Fred Miller Presents Ethel Merman!
Saturday, October 14, 1:00 pm

On Broadway, there was one performer who was truly inimitable. From that historic moment in 1930 when she delivered the Gershwins’ “I Got Rhythm” to a stunned audience, Ethel Merman was and remained Broadway’s greatest (and most bankable) star, the definitive, brassy Voice of the Great White Way, the Classic Belter.

Merman’s mystique lay in the extraordinary power of a voice delivered by a sassy, humorous, no-nonsense dame. She could be touching and feminine, she could be a steamroller. Whatever it was, it was invincibly Merman, and what you saw was what you got. And what Broadway got was at least a dozen hit shows, none of which ran less than six months thanks to her special brand of exhilarating entertainment.

Merman’s personal life was marred by four unsuccessful marriages and the death of her daughter of an accidental overdose in 1967. Hers, however, was perhaps the most spectacular Broadway career on record. For more than a half century, this down-to-earth stenographer from Queens was what Broadway wanted more than any other performer: an irreplaceable American classic from a golden age now sorely missed.

If you are not familiar with Ms. Merman, or if you are and want to enjoy some nostalgia and an entertaining afternoon, we hope you’ll join us!

The Fabulous Fifties!
Saturday, November 11, 1:00 pm

Eisenhower... Elvis... the dawn of the space race and much more! Ride a magic time machine back to January 28, 1956 ~ a glimpse into one special day and beyond!

Watch News and Reviews, an on-air magazine built around a hilarious Honeymooners episode of the same date. Relive highlights from the worlds of news, music, movies, television, sports, commercials and more! Then, fast forward through time and learn more about our stars following that amazing year of 1956!

This program is presented by Rick Spector of Moviehouse Productions ~ this year celebrating its 40th anniversary of bringing local and national nostalgia and history to his audiences.

Join us for this entertaining presentation as Rick takes us on a nostalgic journey to 1956 America!
**Autumn PA Forward® Programs**

**Fall Computer Classes!**
Mondays in October, 1:00 pm

**October 2 ~ eBooks & Library eResources – Part 1**
Explore the vast selection of library electronic resources including eBooks and eAudiobooks. All free with your library card!

**October 9 ~ eBooks & Library eResources – Part 2**
Investigate even more ways to use library electronic resources!

**October 16 ~ Intro to Windows Operating System**
This class is designed to show the essential functions of the Windows operating system on PCs.

**October 23 ~ Intro to Macintosh Operating System**
This class is designed to show the essential functions of the MacOS operating system on Apple computers. Bring your own MacBook if you have one.

**October 30 ~ Google Workspace**
Learn the essential components of Google Workspace, including Google Drive, Google Docs, Google Sheets and Google Slides.

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**Dementia Friendly PA**
Monday, September 18, 6:00 pm

Dementia. What is it? What are the signs? How can we help those in the community who may be living with it. This program will be presented by Rose Sutkins and James Turner of Dementia Friendly PA which focuses on helping communities understand what dementia is, how it affects people, and how each of us can make a difference.

**Immunization Clinic**
Presented by Giant Pharmacy
Saturday, September 30, 10:00 am

**Fair Districting PA**
Monday, October 2, 6:00 pm

Rich Rafferty of Fair Districting PA will here to provide an informative talk on fair districting which requires cities and counties to engage communities in the redistricting process by holding public hearings and/or workshops and doing public outreach. Districts must also comply with the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act.

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**The People of the Northeastern Woodlands**
Monday, November 6, 6:00 pm

Presented by Chris Applegate of the Museum of Indian Culture, located in Allentown, PA

Step back in time and join us for a talk focusing on the history and culture of the Lenape. Learn a general history on the tribes that once lived in Pennsylvania and New Jersey; their family life, social structure, housing and survival, food resources, tools and jewelry. See a variety of European and Native American goods that were commonly traded.

*Online registration is encouraged.*
**September is National Library Card Sign-up Month!**

This year, the characters of Disney’s *Elemental* will team up with the American Library Association to promote the value of a library card.

Get a library card and spark your imagination and curiosity. Libraries offer fun and informative resources to help you pursue your passions and do more of what you enjoy! If you don’t have a library card, now is the perfect time to obtain one!

*Every NEW card recipient will receive an entry for prizes donated by local businesses!*

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**Friends of the Free Library of Northampton Township Museum Pass Program**

*Here’s how the program works:*

~ Become a Friend of the Library at the “Family” level ($20) or higher.
~ Borrow a pass for a maximum of two nights.
*Enjoy your museum visit!*

**Nineteen great attractions!**

*The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University* ~ admits 2 adults and up to 5 children age 18 or under
* **African American Museum of Philadelphia** ~ admits 4 adults up to 8 children
* **Battleship New Jersey** ~ Admits 2 adults and 3 children
* **Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve** ~ admits 2 adults and 4 children
* **Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles** ~ admits 2 adults and 3 children
* **The Bucks County Children’s Museum** ~ admits up to 6 people
* **Chanticleer Garden** ~ admits up to 4 people
* **Elmwood Park Zoo** ~ admits 2 adults and up to 6 children
* **Museum of The American Revolution** ~ admits 2 adults and 4 children, ages 6-17
  (children 5 and under are admitted free of charge)
* **The Mutter Museum** ~ admits 4 people
* **National Constitution Center** ~ admits 2 adults and 4 children
* **Penn Museum** ~ admits 2 adults and all children under 18 in one household
* **Pennsbury Manor** ~ admits up to 9 people for general admission only
* **Philadelphia Magic Gardens** ~ admits 2 adults and 3 children
* **Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania** ~ admits 2 adults and 4 children
* **Washington Crossing Historic Park** ~ admits 4 people
* **Wings of Freedom Aviation Museum** ~ admits 4 people
* **Woodmere Art Museum** ~ admits 2 adults and 4 children age 18 or under

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**The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland**

~ Jim DeFede

When our nation was attacked on Sept. 11, 2001, all US airspace was shut down. Thirty-eight airplanes, all bound for the US, were diverted to the small town of Gander, Newfoundland, Canada. Here travelers from all over the world had to endure intense security checks and were held on planes for hours before finally being released. Instead of being met with fear or simply indifference, the weary, scared passengers were welcomed with endless hospitality from the townspeople who created shelters at schools and churches, using bedding from their own homes. They welcomed visitors for home-cooked meals, volunteered at shelters, and drove people around town.

This inspiring story of kindness and generosity at a frightening time will warm your heart and remind you of the importance of looking out for each other.
Talk About your SHELF

A new and different kind of book club!
September 21 & October 19, 6:00 pm

Do you love talking about books and enjoy reading whatever you want? Come join us! We meet the 3rd Thursday of every month to discuss what everyone is currently reading, share book recommendations, and get ideas of great new titles to add to your to-read lists!

No Registration is required.

Book a Librarian!
1:1 appointments
60 minute sessions

Day, Evening & Weekend Time Slots Available!

Want to learn how to get eBooks on your eReader, phone or tablet? Have questions about using the internet, email, apps, computer programs or and more? Bring your questions to us!

We’re here to help!

Advanced registration is required. You can register in person, by calling 215-357-3050, or on our website.

The Northampton Township Archives

Archive Hours of Operation are:
Monday 4:00-7:00 pm
Wednesday 1:00-4:00 pm
Alternating Saturdays 9:00 am – Noon

The archivist is also available by appointment. Inquiries may be emailed to archivist@nhtwp.org or at 215-357-3050, 114.

Have You Heard About Mango Languages?

Have you been longing to learn a new language or brush up on one you haven’t used in a while? Mango Languages, a fun-infused way to learn, is available to Free Library of Northampton Township patrons! The website and phone app provide a self-paced learning program that teaches relevant and topical dialogue using vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar and culture for improving proficiency in another language. ESL (English as a Second Language) courses are included and were developed to accommodate over 20 source languages. It’s also lots of fun to use!

Access the Mango website via the link on the library website or download the app to your phone to begin your new language journey!

Looking Ahead...

Adult Winter Reading Challenge for 2024!

Watch for our third annual Adult Winter Reading Challenge to begin in December! This year’s theme and prizes are currently being planned. Full details will be in the next issue of the Library Scoop!

For those who have not participated in the past, we hope you’ll join the fun! Winter is the perfect time to curl up with a good book, a blanket and a cup of tea or glass of wine!

Keep track of your reading on the game board that will be provided and earn tickets as you read for a chance to win a raffle prize!

See you in December!
Tuesday Morning Matinees for Adults are back!

Alternating Tuesdays, 10:00 am
September 19 ~ December 12

Our Tuesday Morning Matinees have become a favorite of our library community! We show a variety of blockbusters, documentaries and little known gems that you may have missed! Films are shown on alternate Tuesdays and begin promptly at 10:00 am. Registration begins two weeks ahead & up to 12 hours before the show through our website, in person at the front desk, or by calling 215-357-3050.

Snacks and bottled water are complimentary or you may bring your own. The temperature of the room fluctuates so you may choose to bring a sweater or small blanket. You are also welcome to bring a cushion for comfort.

Autumn Showings:

September 19 ~ So for Brady ~ Rated PG13
October 3 ~ Somewhere in Queens ~ Rated R
October 17 ~ The Farewell ~ Rated PG
October 31 ~ The Covenant ~ Rated R
November ~ 14 ~ She Said ~ Rated R
November 28 ~ Whitney Houston: I Wanna Dance with Somebody ~ Rated PG13

December 12 ~ The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
(2013 version) ~ Rated PG

We hope to see you there!

Staff Pick
October

A Discovery of Witches
~ Deborah Harkness

This is not your typical story about vampires, witches & demons. The vampires don’t sleep in coffins, they can go out during the day, and for the most part, appear very human. The witches and demons also live among humans and the humans have no idea.

This is a story full of history and magic, passion and obsession, suspense and horror, romance and time travel.

Diana Bishop, a young scholar from America, is doing research in Oxford’s Bodleian Library. While there, she finds a long, lost manuscript containing what all supernatural creatures believe to hold the story of all origins and the secret of immortality. After the book appears, the world of vampires, witches & demons comes alive, each with a quest to get their hands on the book, no matter what it takes.

While Diana begins to accept the fact that she is a witch, and later finds out she is a very powerful one, along comes Matthew, a vampire geneticist. They gradually form a friendship and an intimate relationship that is forbidden between Witches and Vampires.

“Every leaf speaks bliss to me. Fluttering from the autumn tree.”
~ Emily Bronte
Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. It was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores and libraries. Banned Books Week highlights the value of free and open access to information and brings together the entire book community — librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and express ideas.

As long as there are libraries, Americans’ right to read will not be overcome by censorship,” says Lessa Kanani’opua Pelayo-Lozada. “Our 2023 Banned Books Week theme – ‘Let Freedom Read’ – captures what’s at stake for our democracy: that the safety of our right to speak and think freely is directly in proportion to our right to read.”

In the first half of the 2022-2023 school year alone, book censorship challenges in schools and libraries increased 28% from the previous six months, from 1,269 to 1,477, per a report from PEN America. And a surprising number of those were picture books meant for younger readers.

Here is a look at just a few of the country's most surprisingly challenged works through the years:

Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak
The Diary of a Young Girl, by Anne Frank
Charlotte’s Web, by E.B. White
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain
To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee
Twelfth Night, By William Shakespeare
The Wizard of Oz, by L. Frank Baum
Where’s Waldo, by Martin Handford
Friday Night Lights, by H.G. Bissinger
Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus, by Barbara Park

Read a banned book this week...and after. Defend the freedom to seek and express ideas through books!

National Book Month

Each October, National Book Month encourages us to celebrate and expand our love of reading. As the warm temperatures start to leave us for the winter, it’s the perfect time to put on some cozy slippers, have a cup of tea (or wine!) and curl up in your favorite chair with a good book.

Reading is one of the best things you can do for your mental health, and research shows it also greatly improves vocabulary, spelling, and memory. It reduces stress, improves brain function and boosts overall wellness.

Combined with Banned Books Week, this is a great time to open a book to a new adventure, new perspective or just for fun!