

Eccles-Lesher Memorial Library

NEWSLETTER



Monday	8:30 a - 5:30 p
Tuesday	9:00 a - 6:00 p
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	8:30 a - 5:30 p
Friday	9:30 a - 4:30 p
Saturday	9:00 a - 3:00 p
Sunday	Closed

Memorials

In Memory Of: Rich (Dick) Bobbert Sr.

Given By: The Flock Sunday School Class

C is for Courting
by Shelley Shepard Gray

In Memory Of: Betty Milanovich

Given By: Bette Mortimer & Family

The Eastern Front: A History of the Great War, 1914-1918 by Nick Lloyd

The Western Front: A History of the Great War, 1914-1918 by Nick Lloyd

December 2025



Our Fall Story Time series with Lager the Therapy Dog is Complete!

Our genuine gratitude goes out to all of our attendees who made this program a success. We will work diligently to see about bringing Lager and his team back next spring. Until then, keep reading!



Friends of the Library - Cookie/Candy Walk

Christmas Present in November



Thank You for a Magical Christmas at the Library!

We want to extend our sincerest thanks to everyone who helped make this year's Christmas Present Craft Show such a warm, festive, and joy-filled success.

To our talented vendors, thank you for sharing your creativity and filling the library with beautiful, handmade gifts and good cheer. To our incredible Friends of the Library volunteers, we're so grateful for the time, energy, and heart you put into manning the Cookie & Candy Walk, assisting customers, and helping everything run smoothly from start to finish.

But the biggest thank you goes to the amazing community members who donated homemade cookies and treats for the sale. Your generosity, especially in a time when grocery budgets are tight and baking supplies aren't cheap, was truly overwhelming. Every single batch you lovingly made helped support the Friends' fundraising efforts and spread holiday cheer throughout the library.

We're continually inspired by the kindness and support of our small but mighty community. Thank you for making this season feel extra special.



Christmas at the Library

Door Prize Winners!

A Season of Giving—and Winning!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Holiday Gift Card Giveaway such a merry success! Throughout the event, we loved seeing so many friendly faces stop by the library to drop their names in the drawing for a chance to win one of three \$25 Amazon gift cards. Your enthusiasm, smiles, and holiday spirit filled our building with warmth and joy!

We're excited to announce our lucky winners:

- 🎁 Dianna Wolfe of Kittanning, PA
- 🎁 Stacey Dinger of New Bethlehem, PA
- 🎁 Gladene Vensel of Sligo, PA

Congratulations to all three, and thank you again to everyone who participated! This festive giveaway was our way of saying how much we appreciate our wonderful patrons and the support you show the library all year long. Whether you stopped in to check out a book, attend a program, or simply share a kind word, you helped make this season brighter.

From all of us here at the library, we wish you a joyful holiday season filled with stories, laughter, and cozy moments. Stay warm, and we hope to see you again soon!





Santa's Gift Tree

Share the Spirit
of the Season



Santa's Gift Tree Update ~ Let's Spread Some Cheer!

Sign-ups for this year's Santa's Gift Tree program are now closed, and nearly 50 local children were enrolled this year.

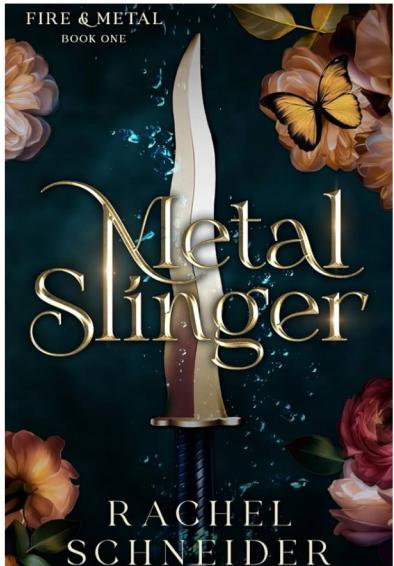
Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, most of the mitten tags from our Santa's Gift Tree have already been claimed, but we still have 18 mittens left waiting to be chosen! Each mitten represents an anonymous local child in need from the Union School District, and every gift purchased helps make the holidays a little brighter for families right here in our community. If you've been thinking about participating, now's the time to stop in and pick a mitten from the tree in the library's front lobby.

Wrapped gifts must be returned to the library no later than Friday, December 12th, and should include the mitten tag for matching purposes.

We continue to be blown away by the kindness and compassion shown through this program each year. Thank you for helping spread holiday cheer, one mitten at a time!



Swords & Spice Romantasy Book Club Picks



Release Date:
May 13, 2024

Swords & Spice Romantasy Book Club – December Meeting

Metal Slinger by Rachel Schneider

Thursday, December 18, 2026

5:30 p.m.

Eccles-Lesher Memorial Library

Gird your hearts and sharpen your claws! This December, we're diving headfirst into Metal Slinger, a darkly immersive romantasy where gunmetal magic, deadly secrets, and a fiercely bound pair collide.

Why you'll love it:

- A hero hardened by steel, a heroine with a spark no weapon can contain.
- A world where bullets fly through wards, and love is the deadliest spell of all.
- A standalone story perfect for one intense, unforgettable gathering.

Join us for bold twists, fierce romance, rich world-building, and themed treats that'll make you believe in magic, ammunition, and messy love. New members, seasoned romantasy fans, and thrill-seekers are all welcome. Bring your questions, your sass, and your bookish appetite!

We'll have themed snacks, cozy vibes, and plenty of discussion about what happens when steel meets heart. See you on December 18 at 5:30!





ECCLES-LESHER
Memorial Library



JIGSAW PUZZLE & BOARD GAME SWAP!



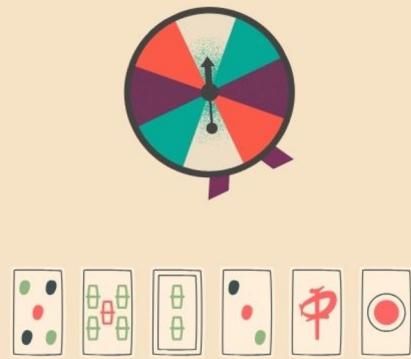
Saturday, January 17th, 2026
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



Love puzzles and games? Bring your gently used or new items to the library now through January 17, then join us on Saturday, January 17 from 9:30-2:30 for our Jigsaw Puzzle & Board Game Swap!



Trade in old favorites and discover something new to enjoy this winter.



Secret Garden Bookstore

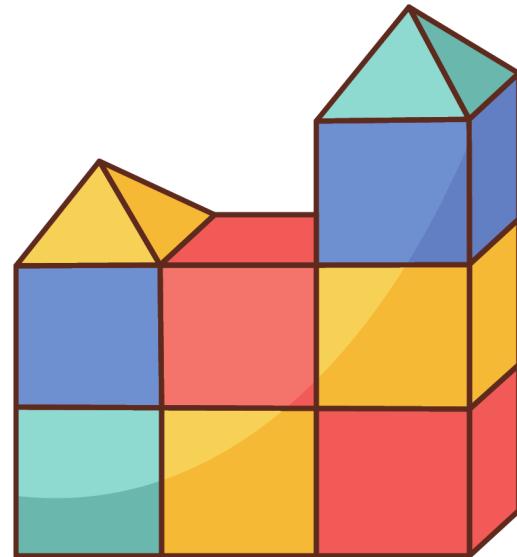
Located on the second floor of the library,

The Secret Garden Bookstore is maintained by the Eccles-Lesher Memorial Library Friends of the Library. Patrons can purchase gently loved, previously owned books by donation! Funds support library programming. The Secret Garden Bookstore opens 15 minutes after the library opens and closes 15 minutes before the library does.

Block Party

Build with Wooden Blocks, Magna-Tiles, Legos, and many other types of blocks. Animals, Figures, and Vehicles available to complete creations.

Next Party Date: Any time we are open



BOOK DONATIONS ACCEPTED

Starting October 2nd, the library will once again begin accepting used book donations for the Friends of the Library Secret Garden Bookstore!

Limit of two large boxes of donations at one time. Remember, this is a fundraiser, and donated items should be in clean, gift-worthy condition.

We're looking for:

- Adult fiction in great shape
- Children's books (board books, chapter books, picture books)
- YA titles, graphic novels, and similar popular reads

We cannot accept:

- Nonfiction books (these rarely sell)
- Mass market paperbacks or magazines
- VHS tapes or cassette tapes
- Encyclopedia/reference sets
- Reader's Digest condensed books
- Books that are musty, moldy, torn, dirty, written in, or water-damaged



Secret Garden Bookstore

Friends of the Library Bookstore Update

The Friends of the Library have made an exciting update to the Secret Garden Bookstore. Instead of pricing items at one dollar per bag, the bookstore is now officially operating on a By Donation basis. That means you get to choose what your books are worth to you, whether you're picking up a single novel or a whole stack of new favorites.

This change allows us to continue offering great used books to the community while giving supporters the opportunity to contribute what they can. Every donation, no matter the size, goes directly toward funding library programs and services. If you haven't browsed in a while, now is the perfect time to stop by, explore the shelves, and give from the heart. You never know what hidden gem you'll find.



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