



## NEWS FROM WISSAHICKON VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY



### Renovation Update



Thanks to the generosity of grant makers and donors, we've already completed several important upgrades to the Wissahickon Valley Public Library in 2025: repaving the parking lot, upgrading 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, which we are currently finalizing, start with 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. We plan to 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. The interior renovation is expected to start in August. A first draft of the plans were drawn and now the architect and the library director are completing the steps necessary to finalize the plans and bid documents. The library is also searching for a temporary location to house the library during the renovation.

Thank you to all our wonderful patrons and donors for helping us to make this happen.

Don't Miss

### The Renovation Celebration



You can still buy \$40 tickets to the Renovation Celebration on April 26 (4-6 PM) on [wvpl.org](http://wvpl.org). Just click on Donate.

You can enjoy a selection of delectable appetizers and drinks, and bring a book for evaluation.

The Silent Auction is already in progress.

You don't have to attend to participate.

Just scan the QR code to go to Rally Up.

Create an account and bid on items.

Silent auction ends at 6 PM April 26.

All proceeds go towards the renovation.



### Celebrating Our Nation

In 2026, our nation marks an extraordinary milestone—

#### 250 years of American Independence.

Both branches of the Wissahickon Valley Public Library are proud to honor this historic anniversary with a special series of programs that explore the people, events, and stories that shaped our country.

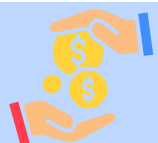
From the Revolutionary War to the open road, our program series offers engaging presentations that bring history to life and highlight the diverse voices that built our nation.

#### Blue Bell Branch Programs

- The Mother Road at 100: Route 66 - April 30
- Anthony Wayne - June 4
- Revolutionary Spy Program - June 25

#### Ambler Branch Programs

- Washington at Valley Forge - May 20
- Route 66 - June 3
- Women of the American Revolution - June 10



Please help support our efforts to make a better library for the community. An envelope is enclosed, or if you want to donate online, please go to [wvpl.org](http://wvpl.org) and click on "Donate". If you have suggestions for the library renovation, simply email the director at [afrank@wvpl.org](mailto:afrank@wvpl.org).

## New Library Tools

### New Library App

MCLINC has a new app. To access your account scan the QR code to download your app. You can scan a book barcode to see if the library has a copy



### Your new Library Catalog is Here!

Discover something new with Vega Discover, be sure to log in to bookmark items you want to save for later. Check out all the new features online at <https://wvpl.library.mclinc.org>



### Now Available with Your Library Card

We're excited to introduce PressReader, a new digital resource that gives you online access to thousands of local, national, and international newspapers and magazines—all free with your library card.

Enjoy popular titles like The Philadelphia Inquirer, USA Today, The Boston Globe, The Guardian (UK), and many more from around the world. Read current issues and past editions anytime, anywhere.

Getting started is easy! Download the PressReader app. Select Libraries & Groups, search for Montgomery County - MCLINC, and sign in using your library card barcode and Password.

Stay informed and explore the world's news with PressReader—free from your library!

## You Got to have



Our Friends are busy planning **books sales** to support the library, so please check out these two great sales:

- **Main Library April 18-21**
- **Ambler Branch May 8-9**

Check our website to learn more about the Blue Bell and Ambler Friends of the Library.

## New Collection

### Explore the Outdoors with Our New Nature

#### Backpacks!

Wissahickon Valley Public Library's Blue Bell Branch is excited to share that we have received Nature Backpacks, generously donated by the Whippain Environmental Advisory Council (EAC).

These specially designed backpacks are created to help you and your family explore nature right in your own backyard, at a local park, or along a nearby nature preserve. It's a wonderful way to spark curiosity, encourage outdoor learning, and make family adventures even more engaging.

Each backpack is filled with tools and activities to guide your exploration, including binoculars, a microscope, 2 scavenger hunts, wildlife guides and a Whippain trail map.



### Summer Reading For Children



June 15th -August 16th



Summer 2026 is packed full of fun educational events and activities happening each week at both the Main Library and Ambler Branch. We are looking forward to Stories in the Park, Juneteenth author event, Bubble artist and Magicians, Amazing Reptiles, Dinosaurs Rock, Cartoon Magic Show, and so much more...! There is something for everyone at no cost to anyone. Stay up-to-date on registering for these events by visiting the calendar on [wvpl.org](http://wvpl.org). In addition to library programming, you can keep track of your summer reading by logging your books on paper or in the Beanstack app, beginning in June. Everyone who participates will receive a prize. Don't miss out!

### Summer Adult Reading Challenge from June 15 -July 31

#### Read, Review, and Win!

Drawing will be held on July 31. Review forms will be available at both libraries—pick one up, start reading, and share your thoughts.

Happy Reading!!

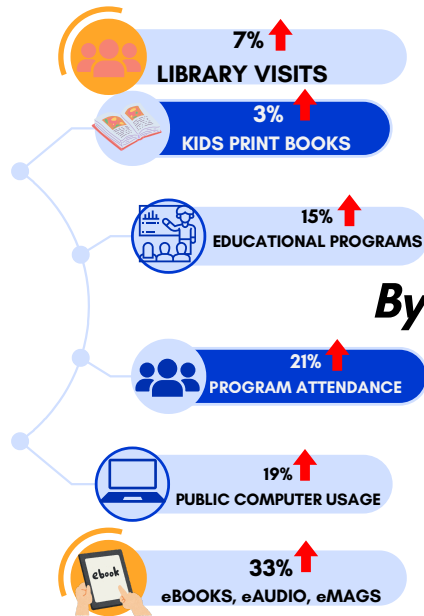
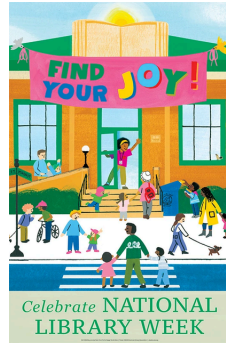


**At the heart of the library are people like you! You are our partner in the library mission to be the place where everyone is welcome**

# National Library Week

## April 19-25, 2026

This special week highlights many ways libraries bring happiness, inspiration and connection. This year's theme is Find Your Joy! Join us in finding your joy in a good book, interesting program, or helpful resource that the library offers.



## 2025 By The Numbers

### A Community Comes Together: Thank You for Your Mitzvah Donations

Wissahickon Valley Public Library, in collaboration with the **Women's Commission of Montgomery County** and **10 partner libraries**, recently completed a winter donation drive – and we are proud to share that our community truly showed up. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our patrons, we collected essential items including toiletries, diapers, winter clothing, school supplies, children's books, and household basics. These donations directly support local families in need during the cold winter months.



## Don't Bowl Alone

In Robert Putnam's book "Bowling Alone", he discusses how important clubs are to a community's connectedness. WVPL partners with multiple clubs in our area. The Ambler Rotary Club partnered with the WVPL to purchase \$2,000 worth of print books for the Wissahickon Valley Boys and Girls Club. The Ambler Kiwanis Club is partnering with UDPL and WVPL on 3 different literacy initiatives: Books on My Shelf, 1,000 books Before Kindergarten and Summer Reading Club. Their \$45,000 donation over three years will provide books, supplies and program expenses for local Head Start programs and the Boys and Girls Club. If you are looking into ways to socialize while helping your community, consider joining the Ambler Rotary Club or the Ambler Kiwanis Club. Just google them to find more information.



Boys and Girls Club



Head Start

## How To Donate

Donations are tax deductible



- **Mail Donation** in the enclosed envelope.
- **Donate Online at [wvpl.org](http://wvpl.org), click on "Donate".**
- **Sign up for Company Matching Donations.** The library gets matching donations from General Electric, Exxon Mobil, Merck, Citizens Bank, Johnson & Johnson, Penn Virginia Corporation, Pfizer Foundation, Quaker Chemical Foundation, Vanguard, Oracle, Wells Fargo and GlaxoSmithKline.
- **Make a Memorial Donation.** Honor a relative or a friend.
- **Join the Friends of the Library.** Pick up an application or go to [wvpl.org](http://wvpl.org), and click on "Friends"

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)





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](https://www.instagram.com/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  
Continuing 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)  
MC3 Readers Book Club (1st Wednesday)  
Wednesday Night Social Club

##### Thursdays

Storytime (Ages 2+)  
Knitting  
Socrates Café (2nd Thursdays)  
Thursday Movie Club (1st Thursdays)  
NAMI Connections (4th Thursdays)

##### Fridays

Storytime (Ages 2+)  
Mahjong Group

##### Saturdays

Mystery Book Group (3rd Saturdays)

#### Ambler Branch:

##### Mondays

Babytime  
Online ESL Group  
Evening ESL Group

##### Tuesdays

Storytime  
Tai Chi  
Photography Club

##### Wednesdays

ESL Conversation Group  
Conversation Cafe 1st Wednesday

##### Thursdays

Memory Cafe (3rd Thursday)  
Book Group (2nd Thursdays)  
Kids Chess Club (1st Thursdays)

##### 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 10-5 PM**

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



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

### Special Events:

April 15 Fraud Prevention AMB  
April 15 This Old House AMB  
April 16 Senior Scams BB  
April 23 Dark Skies BB  
**April 26 Gala BB**  
April 29 AARC Smart Driver Course BB