec. 12 to 17.

Pick up a voucher at either Library, or 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.

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Thank you to all of our fall sidewalk sale shoppers. Sept. 26 proved to be a great day for selling used books and mums! The plants sold out in record time; used book sales alone totaled over $1,000.

It’s become a cheerful and entertaining sign of fall at Abington Free Library when lively, literary-themed scarecrows appear in the lobby. Thank you to each family who entered our scarecrow contest and to everyone who took a moment to vote. Congratulations to the winners: 1st place - the McDaid family, 2nd place - Emmalyn Wilson, and 3rd place - Sarah and Julia Lewis. Prizes of $25, $15 and $10 respectively were awarded to the winners. Honorable mention contestants received a $5 gift certificate to the Book Cellar, our used book store.

The annual Mimi Zabel Jewelry Silent Auction is always a November highlight. It’s fun to watch the bids increase throughout the month. Each jewelry donor and bidder contributes to the success of this event. Another November tradition is the Election Day Bake Sale. We are grateful to the bakers who support the library by donating time and culinary skills. The sweet treats you provided were enjoyed by voters, poll workers, library staff and patrons.

The Friends’ biggest fundraiser is The BookCellar, a used book store on the lower level of Abington Library. Hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, noon-4 p.m.; Wednesday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Books, movies and music are for sale at bargain prices. Stop by and explore our extensive collection! We also sell on Amazon. The BookCellar was honored to be one of 36 unique stores selected to be part of the fall Montgomery County Best Kept Secrets (shopping) Tour. At least 60 first-time customers, delighted to discover this “best kept secret,” visited the Book Cellar during the two-week tour. Among other promotions and prizes a beautiful fall gift basket was raffled during the tour weeks. Congratulations to the winner, Lansdale resident Joan S.!

In celebration of the Library’s upcoming 50th Anniversary, the Friends are planning a courtyard/garden in front of Abington Library including plantings, a bench and low wall for seating, a sculpture and a courtyard featuring commemorative bricks available for purchase. The bricks are a wonderful way to make a lasting contribution to the Township libraries while honoring a friend or family member. If you haven’t received a brick order form by mail, additional forms are available at the library circulation desk and on the website.

All of the Friends share a common appreciation and affection for our libraries, as well as a commitment to helping to pave the way for a bright future. New members and new ideas are always welcome! We meet quarterly in the Community Room on the lower level of Abington Library. Our next meeting is Saturday Feb. 13, at 9:30.

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

As you pass by the Circulation Desk, consider buying a 2016 Book Lovers calendar, for the discounted price of $7.50.