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Dear Patron and Supporter of the Abington Libraries,

This note is to again thank you for your continued patronage and support of the Abington Township Public Library, the #1 library in Montgomery County.

Last year your contributions helped fill in funding gaps created by diminishing Pennsylvania state support and allowed our libraries to maintain and even increase our wonderful children's programs, as well as supporting an exciting, redesigned website: abingtonfreelibrary.org.

As the holiday season approaches, we again hope you'll recognize the wisdom of investing in our Township's future by supporting the Abington Township Public Libraries with a donation. Please help us maintain current services and programs and allow our libraries to keep pace with the ever-increasing demands of our patrons for technology services.

Remember the Library of Yesterday:

Current best sellers, classic literature, encyclopedias, magazines, book discussions, story times, homework help, arts and crafts, tax help for seniors. WE'VE STILL GOT 'EM!

Reference Department News

E-reader and online resource instruction on Wired Wednesdays!

Don't miss "Wired Wednesdays" from 2-3 p.m. in the Community Room of Abington Free Library. What does this mean for you? You can get answers to questions about your e-reader device on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of the month.

On the first Wednesday of the month, stop by and learn how to use the online catalog, your patron account and the many online resources that are made available to you as a resident of Abington Township, Montgomery County and Pennsylvania.

Please stop by or call 215-885-5180, ext. 13, to register.

E-resources come to the rescue!



Looking for Consumer Reports? Need help with researching a topic? Check out MasterFILE™ Premier at our libraries. If you are an Abington Township resident you can access this from home as well. This online database contains full text for nearly 1,700 periodicals covering general reference,

Adult Literacy Program

For more information, stop by the Adult Literacy office, call 215-885-5183, or send an email to AbLit1@yahoo.com.

The Adult Literacy program helps over one hundred students annually improve their literacy skills. We pair volunteer tutors with adults who want to improve their reading, writing or math skills, as well as adults who are learning English for the first time. We help students prepare for their high school equivalency diploma, the GED, and other tests. We also offer small-group classes for English language learners.

We trained 25 new tutors in October, and we will be training new tutors in March. Support meetings for all tutors are offered once a month.

Observe the Library of Today:

E-books, library website, computer lab, on-line catalog, on-line magazines, computer instruction, DVDs, reserve and renew books from home, e-mail notices about your account, automated phone calls and text messages for reserves. WE'VE GOT 'EM!

Help us create the Library of Tomorrow:

With all of the above, plus community rooms, discussion groups, along with whatever new technology becomes available, because we are committed to serving this great community to the absolute best of our ability. With your help, WE WILL GET 'EM!

People depend on the Abington Township Public Libraries to help them find jobs, start small businesses, manage their finances ... all of which are extremely important in today's economy. Likewise, our financial well-being is necessary to continue to provide all (and more) of the services and resources mentioned above.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Abington Township Public Libraries. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

- Kenneth A. Kind, Trustee, Co-Vice President
 - Nancy Hammeke Marshall, Executive Director

business, health, education, general science, multicultural issues and much more. It also contains full text for more than 500 reference books, over 107,000 primary source documents, and an Image Collection of over 592,000 photos, maps and flags.



Need a good book to read? Need a recommendation of an author read-alike? NoveList can come to your aid. If you are a Township resident you can access this from home, too.

NoveList provides access to full text reviews, annotations, publication information, subject headings and more for over 120,000 works of fiction. In addition, this database can recommend similar titles and authors, and provide guides for book discussions. You can search for titles by author, title, series or even by plot descriptions.

Please stop by the Information Desk or call 215-885-5180, ext. 13, for assistance with these valuable resources.

- Mimi Satterthwaite and her staff
 email : AskAbington@gmail.com

- Elizabeth Sperling, Tutor/Student Coordinator
 - Rob Naborn, Program Coordinator

Roslyn Branch Library

For information and to register for these programs, email cfrankford@mcclinc.org, call 215-886-9818, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org

PAJAMA PARTIES (ages 3-6)
Mondays: Jan. 14, Feb. 11 and March 11
6:30-7 p.m.
Stories * Songs * Fingerplays * Crafts
Children are invited to wear their pajamas
and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle.
Registration begins Jan. 3.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES begin
Jan. 28 and continue through March 28.
Story times for ages 3-6 will be on
Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Story times for ages 2-3 will be on
Thursdays at 11 a.m.
*Note: No story time on Feb. 14.
Registration begins Jan. 7.

**TWO DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATIONS**
(Dr. Seuss's birthday is March 2.)
Ages 6-12
Monday, Feb. 18
from 7-8 p.m.
Stories, crafts and refreshments
Registration begins Jan. 28.

Ages 2-5
Monday, Feb. 25
from 6:30-7 p.m.
Stories, crafts and refreshments
Registration
begins Feb. 4.

BABY DAYS (ages 5 months to 2 years)
Tuesdays: March 19, 26; April 16, 23;
May 7, 28; June 4 at 11 a.m.
Babies and caregivers will sing songs,
read stories and do fingerplays.
Registration begins Feb. 26.



Children's Department at Abington Free Library

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

SNOWY DAY COLLAGE ART
Ages 4-8 (with parents/caregivers)
Saturday, Dec. 29, 10-11 a.m.
Join Sue Stanton for a reading of *The Snowy Day*
and other favorite stories by Ezra Jack
Keats. Make a *Snowy Day* collage box,
using paper and fabric pieces. All materials
provided. Space limited to 20 children.
Registration begins Monday, Dec. 17.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES
Ages 2-5
Winter session begins week of Jan. 14
and continues through week of Feb. 18.
Registration begins Dec. 17.

Spring session begins week of March 11
and continues through week of April 15.
Registration begins Feb. 25.

Two-year-olds meet on Tuesdays, 10:30-
11:15 a.m., three- to five-year-olds on
Mondays, 10:30-11 a.m.

DROP-IN STORY TIMES
All ages
Thursdays, 11-11:30 a.m., through May 23
Led by Jenkintown Kiwanis Club members.
Children must be accompanied by a parent/
caregiver. No registration required.

STORY TIMES WITH JEAN AND NIJI
All ages
Six Mondays: Feb. 25, March 4, April 22
and 29, May 6 and 13, 10:30-11 a.m.
Enjoy read-alouds with Jean Campellone
and her yellow Lab, Niji, a registered
therapy dog. Children must be
accompanied by a parent/caregiver. No
registration required.

PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTIES
Ages 3-5
Four Wednesdays: Jan. 9, Feb. 6, March 6
and April 10, 7-7:45 p.m.
No registration required for these evening
story times. Children must be accompanied
by a parent/caregiver.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS
Grades 1-5
Three Saturdays: Feb. 2, March 2 and April 6
10:15-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:30 a.m.
Children practice reading aloud in
small groups to registered therapy dogs.
Registration begins Jan. 14.

"BUILDING WITH DUPLOS"
Ages 3-5
Tuesday, Jan. 22, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
(Snow date: Jan. 24, if library is closed on Jan. 22.)
All materials provided. Space limited to 20
children attending with parents/caregivers.
Registration begins Jan. 7.

"BUILDING WITH LEGOS"
Grades K-2
Tuesday, Jan. 29, 7-8 p.m.
(Snow date: Jan. 31, if library is closed on Jan. 29.)
Build a motorized spinner and create
colorful spin art. All materials provided.
Space limited to 30 children. Registration
begins Jan. 21.

TODDLER STORY TIMES
Ages 12-23 months
Children must be walking independently
and attend with parents/caregivers.
Session 1 – Four Wednesdays: Jan. 23 and
30, Feb. 6 and 13, 10:30-11 a.m.
Registration begins Jan. 14.

Session 2 – Five Wednesdays: Feb. 27 and
March 6, 13, 20 and 27, 10:30-11 a.m.
Registration begins Feb. 18.

DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
Ages 4 and up (with parents/caregivers)
Tuesday, Feb. 26, 7-8 p.m.
Enjoy readings of Dr. Seuss's *Horton Hatches
the Egg* and *Green Eggs and Ham*, with Janet
Barron. Make a green-eggs-and-ham craft to
take home. Registration begins Feb. 18.

abingtonfreelibrary.org

Teen Programs at Abington Free Library

To find out more, stop by the Information Desk, call 215-885-5180, ext. 13, abingtonfreelibrary.org/teens or email LCummings@mcclinc.org.

Join the Teen Advisory Board

Become a leader at the library and earn service learning
hours. At monthly meetings, you can help us select new
teen books, plan programs, and coordinate fund-raisers.
Come to the Adult Information Desk for a membership
application, or download the PDF application from the
Teens page on the library website.

NEW! Teen Book Club

Starting in January! A book
club for teens, by teens.
Check the Teens page on the
website or ask a librarian at
the Adult Information Desk
for more details.

Find out about
10839009
on the back page.




Adult Programs at Abington Free Library

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

ONE BOOK, ONE PHILADELPHIA
Sunday, Feb. 10 at 2 p.m.
The Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka
Discussion led by Dr. Karen Weekes.
The Goal of One Book, One Philadelphia is to promote reading, literacy and libraries, and to encourage the entire greater Philadelphia area to come together through reading and discussing a single book.

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE GETTYSBURG CAMPAIGN
Sunday, Feb. 17 at 2 p.m.
Author James M. Paradis will talk about his second book, *African Americans and the Gettysburg Campaign*.

THE RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
in the Shorday Silent Study Room
Discussions led by Dr. Karen Weekes.



March 6 - *Alias Grace*
by Margaret Atwood
Thursday, April 4 - Poetry of Adrienne Rich
May 8 - *Maus* by Art Spiegelman

CELEBRATING LIVING DIALECTS, MOURNING DYING LANGUAGES
Sundays: March 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 2 p.m.
Expand your mind this March with four fascinating workshops on language taught by Darryl Smith, adjunct professor of English at Muhlenberg College.

PROF. BURTON KLEIN SPEAKS
Abington Library's favorite professor returns!
Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Shorday Room
April 4: Writing with Pizzazz ...
April 11: Somewhere in Time ...
the 1979 Christopher Reeve, Jane Seymour classic ... and then some ...
April 18: Stylish Leadership Trends ...
April 25: "Fantabulous" One-Day Trips ...

WORLD WAR II LECTURE SERIES
Every third Tuesday of the month
at 3 and 7 p.m.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Every first Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
No registration required.
Walk-ins welcome!

SOCRATES CAFÉ
Every second Wednesday of the month
from 10:30 a.m.- noon
Giving Philosophy Back to the People.
Let's discuss ... What is truth? What is justice? What is moderation? Any and every question under the sun!

STITCH ALONG
Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m.
Bring your projects and join our informal stitching and knitting group. We'll provide muslin, thread and needles.

OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Every second Tuesday of the month
from 7-8:45 p.m.
Those planning to attend are encouraged to bring mementos of their experiences related to the theme of the meeting. All are welcome.

WIRED WEDNESDAYS

Every first Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. in the Community Room: Learn about our online catalog, your patron account, and how to use online databases to learn a language, search newspapers, retrace your family tree, and much more!

Every second, third and fourth Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. in the Community Room: Get answers to your questions and learn how to download free e-books from the library's Overdrive catalog to your Nook, Kindle, iPad or other device.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Abington Free Library offers a one-hour class, one-on-one with a volunteer computer aide, tailored to a person's need. The class could cover basic computer skills, the Internet, email, Microsoft Word or Excel.

To register, or for more information, visit the Information Desk; call 215-885-5180, ext.13; or email AskAbington@gmail.com.



News & Views of the Friends of Abington Libraries

Learn about our activities: Call 215-885-5180, ext. 36, or go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/about-us/friends

The Friends meet in the Community Room of Abington Free Library. Our next meeting is Saturday, Feb. 9, at 9:30 a.m. Please join us to learn more about the Friends and how you can help.

The Friends Fall Book and Apple Fest was a great success. Congratulations to Mimi and Munn Steelman, winners of the raffle basket.

Congratulations and thanks to all who made a scarecrow for the Friends 2nd annual Scarecrow Contest. We had 17 creative entries this year. The scarecrows attract lots of attention, especially from our young patrons. We appreciate all who take the time to vote. First place (\$75) went

to Cindy and Andy Lim for "Spiderman"; second place (\$50) to Belle and Gabe Flannery for "Miss Viola Swamp"; and third place (\$25) to Madison, Billy and Brooke Pfeiffer for "Frankenstein."

The Friends are selling the "Book Lover's Calendar for 2013" at the circulation desks of Abington and Roslyn libraries. Cost is \$6.50. Pick up a copy for yourself or as a gift.

The Friends have a bulletin board, near the copy room, on the main floor of Abington Library. Check it out for information and pictures regarding Friends activities.

A special thanks to all who supported the

Friends of the Abington Library annual appeal. We continue to receive donations, and all monies raised benefit both the Abington and Roslyn libraries.

Be sure to visit our BookCellar, located next to the Children's Department. All our books, DVDs, videotapes and music are on sale at bargain prices. We have a great collection of children and young adult books.

BookCellar hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, noon -4 p.m.; Wednesday, noon-8:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Donations are gratefully accepted at the circulation desk. Donated books should be in good condition.

- Linda Connelly, President, The Friends of Abington Township Public Libraries

Bookfair at
Barnes & Noble
on Dec. 8

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The Abington Township Public Library Newsletter
AB LIB
abingtonfreelibrary.org

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Non Profit Org.
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Permit No. 77

Support Abington Township Public Libraries! On Saturday, Dec. 8, all day, there will be a bookfair at the Barnes & Noble in Willow Grove, 102 Park Ave. Activities from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. include crafts, Legos and a scavenger hunt.

A percentage of the net sales using voucher number 10839009 will be donated to the libraries.

Voucher number 10839009 may be used at any Barnes & Noble location on Dec. 8.

Online shoppers can make purchases with the voucher number at bn.com/bookfairs from Saturday, Dec. 8, through midnight Thursday, Dec. 13.

Pick up a voucher at Roslyn or Abington Library, or online 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 Deskext. 12
Information Desk.....ext. 13
Children's Department...ext. 28
Executive Directorext. 14
Officeext. 15
Adult Literacyext. 27
Friends of the Libraryext. 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.

AskAbington@gmail.com

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Volunteer Spotlight - Niji

Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read.

- Groucho Marx

I quote that here because our volunteer spotlight this month shines on a truly unique volunteer. Niji is a 7-year-old yellow Lab with a heart of pure canine gold.

Niji is a therapy dog. Her owners, Jean and Jim Campellone, first got a taste of her personality when they took her to visit a family member in a nursing home. She was only a pup, 5 months old. Somebody accidentally hit her with a cane and her tail was run over by a wheelchair, but she never even flinched. It occurred to them then that Niji would be a perfect candidate for therapy dog training.

Therapy dogs and service dogs receive their first year of training together. But then, of course, service dogs go to live with the person they will be assisting, whereas therapy dogs get to stay with their owners. Jean and Jim couldn't bear to part with Niji, so she was registered with Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs. Therapy dogs do exactly what their name suggests: they provide comfort and emotional support to people in nursing homes and hospitals.

But there's another area where therapy dogs work wonders, and that is in helping children learn to read. Abington Library runs three programs using therapy dogs: Doggone Good Readers, held at the library several times a year on Saturdays, and Bark Pals, a summer reading program held at the Giant food store in Willow Grove.

And we have Story Times with Jean and Niji during school breaks.

Niji loves children. Just say the word "kids" and she starts wagging her tail. As soon as she sees a child, she

rolls over on her back, assuming the most non-threatening position in a dog's repertoire. She doesn't jump and she doesn't lick: she simply waits for a child to make the first approach.

She loves to be read to. She actually follows the book with her eyes and will look at the child for clarification when she hears an unfamiliar word. She has certain favorites, which cause her to just close her eyes in bliss.

In addition to the library, Niji volunteers in schools and accompanies Jean to the classes she teaches in English, computer skills and citizenship to new immigrants.

Niji is also an honored guest at the Apple Store, because she is so well-behaved.

In addition to Jean and Jim, Niji lives with two cats, Jemini 3rd and Karisa. The cats love to snuggle up to her. Niji is a rare, wonderful, and lovable dog, and we are so happy when she spends time at our library.



Niji, ears set for optimal listening, with a big smile on her face

- Lois Odabas, Staff Writer