This year has been a whirlwind for the Abington Township Public Libraries, as we celebrated our 50th Anniversary of unrivaled service to the Township.

In January we accepted a Proclamation by the Township Board of Commissioners;

In March we accepted a generous donation to the Library upon the grand opening of the nearby Ross Dress for Less;

In May we were honored as Non-Profit of the Year by the Eastern Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and were selected as one of CAPT’s 24-Hour Relay honorees;

In June we dedicated the Discovery Garden at the Main Library’s front entry;

In July the Library’s Book Cart Drill Team triumphantly returned to the Glenside Patriotic Association’s July 4th Parade; we also took a trip down to WHYY, to staff the phones for their pledge drive;

In October we were honored by the Willow Grove Chapter of the NAACP as the recipient of their Community Service Award.

The Abington Township Commissioners’ Proclamation in January reminds us of just some of the milestones in the Library’s 50-year history. It reads in part:

Creating the Friends of the Abington Township Public Library in 1966 to support the growth of the Library, a group that continues to serve with its operation of the Book Cellar and a range of other giving opportunities for the Library’s benefit;

Incorporating the Roslyn Branch within the Abington Township Public Library in 1967;

Establishing an Adult Literacy program in 1984 in order to assist adults with reading difficulties, and later, expanding it to include

General Educational Development and English as a Second Language tutoring;

Creating the Ruth and Robert Abel Memorial Book and Film Discussion Group in 1988;

Becoming a founding, and integral, member of the Montgomery County Library and Information Network Consortium (MCLINC) in 1995 in order to purchase and operate an integrated online library system throughout the county;

Developing the innovative Abington/Roslyn READS! summer program, pairing young readers with teen mentors to foster reading development and retention over the summer.

Through it all, our libraries continue to develop popular programs that generate increases in attendance: library records indicate that our turnstile count to the end of October was 282,403, an increase of 4% over last year. To support this record of achievement and accolades, we ask you again to consider the Abington Township Public Library in your year-end gift giving plans, helping us confront increasing demands set against a limited budget. Your contributions may result in tax benefits for you if made by the end of the year.

Your support of the Library in the past is much appreciated, and we thank you for your continued support to help ensure that the Abington Township Public Library remains an exemplary community resource.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Tyler
President, Board of Trustees

Nancy Hammeke Marshall
Executive Director

Dear Library Friend and Patron,

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Thomas E. Tyler
President, Board of Trustees

Nancy Hammeke Marshall
Executive Director

Featured Books

Ruth and Robert Abel Memorial Book and Film Discussion Group

Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Nov. 16, Between the World and Me

March 15, The Sympathizer

April 19, The Vegetarian

May 17, Black Flags

Featured Events

TEEN CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

1st Tuesday of the month, 4-5p.m

DOGGONE GOOD READERS

Dec. 3, Feb. 4, March 4, April 1
10:15-10:45 a.m. or 11-11:30 a.m.

March 15, The Sympathizer

April 19, The Vegetarian

May 17, Black Flags

Roslyn - STEM Learning Lab

Monday, Jan. 16 from 7-8 p.m

“THE PEANUTS MOVIE” (G)

Tuesday, Dec. 27, 6:30-8 p.m

Find more about Abington and Roslyn Libraries: Browse our full calendar @ abingtonfreelibrary.org/events. Get eNewsletters 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 @ http://bit.ly/flickrAbingtonLibrary
Follow us @ twitter.com/AbingtonLibrary
Follow us @ pinterest.com/AbingtonLibrary
Watch videos @ youtube.com/user/AbingtonLibrary
The library now has T-Mobile HotSpots for loan! A HotSpot provides Internet access wherever the HotSpot is placed. This is ideal for use at home or when traveling. Up to four devices (e.g. smart phones, tablets or laptops) can be connected to a HotSpot at one time. Limiting the number of connected devices ensures the best response time. The Abington Free Library has four HotSpots, and one is available at the Roslyn Branch. A HotSpot can be borrowed for seven days; one renewal is permitted unless there is a waiting list.

Tech Tip

Always log out of your email, Facebook or any other accounts BEFORE closing an Internet browser.

If you need assistance with this, please ask at the Information Desk.

Please call, stop by, or email us with questions. We enjoy hearing from you!

Mimi Satterthwaite
Head, Reference Department
215-885-5180 ext. 13
askabington@gmail.com
abingtonfreelibrary.org

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**Roslyn Branch Library Events**

**LEGO CLUB**
Every Saturday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**PAJAMA PARTIES**
Ages 3-6
Mondays: Nov. 14, Dec. 5
6:30-7 p.m.
Children are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle.

**PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIMES**
Begin Oct. 3 and continue through Dec. 15.
Ages 3-6 Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Ages 2-3 Thursdays at 11 a.m.
Register now.

**BABY DAYS**
Ages 5 months to 2 years
Tuesdays: Nov. 1, 15, 29, and Dec. 13, at 11 a.m.
Register now.

Please join Celia Frankford, Roslyn librarian, for a reading of the book

**THE STORY OF THE FIRST THANKSGIVING**
by Elaine Raphael and Don Bolognese.
Ages 5-8
Monday, Nov. 21, 7-8 p.m.
Book discussion and Thanksgiving crafts.
Register now.

**THE CHICKEN SQUAD**
Ages 5-8
Monday, Dec. 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Book discussion and crafts.
Registration begins Nov. 22.

**STEM LEARNING LAB**
Ages 5-12
Monday, Jan. 16, 7-8 p.m.
Do you like to build things? Are you interested in learning about robots and electronics?

**TROUBLE NAVIGATING COMPUTERS?**
Saturdays, 11 a.m.-noon.
Computer docents available!

215-886-9818
abingtonfreelibrary.org
CFrankford@mclinc.org

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**Children’s Programs at Abington Library**

**BUILD-A-MANIA**
All ages, attending with parents/caregivers
Thursdays: Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 2, April 6, 6-7:30 p.m.
Bring your family (toddlers welcome) and build like crazy with LEGO’s, Magna-Tiles, K’Nex and more than a dozen Lakeshore Learning kits. Come when you can; doors will open at 6.
No registration required.

**DOGGONE GOOD READERS**
Grades 1-5
Saturdays: Dec. 3, Feb. 4, March 4, April 1
10:15-10:45 a.m. or 11-11:30 a.m.
Children practice reading aloud to registered therapy dogs in small groups.
Register now for Dec. session; registration for the other dates begins Jan. 17.

**RUSSIAN 3-D SNOWFLAKE WORKSHOP**
Ages 4-10, attending with parents/caregivers
Thursday, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m.
Create beautiful 3-D snowflakes using white paper, scissors, glue sticks and foil.
Program will run 45-60 minutes.
Registration begins Nov. 29.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – “THE PEANUTS MOVIE” (G)**
All ages
Tuesday, Dec. 27, 6:30-8 p.m.
Spend an evening with the Peanuts gang! Bring a snack if you like (no peanut products, please).
No registration required. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

**STORY TIME WITH PATRICIA AND MARY**
All ages, attending with parents/caregivers
Thursday, Dec. 29, 10:30-11 a.m.
Join Patricia McGinly and her registered therapy dog, Mary (a miniature pinscher) for a special read-aloud time.
No registration required.

**WINTER/SPRING STORY TIMES**
All ages, attending with parents/caregivers
Join us for stories and crafts on Mondays and Tuesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.
Winter session begins week of Jan. 9 and continues through week of Feb. 13. Spring session begins week of March 6 and continues through week of April 17.
No registration required.

**DROP-IN STORY TIMES**
All ages, attending with parents/caregivers
Thursdays, 11-11:30 a.m., through May 18
(No session Dec. 22 and Dec. 29)
Story times led by Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members and library staff.
No registration required.

**“OH, BABY!” STORY TIMES**
For babies and toddlers
(ages 8-23 months), attending with parents/caregivers
Wednesdays: Jan. 25-March 8
10:30-11 a.m.
(No session Feb. 15)
Registration begins Jan. 10.

**STORY TIMES WITH JEAN AND NIJI**
All ages, attending with parents/caregivers
Mondays: Feb. 20 and 27
10:30-11 a.m.
Enjoy stories and songs with Jean Campellone and her registered therapy dog, Niji (a yellow Lab).
No registration required.

215-885-5180, ext. 28
abingtonfreelibrary.org/kids

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**Teen Programs at Abington Library**

**CODING GAMES WITH SCRATCH & MAKEY MAKEY**
Saturday, Nov. 19, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Ages 10-18
Code a simple game and create your own game controller.
Please register. Spots are limited!

**TEEN CREATIVE WRITING CLUB**
1st Tuesday of the month, 4-5 p.m.
Starts Dec. 8.
Hone your writing skills and get feedback!

**PRINCETON REVIEW SAT PROGRAMS**
Practice exam
Saturday, Feb. 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Strategy session
Monday, Feb. 20, 6-7 p.m.
Registration for both programs begins in January.

Join AB-TAB
Teen Advisory Board
Teens earn service hours and gain leadership skills. Apply on the Teens page of our website.

Sign up for emails about teen events:
http://eepurl.com/UcPwr
ADULT PROGRAMS AT ABINGTON LIBRARY

RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Nov. 16 - Between the World and Me
March 15 - The Sympathizer
April 19 - The Vegetarian
May 17 - Black Flags

POPUP TECH TIME
2-3 pm. Young Adult Area.
Wednesday, Nov. 16 – MS Excel
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Traveling Lecture Series
WWI AND AMERICAN ART
Wednesday, March 8, 7 p.m.

KNEE PAIN THERAPY SEMINAR
Wednesday, March 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

BURTON KLEIN SPEAKS!
Mondays, from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
April 3 - What Money Can’t Buy
April 10 - Restaurants, You Say
April 17 - Doomsday Clock
April 24 - The Vegetarian
May 15 - The Sympathizer
May 22 - Black Flags

MEDITATION FOR HEALTHY LIVING
Jim Rose returns!
Wednesday, May 10, 7 p.m.

MILITARY MEMORIES
Every third Tuesday of the month,
at 3 and 7 p.m. Walk-ins welcome.

DECAFFEINATED AND UNWIRED...
Every 4th Thursday, at 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAYS ON MONDAY
Solve the NYT Sunday crossword puzzle with others.
Mondays at 10:30 a.m. No registration required.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Every first Thursday of the month
at 1 p.m. No registration required.

SOCRATES CAFÉ
Every second Wednesday of the month,
from 10:30-noon.

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

215-885-5180, ext. 15
abingtonfreelibrary.org
KMcInnis@mclinc.org

NEWS & VIEWS: FRIENDS OF ABINGTON LIBRARIES

The Friends are volunteers who support the Abington Township
Public Libraries through fundraising and advocacy projects.

Thanks to everyone who supported our Fall Sidewalk Sale in
September. Sales of books and plants brought in more than
$2,200 – a record! Special thanks to Maddie Krassner,
who set up a lemonade stand, and Levis Hot Dogs, which sold
food. Both raised additional money for the libraries.

In October, the library was decorated again with scarecrows
based on literary characters for the Friends Annual Scarecrow
Contest. Library patrons voted for their favorites.
Congratulations to the winners:
- First Place: Steve from Minecraft by Fox and Ronin
  Chandler. $50 prize
- Second Place: Alice in Wonderland by the McDaid
  family. $25 prize
- Third Place: Corduroy by Sarah and Julia Lewis. $15
  prize

The runners-up received a $5 gift certificate to the BookCellar.

The Election Day Bake Sale is a November tradition. The
Friends are grateful to all the bakers who provided delicious
treats.

The annual Mimi Zabel Jewelry Silent Auction is underway
until Nov. 30. Please visit the display case in the front of the
Abington Library to view the beautiful items for auction and
place your bids in the book provided.

The BookCellar, on the lower level of Abington Library, sells
gently used books, fiction and nonfiction, for adults, teens and
children, as well as audiobooks, music CDs and DVDs. All
items are for sale at bargain prices. Stop by and explore our
extensive collection! We also sell on Amazon. 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.
The BookCellar is the Friends’ biggest fundraiser.

Donations for the BookCellar are always needed. Please bring
donations, a maximum of three bags at a time, in paper bags,
preferably double-bagged, to the Circulation Desk at the
Abington Library, Wednesday through Saturday, or to the
Roslyn Library, Thursday through Saturday.

Two upcoming Friends’ events to note:
- Next Friends Meeting:
  Saturday, Feb. 11, 9:30 a.m.
  We welcome new members
  and ideas!
- Design-a-Bookmark contest, open to kindergarten through
  senior high school students, runs February – mid-March.
  The winners will be honored during National Library Week
  in April, and winning entries will be featured on bookmarks
  available to library patrons.

To learn more about Friends’ activities, visit http://www.
abingtonfreelibrary.org/about-us/friends, stop by the
BookCellar, email us at FriendsATPL@gmail.com, or
call 215-885-5180, ext. 36.

– Ellen Baxter, President
Friends of Abington Libraries

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.

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM
Since 1984, volunteer tutors, working through the Adult
Literacy Program, have helped over 4,000 adults improve
their literacy skills. Some of our students are working on
basic reading and writing skills. Others are working to
improve their English and math skills to pass the GED
or other tests. Still others, who grew up speaking a
language other than English, are attending our small-
group classes and meeting with tutors to improve their
reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in English.
We give priority to low-income individuals, so that they and
their families can prosper in the future.

Last year, we served over 163 students with the help of 109
volunteer tutors. We are very fortunate to live and work in a
community in which talented volunteers are willing to help
others.

Please consider becoming a volunteer tutor. Our Spring
New Tutor Training will be held on March 15 and 16 in
the evening. We also offer workshops for our tutors
throughout the year.

Please contact us for details at 215-885-5183 or
ablit1@yahoo.com.

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

– Elizabeth Sperling,
Literacy Coordinator

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.
to Our Recent Significant Donors:  Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries

American Public Television
James Cook

Gloria and Daniel Donahue
Karen Lee and Leonard McInnis

NAMI of PA Montgomery County
Victoria Rosskam

Roger I. Schreck
Salvatore Valenti

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

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
Nancy Hammek, Marshall
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Karen Burnham
Editor/Gadfly
Cathy Kress
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Staff Spotlight – Mitchell Pinsly

Mitchell Pinsly wandered into the library about a year and a half ago, looking for a respite from retirement. He quickly became indispensable. He runs two programs for us, Decaffeinated and Unwired, a monthly program for discussion of current events; and Sunday’s on Monday, a weekly program devoted to solving the Sunday New York Times’ crossword puzzle.

In between, he will take on just about any task, complete with a cheerful smile.

Mitchell was born in Providence, R.I., the middle of three children. From his earliest childhood, he loved to read and loved his little public library, which was first in the basement of an elementary school and then in an old firehouse. His mother was an avid reader, who required her children to take 10 books with them on every summer vacation. Not surprisingly, he matriculated at Classical High School, a college prep public high school akin to the much better known Boston Latin.

He worked summers for a fruit and vegetable wholesaler, driving a delivery truck from 3 o’clock in the morning to 5 o’clock in the afternoon. It convinced him that he really, really needed to go to college. And we can’t help but say, he could have gone anywhere, but he chose Temple University. He chose it for its Dental School, but that interest did not endure. He graduated instead with a degree in psychology, which at that time qualified him to teach special-ed. Along the way, he worked in Temple’s Paley Library and came to love the periodical section, which held magazines and newspapers from all over the world.

As a young father with one child and another on the way, Mitchell decided to go to Temple Law School. He completed his law degree in four years, attending at night. He became a civil trial lawyer, a career that lasted 40 years.

He is married to Sandy, a remarkable woman in her own right, who had a career in biochemical research, working at St. Christopher’s, Einstein and Temple Medical School. She still volunteers with young patients at St. Christopher’s. As might be expected, that early love of international newspapers inspired a love of travel. Mitchell and his wife have been to too many countries to list, and have two sons who both travel extensively and internationally for work.

About the library, Mitchell says that he loves our programs, especially all we do for children and teenagers. He loves seeing the littlest readers come in every day. He appreciates the friendly staff and he wholeheartedly supports the library’s mission to facilitate life-long learning.

In addition to volunteering at the library, Mitchell is the president of Melrose B’nai Israel Emanu-el, a Conservative Jewish congregation. He also belongs to a Yiddish class there, which is fitting, because as we have gotten to know and appreciate Mitchell this last year or two, it is quite clear that he is the walking definition of that most famous of Yiddish words. He’s a real mensch.

- Lois Odabas, Staff Writer