

FYI: Friends, You're Important!

Volume 10

Issue 1

Winter 2009

Mifflin Community Library
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610-777-3911
Shillington, PA 19607
www.berks.lib.pa.us/mifflincl/

The Time to Join or Renew is...NOW!

Mission Statement

The Friends of Mifflin Community Library is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing financial support for the Library's role as a source of information and enjoyment for the community.

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HAVE WE LOST YOU AS A FRIEND? Membership numbers and contribution amounts were lower last year, and we need to know WHY! In 2008 the Friends of Mifflin Community Library donated \$4,000 to the Operating Expenses of the Library and \$2,000 to the Capital Campaign. During these difficult economic times, libraries are used more than ever. We need your help in order to continue our support of the Library.

Please use the form below to renew your Membership now. We have bimonthly meetings; the next one is March 4th at 2:00 PM at the Library.

We would love to have you join us and give us your input and perhaps volunteer your help at one or more of our Fundraisers.

Please call me at 610-775-1742 with any questions that you may have involving the activities of the Friends.

Sincerely, *Linda Suklje, Friends President*

Art in Historic Chadds Ford, PA Wyeth and Wine

Join the Friends of Mifflin Community Library on a special tour of the Chadds Ford, PA area loved by the late artist

Andrew Wyeth. The Klein bus departs at 8:40PM from Immanuel UCC in Shillington on Saturday, April 18. The \$45 tour fee covers entrance to the Brandywine River Museum and a private tour and wine tasting at the Chaddsford Winery.



(Continued on page 2)

FYI: JOIN THE FRIENDS or RENEW FOR 2009

Friends of MCL is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Your membership donation may be considered a charitable contribution.

Checks: Please make checks payable to Friends of Mifflin Community Library.
Mail to: Mifflin Community Library, 6 Philadelphia Avenue, Shillington, PA 19607

Please note: If you do not see 12/09 on your mailing label, you have not yet renewed your membership for 2009.

FRIENDS OF MIFFLIN COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEW RENEWAL

Name	_____	DUES ENCLOSED (please check level of support):	
Address	_____	<input type="radio"/> \$10	Friend (Individual)
City, State	_____	<input type="radio"/> \$15	Family (More than one person)
ZIP	_____	<input type="radio"/> \$25	Contributing Friend
Phone	_____	<input type="radio"/>	Other \$ _____
email	_____	<input type="radio"/>	

Capital Campaign Update

Dear Members of the Mifflin Community,

The Mifflin Community Library has come a long way over the last ten years. From its original location in the basement of the old Shillington Community Center to its present prominent place of the corner of Lancaster and Philadelphia Avenues, the library has been transformed into a vibrant center of community learning.

The library's capital campaign has also accomplished much in the last three years. Our building renovations and expansions were completed early last year, and our two-phase project has transformed MCL into a much bigger, better and brighter community library! While we have made great strides—raising \$1.3 million of our \$1.5 million goal—we still need to raise an additional \$250,000 to conclude our capital campaign.

We hope that you will consider giving to the campaign or increasing your pledge to help us reach our goal. Now, more than ever, the library is a necessary resource for the citizens of the Mifflin Community. There are several options for giving (please see form on last page of newsletter.) All donations are welcome, as every dollar brings us closer to our goal. Please help us close the book on our capital campaign.

Thank you in advance for your support.
Sincerely,

Capital Campaign Committee

(Continued from page 1)

The collections at the museum, located in an historic renovated grist mill along the Brandywine River, include work by three generations of the renowned Wyeth family. In addition to work by the Wyeths, Brandywine also has an exemplary exhibit of American illustrators. The primary gallery will be displaying the show "Elegant Enigmas: The Art of Edward Gorey," the artist famed for illustrations of T. S. Eliot's *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, animator for PBS's *Mystery!*, and author/illustrator of numerous illustrated books that "maintain a delicate balance between ordinary and the seemingly ominous."

Reservations and accompanying payment must be received by Friday, March 13, 2009. Please use the form on the last page of the newsletter. Checks should be made payable to Friends of Mifflin Community Library. No refunds will be issued unless seats can be filled from the waiting list.

Antiques Appraisal Fair

Presented by the Friends of Mifflin Community Library

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Including lecture by Dr. Doris Burkhart and appraisals by well-known area antique dealers.

Refreshments available from The Pampered Chef and Tastefully Simple

Help the friends kick-off their fundraising events!
Look for more information coming soon.

June 28, 2009 Rock with Jody Rush	July 12, 2009 Celtic with Charlie Zahm	August 16, 2009 Acoustic with Maggie Spike
Mifflin Community Library's 6th Concert Season Mohnton Memorial Park, 6 to 8PM Seeking corporate and private sponsors.		



Art @ Mifflin Community Library

February—Volunteer **Ann Baxewanis**

March—Mifflin Community Library welcomes the return of **Youth Art Month**

April—**Mary Lou Creyts** displays art related to the 2009 Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child program, this year the book *If You Were a Penguin* by Wendell and Florence Minor.

Wyeth and Wine **Saturday, April 18, 2009**

A tour of the Brandywine River Museum and the Chaddsford Winery in historic Chadds Ford, PA. Includes entrance to the Brandywine River Museum and Chaddsford Winery and souvenir wine glass.
You **MUST** have photo ID to sample wine.

Additional options:

\$5 N.C. Wyeth House and Studio Tours—tours leave from the museum at timed intervals
Lunch in the cafeteria-style restaurant

8:40AM: Depart Shillington
9:45AM: Arrive at the Brandywine River Museum for a docent-led tour
11:30 to 12:30PM: Lunch on your own
12:45PM: Depart museum
1 to 2:30PM: Private tour and wine tasting at the Chaddsford Winery
3PM: Depart Winery

Welcome Back!

Annette Baker

Native Vermonter **Annette Baker** returns to Mifflin Community Library to staff the expanded Tuesday night hours. Annette left the library in 2004 for the birth of her third son. Annette holds a degree in Environmental Sciences and uses her expertise to homeschool her three sons and fellow members of her homeschooling cooperative. Her hobbies include gardening and photography. Annette had a hard time naming her favorite book, but noted that *Kinfolk* by Pearl Buck and books by Joel C. Rosenberg are high on her list. There was no hesitation on her favorite movie: *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*. Come say hello on Tuesday evenings and most Saturdays.

Lincoln's Birthday

A life-sized portrait of President and Mrs. Lincoln was on hand February 7 in an advance celebration of the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth. **Sears Hardware**, Kenhorst Plaza donated the large-sized cardboard for the portrait. Patrons could also have their photos taken with President Obama, loaned for the day by Cheryl Bagenstose. Kids used Lincoln pennies to make cute construction paper finger puppets (also a great idea for Washington's birthday!) Pick up a copy of the handout that traces the right to vote from 1776 to 2009.



Painting by Lynn Stimeling

We're All for the Birds!

MCL participated in the **12th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count** on February 13 and 14. **Wild Birds Unlimited**, Sinking Spring, donated two birdfeeders to the library as well as a 20-pound bag of seed. **Scott** and **Melissa Cronrath** installed the new shepherd's crook and hangers. If you enjoy feeding birds at home, would you be willing to help keep our feeders full? Contact Lynn at mifflinlibrary@gmail.com for more information.

Gingerbread Events

Seven people created imaginative gingerbread houses that were on display during December at the library. The library hopes for more gingerbread artists in 2009. More information will be available in October. There was a wonderful turnout for the Family Fun Afternoon gingerbread event with over 70 people attending. Patron **Tracy Crumbliss** appeared as the Sugar Plum Fairy, helping with construction, posing for photos, and dispensing fairy dust as needed to enhance the enjoyment of all. The Snow Fairy also visited the library after a performance as an angel in *King Midas* at The Institute of the Arts, Wyomissing. We hope your family will join us to build new houses in 2009. We've been told to expect a visit from different members of the Candy Court! Photos from this event and others can be reached through the link on the library website. Big thank you's to Tracy, **Pierre Tran**, **Katie Reehl**, and **Karl and Pat Stimeling** for assisting in preparation and cleanup.



WORRIED ABOUT PARKING FOR EVENING PROGRAMS?

The following local businesses have given permission for patrons to park in their lots. Please respect the hours or conditions listed. **M&T Bank**—after 4PM, do not impede drive-up area. **Klee Funeral Home**—do not use lot if marked with orange cones. **White Star Tours**—after 5:30PM. We urge all patrons to use cross walks to reach the library from any of these off-site locations.

SNOW CLOSING INFORMATION

Mifflin Community Library follows the schedule of the Governor Mifflin School District. For instance, if the district announces a two-hour delay, MCL will open at 11AM rather than at 9AM. A snow closure day means that the library will also be closed for that day. Check WEEU, WFMZ or governormifflinsd.org for weather cancellations. For Saturday closures, or snow days that fall on school holidays, listen to WEEU or WFMZ. Please call the library regarding after-hours special events that may be affected by winter weather.

Special Programming @your library®

Tuesday: February 17 – “**Author Series: Bruce Becker**,” 6:30 to 8PM, Local, internationally-known artist Bruce Becker visits at part of the Author Series. Becker has written *Kindness and Compassion* about the Nickel Mine Schoolhouse tragedy. Becker will discuss the book as well as sign copies of the book and his giclee library fundraiser prints. Registration is requested. **TEENS/ADULTS**

Monday: February 23 – “**Book Discussion Group**” 3PM
The selection for the month is *The Shop on Blossom Street* by Debbie Macomber. Open to everyone. For more information, contact Judy Tomasello. **ADULTS**

Monday: March 09 – “**March Stitching Circle**,” 6:30 to 8PM, A self-run group for stitchers of all sorts. Bring a project and chat with other stitchers. **ALL**

Thursday: March 12 – “**Get Crafty Night - Leprechaun**,” 6:30PM, Come to the library and wear your green to decorate and put together a jumping jack leprechaun. Led by Ms. Wendy, this program is for school-age children who can use scissors and assemble craft independently. Registration required. **CHILDREN**

Friday: March 13 – “**Hands on Computer 101**,” 1:30 to 3PM
Come learn the basics of computer usage including hands-on practice at the keyboard and using a mouse. Limited to 8 individuals. **ADULTS**

Monday, March 16—“**Women in Science Fiction: From Mary Shelley to Ursula LeGuin**” 6:30 to 8PM, Bernville sf writer **Sue Lange** presents an examination of the impact Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* would have on the first female sf writers. Includes information on Lange’s most recent project *The Textile Planet*. **TEENS/ADULTS**

Friday: March 20 – “**Hands On Internet 101**,” 1:30 to 3PM
Limited to 8 people, this class will take you through the basics of email, websites, search engines, and as time permits, accessing the online card catalog. Participants must have taken Computer 101 or have basic understanding of the keyboard and the mouse. **ADULT**

Tentative Date: Saturday, March 21—“**The Healthy, Well-Rounded Child Health Fair**” 1 to 4PM Co-sponsored with Unison Healthcare, this bilingual event features a special storytime, a medical lecture for parents, literature from various health-centered organizations, and hands-on activities for children. Look for more information later in February. **ALL**

Thursday, March 26—“**Medicare Information**” 6:30 to 8PM Genworth Financial provides information to help adults determine what supplemental plan would be best for them, and offers help on how to get out of a plan that isn’t working out. Registration required. **ADULTS**

Thursday, April 09—“**Get Craft Night: Tissue Paper Flowers**” 6:30PM Pop in and construct some special tissue paper flowers to help celebrate spring all year long. See March restrictions. Registration required. **CHILDREN**

Thursday, April 16—“**Author Series: Multimedia artist Lester Hirsh**” 6:30 to 8PM, Lester Hirsh shared his poetry at MCL in 2008, and returns this year with a multimedia literary experience that will captivate the musician and poet in all of us. Please register. **TEENS/ADULTS**

Tuesday, April 28—“**Berks Bards**” 6 to 8PM, Berks Bards’ annual visit, sharing the work of featured area poets and giving MCL’s community a chance to share their poetry in an open mike session. Please register. **TEENS/ADULTS**

REGISTRATION

Call 610-777-3911 to register for any of the above programs (limited seating for some events). By registering you consent to allow photos of the event to be used within the library and for publication. Programming is free unless otherwise noted. All activities are held at the library at 6 Philadelphia Avenue in Shillington.

Programs in the Works

Teen Tech Week •
One Book, Every Young Child •
National Library Week

Storytimes

Toddler Time

Stories for ages 18 mos. to 3 yrs.
Tuesdays, 11 AM to 11:30 AM

Weekly Preschool Storytimes

Stories, Crafts, Activities and Fun!
Tuesdays, 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM
Wednesdays, 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM

February 10—Have a Heart
February 11—Monkeying Around
February 17—Plenty of Pink
February 18—Boats Ahoy
February 24—Pirates and Parrots
February 25—Pirates and Parrots
March 3—Frog on a Log in a Bog
March 4—It’s Easy Being Green
March 10—Kites in the Wind
March 11—Turtle Tales
March 17—Wearin’ of the Green
March 18—Up, Up and Away!

Bedtime Storytime

The third Thursday of each month
Preschool to age 7
6:45 PM to 7:30 PM

Wear your pajamas and bring your favorite sleepyparty friend!

February 19—Plenty of Pink
March 19—Wearin’ of the Green

*Toddler storytimes include fingerplays, songs, stories and a simple craft geared to children under 36 months of age.

From the Friends

Kauffman's Chicken BBQ Fundraiser

Thank you to the Friends and staff who helped make this sale a success: **Peggy White, Catherine Fox, Judy Tomasello, Linda Suklje, Lynn Stimeling, Shirley Potts, Barb Connor, Louise Nye, Jackie Merian, Bob Suklje, Vaughn Golden, Janet Mohn, Betsy Quigley and Liz Eshelman.** Total profit to the Friends was \$1,453.56

8th Friends of MCL Book and Bake Sale - November 2008

Jo Verrill, Book Sale Chairperson: Thank you to everyone who once again made the book and bake sale a success! Thank you donors, carriers, sorters and sellers. The Friends of MCL netted a profit of \$1,497.47!

Holiday Basket Raffle

Friend and volunteer **Julie Breneiser** was the lucky recipient of the Holiday Basket Raffle. Profits from the sale of raffle tickets totaled \$407. Thanks, as always for the generous donations of items and services from Friends and local businesses.

Friends Administration

Thanks go to library staff member **Melissa Cronrath** who for years has handled the inputting of new friends and renewals into the database. Friend **Ruth Shaffer** has graciously taken over data entry. FYI: Friends, You're Important was mailed to over 500 households and businesses. Current membership of the Friends stands at 141 members.

Friendly's Family "Fun-Raiser"

The Friends of MCL received a modest check from Friendly's on Lancaster Avenue following the November 18th event. Please keep your eyes open for a more ice cream-friendly fundraising date in Spring 2009!

New York Bus Trip

Fifty people traveled to New York City on September 27 to partake of anything New York had to offer! The drop-off location for this trip was Bryant Park, the newly renovated area behind the New York Public Library. A reminder to Friends and patrons, in future, refunds will be given only if there are people on the waiting list.

Wyeth and Wine Reservation Form (must be received by 03/13/09)

Make checks payable to Friends of MCL— \$45 per person
 Mail to Friends of MCL Bus Trip—6 Phila. Ave., Shillington, PA 19607 or bring to front desk
 You MUST have photo ID to sample wines at the winery.

Name: _____

Address: _____

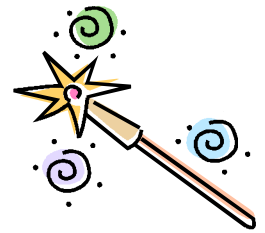
Home phone: _____

Cell phone
 (for emergency use during trip) _____

of Participants at \$45 per person: _____

Total Amt. Enclosed: _____

Wish Lists!



For the Friends Group

(Contact Linda Suklje at 610-775-1742)

Specific needs include:

- Bus trip organizers
- Antique Appraisal volunteers
- Community Days face painters

For the Library

(Contact Helen Flynn at 610-777-3911)

Specific needs include:

- Volunteers to help patrons with computer questions and cover letter/resume writing
- Volunteers to assist with adult and family programming materials
- Donations of children's and young adult education PC computer games on CD-ROM.
- Sponsors for the 2009 Concert Series
- Bird feeding volunteers, bird seed donations

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONATION FORM

Make checks payable to Mifflin Community Library. Return to Mifflin Community Library CCII, 6 Phila. Ave., Shillington, PA 19607

Pledge /Donation to MCL Capital Campaign

Name _____

Address _____

City, ST ZIP _____

Telephone # _____

Pledge _____

1 yr. _____

2 yr. _____

3 yr. _____

Donation _____

"The Giving Tree" - minimum gift of \$500. Includes an engraved leaf where you can memorialize or honor a loved one.

Gifts of \$1,000 or more are recognized on the new permanent plaques near the circulation desk.

There is also an opportunity to name the children's area of the library.



Mifflin Community Library
6 Philadelphia Avenue
Shillington, PA 19607

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 127
READING, PA

DID YOU KNOW the library is now open until 8PM on Tuesday nights?!

DID YOU KNOW Redner's Markets donates a portion of sales back to nonprofit organizations in the community! Pick up a card at Customer Service and save the ENTIRE sales slip. That makes cents!

DID YOU KNOW Mifflin Community Library has an online signup form for receiving email announcements? We're also on Twitter and Facebook?

**The next *Friends of MCL* meeting:
Wednesday, March 4, 2PM
—Mifflin Community Library Meeting Room**

The library is located at the intersection of Lancaster Ave. (222) and Philadelphia Ave. (724), across from the Shillington Borough Building.



REGULAR HOURS

Monday— 9 AM to 8 PM
Tuesday— and 9 AM to 8 PM
Wednesday— 9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday— 9 AM to 8 PM
Fridays— 9 AM to 1 PM
Saturday— 9 AM to 4 PM

LIBRARY STAFF

Library Director: Helen Sheimo Flynn, MS
Youth Services Librarian: Wendy Gilbert Hampton
Programs/PR Coordinator: Lynn K. Stimeling, BFA
Library Assistants: Melissa Cronrath
Patti Hutchinson
Sharon Kleckner
Liz Spatz
Anne Stevens
Annette Baker