



**AHCL NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER 2025**

**The next meeting** of The Abington Heights Civic League, Inc. will be held on **Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm.** **Our speaker** will be Louise McDonnell from Friends of Shady Lane Cemetery.

**Refreshment Committee** members are Sharon Campbell, Janice Kulp, Kathy Croft, Jenn BB and Susan Veater.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

November 3 - General Membership Meeting

November 8 - Abington Angels Marketplace

November 10 - Book Clubs 1 and 2

November 24 - November Board Meeting

December 1 - December Potluck

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This article is first in the newsletter because it is **time sensitive. The deadline is this Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.** In the AHCL, we have many worthy causes at this time of the year e.g. the State Hospital Ward, Abington Angels etc. It has come to our attention that The Lackawanna Area on Aging needs help in seeking Santa Sponsors. It's a Christmas program to help grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. It is completely volunteer. If you would like to participate, it is \$100 per grandchild, but you could go in with a few other people. Please call or text Bernadette ASAP at 570-499-7869. **Details are attached to this email.**

**Civic Engagement:** Erin Osterhout worked very hard on creating a project to provide comfort kits for children in stressful and challenging circumstances. It is in collaboration with local police. **A meeting will take place on 11/5 at 6:30 at the clubhouse for anyone interested in being involved.** Sponsors, donations and help with assembly are being sought. The goal is for 100 bags to be distributed throughout the area to police, fire, and other first responders for January. **Details are in the attached Hugs from the Heart flyer.** Projections on costs, goals and small storybooks will be discussed at the meeting.

**Education and Libraries:** Maria Fanning discussed a visit to Indraloka with the director. The date chosen is November 22, 2025. There will be a sign-up sheet passed around at the general meeting.

**Book Club I:** Liana Smith's group will meet on Monday, November 10th at Cafe 27 to discuss books on the Russian Mafia.

**Book Club II:** Sue O'Day and her group will meet on November 10th at 6:00 pm at Dino's to discuss each reader's choice of novels with a funny theme.

**Environment:** Plastic for the NexTrex project is being collected. This will be our third year. Eileen Milunic noted that the first bags will be sorted and sent out within the next couple of weeks. If you have plastic to donate, you can bring it to the general meetings or place it in the collection boxes at The Gathering Place (in the Food Pantry area) or at Allied in their Cafeteria.

**Adopt-A-Highway** for the Fall was completed by five AHCL members on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. It went well with Gerrie Carey and Liana Smith cleaning up part of West Grove Street and all of East Grove. Susan Veater, Mary Ellen Durkin and Eileen Milunic picked up on West Grove from the bridge to Morgan Highway. The next pick-up will be done in Spring 2026. We could use the help of a few younger members!!

**State Hospital Project:** Mary Ellen Durkin reports that the **Christmas Gift** planning for our ward is underway. An email was sent to the Volunteer Representative who will reach out to the patients. The list will be coordinated with the assistance of **Sign-Up Genius** which will be emailed to members. This method should eliminate the problem of multiple civic league members choosing the same person.

**Abington Angels:** Jenn Bachan-Breiten is excited to announce this year's Marketplace. There will be some new vendors and new booths. The Abington Journal will run an article in the Wednesday, November 5th edition of the newspaper about **the Thanksgiving Food Pantry along with the 12th Annual Marketplace**. Reporter Linda Scott is doing a feature on groups in the area as well as food pantries. **Jenn would appreciate it if members could make baked goods for The Marketplace event. Please let her know if you can participate at 973-704-5776 or JBBAHCL22@gmail.com.**

**Facebook:** Jenn updated the AHCL Facebook with a Feline Immunodeficiency Virus Fact Sheet, Yom Kippur, Diwali, Breast Cancer Awareness, Halloween, and Marketplace daily vendor ads. Our cover story was changed to our Breast Cancer Ribbon club picture.

**Public Relations:** At our last Board Meeting, Bernadette Menendez discussed the submission of pictures concerning the AHCL that were published in the October 26th edition of The Sunday Times. The pictures captured the 2025 ASAP dinner as well as Brianna Eagen with the May 2025 speaker from the Barbara Hart Center for Justice.

**Website:** Mary Ellen Durkin added pictures of our Adopt-A-Highway cleanup to our website. Check it out!!! There's lots of club info and lots of photos showing our club activities!!

**Dance:** Erin Osterhout shares the good news that in September and October, there was a significant focus on increasing enrollment, which is excellent. The teachers chose the 2026 recital theme of The Ultimate Playlist which will feature some very innovative and exciting new elements to the show. **Community driven events for the AHCLDA have been planned** including the Christmas tree lighting in Clark's Summit on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Scranton Downtown Ice Festival performance on January 17<sup>th</sup>. There will also be The Penguins Ice Hockey AHCLDA Night on January 24<sup>th</sup>, which includes a comp team performance.

The Comp team held a bingo fundraiser which was a big success. Donations in the name of Mary Osterhout have been made to the Dance account and will be incorporated into the **Karl Barbee Scholarship**.

**Women's History and Resource Center:** Liana Smith reports that sixty years ago, in November 1965, there were 76 ballet students, and 2 ballet bars were installed in the dance studio. The library became a club project and we still work closely with them. Dinner club books were sold by members with each member being responsible for 3 books.

**Fundraising:** There will be a sale of **Texas Roadhouse gift cards**. The sale will begin on November 1, 2025. More details to be announced.

**Membership:** Kathy Croft reports that there have been several member changes within the club. There are currently 53 members. Our newest member is Karen Arcangelo. Welcome to the club! If anyone has any ideas about attracting new members, please let Kathy know.

**House and Hospitality:** Cathy Plishka has organized the **Refreshment Committee members for the November meeting**. They are Sharon Campbell, Janice Kulp, Kathy Croft, Jenn BB and Susan Veater.

**Yearbook:** Updates were made and the revised Yearbook is in an attachment on this email.



**Happy Birthday** to Sharon Campbell 11/13, Ashley Goff 11/18, Linda Lloyd 11/22, Marie Maddi 11/16, Bernadette Menendez 11/9, and Jessica Smith 11/9.



**God Bless America**