Volunteer - Thomas E. Tyler

New York. He majored in history, having been inspired by a high school teacher who “lived and breathed” history. He only thought about becoming a lawyer when it seemed like a good way to distinguish himself from his other brothers. He attended New York Law School while clerking at a venerable New York admiralty law firm whose founder had represented the owners of the Titanic.

After returning to this area, he realized he needed to get involved in activities outside of work. For 12 years, he was active in Philadelphia’s Savoy Company, the world’s oldest continuously active theater company dedicated solely to the works of Gilbert & Sullivan. In 1994, while president of Savoy, he organized a trip to England for the whole company, and that adventure led to his becoming a trustee of the library and in 2014 was elected president.

Savoy garnered a prize or two, but Tom was lucky enough to win the Big One: He met his wife, Belinda, there. After a whirlwind and bi-continental romance, they were married in November 1996 in West Yorkshire. Tom and Belinda helped produce Savoy’s multiple returns to the G&S Festival, most recently in 2016 and again this last summer.

Belinda and Tom have three children: an 8th grader and a 10th grader, both in Abington schools; their oldest, also an Abington graduate, is studying at St. Andrew’s in Scotland. As his family grew, Tom wound down his involvement in Savoy, looking for opportunities closer to home to volunteer and serve his community. In 2002, he became a trustee of the library and in 2014 was elected president.

One of Tom’s interests combines all of his enthusiasm for history, community service and just plain fun. He is his neighborhood’s unofficial master of Fish House Punch. It’s a recipe his mother found while volunteering some 45 years ago at the Powell House in West Yorkshire. Tom and Belinda created games, robots and more. Learn more at the abingtonfreelibrary.org.

Society, the Library Board of Trustees has decided to rise to the challenge and assume funding and operational responsibilities for the continued vitality of the Adult Literacy Program. We look at this as a perfect example of a community’s “shared task.” We look forward to generous funding assistance from the Abington Township, the Adult Literacy Program. As always, your donation may result in tax benefits for you if made by the end of the year.

Your support of the Library and the Adult Literacy Program is now in even higher demand, and that adults need literacy skills more than ever to succeed in today’s demanding work environment. For 12 years, he was active in Philadelphia’s Savoy Company, the world’s oldest continuously active theater company dedicated solely to the works of Gilbert & Sullivan. In 1994, while president of Savoy, he organized a trip to England for the whole company, and that adventure led to his becoming a trustee of the library and in 2014 was elected president.

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One of Tom’s interests combines all of his enthusiasm for history, community service and just plain fun. He is his neighborhood’s unofficial master of Fish House Punch. It’s a recipe his mother found while volunteering some 45 years ago at the Powell House in Old City Philadelphia. She assigned his father to make it for the historic home’s annual Christmas party, and it became a Tyler family tradition as well. It’s a kind of potluck of rum and brandy, so the more who come to the bottling party, the happier everyone leaves.

We at the library are grateful for Tom’s service and always happy to see him walk in the door, because we know there will be a story and a good laugh.

- Lois Odabas Staff Writer
Roslyn Branch

Library Events

PLAYDATE ON AVONDALE AVE

Monday, Dec. 17, 6:30–7 p.m.

STITCH AND CHAT

Tuesdays, 1–3 p.m.

LEGO CLUB - Ages 5 and up

January 6, 2019

FAMILY NIGHT: LET IT SNOW

Monday, Dec. 17, 6:30–7 p.m.

FAMILY NIGHTS

Monday, 6–7 p.m.

BABY DAYS - Ages 6 months – 2 years

Tuesday, 11–12:30 p.m.

BABY DAYS Registration starts Dec. 20.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

Ages 3 to 5

Thursdays, 11-11:30 a.m.

Session I - Jan. 10 - March 7.

Session II - March 26 – May 23.

Registration starts March 11.

Djembe - AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLE

All ages

Saturday, Jan. 6, 11–12:30 p.m.


GROW IT: A TEEN SERVICE PROJECT

Ages 12–18

Monday, Feb. 18, 1–2 p.m.

DROP IN FOR CRAFTS AND SCIENCE PROJECTS ON PRIMARY DAY

Ages 5–12

May 21, 1–3 p.m.

KIWANIS STORY TIMES

All ages, attending with parents/caregivers

Thursday, 11-11:30 a.m., through May 16

(No session on Nov. 22, Dec. 27, and Feb. 18. Stories and songs presented by Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members and Library staff. No registration required.

KIWANIS STORY TIMES

All ages, attending with parents/caregivers

Thursday, 11-11:30 a.m., through May 16

(No session on Nov. 22, Dec. 27, and Feb. 18. Stories and songs presented by Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members and Library staff. No registration required.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS

Grades 1–6, attending independently*

Saturday, Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 2, and April 6

10:15–10:45 a.m. OR 11–11:30 a.m.

(2–2:30 p.m. session available on Dec. 1) Practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog in a small group.

Register early for this date since all spots are filled to capacity.

TEEN PROGRAMS AT ABINGTON LIBRARY

DIY PHONE STAND

Monday, Dec. 3, 6:30–8 p.m.

Decorate, paint, or personalize a wood laser-cut stand for your smartphone. All supplies will be provided.

TEEN CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Ages 12–18

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 4–5 p.m.

Have fun practicing creative writing skills through fun prompts and exercises. Share your work and get feedback.

SAT Practice Exam — Saturday, Jan. 12

ACT Practice Exam — Wednesday, Jan. 10

TAKE these full-length practice exams and get a detailed report to help you improve your score. Administered by the College Board.

CREATIVE JOURNALING

Ages 12–adult

Wednesday, May 23, June 27, July 24, August 7, 4–5:30 p.m.

(No session on Feb. 20.)

Online registration begins Jan. 7 at abingtonfreelibrary.org.

CONCERT IN MAY

Sunday, May 5, 2 p.m.

Join the fun with Kirsten Overchewsky, vocals

COMPUTER TUTORING

Get help with internet, tablets, smartphones, programs, or any other computer questions you have. Every Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DECAFERNELATED — AND UNWIRLED

Walk in with your cup of Joe or Tea! Every fourth Thursday of the month, 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY ON THE MONDAY

Join us solving the NYT Sunday crossword. Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Every Wednesday from the month of March, 1, 1–2 p.m.

OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

SOCRATES CAFE

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m.

THE FRIENDS OF THE ABINGTON LIBRARY

Support your Library!

Join the Friends!

The Friends of the Abington Township Public Library is the Friends’ biggest fundraiser. We sell gently used books, fiction and nonfiction, for all ages, as well as audio books, magazines, and more. A portion of the proceeds from all sales is donated in support of the library. Visit the BookCellar for more information.

The BookCellar, on the lower level of Abington Library, is the Friends’ biggest fundraiser. We sell gently used books, fiction and nonfiction, for all ages, as well as audio books, magazines, and more. A portion of the proceeds from all sales is donated in support of the library. Visit the BookCellar for more information.

STORY TIMES — FALL, WINTER, SPRING

All ages, attending with parents/caregivers.

Join us for stories, songs, movement activities, and crafts!

DOGGONE GOOD READERS

Grades 1–6, attending independently*

Saturday, Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 2, and April 6

10:15–10:45 a.m. OR 11–11:30 a.m.

(2–2:30 p.m. session available on Dec. 1) Practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog in a small group.

Register for Dec. 1 session now at abingtonfreelibrary.org. Online registration for dates begins Dec. 10.

PAINTING WITH JOY!

Ages 8–11, attending independently*

Monday, Feb. 18, 2–3:30 p.m. (Schools closed Monday, Feb. 18; date subject: Saturday, Feb. 23, 2–3:30 p.m.)

Artist Joy Fine returns to lead a water-colored paint-along. All supplies provided. Come ready to paint and have fun! Register online at abingtonfreelibrary.org starting Feb. 4.

*For children 10 and under, parents/caregivers are asked to remain in the Library while the program is in session.

People interested in getting involved? Our next New Tutor Training will be held over three evenings: Monday, March 11; Wednesday, March 13; and Thursday, March 14. Registration is required. We also offer workshops throughout the year on topics of interest to our tutors.

Every year, our wonderful volunteer tutors help over 150 area adults improve their life skills.

Some of our students are learning English, others are improving their basic reading and writing skills, while still others are improving their ESL skills.

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

The BookCellar, on the lower level of Abington Library, is the Friends’ biggest fundraiser. We sell gently used books, fiction and nonfiction, for all ages, as well as audio books, magazines, and more. A portion of the proceeds from all sales is donated in support of the library. Visit the BookCellar for more information.

The Lehigh Valley of the Friends is the Friends’ biggest fundraiser. We sell gently used books, fiction and nonfiction, for all ages, as well as audio books, magazines, and more. A portion of the proceeds from all sales is donated in support of the library. Visit the BookCellar for more information.

Level of Abington Library, is the Friends’ biggest fundraiser. We sell gently used books, fiction and nonfiction, for all ages, as well as audio books, magazines, and more. A portion of the proceeds from all sales is donated in support of the library. Visit the BookCellar for more information.

The 10th Annual Design-a-SCIENCE PROJECT

ON PRIMARY DAY

Grades K-2, attending with parents/caregivers

Mondays, Jan. 21-Feb. 25, 7–7:45 p.m.

Learn the basics of Chinese conversation and culture. Register online at abingtonfreelibrary.org starting Jan. 7.

MANDARIN CHINESE WITH HOWARD ZHANG AND CEIL CUNNINGHAM

Grades K-2, attending with parents/caregivers

Mondays, Jan. 21-Feb. 25, 7–7:45 p.m.

Learn the basics of Chinese conversation and culture. Register online at abingtonfreelibrary.org starting Jan. 7.

OH, BABY! STORY TIMES

Ages 8–23 months, attending with parents/caregivers

Wednesdays, 11–11:30 a.m.


(No session on Feb. 20.)

Enjoy stories together with art activities.

FOR MORE PROGRAMS!

For more information about our programs, please visit our website at http://www.abingtonfreelibrary.org/about-us/friends, stop by the BookCellar, email us at FriendsATPL@gmail.com, or call 215-885-5180, ext. 136.

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 the Abington Township Public Library.