

Our annual Township Tree Lighting Night and Holiday Party co-hosted with PT Parks & Rec drew another large outdoor crowd of nearly 500 people. Families gathered to hear the young singers of McMurray School's 4th and 5th grade combined chorus directed by Ray Cygrymus who kept the singers singing until Mr. and Mrs. Claus arrived by fire truck. The crowd headed indoors for hot chocolate, cookies and goodie bags compliments of our PT Parks & Rec Department and built gingerbread houses with the help of local Girl Scouts and our Youth Services Department. Our library's Circulation Desk was also open that evening for check-out and we even signed up a few new card-holders bringing our total to 1632 new registered users this year.



*Mr. & Mrs. Claus*

The Jubilee Bell-Ringers joined us again and kept our tradition of hand-bell holiday music resounding through our lobby with punch and cookies for 70+ guests provided by The PT Library Foundation.

Holiday music continued in December with our partnership with the California University of Pennsylvania Civil War Roundtable for the second year in a row with the return of The Acoustic Shadows of the Blue & Gray.

This talented Civil War Quartet entertained 100+ guests on both floors followed by refreshments and was one of the 52 adult programs offered with a combined attendance of over 1000 guests in December.



*Acoustic Shadows of the Blue & Gray*

Speaking of music, we also played holiday cd's in our lobby each day in December to promote our audio cd collection and circulated 481 adult cd's. We sold 48



Enjoy books to benefit the PT Library Foundation and picked the lucky winner of the Lexington Court Christmas Tree Raffle. We also thank our patrons for their \$170 in donations this month to the "Share the Love" Campaign and

thank Mark Baer for matching those donations to benefit the 20 WAGGIN libraries with new resources for Youth Services. Speaking of thank-you's, we also wish to thank our PT Library Foundation for hosting a festive Holiday Staff Appreciation Holiday Lunch at the library complete with complimentary chair massages. We also wish to thank the Township for hosting their annual Holiday Luncheon at the Rec Center and the melt-in-your-mouth English Toffee. We always enjoy having the opportunity to visit with our fellow Township employees and Council members this time of year. The food was wonderful, and the prizes are always terrific. Congrats to all the lucky winners!



Dave Wylie,  
Rotary Pres-elect

Stanton, retired PT Police Officer, along with the Venetia Model Railroad Club, kept three trains running in our lobby through December.

As a Township Department member of the McMurray Rotary, Sue Miller and I alternate with our fellow Township Department Heads by attending weekly luncheon meetings at Atria's where local guest speakers share timely topics of interest and areas of need in our community.

Our teens provided free holiday gift-wrapping for donations to the PT Food Pantry and Dave



Despite being closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and closing early on New Year's Eve, 12,770 people visited the library in December. December was also a very busy month for inter-library loans with our Reference Department sending out 51 items to various libraries outside the WAGGIN system. This brought our 2018 total to 585 items mailed beyond Washington, Fayette and Greater Greene Counties. In addition, this month we received 1396 requests from within the 20 WAGGIN libraries for requested materials. Our Study Room usage increased to 486 users this month. Various staff members attended webinars ranging from marketing tools with Library Aware to new databases. Sue Miller and Ed Wolf received training from Joshua Cole, our WAGGIN technology support, to learn how to generate more reports from our circulation statistics and we now offer online access from within the library to The New York Times and The Washington Post.



Ed Wolf, Shannon Pauley, Sue Miller and I have agreed to represent Peters Township Library in "Chat with a Librarian" for "Ask Here PA" and received training via webinar this month. We will each login for one hour per week to offer 4 hours of live answers to questions from across the state. Participating in this outreach will allow us to become part of an innovative and popular statewide collaboration and to reach new library users. Other benefits to our staff include: improving staff reference skills through training, mentoring, collaboration, and connecting with hundreds of reference staff throughout Pennsylvania while gaining access to subject experts for those extra challenging questions that may come our way. Within the library's four walls this year our staff fielded over 7400 reference questions and more than 10,000 information inquiries from adults and children.



Julie

In December, we welcomed the volunteer efforts of grad student, Julie Mozelewski, who has been working closely with Margaret Deitzer to organize our maps, photos and documents in our Local History Room. We wish her the very best as she continues her graduate studies in archival work at Duquesne University in January.



3D bowls

3D printed items were a popular gift in December with 120 hours logged for 3D printing projects. We currently have 2266 Facebook users who have "liked" our page and our e-newsletter now reaches 8098 inboxes each week. We all bid farewell to a busy 2018 by serving 500+ people on 230 days and by circulating 500+ items on 294 days. We were open for a total of 340 days this year.