Growing Our Community

This past year, our library has seen many new community members using our collection and attending our events. In these pages, you'll find many statistics as well as photos of our smallest readers having fun at a princess storybook party, and our Friends and volunteers donating their time to our library. You’ll also see quotes from our community members about what our library means to them. Thank you for attending our events, checking out materials, following us on social media, and showing us you care through your donations and library visits. Our goal is to create a community that connects, discovers, and grows. Thank you for allowing us to help you do just that.

Debbie Jack
Executive Director

We concluded a banner year for our library. We mounted a serious effort with South Whitehall Township (SWT) to expand our library to better serve our community. Our present library is cramped and doesn’t adequately meet the needs of a community of 55,000 residents. We are looking at the feasibility of an expansion that would approximately double the present footprint. Our goals are to provide additional events for community members of all ages, more shelving to make books and media more readily available, and increased office space to relieve severe staff overcrowding. We thank SWT for putting significant time into this effort, and hope we will be able to expand in the near future. I want to thank our dedicated library staff, our director Debbie Jack, our volunteer board of directors, and most importantly, you, our community.

Dr. Barry G. Cohen
Board President
A Year in Review

173 children enrolled in 1000 Books Before Kindergarten

17 children attended our monthly Block Parties with Office of Commonwealth Libraries materials and a Cruise into Kindergarten program grant.

1312 children attended our Baby, Toddler and Preschool Storytimes.

191 Summer Reading participants

59 Teen Summer Reading participants

3,070 teens told us what they wanted at our library thanks to a survey with our partner, the Parkland School District.

4 Harry Potter and the Cursed Child copies were checked out 73 times.

53 Winter & 149 Summer Reading Program participants discovered library resources and got a chance to win prizes and gifts.

212 September Seniors Month attendees connected with our library through arts & crafts, movies, and health workshops.

42 What’s It Worth Antiques attendees received free appraisals of their antiques and collected donations for a local food bank.

Transforming Tech

6,335 public computer hours used this year
2,769 WiFi usage hours this year
2 Kajeet Hot Spots for Parkland School District students to sign out at our library

We offer one on one tech help through Book a Librarian and event series like Plug Into Tech featuring app and social media topics. Seniors get specialized help at Technical Tuesdays at Luther Crest.

Almost 40 digital resources with 19,095 accesses this year:
Rosetta Stone | Universal Class
BrainHQ | A-Z Databases
BrainFuse HelpNow | BrainFuse LearnNow
America’s News (Newsbank)
Heritage Quest | Reference USA
Gale Virtual Reference Center
Salem History, Health & Literature
Morningstar | Ancestry | Novelist
Chilton | Infobase Learning

"The library gives me easy access to a world of free information and entertainment through printed and electronic media."

Connect With Volunteers

Our adult and teen volunteers worked hard behind the scenes at our library shelving and helping out at events for a total of 3,183 volunteer hours. Sixty-fourteen teen volunteers spent 1,035 hours over the year to help our community discover and connect with library resources.
"I want Friends to help keep our library up to date and stay involved in our community as much as we can."

Meet Our Board
Dr. Barry G. Cohen, President
Nancy Holler, Vice President
Lynn Feldman, Esquire, Secretary
Robert Fager, Treasurer
Lynne Harakal, Assistant Treasurer
Kathy Osmond, Upper Macungie Township
Robert M. Cohen, Parkland School District
Frank Motaka, North Whitehall Township

Discover Our Friends
The Friends of Parkland Community Library is a nonprofit organization created to support our library in the form of materials, public programming, community outreach, and staff development. The Friends raise funds by organizing events such as our Porch and Alcove Sales, and the Annual Book Sale.

Ila Dietrich, President
Pat Elliott, Vice President, Programs
Mary Sue Schnell, Secretary
Judy Kemmerer, Treasurer
Cindy Perosa, Publicity & Communications
Lorna Rabe and Sharon Laub, North Whitehall Reps
Helen Papathanasiou and Raj Singh, South Whitehall Reps
Marilyn Cornell and Lois Doncevic, Upper Macungie Reps

Ex Officio: Debbie Jack, Library Director
Nancy Holler, Board Representative

DONATE NOW Your gift will help a child grow at storytime; a senior connect with tech; or a job seeker discover our databases. Please cut here and return your check payable to Parkland Community Library. We also accept credit cards. Thank you!

Mail form & payment to:
Parkland Community Library, Finance Dept
4422 Walbert Avenue
Allentown, PA 18104

You can donate online now! Go to www.parklandlibrary.org. Click Make a Gift.

We wish to publicly recognize our donors for their support. If you do not wish to be publicly recognized, please check this box:

Parkland Community Library is a 501 (c)3 organization. Therefore, your gift is considered tax deductible to the extent of the law.
"The Parkland Community Library has helped me teach my son to discover a love of reading. He loves to read and looks forward to coming to the library!"

Making An Impact

169,541 items checked out
84,731 library visitors
1,394,210 website pages viewed
92,378 materials in collection

15,223 adult library card holders
4,289 child library card holders
870 teen library card holders

2,167 adult event attendees
5,070 kid event attendees
50 teen event attendees

2016-17

Our Community Partners

Thank you to our local businesses and nonprofits for their generous donations to our events and summer reading programs.

Air Products & Chemicals | AMC Theatres | Applebee’s
Apprise Counseling | Burger King
Center for Vision Loss | Chick-fil-A
Community Services for Children | Country Meadows
Crayola | Da Vinci Science Center | Dominos
Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom | Dunkin Donuts
EBC Printing | Friendly’s | Gateway Health | Giant
Healthcare Benefits Solutions, Inc.
Institute for Museum and Library Services
Just Born | Lehigh Co. Conservation District
Lehigh Valley Decorative Painters Society
Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs | LV Therapy Dogs
Lehigh Valley Zoo
Lifelong Kindergarten Group @ MIT Media Lab
Luther Crest Retirement Community | Menchies
MetLife Financial | Neffs National Bank
North Whitehall Township | PA Shakespeare Festival
Parkland Garden Club | Parkland School District
Planet Fitness | Putt U Miniature Golf
Shankweiler’s Drive In | Saladworks
Social Security & Retirement Planning
South Whitehall Township | Texas Roadhouse
Univest Bank & Trust Co. | Upper Macungie Township
Victorian Vanities, Inc. | Walgreen’s Pharmacy
Wegman’s | Yocco’s | Yofresh

40 children came to our library to discover the science behind the Da Vinci Science Center’s Grossology exhibit last July.