

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



## Important News

(1) **Summer Schedule --** Just a reminder that our library is currently on a summer Saturday schedule through September 2, 2023. Our branch will be **open on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

(2) **Time is Running Out: So Act Fast --** The Monmouth County Library's Summer Reading Challenge will end on August 15, 2023. Help ensure our branch is #1 by simply reading and logging your books online.

As in the past, each registered participant will be reading towards an opportunity to win a prize. **(The prize for adults this year is a handy book light!)** So sign up and start logging your books right away to ensure your prize eligibility.

To register go to: [monmouthcountylib.beanstack.org](https://monmouthcountylib.beanstack.org)

Let's make Ocean Township the top library branch in number of books/ebook/audiobooks read again this year. **Be sure to log in ALL the books you've read between June 1 and August 15, 2023. The more books you read, the better.**



## Keeping Up With The Friends

(1) **WOW! --** Our two day book sale last month was an overwhelming success. In fact we broke our previous earnings record for a two-day sale. **We raised \$2,136, which the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library will use to benefit our library and its wonderful programs.**

There are so many people to thank for our success:

- **First, our town's residents who donated books, CDs and DVDs for the sale.**
- **Second, the many, many people who stopped by to shop at our sale.**
- **Third, the team of dedicated volunteers, led by our Book Sale Chair, Lynn Librizzi, who worked behind the scenes to prep for the sale (including sorting through and categorizing all the donations).**
- **Fourth, the wonderful members of our Friends group who donated their time to help out during the sale.**

This winning combination of help truly made a difference and produced our outstanding results. **Thank you all!**



## Updates from the Township of Ocean Library

**(1) 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!**

**August 3, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.** -- **Mamma Mia** -- A bride-to-be in Greece attempts to solve the mystery of her paternity by reading her mother's diary. Based on the ABBA-inspired stage musical. Stars Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Amanda Seyfried and Colin Firth (2008) (Rated PG-13)

**August 10, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.** -- **Walk The Line** -- This film is a biopic of country music legend Johnny Cash and focuses on his long courtship with June Carter. Stars Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon and Ginnifer Goodwin. (2005) (Rated PG-13)

**August 17, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.** -- **Bohemian Rhapsody** -- This film chronicles the rock band Queen, who rose to fame thanks to their revolutionary sound and the theatrics of their front man, Freddie Mercury. Stars Rami Malek, Lucy Boynton, Gwilym Lee and Ben Hardy. (2018) (Rated PG-13)

**August 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.** -- **Yellow Rose** -- In rural Texas, a Filipino teen longs to make her mark on the world of country music. In the process, she must make a choice between upholding her family's traditions or leaving them all behind. Stars Eva Noblezada, Princess Punzalan, Dale Watson and Liam Booth. (2019) (Rated PG-13)

**August 31, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Rocketman --** This film tells the story of Elton John from his years as a prodigy at the Royal Academy of Music through his enduring musical partnership with Bernie Taupin. (2019) (Rated R)

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

**(2) Medicare Counseling** -- Have a question or problem involving Medicare? Then, you will want to register for one-on-one assistance with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). SHIP provides confidential, unbiased information and assistance for evaluating health insurance options and dealing with claims. They can also help in applying for financial assistance for prescription plans, Medicare Parts A and B deductibles, premiums, co-insurance, and co-payments for qualifying beneficiaries. **SHIP volunteers will be at our branch on August 1, 2023 and August 15, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please note: An appointment is required. You can register for an appointment by calling 732-728-1331.**

**(3) A Summer Musical Interlude -- Come enjoy an hour of music as our branch welcomes back the very popular Charlie's Band on August 16, 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.)**

**(4) The Turner Art Gallery**, located within our library, **is featuring the work of** the talented artist **Jeanne Evans through August 3, 2023.** Her exhibit is entitled **"Acrylic Menagerie"** Be sure to stop by to enjoy her beautiful work. Please note that some of the artwork will be available for purchase.

**(5) 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 August 22, 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).

**(6) 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 August.** Select the event you are interested in and you you will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description



## Monthly Tip

**(1) Did you know that our library offers a large selection of periodicals for you to enjoy from the latest issues of popular magazines to daily newspapers?** Current editions of newspapers can be found in the comfortable seating area in the Terner Gallery (past issues are kept in our branch's quiet room near the reference desk) and magazines can be found in the periodical room directly behind the reference desk. If you need help with magazines or newspapers, please ask one of our wonderful library staff members -- they will be happy to assist you.



## Happening Around Town

**(1) National Night Out -- Our town will be participating in the annual National Night Out event on August 1, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** The National Night Out is an annual community event that promotes police-community partnership. The event will be held at the township pool at [615 West Park Avenue](#). The event is for all residents of all ages and features displays and demonstrations of police and emergency equipment, food, activities, and games. Also, the pool will be open to everyone! Be sure to stop by for this wonderful community event.

**(2) Mobile Motor Vehicle Commission Comes to Town -- Thanks to Senator Vin Gopal, the Motor Vehicles Commission is bringing its mobile truck to our town's pool and tennis court site (615 West Park Avenue) on August 7, 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The mobile unit will be offering a number of motor vehicle services such as permits, license plate surrenders, handicap placards, etc. **For more details go to: <http://www.oceantwp.org/qcontent/NewsFeed.aspx?FeedID=6058&ShowDetailsDate=false>**

**(3) Italian Festival -- Join in the fun at the Italian American Association Township of Ocean's 47th Anniversary Italian Festival, which will be held August 9, 2023 -**

**August 13, 2023 at the Joe Palaia Park.** The festival is open each day from 5:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. **You'll enjoy great food, rides, games and so much more.** Don't miss this wonderful free-to-attend event.

**(4) StayNJ Senior Tax Relief Program -- StayNJ Program is a newly introduced permanent State of New Jersey senior tax relief program designed to provide New Jersey seniors with a 50% property tax reduction. All senior homeowners earning less than \$500,000 annually are eligible to receive up to \$6,500 in direct property tax relief every year, beginning January 2026.** StayNJ also expands access to and increases the benefits of both the Senior Freeze and ANCHOR programs. **Seniors will be able to apply for all three programs at the same time through a single common application form that will be available beginning in the Fall of 2025.** For more information go to: [www.staynj.com](http://www.staynj.com)

**(5) Please Note -- There is a new traffic pattern in place for Deal Road westbound at Route 35.** Now, when you are traveling Route 35 northbound, you must continue to drive north past Deal Road and take the jughandle (through the new plaza) to go west on Deal Road. There are no changes to the traffic pattern for Deal Road eastbound.

**(6) If you are a senior living in Ocean Township, you won't want to miss the interesting senior programs offered through the Department of Human Services.**

Here is what is coming up this month

**After World War II: How a War Changed a Nation -- Join other seniors for a presentation at the Ocean Township Museum (Eden Wooley House at [703 Deal Road](#)) on August 10, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Between 1945 and 1960 the ranks of the middle class ballooned and suburbs sprawled. Local historian Peggy Dellinger will discuss how the seeds of the radical transformation of our culture, economy, politics and technology were sown by war. **This presentation is limited to 20 participants. To register click here: [Eden Woolley Museum presentation - After WWII: How a War Changed a Nation. \(google.com\)](#)**

**Lunch & Learn -- Join other seniors on August 24, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. for a presentation about Take Care Companions, a New Jersey state-certified health care service firm that provides professional, compassionate and dignified care for seniors choosing to remain at home while providing peace of mind to their families.** This presentation will be held at the West Park Recreation Center (615 West Park Avenue). **[Click here to register - Take Care Companions - Lunch & Learn. \(google.com\)](#)**

**Help and Hope -- If you or a loved one struggle with a gambling problem there is hope and help. On August 31, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Luis Del Orbe, MPA, CSW Prevention & Treatment Administrator from The Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey (CCGNJ), will be on hand to discuss various programs, services, and

other resources the CCGNJ offers to help people recover from disordered gambling. This presentation will be held at the West Park Recreation Center ([615 West Park Avenue](#)).

[Click here to register - 800 Gambler \(google.com\)](#)

**(7) Get a Jump on Fall -- If you are a vendor or food truck operator, then get your fall groove on by signing up to participate in our town's highly popular Fall Festival and Car Show. The Fall Festival and Car Show will be held on September 30, 2023 from 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Joe Palaia Park. Vendor Applications for the event are being taken now. You can find the application form**

**at: [http://www.oceantwp.org/filestorage/5935/20238/Vendor\\_Application.pdf](http://www.oceantwp.org/filestorage/5935/20238/Vendor_Application.pdf)**

**Just complete the form and return it to Jennifer Nordstrom at the Ocean Township Department of Human Services, [601 Deal Road, Ocean, NJ 07712](#). If you have questions you can contact Jennifer Nordstrom at 732-531-2600 x6220 or via email at [jnordstrom@oceantwp.org](mailto:jnordstrom@oceantwp.org)**



## 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) Tuesday Nights are a Reader's Delight -- thanks to Monmouth University's Tuesday Night Book Club. Now you can find a great book to read and have an opportunity to discuss it with other book lovers.** The club is hosted by Monmouth University's Ken Womack, and each month they explore a different novel. All you have to do is Zoom in and join the discussion! **For more information and to register go to:**

<https://www.monmouth.edu/mca/series/tuesday-night-book-club/>

**(2) Blast Off -- If you're looking for children's books for the kids in your life (be they children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren), be sure to check out Reading Rockets.** This site provides specific, lengthy lists of great books for young readers. With list topics ranging from "Books About Kids Who Find Reading Hard" to "That's So Gross" you are sure to find just the perfect book. **Begin your search of Reading Rockets**

**at: <https://www.readingrockets.org/>**

**(3) Next Generation Book Recommendations --** There have been many news stories lately about the pro's and con's of AI (Artificial Intelligence) as AI becomes a more common element (think Alexa) of our daily lives. Well, AI is now coming to book recommendations through a service called **GNOOKS**. Simply pop in your three favorite writers and you'll get a recommended author to try. But, it doesn't end there -- you can rate whether or not you liked GNOOKS' suggestion for even more recommendations. **To try this next generation approach to book searches go to: <https://www.gnooks.com/>**

**(4) Wanted -- Book Reviewer --** You can recommend your latest great read or your favorite book and share your thoughts with other members of the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library.

**We are looking for reviews to include in our monthly newsletter's "Grab a Book and Sit Awhile" section. All we need is:**

- **The name of the book you are recommending**
- **The author's name**
- **One - two sentences describing what the book is about**
- **One - two sentences describing why you love and are recommending it**

**It's as simple as that. Then just submit your entry by replying to this email (be sure to include your name so we can give you credit for the review!).** Thanks and happy reviewing!

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

**August 2, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this book club to discuss "*The Glass Castle*" by Jeannette Walls.** This memoir tells the remarkable story of the Walls children who learned to take care of themselves. They fed, clothed and protected one another and eventually settled in New York. Their parents followed them, choosing to be homeless even as their children prospered. **(Please note this book club discussion will be hybrid -- presented in person at the Library Headquarters in Manalapan and on Zoom.)**

**August 17, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this book club to discuss "*There is Nothing for You Here: Finding Opportunity in the 21st Century*" by Fiona Hill.** As the last of the local mines closed, Fiona Hill's father urged her to get out of their blighted area in northern England. Ms. Hill did journey -- much further than her father could have dreamed. This coal-miner's daughter



studied in Moscow and at Harvard, became an American citizen, and served three American presidents. By the time she testified at the first impeachment inquiry into former President Trump, Ms. Hill knew that the desperation of forgotten people was driving American politics over the brink. In this very powerful and personal book, Ms. Hill shares what she has learned, and why she believes that only by expanding opportunity can we hope to protect democracy. **(Please note this book club discussion will be hybrid -- presented in person at the Library Headquarters in Manalapan and on Zoom.)**

**\*\* (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!!

**(And Please Don't Forget: After you've finished reading your book be sure to log it in the Monmouth County Library's Summer Reading Challenge!)**



## **More To the Story**

**Coming in August**, the Monmouth County Library system will host a wide range of virtual and in-person programs including several author talks (by the likes of Randall Munroe, Fredrik Backman, Alka Joshi, Robert Jones, Jr., Jeff Selingo, Dr. Michele Borba, Cassandra Clare, and Lisa Napoli), writing workshops, Mindful Meals cooking classes with Chef Darbe Smart, Virtual Quick Bites cooking sessions with Chef Rob, yoga sessions, lectures (on topics such as shark encounters at the Jersey Shore, the first keeper of the Sea Girt lighthouse, healthy habits for a healthy lifestyle, Medicare, the infamous Long Branch murder of 1860, etc.), art workshops, gardening help sessions, and so much more.



You can find details about all the programs available this month, as well as register for those that interest you, [by clicking here](#) Once on the site, simply select this month and year from the drop-down box at the top left of the page and [check out all the wonderful programs you can take advantage of in August.](#)



## Looking for Links?

Here are some links for our town, county, and state that we hope will help you stay connected:

### Ocean Township:

Friends of the Township of Ocean

Library: [www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org](http://www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org)

Ocean Township Department of Human Services website -

- [www.oceantwp.org](http://www.oceantwp.org) (click on Departments on the left hand side of the home page and then on the Department of Human Services)

Ocean Township Garden Club -

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/597553924494267/>

Ocean Township Historical Museum -- [www.oceanmuseum.org](http://www.oceanmuseum.org)

Ocean Township Town Website -- [www.oceantwp.org](http://www.oceantwp.org)

### Monmouth County:

Monmouth County Department of Health -- [www.visitmonmouth.com](http://www.visitmonmouth.com)

Monmouth County Library -- [www.MonmouthCountyLib.org](http://www.MonmouthCountyLib.org)

### New Jersey:

**New Jersey Official State Web Site -- [www.nj.gov](http://www.nj.gov)**

**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 please send an email  
to [friendsofoceantwplibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofoceantwplibrary@gmail.com)