



## NEWS FROM WISSAHICKON VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY



### Renovation Update:



#### Building A More Welcoming Library

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we've already completed several important upgrades—repaving the parking lot, improving outdoor lighting, and repairing the sewer system to ensure our library remains safe and accessible for all.

Now, we are excited to turn our attention to the interior. Our plans include enclosing the Children's Room to provide a safe and engaging space for kids, while still ensuring quiet areas for reading, studying and computer use. We'll also be enhancing our study rooms by making them more comfortable, fully soundproof, and adding additional rooms to meet the growing demand for tutoring and small-group learning.

As community use continues to grow, we've recognized the need for flexible spaces. That's why we are creating a new Multi-Use Room designed for programs that don't fit into our traditional Community or Conference Rooms. We also plan to increase the number of conference rooms available, giving local groups more opportunities to meet and collaborate.

With your support, we can take these plans further by adding new, comfortable furniture, upgrading to energy-saving LED lighting, and creating a library environment that is both welcoming and efficient.

We hope to begin this exciting interior renovation in 2026, and your continued generosity will make it possible. Won't you consider a gift today to help us transform the library into a more vibrant and useful space for all?



CHESTER COUNTY  
community  
FOUNDATION

### Granting Us A Brighter Future



At WVPL, we know that the generosity of others is what allows us to keep growing and serving our community. Recently, we were honored to receive a transformative \$100,000 grant from the Chester County Community Health Foundation, made possible through the Jonas C., Marian D., & Robert H. Erb Charitable Fund. Robert Erb, who spent 45 years as a librarian at MCCC, devoted his life to helping adult students by guiding their research, encouraging their dreams, and championing the belief that everyone deserves access to knowledge. His legacy of *"equitable access to education and information for all"* inspires our work every day.



Promoting a Healthier Community  
VNA FOUNDATION  
OF GREATER NORTH PENN



We are equally grateful to the Ambler Rotary for a generous \$10,000 grant, to Rotary District 7430 for their additional \$5,000 gift, and to the VNA Foundation of Greater North Penn for a \$4,500 general operating grant. Together, these contributions represent more than financial support—they are a vote of confidence in our mission and in the future of our library.

Every dollar will go toward our upcoming interior renovation, helping us create a welcoming, modern space where learning, connection, and opportunity can flourish. Thanks to the kindness of these foundations and organizations, WVPL is truly being granted a brighter future.

## How Your Generosity Makes A Difference

Thanks to you, WVPL received \$117,566 in donations during the 2024-2025 fiscal year! Your incredible generosity has had a direct impact on our community. In fact, your contributions almost completely funded one of our largest recent projects—repaving and improving our parking lot, a \$188,906 investment that makes the library safer and more accessible for everyone. We are so grateful for your ongoing support. Every gift brings us closer to our vision for a welcoming library that serves all who come through our doors.

### Gratitude and Giving

We are incredibly fortunate to have dedicated volunteers like Rita, our wonderful ESL teacher. Rita not only donates her time to support our ESL program but also donated funds so that the libraries ESL program could continue on Zoom. Thanks to her generosity our ESL students can stay connected, and continue learning.



At the heart of the library are people like you! You are our partner in the library mission to be the place where everyone is welcome

### New Collection

We're growing our library programming and collection in exciting new ways! Thanks to a generous \$ 50,000 Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) donation from an anonymous donor, we've been able to hire more workshop leaders and presenters for educational children's programs (K-12) and purchase a variety of kits designed to spark curiosity, critical thinking, and creativity, especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM).

Not only will these kits be continuously used in our children's programming in the summers and after school, but will also be the start of a brand new collection, available for families to borrow and educators to use in their classrooms! We aim to have this collection cataloged and ready for patrons and teachers to borrow in the New Year.

This incredible generosity will transform learning opportunities for kids in our community for years to come. We are enormously grateful to our anonymous donor for making this possible.



## A Lasting Gift From Bill Baker



We are deeply grateful to former staff member Bill Baker, who dedicated 24 years of service to WVPL. Wanting to continue supporting the library he cared so much about, Bill generously donated \$30,237 in stock to help us reach our renovation fundraising goals. His gift is not only an investment in our library's future but also a beautiful extension of his lifelong commitment to our community.

### You Gotta Have Friends

Every Library needs good friends and WVPL is lucky to have the very best! Our two Friends groups, in Blue Bell and Ambler, continue to make an incredible difference for our patrons.

This year, the Blue Bell Friends generously donated \$11,573 to provide a much needed copier/printer/scanner and a new coin box, tools that help us serve the community every day.

The Ambler Friends gave \$2,443 to support adult educational programs—including ESL and Disability resources and \$1,200 to fund exciting children's programs that spark a love of learning.

From technology upgrades to life-changing programs, our Friends ensure the library can do more, reach further, and shine brighter. Thank you to the best friends a library could ask for!

### Memory Café at Ambler

Wissahickon Valley Public Library, Memory Café' Alliance and Dementia Friendly PA have teamed up to offer Memory Café's at Ambler Branch Library beginning in October.

People impacted by memory issues and those caring for them are invited to Memory Café's at Ambler. These events will be held once a month and provide an opportunity for people living with dementia to socialize with new friends, enjoy refreshments and participate in a variety of activities in a safe and welcoming setting.

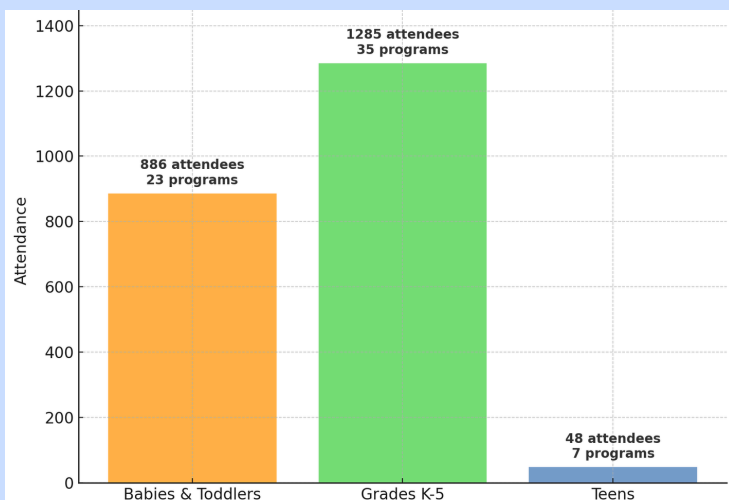
Weaver's Way Co-op is sponsoring the event with refreshments donations.

WVPL volunteer Sharon Pachler is running the cafe.

To register please call Sharon at 908-612-3883, or email [spachler@comcast.net](mailto:spachler@comcast.net).

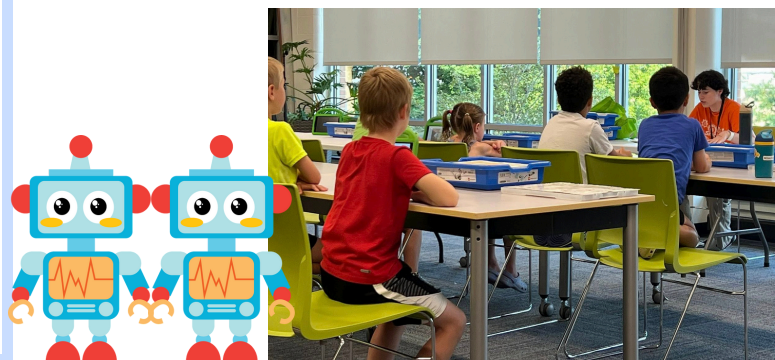
Memory Café 2025 dates: Thursday, Oct 16, Nov 20, Dec 18. From 11:00 am -12:00 pm.

## Children Summer Program Statistics



## Summer Reading Recap

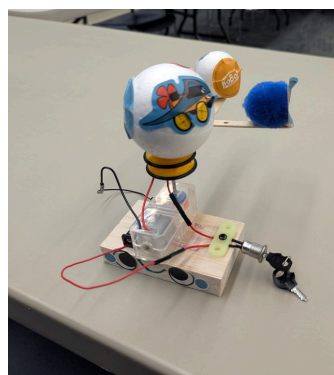
This summer, our young patrons at Wissahickon Valley public library had a blast with a variety of engaging and educational programs. Here's a glimpse of what they enjoyed.



## Eco-Upgrades for our Turtles

We're excited to announce an upcoming aquaponics project, featuring our beloved turtles, Regis and Zeus. These two longtime residents are getting a tank upgrade and we're turning it into a hands-on science project. A limited number of kids will have the opportunity to sign up and help out with the project while learning about ecosystems and sustainability in the process.

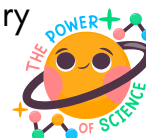
Aquaponics is a self-sustaining ecosystem that combines aquatic animals and plants. In our new setup, the turtles' waste will provide nutrients for plants growing above the tank while the plants naturally filter the water, helping to keep the environment clean for Regis and Zeus. This cycle mimics nature and teaches concepts related to environmental science.



Young engineers at Robotics workshops at both the branches



It's not everyday we get to see snakes in the library



Kids enjoyed experiments and demonstrations with Science Heroes



**Your continued support matters. It helps to bring new programs for the community. Will you please donate? You can use the enclosed envelope or go to [wvpl.org/donate](http://wvpl.org/donate)**

**THANK YOU**



Give the gift of literacy.  
Support the library at  
[www.wvpl.org/donate](http://www.wvpl.org/donate)

Occupant or

For library events and updates



[facebook.com/wvplibrary](https://facebook.com/wvplibrary)



@wvpl\_pa

[www.wvpl.org](http://www.wvpl.org)

## Wissahickon Valley Public Library - We're here to serve you!

### Ongoing Programs

#### Blue Bell Branch:

##### **Mondays**

Online ESL Group  
Yoga  
Advanced Tai Chi  
Intermediate Tai Chi  
Beginning Tai Chi  
Chess Club  
Mindfulness Meditation

##### **Tuesdays**

Baby Wiggles  
Knitting  
Movie Matinee  
Free Blood Pressure Screening monthly

##### **Wednesdays**

Book Club (1st Wednesdays)  
Integrate for Good (1st & 3rd Wednesdays)  
Wednesday Night Social Club

##### **Thursdays**

Storytime (Ages 2+)  
Knitting  
Socrates Café (2nd Thursdays)  
Thursday Movie Club (1st Thursdays)  
NAMI Connections (1st and 3rd Thursdays)

##### **Fridays**

Storytime (Ages 2+)  
Mahjong Group

##### **Saturdays**

Mystery Book Group (3rd Saturdays)

#### Ambler Branch:

##### **Mondays**

Ambler Babytime  
Online ESL Group  
Evening ESL Group

##### **Tuesdays**

Baby Storytime  
Tai Chi  
Photography Club  
Queens of Mystery Book club 3rd Tuesday

##### **Wednesdays**

ESL Conversation Group  
Conversation Cafe 1st Wednesday

##### **Thursdays**

Book Group (2nd Thursdays)  
Kids Chess Club 1st Thursday

##### **Fridays**

Yarn café  
Ambler Artist Group  
Friday Afternoons for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

##### **Saturdays**

Reading to the Dogs (3rd Saturday)



#### **Main Library**

650 Skippack Pike  
Blue Bell, PA 19422  
[wvpl.org](http://wvpl.org)  
215-643-1320



#### **Ambler Branch**

209 Race Street  
Ambler, PA 19002  
[wvpl.org](http://wvpl.org)  
215-646-1072



#### **Current Hours:**

**Mon-Thurs 10-8 PM**

**Fri & Sat 1-5 PM**

**Sundays 1-4 PM at BB  
(Sept-May)**



**Support the Blue Bell  
Branch Renovation.**  
**Please donate !**  
[wvpl.org/donate](http://wvpl.org/donate)

### Special Events:

#### **Book Sale at Blue Bell Oct 18<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>**

Oct 14, 7:00pm: Comedy Improv Show AMB

Oct 15, 6:30pm: The Paranormal Room AMB

Oct 28, 6:00pm: Sustainable Property Program (with Whiptain EAC) BB

Oct 30, 6:00pm: I want my Mummy! BB