The Ab-Lib Behind-the-Scenes Staff
Nancy Hammke Marshall
Editor-in-Chief
Karen Burnham
Editor/Adviser
Cathy Kresz
Copy Editor
Lois Oledbas
Staff Writer
The Abington Township Public Library Libraries Trustee
Thomas E. Tyler, Esq.
President
Brian Mays
Vice-President
Emily Cooper
Treasurer
Lauren N. Greaves
Secretary
Joseph Milano
Jeffrey Schaffer
Toby Ture
Garrett D. Page, Emeritus

Dear Friends, Patrons, and Partners of the Abington Township Public Libraries,

It is a powerful thing to see the collective impact of a public effort and what can be accomplished when we all work together toward a common goal. It was this time last year that we had the privilege of witnessing this principle in action.

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

– Helen Keller

As many of you know, the Adult Literacy Program at the Library has been an integral resource within our community for the past 35 years. In 2018, the program faced difficulties when state and federal agencies cut all funding. Over the years, we have seen the positive effects of this invaluable institution on countless people:

We have seen the jobs earned and the driver’s license tests passed. We have celebrated the many victories of the students, from the big ones, like becoming U.S. citizens and being able to read a bedtime story to a grandchild, to small ones that many of us take for granted every day, like opening a bank account or scheduling a doctor’s appointment.

The dedication and passion of the program director and the tutors allow people to advance their careers and education, to improve the lives of their friends and families, and to become productive, engaged citizens within their communities.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the success of the Literacy Program. It was both a joy and a privilege to support this vital institution. Your contributions made it possible for the program to continue to thrive.

Thank you to those who want to learn.

The Friends enthusiastically answer the call.

Last year we reached out to our own Library community and asked you to give a gift to the Adult Literacy Program. It was both a joy and a privilege to see so many of you enthusiastically answer the call. Thanks to your generosity, the program continues to thrive. We continue to train new tutors and provide students with the resources and support they need to advance their skills and make valuable connections with their instructors and with one another. Because of you, the program continues to open its doors to those who want to learn.

We are once again committed to directing each and every donation from our annual appeal to the operating expenses of the Adult Literacy Program. We hope that you will make a gift to support this vital institution. Your contribution may result in tax benefits for you if it is made by the end of the year.

Whether you are a longtime patron, a new friend, or somewhere in between, thank you for supporting Abington Township Public Libraries and the Adult Literacy Program.

As many of you know, the Adult Literacy Program at the Library has been an integral resource within our community for the past 35 years. In 2018, the program faced difficulties when state and federal agencies cut all funding. Over the years, we have seen the positive effects of this invaluable institution on countless people: We have seen the jobs earned and the driver’s license tests passed. We have celebrated the many victories of the students, from the big ones, like becoming U.S. citizens and being able to read a bedtime story to a grandchild, to small ones that many of us take for granted every day, like opening a bank account or scheduling a doctor’s appointment. The dedication and passion of the program director and the tutors allow people to advance their careers and education, to improve the lives of their friends and families, and to become productive, engaged citizens within their communities.

Support your Libraries! Join the Friends!

The Friends are volunteers who support the Abington Township Public Libraries through fundraising and advocacy. A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Fall Book and Plant Sale in October, which raised more than $2,700 for the Abington and Roslyn libraries! We sold books, fall mums, homemade cookies and baked cookies for the Election Day Cookie fundraiser. The BookCellar is the Friends’ biggest fundraiser. If you are shopping for the holidays, gift certificates from the BookCellar are a great idea! The BookCellar, on the lower level of Abington Library, sells gently used books (fiction and non-fiction) for all ages, 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.

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. 136.

Support your Libraries! Join the Friends! The Abingto
HOLIDAY CRACKERS: NOT ONLY FOR CHRISTMAS Ages 2–adults Monday, Dec. 9, 7–8 p.m. Registration starts Nov. 25.

D’YEMBE DRUMMING Ages 4–11 Saturday, Jan. 25, 11-11:45 a.m. Registration starts Jan. 13.

KENOYA’S PLUS THROUGHOUT February Drop in during Black History Month to make a picture frame and choose your favorite African American hero.

MASTER GARDENER TALKS Watch for our Master Gardener talks in March and April.

STITCH AND CHAT Tuesdays 11–11:30 a.m. Ages 6 months–2 years Bring a small project to work on or start a project with our materials.

STORY TIMES – FALL, WINTER, SPRING All ages, attending with parents/caregivers. Join us for stories, songs, movement activities, and crafts! Mondays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Now through Dec. 9; Jan. 6, Feb. 17; March 4–April 30. All ages welcome. This program might be most fun and educational for ages three to five. No registration required.

PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME Ages 3 to 5 Tuesday, 11-11:30 a.m. 2019 Session II Oct. 31 – Dec. 5 Register now. 2020 Session I Jan. 7 – March 3 Registration open. 2020 Session II March 24 –May 26 Registration starts March 9.


STAR WARS PARTY Ages 5 and up, attending with parents/caregivers Tuesday, Jan. 28, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Presented by MK Tutoring. Come to the library to see a Star Wars movie and take part in our Star Wars trivia. Get your wish list for the next year. Beginners welcome. All ages welcome. This program might be most fun and educational for two and three-year-olds. No registration required.

BUILD-A-MANIA All ages, attending with parents/caregivers Thrusdays, 11-11:30 a.m. Build your own lightsaber, lightsaber sword, or starfighter;

MEDITATION STUDY DAY Sunday, Jan. 12, 6-8 p.m. A study for midnights with snacks and therapy dogs. Great for groups!

TEEN ESCAPE ROOM Monday, Feb. 17 (Abington School District is closed for Presidents Day) Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Bring your family and build with LEGO, Micro Machines, K’NEX Lakeshore Learning kits, and Kinetic Sand. No registration required.

STITCH AND CHAT Tuesdays 11–11:30 a.m. Ages 6 months–2 years Bring a small project to work on or start a project with our materials.

STORY TIMES – FALL, WINTER, SPRING All ages, attending with parents/caregivers. Join us for stories, songs, movement activities, and crafts! Mondays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Now through Dec. 9; Jan. 6, Feb. 17; March 4–April 30. All ages welcome. This program might be most fun and educational for ages three to five. No registration required.

PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME Ages 3 to 5 Tuesday, 11-11:30 a.m. 2019 Session II Oct. 31 – Dec. 5 Register now. 2020 Session I Jan. 7 – March 3 Registration open. 2020 Session II March 24 –May 26 Registration starts March 9.

FAMILY NIGHT CAMPOUT Ages 3–10 Monday, Nov. 11, 6:30–7:15 p.m. Make a lantern or lightning bug and read books in our “texts.” Registration starts Oct. 28.

RUSIAN 3-D SNOWFLAKES Ages 6–12 Monday, Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m. Registration starts Nov. 18.

CAT CASTLES Ages 10–adult Monday, Nov. 18, 7–8 p.m. Register now.