



Winter 2011

“One must maintain a little bittle of summer, even in the middle of winter.”
~Henry David Thoreau

FROM THE STACKS

ABINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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Follow the Library on
Facebook as Abington
Community Library,
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& our NEW blog,
OVERHEARD IN THE

Why an Annual Fund Drive?

by Francis Santoriello, Abington Community Library Board President

The changes experienced in society in the last few years have been profound on our community library. The new reality after the financial collapse, the real estate collapse, unemployment, and lack of recovery seen in the community has prompted the Abington Community Library to provide more services than ever before. The Library has risen to the challenge by being in front of services that are important to our community, such as access to the Internet. The library has become a meeting place for community members to gather, a central place for those in need of assistance with research, computer training, or reading material, with a wide range of services such as tax preparation to home schooling assistance. The library has been able to rise to these community challenges due to the hard work of the staff and Board of Trustees to find a way to do more with less.

We have starting our annual fundraising campaign with a call to the community to support the library through financial contributions. State funding for the library has been reduced over the last two years while the needs for its services have increased in this tough economy. I believe that if a study were done on the library it would show that the return on the community investment is returned several fold back to the community. Please support your local library through financial contributions as well as you do through your patronage.

"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people.

It is a never failing spring in the desert."

Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919), Industrialist, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist

BECOME A PROUD DONOR

It's not too late to be a proud donor to the Abington Community Annual Fund Drive. Letters with return envelopes are available at the circulation desk of the Library, or simply drop a check into the mail to the Library, 1200 West Grove Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411 with ANNUAL FUND DRIVE in the memo. Donors are recognized in our Spring Newsletter.

Helping Hands: Library Staff, Boards, and Patrons Reach Out

by Leah Ducato Rudolph

When I learned of the devastation to the West Pittston Library after the summer flooding, I couldn't help but pitch in and help. Our assistance was multi-faceted. Those of us with the energy and nerve for it made the trek south to help muck out. Canisters were placed in Lackawanna County public libraries and nearly \$1,000 was collected. Yet again, donations of books and furniture were taken to the Library's temporary location in West Pittston.

Thank you one and all for pitching in to help. The director, Anne Bramblett Barr, writes, "I can't thank you enough for thinking about us. Just knowing of your efforts helped us get through this." Donations were also accepted throughout the Northeast Library District for the Frances E. Kennard Library in Meshoppen, PA.

Holiday Marketplace 2011!



Children's Activities at the Library

by Mary Ann McGrath



During the month of December, children will be able to decorate the Christmas tree on display in the Children's Room by bringing in colorful new socks to hang on the branches. The socks should be in sizes for infants, toddlers or children up to about six years old. After the holidays, the socks will be donated to St. Joseph's Center, Dunmore, for distribution through their Mother/Infant "Pantry."

The December "Make-It, Take-It Craft Time" will feature the theme, "Candles and Candy Canes!" It will be held on Thursday, December 15. "Drop in" any time between 3:00 and 5:00 pm. Materials and instructions for making three crafts will be provided. The craft times are recommended for age 3 through 10 years old and registration is requested.

"It's a Fact!" the After-School Program will take place on December 7 (snow date: Dec. 9) from 4 to 4:45 pm with a look at "Light and Color." Children will be introduced to non-fiction books about color theory and try some hands-on experiments with light and color. For ages 5 through 10 years. Registration is necessary. An After-School Story Hour will interrupt this series of programs in January and February, with a return to the non-fiction format in the Spring. On January 18, children will listen to library stories with the theme, "Winter in the Woods," and on February 15, folklore and fiction about "Washington and Lincoln." Time: 4:00 to 4:45 pm. Recommended for ages 5 through 10 years.

"Make-It, Take-It Craft Time" is scheduled for January 9 and in honor of the full moon that day will feature "Moon (and Stars) Crafts." Snow date will be January 11. In February, the theme will be "Valentines." This program will be held on February 7, with a snow date planned for February 10. "Drop in" any time between 3:00 and 5:00 pm for either of these activities, but please pre-register. For ages 3 – 10 years old.

The regular program of weekly Story Hours will get underway again in January, starting on Tuesday, January 10, Thursday, January 12 and Friday, January 13, for various age levels. Detailed calendars and registration will be available at the end of December.

"Warm Up with a Good Book!" is the theme chosen for the 2012 Winter Reading Club for children slated for six weeks from January 9 through February 17 at libraries throughout the Lackawanna County Library System. There will be bookmarks, stickers, and reading logs available in our Children's Room to encourage use of the warm and welcoming library setting during the coldest months of the winter. Let it snow. . . but keep on READING! There are shelves filled with age-appropriate picture books, stories, readers, and non-fiction on everything under the sun, even though the thermometer might drop down to zero! Stop in, find out how to take part and how to earn a Certificate. Recommended for ages 2 – 12 years old.

Cool Winter Programming for Grades 4 - 6

by Nancy Burke



Don't get cabin fever this winter! There are lots of fun programs for 4th through 6th graders at the library to keep you busy all winter. Warm up to lots of cool events at the library!

Decorate your own graham cracker gingerbread house and make holiday poppers on Saturday December 10 from 3:30-4:30 PM. Take home your creations; all materials will be provided.

It's Minute to Win It Part 2 on Saturday January 21 from 2:00-3:00 PM. Try some new games like Ping Pong Tic Tac Toe and perfect your skills on games like Stack It.

Don't let the winter blues get you down; have fun at our Cabin Fever Party on Saturday February 18 from 2- 3:00. Games, snacks, and an indoor snowball fight will have you celebrating winter!

Check our calendar for dates of Movie Nights, Wii Gaming Nights, and Junior Book Club for grades 4-6. Bring a friend, and enjoy a night out at the library! All programs require registration. Visit the library and register in person, by phone at 570-587-3440, or register online by visiting our website at www.lclshome.org/abington and go to Library Events.

ACL Teen Leadership Committee Presented American Girl Festival! Thank you to all that volunteered and attended.



Overheard in the Stacks

by Laura Gardoski



Author spotlights. Book recommendations. Pictures, information, and humor. Where can you find all this and more? In Abington Community Library's new official blog, *Overheard in the Stacks!* We published our first post on August 25, and have been posting ever since. This blog began as a creative way to connect with our patrons – a way for *you* to stay informed and entertained.

While brainstorming ideas for this blog we knew that while we wanted to be helpful and informative, we didn't want to be dry and boring. We're a library that strives to present information in imaginative ways. So posts are short and simple, with pictures along the way. Stop by and celebrate authors' birthdays with us, or find out the latest library news.

In the weeks since beginning the blog, we've published posts on subjects such as Roald Dahl, National Toasted Marshmallow Day, the Dewey Decimal System, and free, downloadable eBooks from our website. You may never know quite what to expect when you read our blog, but you can be sure that it will be worth your while.

Check it out and let us know what you think! <http://abingtoncommunitylibrary.blogspot.com>.

A New Initiative from Pennsylvania's Libraries

by Mary Garm, Administrator, Lackawanna County Library System

How will Pennsylvania build a better future, one that brings higher levels of school and career readiness, information access, community engagement, personal wellness, and financial health to all its citizens?

Leaders in state government and in communities all around the Commonwealth are grappling with this very question. They face significant budget challenges while trying to address the needs of large numbers of Pennsylvania citizens who have fallen behind in many current-day measures of life success.

Think about this . . .

One in eight Pennsylvanians lacks basic literacy skills

Less than half of all Americans can name all three branches of government

Nearly half of all adults have difficulty understanding and using health information.

Here's the good news: Libraries provide an answer to that better future question. Pennsylvania's public, academic, and school libraries are uniquely positioned to help people of all ages master five types of knowledge essential to functioning successfully in the 21st century.

Without libraries, literacy levels cannot improve – and libraries must have sufficient resources to play that vital educational role.

That's the concept behind an innovative new Pennsylvania Library Association action plan that will have its public launch in early 2012. It will focus public attention on the ways libraries help to power Pennsylvania's progress.

The new initiative redefines the library's role within the context of five essential literacies that Pennsylvanians must attain to compete in the 21st century:

Basic Literacy – Libraries can push Pennsylvania to achieve one of the highest literacy rates in the country, a better trained and more skilled workforce, and a growing economy, tax base, and population.

Information Literacy – Libraries can help all Pennsylvanians learn how to use online resources and current technology to improve their education, enhance their job skills, and participate fully in a digital society.

Civic and Social Literacy – Libraries can give citizens of all ages the knowledge and skills they need to enrich their lives, contribute effectively in their communities, and participate in civil discourse.

Health Literacy – Libraries can play an important role in helping citizens actively manage their own and their family's well-being, making them effective partners with their health care providers and reducing costs.

Financial Literacy – Libraries can help citizens become informed consumers and guide individuals, small businesses, and others to contribute to the economic vitality of their communities.

How do libraries contribute to the acquisition of important life skills? Across the state, libraries offer a wide variety of programs and services that focus on one or more of the five literacies. Think about the many ways your library helps people to:

- Conduct research for school or work
- Navigate a job search or career change
- Improve their computer skills
- Understand their own and their family's health needs
- Find information to make good financial decisions

The goal of this new initiative is to reap long-term benefits for libraries and for the Commonwealth. Working together, Pennsylvania's libraries will promote learning and access to information as the keystones to our progress.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

PROGRAM NOTES: Most programs will be conducted at the Library, unless otherwise noted, and registration is required. Please register for programs by visiting the library, calling 570.587.3440, or register online at www.lclshome.org/abington, click on "Library Events." Check the library or library website for programs added after this newsletter has gone to print.

December 2011

All Month **2nd Saturdays Art Display** Leigh-Ann Sjogren, a Graphics Design and Print Making student at Keystone College, will have art on display through the end of January as part of our on-going 2nd Saturdays @ the Library series.

Every Wednesday (ongoing program) **Families Helping Families** 6:30 - 8 PM Facilitators provide an educational series and support group for teens and their families affected by substance abuse. Co-sponsored by the Clear Brook Foundation. **Adults.**

Saturday, Dec. 1 **Sock Tree in the Children's Room** Trim the tree with socks for infants and children all during the month of December. Socks will be sent to St. Joseph's Center for distribution. **All Ages.**

Every Thursday (ongoing program) **Scrabble** 1 PM Join our enthusiastic group of Scrabble players for a fun game! No registration necessary. **Adults.**

Fridays, Dec. 2, 9, and 16 **Anime/Manga Club - Nani?!** 4 - 6 PM Join us for some ANIMated fun and Manga book discussions. Bring along a friend. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Dec. 2 **Game Night with Wii** 6:30 - 8:30 PM Join us for some OVERSIZED fun! Bring along a friend. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Saturday, Dec. 3 **Yu-Gi-Oh! Duel** 1 - 3 PM Unleash some of your strongest monsters in our duel. Bring along your Yu-Gi-Oh cards and a friend! Sponsored by Abington Community Library Teen Leadership Committee. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Wednesday, Dec. 7 **It's a Fact After School Program** 4 - 4:45 PM Theme - Light . . . and COLOR. Take a look at non-fiction books. Learn about color basics and do a fun activity. **Ages 5 - 10 years.**

Wednesday, Dec. 7 **Conversations in Our Community** 7 - 8:30 PM The group will engage in a brief reading of the text which will provide the basis of the discussion, which is guided by Barry Phillips. The theme for this series is Insights into Utopian Living – Serving our Communities. **Adults.**

Thursday, Dec. 8 **Sophia Loren Film Festival** 6 PM Join us in watching THE BLACK ORCHID. Mike Tamarro will introduce the film and lead a brief discussion following it. **Adults.**

Thursday, Dec. 9 **After School Program** snow date See Dec. 7 entry.

Friday, Dec. 9 **Spontaneous Debate** 7 - 9 PM What's your opinion on hot topics? Share it and persuade us! The

Judges will have the final word. Or, just come and be a part of the audience. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Saturday, Dec. 10 **2nd Saturdays @ the Library** 1 - 3 PM Enjoy free, live music. This month: VonStorch Trio with Barbara Cohen, guitar and Vocals, Joe Cole, bass and vocals, and Julian Sparacino, flute and alto sax. **All ages.**

Saturday, Dec. 10 **Creative Gingerbread Houses** 3:30 - 4:30 PM Build and decorate graham cracker gingerbread houses and holiday poppers to take home. Materials provided. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Monday, Dec. 12 **Knitting Group** 6:30 - 7:30 PM Bring your current project and knit with others. **Adults.**

Thursday, Dec. 15 **Make-It, Take-It Craft Time** Drop in between 3 and 5 PM Theme - Candles and Candy Canes. Materials and instructions will be provided for three crafts. **Ages 3 - 6 years.**

Friday, Dec. 16 **Karaoke Night** 6:30 - 8:30 PM Show off your singing talents or just be a part of the audience! Light refreshments will be served. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Friday, Dec. 16 **Holiday Music Program for Children** 10:30 - 11 AM Lauren Scavone, director of All Aboard: Music Together, has volunteered to present an interactive music program. **Ages birth - 5 years.**

Monday, Dec. 19 **Snow date for Holiday Music Program for Children** See Dec. 16 entry.

Monday, Dec. 19 **Story Time Teens** 6:30 - 7:30 PM Join us for an Interactive Evening Story Time! Sponsored by Teen Leadership Committee. Presented by Story Time Teens. THEME: Cookies. **Ages 3 - 6 Siblings welcome!**

Wednesday, Dec. 21 **Afternoon Book Club** 2 PM Marley and Me by John Grogan. **Adults.**

Friday, Dec. 23 through Monday, Dec. 26 **CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS**

Tuesday, Dec. 27 **Tween Advisory Board** 4 - 4:45 PM Are you in between children's and teen services, too old for "kid stuff" and too young for "teen stuff?" Join our new advisory board just for tweens. Sponsored and facilitated by Abington Community Library Teen Leadership Committee. **Grades 4 - 6.**

January 2012

All month **2nd Saturdays Art Display** Leigh-Ann Sjogren, a Graphics Design and Print Making student at Keystone College will have art on display through the end of January as part of our on-going 2nd Saturdays @ the Library series. **All ages.**

Every Wednesday (ongoing program) **Families Helping Families** 6:30 - 8 PM Facilitators provide an educational series and support group for teens and their families affected by substance abuse. Co-sponsored by the Clear Brook Foundation. **Adults.**

Every Thursday (ongoing program) **Scrabble** 1 PM Join our enthusiastic group of Scrabble players for a fun game! No registration necessary. **Adults.**

Second and fourth Monday of each month **Knitting Group** 6:30 - 7:30 PM Bring your current project and knit with others. **Adults.**

Fridays, Jan. 6, 13, 20, and 27 **Anime/Manga Club - Nani?!** 4 - 6 PM Join us for some ANIMated fun and Manga book discussions. Bring along a friend. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Jan. 6 **Game Night with Wii** 6:30 - 8:30 - PM Join us for some OVERSIZED fun! Bring along a friend. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Monday, Jan. 9 **Winter Reading Club for children** begins "Warm Up with a Good Book!" is the theme to encourage library visits during the cold weather months. Incentives and Certificates. **Ages 2 - 12.**

Monday, Jan. 9 **Make-It, Take-It Craft Time** Drop in between 3 & 5 PM A full moon appears tonight! "Moon (& Stars)" will be the theme of three craft projects. **Ages 3 - 10.**

Wednesday, Jan. 11 **Snow Date for Make-It, Take-It Craft Time** See Jan. 9 entry.

Friday, Jan. 13 **Spontaneous Debate** 7 - 9 PM What's your opinion on hot topics? Share it and persuade us! The Judges will have the final word. Or, just come and be a part of the audience. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Saturday, Jan. 14 **2nd Saturdays @ the Library** 1 - 3PM TBA **All Ages.**

Wednesday, Jan. 18 **After School Story Program** 4 - 4:45 PM Gather for a few stories when the school day is over. Theme: "Winter in the Woods." **Ages 5 - 10 years.**

Thursday, Jan. 19 **Enjoy Learning Latin While Reading Latin** 4 - 5 PM A reading intensive course for those beginning to learn Latin and those brushing up. Readers will enjoy the lives of Julius and Aemelia, a typical Familia Romana Roman (Family). Instructor: Barry Phillips. Eight week course. Limit 8. Book provided by Abington Community Library. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Jan. 20 **Trivia Night** 6:30 - 8:30 PM Ready to show off your knowledge in subjects like Books, Movies, and Music? Bring your friends, challenge your minds, and win prizes in this Jeopardy-themed evening! **Grades 4 - 6.**

Saturday, Jan. 21 **Minute to Win It, Part 2** 2 - 3 PM Test your skills with some new Minute to Win It games. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Thursday, Jan. 26 **Enjoy Learning Latin While Reading Latin** 4 - 5 PM A reading intensive course for those beginning to learn Latin and those brushing up. Readers will enjoy the lives of Julius and Aemelia, a typical Familia Romana Roman (Family). Instructor: Barry Phillips. Eight week course. Limit 8. Book provided by Abington Community Library. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Jan. 27 **Story Time Teens** 6:30 - 7:30 PM Join us for an Interactive Evening Story Time! Sponsored by Teen Leadership Committee. Presented by Story Time Teens. THEME: Birthdays.

Ages 3-6. Siblings welcome!

Tuesday, Jan. 31 **Teen Leadership Committee** 4 - 5 PM A group of teens focused on giving a voice to all young adults for programming, book selections, etc. -- come and share your thoughts and ideas. **Grades 7 - 12.**

February 2012

All month and continuing through the end of March **2nd Saturdays Art Exhibit** Art Exhibit by Barry Singer. Second and fourth Monday of each month **Knitting Group** 6:30 - 7:30 PM Bring your current project and knit with others. **Adults.**

Every Wednesday (ongoing program) **Families Helping Families** 6:30 - 8 PM Facilitators provide an educational series and support group for teens and their families affected by substance abuse. Co-sponsored by the Clear Brook Foundation. **Adults.**

Every Thursday (ongoing program) **Scrabble** 1 PM Join our enthusiastic group of Scrabble players for a fun game! No registration necessary. **Adults.**

Thursday, Feb. 2 **Enjoy Learning Latin While Reading Latin** 4 - 5 PM A reading intensive course for those beginning to learn Latin and those brushing up. Readers will enjoy the lives of Julius and Aemelia, a typical Familia Romana Roman (Family). Instructor: Barry Phillips. Eight week course. Limit 8. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Fridays, Feb. 3, 10, 17, and 24 **Anime/Manga Club - Nani?!** 4 - 6 PM Join us for some ANIMated fun and Manga book discussions. Bring along a friend. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Feb. 3 **Game Night with Wii** 6:30 - 8:30 PM Join us for some OVERSIZED fun! Bring along a friend. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Tuesday, Feb. 7 **Make-It, Take-It Craft Time** Drop in between 3 & 5 PM Theme: "Valentines." **Ages 3 - 10 years.**

Thursday, Feb. 9 **Enjoy Learning Latin While Reading Latin** 4 - 5 PM A reading intensive course for those beginning to learn Latin and those brushing up. Readers will enjoy the lives of Julius and Aemelia, a typical Familia Romana Roman (Family). Instructor: Barry Phillips. Eight week course. Limit 8. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Feb. 10 **Snow date for the Make-It, Take-It Craft Time**

Friday, Feb. 10 **Spontaneous Debate** 7 - 9 PM What's your opinion on hot topics? Share it and persuade us! The Judges will have the final word. Or, just come and be a part of the audience. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Saturday, Feb. 11 **2nd Saturdays @ the Library** 1 - 3PM TBA **All Ages.**

Wednesday, Feb. 15 **After School Story Time** 4 to 4:45 PM Relax and listen to stories about our Presidents, especially Washington and Lincoln. **Ages 5 - 10 years.**

Thursday, Feb. 16 **Enjoy Learning Latin While Reading Latin** 4 - 5 PM A reading intensive course for those beginning to learn Latin and those brushing up. Readers will enjoy the lives of Julius and Aemelia, a typical Familia Romana Roman (Family). Instructor: Barry Phillips. Eight week course. Limit 8. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Feb. 17 **Karaoke Night** 6:30 - 8:30 PM Show off your singing talent or just be part of the audience! Light refreshments will be served. **Grades 4 - 6.**

Friday, Feb. 17 **Winter Reading Club for children ends**

Saturday, Feb. 18 **Cabin Fever Party** 2 - 3 PM Beat the winter blues with some fun games and activities. Snacks too! **Grades 4 - 6.**

Thursday, Feb. 23 **Enjoy Learning Latin While Reading Latin** 4 - 5 PM A reading intensive course for those beginning to learn Latin and those brushing up. Readers will enjoy the lives of Julius and Aemelia, a typical Familia Romana Roman (Family). Instructor: Barry Phillips. Eight week course. Limit 8. **Grades 7 - 12.**

Friday, Feb. 24 **Story Time Teens** 6:30 - 7:30 PM Join us for an Interactive Evening Story Time! Sponsored by Teen Leadership Committee. Presented by Story Time Teens. THEME: Spaghetti. **Ages 3-6. Siblings welcome!**

Friday, Feb. 24 **4th Fridays Acoustic Music** 6:30 - 8:30 PM Bring your own acoustic instrument and join in on the jammin'. **All ages.**

Tuesday, Feb. 28 **Tween Advisory Board** 4 - 4:45 PM Are you in between children's and teen services, too old for "kid stuff" and too young for "teen stuff?" Join our new advisory board just for tweens. Sponsored and facilitated by Abington Community Library Teen Leadership Committee. **Grades 4 - 6.**



1200 West Grove St.
Clarks Summit, PA 18411

Phone: .570.587.3440

Use our website to check on
Holiday or snow closings:
www.lclshome.org/Abington

For upcoming programs,
click on "Library Events."

Become a member of our
Friends! Ask any staff
member for an application
or visit our website
www.lclshome.org/abington.

Regular Library Hours

Mon-Fri 9 am – 9 pm
Sat 9 am – 5 pm
Sun 2 pm – 5 pm

Abington Community Library Memorials and Honorariums

Recent memorial contributions to the Abington Community Library
are greatly appreciated and include those in memory of:

Brendan Bovard
Barbie Doty
Joseph Grotzinger
Cpt. W.C. Hoyt

An honorarium has been received in the name of:

Pat and John Atkins

A Special Thank You

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all who
contributed in any way to our recent Holiday Marketplace
event. It was a great success!



Abington Community Library Mission Statement

The Abington Community Library's mission is to facilitate lifelong learning, provide for leisure-time interests, support student research, and encourage children, teens, and adults to read.
Adopted August 2008