

April 2026

Finding Our Joy During National Library Week



Folded Book Vase Workshop



Celebrating Library Worker's Day

In celebration of National Library Week and this year's theme *Follow Your Joy*, we hosted a variety of engaging programs that highlighted the importance of libraries, reading, and creativity in our community.

As part of the week's events, we screened the PBS Indie Lens documentary *The Librarians*, a thought-provoking film that raises awareness about book censorship and the vital role librarians play in protecting the freedom to read. Following the screening, attendees participated in an engaging discussion with special guest Amy Pickett of the PA School Librarian Association.

Adding a creative touch to the week's celebration, Nancy MacKenzie led a hands-on upcycling workshop where participants transformed donated books into beautifully folded vases. Using carefully folded pages and silk flowers, attendees created unique decorative pieces while giving old books new life - a joyful reflection of the week's theme.

We also took time to recognize National Library Workers' Day, a special opportunity to celebrate the dedication and hard work of our library staff. The team enjoyed coffee and cake in appreciation of everything they do to keep the library running smoothly each day. It was a simple but meaningful moment to honor their commitment to serving the community, supporting patrons, and bringing the spirit of *Follow Your Joy* into their work all year long.

Young Gardeners Grow and Learn at Seed Planting Workshop

This month, we welcomed award-winning botanist, author, and Longwood Gardens educator, Eva Monheim, for an engaging workshop entitled *Planting Seedlings* for upper elementary and middle-school students. The program was both inspiring and educational, offering participants hands-on opportunities to plant seeds, create seed sheets, and explore a variety of plants and growing techniques.

Presented in partnership with the Environmental Advisory Council, one unexpectedly "fruitful" outcome of the event was a generous donation of seeds, which have been added to our Seed Library for the community to enjoy.



Collecting seeds from an apple



Miss Carrie and Miss Maria

We've Been Out in the Community!

Maybe you've caught us this month at:

- Delco Earth Day
- Wayne Elementary School Earth Day Fair
- Wayne Goddard School
- Central Nursery School

Learning Through Play: 1-2-3 Grow! Supports Families and Early Development

April 2026

Our annual *1-2-3 Grow! Parent/Child Workshop* returned last month, once again providing a fun and supportive environment for young children and their caregivers. Designed for children ages 1-3, along with parents, siblings, and caregivers, the program combines open play with valuable guidance from early-childhood resource professionals.

Held on Wednesdays from April 8 through May 6, the workshop featured activities tailored to toddlers' developing skills while also offering parents insight into important early-childhood education topics. This year's program included visits from several special guests, including a speech therapist, a pediatric dentist, and a music therapist, each sharing expertise and practical tips with participating families.

One parent shared that programs like these have helped her feel more confident and equipped as a parent. She noted that she frequently applies lessons learned from storytimes at home, incorporating them into her family's daily routines and habits. Experiences like these reflect the ongoing impact of the *1-2-3 Grow!* workshop, which continues to provide families with meaningful opportunities to learn, connect, and grow together through play, education, and community engagement.



A learning station during 1-2-3 Grow!

America 250 Events Bring Revolutionary History to Life

We've been gearing up for a summer rich with history and *America 250* programming with two engaging author talks this spring.

Kicking off the series in early April, author Thomas Richards visited to discuss his new book, *Unfinished Business of 1776: Why the American Revolution Has Never Ended*. Published specifically for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the book examines the continuing relevance of the American Revolution and serves as a call to reclaim its meaning in modern America.

Later in the month, we welcomed author Jeffrey Denman from Massachusetts for a presentation on his book *Philadelphia Quakers and the American Revolution*. Denman guided attendees through Philadelphia history, vividly describing the dramatic rise of the Philadelphia Quakers and their decline during the American Revolution.

Presented in partnership with the Radnor Historical Society and Main Point Books, each lecture drew more than 75 attendees, making for a successful and inspiring beginning to our year of *America 250* programming.



Thomas Richards' Author Visit

April 2026

BY THE NUMBERS

63

Programs



Poetry & Paint

23 after-school
sessions
with **183** teens

1,827

Participants



19 Volunteers
57 hours of service



The amazing Linda Sue Park during her Author Visit



New Additions to the Global Collection

New Chinese and French books were cataloged, classified and processed this month and are now available in our ever-expanding Global Collection.

19,801
Physical
Materials

7,597
Digital
Items

161
Items
Mended

27,398
TOTAL
CHECKOUTS

489
Digital Wall
Street Journal
articles read