

"ALWAYS WORTH A BROWSE"
FRIENDS OF THE OCEAN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY NEWS
JANUARY 2023



Important News

(1) All branches of the Monmouth County Library will be closed on the following days:

January 2, 2023 in observance of New Year's Day

January 16, 2023 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

(2) **Exciting News** -- There are many excellent reasons to join the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library or to renew your membership. And, now you can add one more reason to the list -- **an exciting ticket giveaway we will be doing this month thanks to a generous donation by Patricia and Robert Smilon who are avid fans of our library.** The couple have generously donated two tickets to a very special performance of the NJ Symphony Orchestra at the Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank on February 24, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. The performance entitled "The Best of John Williams" will be conducted by Damon Gupton.

How do you enter for the drawing? Simply join the Friends or ensure that your Friends membership is current. **All members (those who have paid their 2023 dues) will be automatically entered. We will draw the winner later this month.** So if you love our library and would love to see the NJ Symphony Orchestra, don't delay in joining the Friends or renewing your Friends membership.

How do you renew or join? Simply check out the next item below!

And, another huge thank you to Patricia and Robert Smilon for making this drawing possible.

(3) **An Exciting Year on Tap** -- The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library are excited to welcome in 2023 and we look forward to continuing to support our library and its many programs and events.

Last year, coming out of the worst of the pandemic, our library staff went above and beyond to bring new and exciting programs -- as well as old favorites -- back for town residents to enjoy. And, the good news is that many more programs are on tap for 2023.

In addition, the Friends are already busy planning another book donation day and two large book sales (more details to come). **Now that we've rung in the New Year, please take a moment to renew your membership (our dues are only \$5.00) with The Friends of the Ocean Township Library. It is very easy to do...**

Membership Renewal Forms are available online at our website: www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org or directly by clicking [here](#)

And, don't forget...if you find the services we provide helpful, spread the word! Let your friends, family and neighbors know about the Friends of the Ocean Township Library and ask them to consider becoming a member. Simply print out a copy of our membership form (located on our website: www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org) for them and ask them to return it to the address provided on the form.

Please note: For your convenience you can choose to pay your \$5.00 annual membership dues either by check/money order or via our electronic payment option (which allows you to pay with PayPal or with a Debit or Credit Card). Simply go to our website to renew: www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org

We appreciate your support and a special thank you to all the members of the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library who have already renewed!

(4) Holiday Sale -- We are happy to report that our multi-day Holiday-Themed Book Sale held last month was a success. **We sold quite a few books, signed up some new members, and spread the word about our organization's efforts to support our town's library. A special shout-out to Mickey Manna and Lynn Librizzi for making the sale happen and to the Friends members who volunteered to help staff the table.** In addition to our twice-yearly large book sales, we hope to host several similar mini-sales/membership outreach events in 2023. We will keep you posted as plans are made.

(5) We Need You! -- Members of The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library's Book Inventory Committee are already hard at work planning our 2023 book donation and book sale days and readying our book room for these important events. **If you have some time to spare -- even just an hour or so -- The Book Inventory Committee is looking for volunteers to help with their preparations.** You are guaranteed to have fun and meet fellow book lovers -- all while giving back to our wonderful library. **To get started simply RSVP to this email and we'll be in touch. Thanks in advance for giving of your time to help support our town's library!!**

(6) Congratulations! -- to Phyllis Fyfe, Friends vice president, who was honored last month by the Shrewsbury Towne Monmouth Chapter of the Daughters of the

American Revolution for her many years of outstanding work in promoting literacy. Congratulations Phyllis on being named a Literacy Champion!!



Updates from the Township of Ocean Library

(1) Good Luck and Best Wishes -- Our talented librarian, Diana Zambrano, who has guided our library with enthusiasm and excellence (including during the uncharted days, weeks and months of the COVID-19 pandemic) is retiring effective March 1, 2023. Our library has benefited beyond measure by Diana's creativity, partnership and love of books. We wish Diana all the best in this next chapter of her life. **If you visit our library in the days ahead, please be sure to stop by and thank Diana for all she has done to grow our library and enhance its offerings.**

(2) Movies...Movies....Movies -- Interested in enjoying a good movie? Then look no further than our library, where a number of movies are being shown this month. **All the movies are free to attend!**

January 5, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Three Thousand Years of Longing starring Idris Elba, Tilda Swinton and Erdil Yasaroglu (2022) (Rated R)

January 12, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Vengeance starring B.J. Novak, Ashton Kutcher, Boyd Holbrook and Dove Cameron (2022) (Rated R)

January 19, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Fatherhood starring Kevin Hart and Alfre Woodward (2021) (Rated PG-13)

January 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Licorice Pizza starring Alana Halm and Cooper Hoffman, and co-starring Sean Penn, Tom Watts and Bradley Cooper (2021) (Rated PG-13)

You definitely won't want to miss these films -- so be sure and save the dates to your calendar.

(3) Book Club for Teens -- If you have teens in your family who enjoy reading, encourage them to join our library branch's Young Adults Book Club. The club will be meeting on January 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss "*The House in the Cerulean Sea*" by Lambda Literacy Award-winning author T. J. Klune. The book, is a *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *Washington Post* bestseller.

(4) **2023's Off to a Musical Start** -- Come enjoy an hour of music as our branch welcomes the very popular Charlie's Band on January 18, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Charlie's Band will be performing song selections from the Great American Songbook, as well as some smooth jazz and Latin musical numbers. You won't want to miss their performance! **(This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library.)**

(5) **Questions Welcomed** -- Representatives from Senator Vin Gopal's office will be at our library branch on January 23, 2023 from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. to provide information and answer your questions. Please be sure to stop by.

(6) **Join a Knitting/Crocheting Group** -- that is now meeting at our library on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. for an evening of knitting and/or crocheting. This month, the group is meeting on January 24, 2023. All levels are welcome. Please bring your own yarn, needles and/or hooks. Those interested in learning how to knit or crochet also are welcome (just be sure to bring some chunky yarn along with your needles).

(7) **Programs For Little Ones** -- Our library branch is the site of many special children's programs each month. The sessions are full of fun exciting stories, song singing, and even craft making. **Simply go to: the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) for a full list of the children's programs happening at our branch in January.** Select the event you are interested in and you you will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description



Updates from Our Cultural Collaborators

(1) The Township of Ocean Historical Museum -- **[The Township of Ocean Historical Museum](#)** will be closed on January 1, 2023 for New Year's Day. The museum will be open on all other Sundays in January from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Local Archaeological Discoveries: The Township of Ocean Historical Museum is currently featuring a mini-exhibit of historical artifacts that were unearthed during a 2019-2020 archaeological study of the former site of the Eden Woolley House on the corner of Deal Road and Route 35. The study provides insights into the time period, settlement patterns, and activities of Native Americans who occupied the site. Among the artifacts uncovered are remnants of tools, shards of ceramic containers, burned rock and more. **Be sure to visit our town's museum to view the exhibit and learn more about early life at the Eden Woolley Farmstead.**

Additional fascinating details about the exhibit and archaeological dig, including a slideshow, can be found at:

<https://tohm galleries.blogspot.com/p/town-gallery-our-town-gallery-traces.html>

(2) **Turner Art Gallery -- The Turner Art Gallery, will be hosting a new exhibit, "Dedicated Effort", from January 29, 2023 through February 23, 2023, featuring the work of the talented students of artist Theresa Trocchia. A reception for the new show will be held on January 29, 2023 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public. Please note: some of the displayed art is available for purchase.**



Happening Around Town

(1) **Life-Saving Reminder -- with cold weather settling in, it is a good time to familiarize yourself with how to protect you and your loved ones from the dangers of carbon monoxide gas.** Between 2000 and 2019 carbon monoxide poisoning was the underlying cause of death for 275 New Jersey residents. And, in 2019 alone, 374 of our state's residents were treated in hospital emergency rooms for non-fire related accidental CO poisoning. Protect yourself with some useful tips from the Monmouth County Department of Health. To learn more simply go to: <http://www.oceantwp.org/qcontent/NewsFeed.aspx?FeedID=5963&ShowDetailsDate=false>

(2) **Avoid Door-to-Door Salespeople -- If you are new to town, recently moved, or are just tired of door-to-door sales people disturbing you at home, don't forget you can list your address as a "No Knock Residence". Once you register, your address (but not your name) will be placed on a list that the town provides to any sales person issued a license to conduct door-to-door sales so they know not to stop at your home.** Within 90 days of signing up, a decal will be mailed to you that also indicates your home is a "No Knock Residence" and you should display the decal on your front door. Registration takes just a few minutes and you can register

at: <https://webgeo.co/prod1/portal/portal.jsp;jsessionid=CB6E6D855780CE1F7850960C8C6AB29E?c=3668658&p=557207238&q=557207265>



Helpful Tip

(1) Throughout this newsletter we often refer you to the Monmouth County Library's Eventkeeper site to register for one or more of the many programs being offered virtually or in-person by the Monmouth County Library system.

But, if you are having trouble remembering the date/time of the programs you've signed up for or wish there was an easy way to invite others to join you for the program...help is here thanks to some handy Eventkeeper features.

Now when you go to the Eventkeeper site to register for a program you also have the option of clicking on one (or more) of these buttons.

A. Tell a Friend -- allows you to send an email to a friend about the program you've registered for and ask them to join you.

B. Remind Me -- allows you to schedule a "reminder" email that will be sent to you 24 hours before the program begins so you don't forget.

C. Add to Calendar -- allows you to add the program you've registered for to your electronic calendar.

Hope you find this tip helpful. You'll find the EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#)



Grab a Book and Sit Awhile**

Looking for a good book to read this month? No problem! This month we once again are spotlighting several different ways you can locate recommended books in just about every genre.

(1) **An Activist and A Singer** -- If you are a fan of U2's front man and passionate activist Bono, then you won't want to miss checking out his new memoir *Surrender: 40 Songs, One Story*. The AARP recently reviewed the memoir which they note contains Bono's drawings, details of his childhood, and many confessions both inspiring and embarrassing. **To read the full review go**

to: <https://www.aarp.org/entertainment/music/info-2022/bono-u2-surrender-memoir.html>

(2) Explore Cuisine -- If one of your New Year's resolutions is to explore some new culinary experiences, then be sure to check out the AARP's list of "The 10 Best Cookbooks Published in 2022". The list includes everything from "*Dinner in One: Exceptional & Easy One-Pan Meals*" to "*California Soul: Recipes from a Culinary Journey West*" to books by the 2019 winner of the Great British Baking Show and cocktail hits by former Van Halen lead singer Sammy Hagar. To begin your tasty journey go to:

<https://www.aarp.org/entertainment/books/info-2022/new-cookbooks.html>

(3) Food is Definitely Top of Mind -- maybe it is all the just-concluded holiday eating, but the AARP isn't the only one with a list of great cookbooks to check out. Goodreads recently came out with their own list of books for foodies -- both cookbooks and memoirs. The Goodreads list includes books such as "*The Man Who Ate Too Much: The Life of James Beard*", "*Midnight Chicken & Other Recipes Worth Living For*", "*Jubilee: Recipes From Two Centuries of African American Cooking*", and "*We Fed An Island: The True Story of Rebuilding Puerto Rico, One Meal At A Time*". To see the full list go to: https://www.goodreads.com/blog/show/2488-27-new-recommended-food-books-from-cookbooks-to-memoirs?int=Soapbox Signed Out 2022 Dec&int_sub=Blog 2488

(4) Best Books -- 2022 is in the rear view mirror, but that doesn't mean you can't still enjoy a great book published last year. Wondering where to start? Well look no further than Goodreads' list of the "Best Books of 2022". The list includes just about any type of book you can imagine -- fiction, non-fiction, mysteries, poetry, history, memoirs, horror, science fiction, etc. This is the 14th year that Goodreads has compiled a year's best book list and what sets their list apart is that it is the only one voted on by readers. So get a pad and pencil ready and start making a list of these 2022 favorites you don't want to miss. You'll find the Goodreads best picks at: https://www.goodreads.com/choiceawards/best-books-2022?ref=qca_signed_out_hp

(5) It's A Mystery No Longer -- Do you love a good mystery or thriller and are you wondering if you've read all the best ones that were published last year? Well, wonder no longer. The editors of Amazon's Book Review have compiled a list of the most riveting mysteries and thrillers published in 2022. The list includes "*City on Fire*" by Don Winslow, "*The Maid*" by Nita Prose, "*The Overnight Guest*" by Heather Gudenkauf, and more. To find the full list go to: https://www.amazon.com/amazonbookreview/read/B0BMDYDC8S?ref=abr_widg_et_nav&theme=light

(6) Consider Joining The Monmouth County Library's Virtual Book Discussions This Month --**

January 12, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this virtual Murder They Wrote book club to discuss "*Stranger Diaries*" by Elly Griffiths. In this book, teacher Clare Cassidy specializes in the works of Gothic writer R. M. Holland. When one of her colleagues is found dead with a line from Holland's iconic story left by the body, Claire's life and favorite fiction collide. Relying on her diary as an outlet for her fears and suspicions, Claire is startled when she finds her diary contains writing that isn't hers.

January 18, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this virtual romance book club to discuss "*The Second Mrs. Astor*" by Shana Abe. Madeleine Talmadge Force was just 17 when she attracted the attention of John Jacob "Jack" Astor. Despite their 29-year age difference and Jack's scandalous divorce, the couple fall in love, marry and take an extended honeymoon in Egypt. At the conclusion of their honeymoon, a now pregnant Madeleine joins John Jacob aboard the RMS Titanic for a return voyage to America. After the ship is lost, a rescued Madeleine returns to America alone -- facing both the birth of her son and decisions about what her future will hold.

January 26, 2023 at 10:30 -- Join this virtual short story discussion about *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Stetson. A woman confined to the upstairs bedroom of her summer home secretly journals her experiences, while her physician husband remains convinced she will quickly recover from what he considers to be a "temporary" illness.

**** (Registration is required for all of these programs. To register simply go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) Scroll down to the date of the event you are interested in and you will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description.)**

We hope you find this spotlight helpful. Happy Reading!!



Other Helpful & Fun Library Offerings**

(Unless otherwise noted, all of these programs require registration. Instructions for registering can be found at the end of this section.)

(1) It's A Wonderful Life -- If you aren't ready to lose that holiday spirit just yet...then be sure to **enjoy this holiday classic one more time as it is presented as a virtual radio play** -- complete with sound effects, music, and talented actors -- **by the Classic Radio Road Show. The performance is available to enjoy 24x7 through January 9, 2022.** You can access this wonderful Golden Age of Radio program by going to the **the Library's website at: www.MonmouthCountyLib.org**

(2) The Golden Age -- of Operetta is alive and well on the Monmouth County Library's website now through January 31, 2023. Don't miss pianist and singer Fred Miller's virtual concert featuring the music of Victor Herbert, Rudolf Friml and Sigmund Romberg. To view the performance go to: www.MonmouthCountyLib.org

(3) New Year...Healthier You -- Throughout the month of January the Monmouth County Library will be hosting "Wellness Wednesdays" featuring encore presentations of a series of healthy lifestyle programs with Rachel Tansey of the Family & Community Health Sciences Department, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County. So, if your New Year's resolution includes a healthier lifestyle, be sure to check out these encore presentations:

**January 4, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. -- Healthy Living to 100
January 11, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. -- Welcome to Your Wellness
January 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. -- Comfort Foods to Soothe Your Soul
January 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. -- Bountiful Harvest**

No registration is required for these encore presentations. They are available for viewing on the Monmouth County Library's website at: www.MonmouthCountyLib.org

(4) New Year...Better You -- Join Rachel Tansey, Senior Extension Associate Family & Community Health Sciences, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County, on January 10, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. for a live Zoom wellness seminar to get your 2023 off to a healthy start. She'll provide tips on healthy food, physical activity, and obtaining overall well-being.

(5) Unclutter Your Life -- with some help thanks to a four-part series conducted by Jamie Novak, organizing humorist and author of the book *"Keep This, Toss That"*. You'll pick-up many helpful tips to organize everything from your closets to your photographs and more. By the end of the series you'll be on the way to living clutter free. These virtual sessions will be held:

**January 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. -- Drawers
January 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. -- Closets
February 8, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. -- Collectibles
February 22, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. -- Photographs**

(6)The Best Buds For Your Bucks -- If you enjoy gardening, or just want to know which plants are the best to buy for a beautiful and successful garden, then be sure to join Irene Wanat, Rutgers Master Gardener, on January 12, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. for this virtual program. You'll discover which plants are dependable and will surely be a success in your garden.

(7) Grandma Moses -- Capture the beauty of the season in this virtual art class with Barbara Freiberg on January 24, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. You'll learn how to draw a winter scene based on the artwork of Grandma Moses. You'll need the following supplies to participate: pencil, eraser, ruler or straight edge, one piece of 9x12 white drawing paper, one piece of 6x6 sketch paper, and crayola markers or similar brand.

(8) Sit In on a Lecture From the Comfort of Home -- The Monmouth County Library also sponsors interesting virtual lectures. This month be sure to check out:

January 19, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. -- Join Dr. Melissa Ziobro, Monmouth University Specialist Professor of Public History, **for a lecture on American Women and Royal Marriages.** You'll learn how many women of the Gilded Age traded wealth for titles. These women, whose families benefited financially from the Gilded Age's industrial advances, had "new money" but lacked the social standing of established "old money" families. To remedy this they often married into the nobility of Europe...particularly into those European families who were experiencing a shortage of cash.

January 26, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. -- Join T. J. Fallon, founder and creator of the Dead History YouTube Channel, **as he recounts his travels throughout the United States to visit the grave sites of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence.** Come hear about his journey and learn how some of our Founding Father's final resting places are inaccessible to the general public.

(9) Encore! Encore! Encore! -- If you missed any of these earlier Monmouth County Library virtual offerings, now is your chance to catch them during their special encore presentations...

January 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. -- An Evening of Reiki -- Join Lauren Kranich, of Holistic Healing, **as she discusses the history and power of this energy healing art.**

January 17, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. -- Go van Gogh -- Join Mike Norris, of Armchair Art Tours, **as he explores the works of the renowned painter Vincent van Gogh** and features many of his works at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

January 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. -- Beekeeping 101 -- Join Mike Haberland, associate professor/Agricultural & Natural Resources County Agent II, **as he discusses honey bee biology and what it takes to become a beekeeper.**

January 22, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- From Resilience to Celebration: San Francisco's Chinatown -- Enjoy a one-hour dynamic slide show with commentary by photographer **Dick Evans** and career journalist **Kathy Chin Leong,** **as they share their beautiful photo book "From Resilience to Celebration: An In-Depth, Virtual Pictorial Journey Inside San Francisco's Beloved Chinatown".**

January 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. -- Buzz on Bees: Native and Managed Pollinators -- Join Mike Haberland, associate professor/Agricultural & Natural Resources County Agent II, as he discusses the biology, ecology and habitat of native and managed bees in New Jersey and how you can support them in your own yard.

January 31, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. -- Help Your Family Prepare: Advance Funeral Planning -- Join Kellie Bender, Advance Funeral Planning Director, as she explains the importance and benefits of pre-planning your wishes and final plans to help alleviate the stress of arrangement making for grieving families.

January 31, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. -- Pysanky: A Demonstration of the Ancient Art of Egg Decorating -- Join Jenny Sant Maria, a batik egg artist, as she explains the techniques, designs, and historical significance of the Ukrainian process of decorating eggs with beeswax and dyes applied in layers.

Please note: To view these encore performances, go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) Scroll down to the date for the encore event you are interested in viewing and follow the instructions provided in the presentation description.

(10) Self Care -- If you are interested in meditation or yoga, then be sure to check out the Monmouth County Library for a host of self-care programs they are offering each month. For a list of the sessions and to register simply go to: [the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking here](#)

****(Unless otherwise noted, registration is required for all of these programs. To register simply go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) Scroll down to the date of the event you are interested in and you will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description.)**



Help Our Community -- Want to do your part to help our community? Here are simple ways you can make a difference

(1) Get Vaccinated -- Cases of COVID-19, flu, and RSV are rising which is resulting in thousands of hospitalizations nationwide. If you haven't already done so, it's not too late -- get both your flu shot and the new COVID-19 bivalent booster which offers stronger protections against severe illness and death from the Omicron sub-variants. (And, the CDC notes it is safe to get both vaccines at the same time.)

You can receive this booster as long as it has been two months since your most recent booster or primary vaccination series. **And, some great news the bivalent booster is now available for children.** The new **Pfizer bivalent booster is recommended for all individuals 5 years and older.** The new **Moderna bivalent booster is recommended for those ages 6 and older.** Locations offering the boosters can be found at www.covid19.nj.gov

Please note: The federal government has brought back its free-at-home Covid tests program as part of its "winter preparedness plan. You can request four more FREE tests at: www.COVIDtests.gov.

(2) Help Showcase What Makes Monmouth County Special -- The Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners is hosting its inaugural Monmouth County Travel Guide Cover Photo Contest now through February 1, 2023. The winning photo will be featured on the cover of our county's travel guide, which is requested worldwide, and will be showcased in future marketing efforts. **So, if you'd like to capture what makes Monmouth County special and a great place to live and visit -- you can find out more about the contest specifications and rules by going to: <https://www.co.monmouth.nj.us/PressDetail.aspx?ID=3605>**

**Thank you again for your continued support of
The Friends of The Township of Ocean Library
You truly are making a difference!**

We love hearing from you. If you have a comment about or a suggestion for our newsletter -- send an email to friendsofoceantwplibrary@gmail.com