In 2016, the Abington Township Public Library is celebrating 50 years of serving our community.

Our libraries are still what they were in 1966: reliable, helpful and open to all. Along the way to 2016, we have become high-tech, professional and innovative. Just ask the more than 335,000 people who pass through our doors each year to read, study, use our computers, learn how to use their devices, borrow the latest bestseller (we checked out more than 500,000 items last year), work on a family tree, look for a job, participate in our Adult Literacy Program or read stories to a dog.

This year, in partnership with our Friends of the Library, we created a beautiful Discovery Garden, complete with commemorative pavers, to mark this milestone. We’re also proud to have been named Non-Profit of the Year by the Eastern Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

Fifty years is no small thing! And I thank all who have made it possible: our top-notch staff, committed Friends and Board of Trustees, and our loyal patrons. Because we worked together, we can all say we had a part in creating two library gems, founded way back when the Beatles and the Beach Boys ruled the airwaves.

Thank You to Our Recent Significant Donors

Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries
Nancy R. Abel            Joann A. Lawler
Mary S. Burke            Michael Maruschak
Patricia Kind            Nancy and Daniel Sneberger
Family Foundation        Jack Starrantino
Kiwanis Club of Jenkintown

Abington Township Public Library
1966-2016
Check out the future!

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Ruth and Robert Abel Memorial Book and Film Discussion Group
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Sept. 14, The Revenant (film)

Oct. 19, Purple Hibiscus

Nov. 16, Between the World and Me

MOST INFLUENTIAL MUSIC ALBUMS Monday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m.
Kite Day: A Bear and Mole Story
Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m.
Ages 3 to 6.

SÅGA OF A WINTERING HUMMINGBIRD
Sunday, Oct. 9, 2-4 p.m.

GILBERT & SULLIVAN
Sunday, Sept. 11, 2-4 p.m.
featuring a touring group from The Savoy Company of Philadelphia.

CAROL B. POLIS, The First Woman Professional Boxing Judge
Sunday, Sept. 18, 2-4 p.m.

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:
Like us @ facebook.com/AbingtonLibrary
See photos @ picasaweb.google.com/AbingtonTownshipPublicLibrary
Follow us @ pinterest.com/AbingtonLibrary
Follow us @ twitter.com/AbingtonLibrary
Watch videos @ youtube.com/user/AbingtonLibrary
This fall, stop by the library and try out a laptop or an iPad

Five laptops and five iPads are available for the public to use on the study tables throughout the library—on the main floor, in Young Adult, in Children’s and the Roslyn Branch. They are another resource for accessing your email account, browsing the Internet, typing a paper or practicing your computer skills.

Magazines

We have many magazines available for you to read in the library and to check out! Our magazine collection is located at the south end of the building. We also offer young adult and children’s magazines. Please ask about our collections. We also offer access to 100 digital magazines through an online service called Zinio. All residents of Montgomery County can access this service to borrow magazines online. You can find a link to Zinio and instructions for using this service on our website.

Yearbooks

Our Abington High School Yearbook collection (The Oracle) has been digitized! The years 1918-2015 (except 1922) are available to view at Abington and the Roslyn Branch on DVDs created by the Oklahoma Correctional Industries. They will be available online in the fall on POWER Library’s PA Photos and Documents site. This can be found by clicking on eResources on the library website and looking for POWER Library.

Please call, stop by, or email us with your questions.

Mimi Satterthwaite
Head, Reference Department
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askabington@gmail.com
abingtonfreelibrary.org
News & Views of the Friends of Abington Libraries

The Friends are saddened by the loss of our past-President, Liz Christian, whose dedication and enthusiasm enriched the library and the Friends.

Liz was an avid promoter of the library and its programs, particularly Adult Literacy. As a member of the Library’s 50th Anniversary Committee, she was instrumental in planning the Discovery Garden, dedicated on June 25. The garden, near the Abington Library main entrance, features a “literary” bench and commemorative pavers and is an inviting reading and meeting space. The Friends thank everyone who purchased pavers.

The Friends support the programs of the Abington Township Public Libraries through fundraising and advocacy.

*BOOKCELLAR*

The BookCellar, which sells gently used books, DVDs, audio books, and music CDs at bargain prices, raises funds for our libraries. Donations of books and media are needed all year and are tax-deductible.

Please visit the BookCellar on the Abington Library lower level. Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, noon-4 p.m.; Wednesday, noon-4:30 p.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. We also sell on Amazon.

**SUMMER READING CLUB 2016**

Upcoming Friends Activities:

**Quarterly Meeting:**
Saturday, Sept. 10, 9:30 a.m., Community Room in the lower level of the Abington Library. Open to all; ideas welcome!

**Friends Book and Plant Sale:**
Saturday, Sept. 24, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Abington Library. Books will be half-price!

**Scarecrow contest:** Create a scarecrow character from your favorite children’s or young adult book. Entries are due Sept. 28; the scarecrows will be on display in the Abington Library Oct. 1-23. Library patrons can vote for their favorite scarecrow!

**Boscov’s Friends Helping Friends Day:** Support our Libraries; buy a shopping pass for $5 and receive a 25% discount on purchases made at the Boscov’s store in Plymouth Meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 18. Passes will be sold in the BookCellar starting in September.

**Mimi Zabel Jewelry Silent Auction:** Jewelry donations are needed! Purge your jewelry box of items you no longer wear. Please leave your donations at the Circulation Desk between Aug. 1 and Oct. 15. The auction will be in November.

Please join the Friends! Visit abingtonfreelibrary.org/about-us/friends.

**ENLISTED TUTORS**

Donate

Up to three paper bags per visit of books, books-on-CD, music CDs and DVDs to Abington: Wed. - Sat. to Roslyn: Thurs. - Sat. Thank you!

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.
Abington Free Library
1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001
215-885-5180, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

Roslyn Branch Library
2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001
215-886-9818, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

Hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 9:30-9
Tues., Thurs. & Fri., 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat., 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Hours: Mon., 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Tues., Thurs. & Fri., 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat., 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Hours: Fri. and Sat.: 9:30-5, Sun.: 1-5

The Ab Lib Behind-the-Scenes Staff
Nancy Hammekes Marshall
Editor-in-Chief
Karen Burnham
Editor/Gadfly
Cathy Kress
Copy Editor
Lois Odabas
Staff Writer

Staff Spotlight – Michael Rechel

Michael Rechel is the Head of our Technical Services Department. He oversees the processing of every item that is purchased or donated to the library. It is a daunting task, but Michael brings to it a wealth of experience.

Raised in Williamsport, Pa., he attended the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester, with the intention of becoming a music teacher. But opera stole his heart. In the absence of a major in opera production and direction, he created his own, at one point taking four German and three Italian classes simultaneously. (His ability to perfectly decline a German sentence didn’t much impress his Italian professor.)

Deciding not to teach, he chose to pursue a graduate degree in musicology, which required him to find some way of paying the rent and eating. He took a job at the Sibley Music Library in 1975, and, thanks to tuition remission, was able earn his master’s degree in library science.

In the winter of 1977, 20 feet of snow fell in Rochester and chased him down to Philadelphia, where he became a cataloging librarian at Bryn Mawr College. There he developed a lasting love of archaeology, particularly Bronze Age Aegean art. Bryn Mawr was followed by stints at the N.J. State Library; as an editor for Catholic Library Association; and as director of the Pitman (N.J.) Public Library and Head Librarian at the East Cheltenham Library, before finally returning to his roots, cataloging, here at Abington.

When Michael arrived here in 2002, he discovered 10,000 records of items that had been cataloged “on-the-fly” when the library adopted barcodes in 1999. These were records that essentially had no information in item, save a barcode and a call number. Michael and his staff doggedly tracked down every single one of them and properly cataloged them, so people could find the titles they were looking for. At the end of that mammoth project, in 2005, he was presented with a large ceramic fly, which still adorns his desk.

But what of opera? He channeled that passion into a series of cats he adopted over the years. In order, Boheme, Tosca, twins Mimi and Rudi, Mario, Lucia, Giorgietta and Isadora. Presently, he is the fond human of Thais and Sophie.

So the next time you walk into the library and find exactly what you want, thank the alchemy of cataloging and our wizard of same, Michael Rechel.

-Lois Odabas, Staff Writer

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