

"ALWAYS WORTH A BROWSE"

FRIENDS OF THE OCEAN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY NEWS JUNE 2025

Important News

(1) All branches of the Monmouth County Library **will be closed on June 19, 2025** in observance of Juneteenth.

(2) Thinking of Starting a Book Club? -- Well, we have a special section in this newsletter edition that will help you get started. **Friends of the Township of Ocean Library President, Claire Steimle, recently attended a program hosted by Reference Librarian (and former Ocean Township librarian) Debbie Bagchi.** Debbie shared a fun, practical road map to help you launch your own book club -- whether you're looking for lively conversation, new friendships or just more motivation to read. **Check out the Special Program Spotlight Section below for a summary of the helpful advice and tools Debbie provided during the session.**

(3) Get Your Spring Cleaning Groove On -- **With some help from the Friends of the Township of Ocean!** If you find some unwanted books, audio books and DVDs during your spring cleaning, **be sure to bring them to our book donation day event on June 7, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. (Rain or Shine) at our library.** (Please see below for what we can and cannot accept.) **The event is open to all current members of the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library.**

As a reminder:

Items We Need:

- **Current fiction and non-fiction, true crime, art, music, biography, history, classics, and children's books.**
- **Large print books**
- **DVDs and vinyl records** (Please double check to make sure all DVD cases contain the DVD before donating.)

Items We Cannot Accept:

- **Encyclopedias, Text Books, Reference, or Reader's Digest**
- **Self-Help Books**
- **Business or Finance-Related Books**
- **Travel Books**
- **Books with wrinkled, marked or highlighted pages**
- **Books without covers**
- **VHS Tapes, CDs or Cassette Tapes**

Important Reminder:

Please note that we cannot accept any items that are musty or moldy. Also, we can only accept items that come from a smoke-free environment. We appreciate your understanding.

Lastly, if you'd like to volunteer to help out at the Donation Day event, just reply to this message with your availability. Thank you!

(4) You Can **Color** Our World -- with endless adventures, spine-tingling mysteries, heartfelt romances, time travel (and more), by participating in the Monmouth County Library's annual Summer Reading Challenge. **For more details on how to participate (and earn a prize), see item one in the Updates From the Township of Ocean Library section below.**



Keeping Up With The Friends

(1) The Countdown Is On! -- **Our Summer Sizzling Book Sale** is just around the corner. In fact, it's scheduled for July 23, 2025 from 10 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. and July 24, 2025 from 10 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. **Special Note: It's not too early to let us know if you are interested in signing up to volunteer at the sale. Simply reply to this email with your availability and we'll be in touch.**

And, as in the past, to thank you for your ongoing support of the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library and to show our appreciation -- all current Friends members **(those who have paid their 2025 membership dues) are cordially invited to a special "Friends Early Book Sale" event from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on July 22, 2025.**

This will give you an opportunity to shop our Book Sale **before** the official sale opens to the public on July 23, 2025. **We hope you will be able to join us and we look forward to seeing you at this special sale event. (Light refreshments will be served.)**

Haven't renewed your membership yet? No problem.

You can renew before the special Friends Early Book Sale Event:

- Membership Renewal Forms are available online on our website at: www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org or directly by clicking on **this link** For your convenience you also 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).
- **You can also renew when you arrive for the special Friends Early Book Sale Event.**

So mark your calendar and have your shopping flip flops ready...we look forward to seeing you at the sale!

(2) The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library will hold its annual meeting and election of officers on June 11, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at the library.

Updates from the Township of Ocean Library

(1) Color Our World Through Books -- If you are ready to enrich your life through a journey full of art, creativity, and imagination, then be sure to visit our library to pick up some great books to read this summer because -- The Monmouth County Library system is once again sponsoring its Summer Reading Challenge! This year the program **kicks off June 1, 2025 and runs through August 15, 2025. The theme this year is "Color Our World."** According to the Monmouth County Library, this year's program "is designed to inspire and engage readers of all ages through a diverse array of artistic expressions".

As in the past, each registered participant will be reading towards an opportunity to win a prize. So sign up and start logging your books right away to ensure your prize eligibility.

To register go to monmouthcountylib.beanstack.org

If you participated in the summer reading challenge in the past, you can use the same username and password to register this year. No problem if you've forgotten your username or password, you can simply reset it. If you experience any difficulties, stop by our library and one of our amazing library staff members will assist you.

The summer reading program levels are: **"Read To Me;" "Vacation Reading Club"** (Grades K - 6); **"Teens"** (Grades 6 - 12); and **"Adults"** (Age 18+).

Let's make Ocean the top library branch in the number of books/ebook/audiobooks read this year. Be sure to log in ALL the books you read between June 1, 2025 and August 15, 2025. The more books you read, the better. So, READY...SET...READ!

(2) Movies...Movies....Movies -- Interested in enjoying a good movie? Then look no further than our library, where a number of terrific movies are being shown this month. **And, best of all, the movies are all free to attend! Movies are shown each and every Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m.**

This month's movies include some action-packed offerings.

You can find details about the movies available this month by clicking on [this link](#) Once on the site, simply type in "movies" in the "search for event" box and select our branch from the drop-down box at the top of the page, and click on the search button. You then will be able to scroll down to check out all the wonderful movies being shown this month.

(3) Book Club --The Ocean Township Library Book Club will meet on June 5, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss "The Man in the High Castle" by Phillip K. Dick. This book depicts an alternative history in which the United States has lost World War II and been divided between Germany and Japan. Fifteen years later, several characters realize something is not quite right with their world as they discover a book describing what would happen if the U.S. had won the war. (An Amazon Prime series was created based on the book.) **The discussion will be moderated by librarian Adam Rule.** Copies of the book are available for pick up at our library's circulation desk. **Please note: No registration is required to participate.**

(4) In-person Short Story Discussion -- A short story discussion, moderated by Branch Manager Mary Patterson, will be held on June 12, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. The story is "A Temporary Matter" by Jhumpa Lahiri. This story is about love, loss, and the quiet unraveling of a marriage. What happens when silence says more than words? Registration is required.

To register simply go to the new Monmouth County Library Calendar site by clicking on [this link](#). Select the date from the drop down box at the top of the page and then click search. When the event/program/discussion you are interested in appears, click on it and you'll see a full description as well as a button to push for registration.

(5) Imagination to Innovation -- An innovative new program, Writing & Animating Stories with AI, is coming to our branch on June 4, 2025 from 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. At this hands-on workshop you'll learn how to use OPENAI to create and animate an engaging children's story. In just 45 minutes, you'll explore how to generate imaginative story ideas and bring your characters to life with AI-generated illustrations. Please bring your laptop so you can follow along and create your own AI-powered story. Registration is required.

To register simply go to the new Monmouth County Library Calendar site by clicking on [this link](#). Select the date from the drop down box at the top of the page and then click search. When the event/program/discussion you are interested in appears, click on it and you'll see a full description as well as a button to push for registration.

(6) Be WISE -- Are you 60 or older and looking for a way to learn how to stay healthy and meet new people? Then you won't want to miss the final three sessions of WISE -- Wellness Initiative for Senior Education -- scheduled at our branch. The six-part educational program continues this month covering a wide range of topics including:

- Learn about the aging process and how to make healthy lifestyle choices.
- Celebrate this exciting stage of life and the benefits that come with it.
- Discuss risk factors and behaviors to avoid in order to stay healthy.
- Examine how alcohol, prescription medications and over the counter medications affect seniors differently and how you can avoid problems.
- Learn how to use simple tools to feel more empowered about your health and the healthcare you receive.

WISE sessions will be held on the following Fridays: June 6, 20, and 27, 2025 from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served and there will be giveaways for program participants.

(7) A Round of Applause and Our Heartfelt Thanks -- If you've been to our library recently you have surely noticed how beautiful the outdoor area is looking and that's thanks to the hard work and creative talents of the Township of Ocean Garden Club. Not only does the outside feature several new outdoor benches, a pollinator garden, native ground cover, trail sign, and small shrubs -- but the Garden Club also undertook a major clean-up weeding, pruning, and trimming some of the existing plants around the library building. The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library want to thank the Garden Club for their hard work and loving care of the library grounds. Their efforts have truly beautified our library.

(8) Especially For The Little Ones -- Our library is the place to go for engaging, fun and informative children's programs each month. You'll find many children's programs involving exciting stories, song singing and even craft making at our branch.

For example, on June 11, 2025 at 3:45 p.m. "Reading to a Therapy Dog" is open to children ages 5 and up (with parent or guardian). Come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon as your children practice their reading skills with a furry friend. **No registration is required.**

Children's programs at our branch are a great way for the little one in your life to have fun, make friends, and develop a love for our library that will last a lifetime. **To find out what other programs are happening this month simply go to:** <https://monmouthcountylib.org/wp-content/uploads/cocean.pdf>

Monthly Tip

Want to soak up some summertime weather while enjoying a good book?

Then be sure to make time to enjoy the picturesque new gazebo located behind our library. It is the perfect spot to take in some fresh air while reading the latest novel, a classic, a summer romance or whatever catches your fancy.

And, if you happen to have a little one in your life -- they can enjoy the gazebo too!

Special "Outdoor Family Storytime" sessions, hosted by our branch's children's librarian, Miss Alyssa, will be held every Tuesday in June, July and August at 10:30 a.m. in the gazebo. No registration is required.

So enjoy your summer and our new gazebo!

We hope you find this tip helpful.

Happening Around Town

(1) Make Your Voice Heard -- VOTE! -- The primary election for New Jersey Governor will be held on June 10, 2025 to determine which candidates will be on the ballot in the November general election. Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If you prefer to take advantage of in-person early primary voting, you can do so from June 3, 2025 - June 8, 2025. The early primary voting polls will be open from 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. weekdays and on Saturday and from 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. For a list of Early Primary Voting locations go to:

<https://nj.gov/state/elections/vote-early-voting.shtml>

(2) Summertime Fun -- Break out your lawn chairs, sunscreen and cooler and head over to Joe Palaia Park for a free summer kick-off concert on June 12, 2025. The concert, brought to you by The Township of Ocean Community Celebrations, will feature music of the '70s and '80 by The West End Dogs. **Gates open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert starts at**

7:15 p.m. To register contact Jennifer Nordstrom at 732-531-2600 x6220 or via email at JNordstrom@OceanTwp.org

A few important concert reminders -- Bring your own snacks and please remember to take home your trash. **No pets** will be permitted at this event. Remain in your parking spot after the show and wait for an usher to direct you to the exit.

(3) Enjoy Your Bike -- But Be Safe -- And thanks to a partnership between our Town's Recreation Department and EZ Ride your kids can do just that. That's because our town will be hosting two Free Safe Bike Skills Classes on June 22, 2025 at Joe Palaia Park (in the parking lot across from [263 Whalepond Road](#)).

Your kids will learn pre-ride safety, starting/stopping/scanning/signals, and NJ Traffic rules of the road. **The first class is at 9:00 a.m. and the second session begins at 10:30 a.m.** The classes are open to Ocean Township residents only and registration is required. Contact the Department of Human Services at (732) 531-2600 to register. **Act fast...seats are limited!** (A few tips before class: Remember to inflate bike tires prior to class, wear a helmet and sneakers, and bring a signed waiver.)

(4) Punt...Pass...Pickett -- For the young football enthusiast in your life -- Football drills for grades 1 - 8 led by Head Coach Chad King and his Ocean Township High School coaching staff and players. **The event, scheduled for June 29, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. - 11 a.m. at the Jack Donovan Municipal Gym ([1100 West Park Avenue](#)), features a very special guest too -- NFL quarterback and Ocean Township native, Kenny Pickett! The session is free and open to Ocean Township residents only.** Registration is required and **registration opens on June 13, 2025. Space is limited so act fast once registration opens.** Contact the Department of Human Services at 732-531-2600 to register.

(5) Next Month Promises Even More Fun -- As our town celebrates Independence Day! **The celebration is scheduled for July 2, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at Joe Palaia Park and includes food trucks, children's activities, music by The Eddie Testa Band, and, of course, fireworks! So mark your calendar -- you won't want to miss the fun!**

(6) Playtime -- The Ocean Township Department of Human Services is excited to share news that a new playground is coming to the Wayside section of town. **The playground will be located in Wayside Park off of Green Grove Road.** The playground should be completed by late summer/early fall.

(7) If you are a living in Ocean Township, you won't want to miss the interesting and fun senior programs offered each month through the Department of Human Services. All programs take place at 615 West Park Avenue in the Oakhurst section of town.

- The Township of Ocean Department of Human Services is excited to announce that its third annual FREE Senior Health and Resource Fair is scheduled for June 12, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **This highly popular annual event provides an enriching experience for seniors in our community and offers a wide array of resources, services and educational opportunities to promote their health, wellness and overall well-being.** The fair will feature booths from local

organizations and businesses -- offering valuable information on topics ranging from healthcare to financial planning, social services and more. **The Senior Wellness and Resource Fair is open to seniors in Ocean Township and the surrounding communities.** No registration is required and admission is free.

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) A Friend's Pick -- As you know, we occasionally feature books recommended by one or more of our members. This month one of our members is recommending *"The Book of Lost Names"* by New York Times and USA Today Bestselling Author Kristin Harmel.

Inspired by an astonishing true story from World War II, this book tells the story of a young woman in France with a talent for forgery who helps hundreds of Jewish children flee from the Nazis. In doing so, she also makes a vow to ensure that the real names of the children -- many too young to remember who they really are -- are preserved.

According to the Friend's member who shared this recommendation, "this engaging and fascinating historical novel held my attention from the very first page. I couldn't put it down. The author captures the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable evil and the ability of individuals to marshal the courage and strength necessary to overcome."

This book earned a 4.5 (out of 5) rating from BookBrowse, a 4.4 rating from Goodreads, and a 4.7 rating on Amazon.

(2) Our Collective History -- If you enjoy books about American history then be sure to check out our newsletter's latest feature. This month we'll once again explore our country's collective history by recommending a topic or individual worth exploring through books.

For this month's topic, we suggest exploring the Underground Railroad and its most famous "conductor" Harriet Tubman. The railroad was an organized network of secret routes and safe houses used by freedom seekers to escape to the abolitionist northern United States and eastern Canada (although other routes were established to the Indian territories, the Caribbean and Mexico). It began in the 1780s and grew steadily until the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863. The railroad was a decentralized network of free Blacks, white abolitionists, former slaves, Native Americans and others opposed to slavery. Among the figures who played a prominent role in the railroad were William Still, sometimes called the Father of the Underground Railroad, Thomas Downing, a free Black man in New York whose Oyster restaurant was a stop on the railroad, Mary Meachum, a free Black woman living in St. Louis, and Harriet Tubman, who made some 13 missions to rescue enslaved people and who served as a scout and spy for the Union Army during the Civil War.

There are several excellent books available to learn more -- *"Harriet Tubman: The Road to Freedom"* by Catherine Clinton, *"Harriet: The Moses of Her People"* by Sarah Hopkins Bradford, *"The Underground Railroad: Authentic Narratives and First Hand Accounts"* by

William Still, and **"Hidden in Plain View: A Secret Story of Quilts and the Underground Railroad"** by Jacqueline L. Tobin.

And, if you want to make your journey into history a family affair, there are even books on Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad suitable for the young people in your life including **"Who Was Harriet Tubman"** by Yona Zeldis McDonough (geared for ages 7 - 9), **"Harriet Tubman Book for Curious Kids: Exploring the Inspiring Life of a Courageous Freedom Fighter"** by Timothy Starlyn (geared for ages 8 - 12), **"If You Traveled the Underground Railroad"** by Ebony Wilkins" (geared for ages 7 - 10), and **"Patchwork Path: A Quilt Map to Freedom"** by Bettye Stroud (geared for ages 5 - 8).

And, if you'd like to learn more about our state's role in this topic, check out the New Jersey State Library's June 19, 2025 virtual author talk **"Abolition and the Underground Railroad in New Jersey"**. See item two under the More to the Story Section below for more details on how you can participate.

We hope you'll enjoy learning more about this difficult chapter in American history and the brave Americans who fought for the liberty of others.

(3) **Something New** -- Spring and summer are seasons of rebirth when everything feels so new -- from the giant trees in Joe Palaia Park to the flowers in your garden. It's also the perfect time to explore something new...in your reading! And, thanks to Goodreads your search for something really new is as easy as can be. That's because Goodreads has compiled a list of new authors releasing a debut novel between now and September. The list, which features 42 titles, includes contemporary novels, mysteries, romance, fantasy, historical fiction and even horror offerings. You can begin exploring the list at:

https://www.goodreads.com/blog/show/2923-42-new-and-upcoming-debut-novels-for-your-reading-radars?ref_=pe_3097180_1234056280&rto=x_gr_e_nl_general&utm_campaign=May062025&utm_content=Debut.Novels&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter

(4) **Father's Day Fun** -- If you would like a fun book to enjoy with the children in your life to mark this month's Father's Day celebration -- then pick up a copy of the new children's book **"Papa Doesn't Do Anything"** by Tonight Show host and *New York Times* best selling author Jimmy Fallon. Through imaginative rhymes and illustrations, Fallon shows that Papas are ALWAYS doing something and that there's nothing they won't do for you. This book is currently the number one release in children's humor on Amazon.

(5) **A Glimpse Behind The Classics** -- If you've enjoyed the works of Mark Twain and want to learn more about the man who penned such classics as **"The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"**, **"A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court"** and **"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer"** then you'll want to check out the new sweeping biography **"Mark Twain"** by Ron Chernow. Chernow, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of **"Grant"** and **"Alexander Hamilton"**, not only chronicles Twain's life, but also offers a deep dive into an author who became such a fixture in American literature despite his shortcomings.

(6) **Living After Loss** -- If you are a fan of Kelsey Grammer, then you know he has brought laughter into millions of homes through TV series like **Cheers** and **Fraser**. What many fans don't know is the inner pain he struggled with on daily basis because of a tragedy that occurred when he was just 20 years old -- that's when Grammer's beloved

younger sister, Karen, was kidnapped, raped and brutally murdered. **If you want to learn more about his private struggle, check out Grammer's newly released book "*Karen*" in which he recounts the memories of his sister, the grief and devastation caused by her death, and his long struggle to healing. This book is already a New York Times best seller and one of Oprah's most anticipated books of 2025.**

(7) Like Mysteries -- but don't like very violent story lines? Then you'll want to check out the genre's more cozier offerings -- a brighter alternative to gritty thrillers. And, you're in luck because this branch of mysteries is becoming increasingly popular. What makes a cozy mystery...well cozy? Sure there's a murder, but there is also usually a small-town setting, an amateur detective, humor, romance, warmth, and lots of unusual (but likeable) characters. **If you are interested in cozying up to a good mystery then visit BookBub and browse their list of "16 Charming New Cozy Mysteries Coming in 2025".** The list includes "*The Library Game*" by Gigi Pandian, "*Murder by Cheesecake*" by Rachel Ekstrom Courage, "*Silent as the Grave*" by Rhys Bowen and "*Killing Me Souffle*" by Ellie Alexander. **To see the full list go to: <https://www.bookbub.com/blog/new-cozy-mysteries-2025>**

(8) Consider Joining The Monmouth County Library's Book Discussion This Month**

June 18, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join a hybrid (in-person or on Zoom) Book Club discussion of "*The Jane Austen Society*" by Natalie Jenner. This book was selected in celebration of Jane Austen's 250th birthday. Chawton, a small English village, was the final home of Jane Austen. Just after World War II, Chawton is home to a few distant relatives of Austen and their diminishing estate. With the last bit of Austen's legacy threatened, a group of disparate individuals come together to preserve both her home and legacy.

June 18, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. -- Join this in-person Book Club discussion of "*The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder*" by David Green (who also authored the NY Times best-selling "*Killers of the Flower Moon*"). This book is a story of shipwreck, survival, and savagery -- culminating in a court martial that reveals a shocking truth.

June 26, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join a hybrid (in-person or on Zoom) Book Club discussion of "*The Daughter of Time*" by Josephine Tey. This detective novel concerns a police officer's investigation into the alleged crimes of King Richard III of England. While recuperating in the hospital a bored Scotland Yard Inspector investigates Richard's life and the case of the Princes in the Tower. Was the claim of Richard being a murderer a fabrication of Tudor propaganda?

****To register simply go to the new Monmouth County Library Calendar site by clicking on [this link](#). Select the date from the drop down box at the top of the page and then click search. When the event/program/discussion you are interested appears click on it and you'll see a full description as well as a button to push for registration.**

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

Special Program Spotlight

Debbie Bagchi, former Ocean Township librarian, recently presented a program on "Thinking of Starting a Book Club? Let the Library Help!" at the Monmouth County Library Eastern Branch.

We wanted to share the wonderful tips and resource suggestions Debbie provided in case you missed the program.

Getting Started:

- **What kind of club do you want? Choose your format** (in-person, online, hybrid), **preferred genre** (mystery, historical fiction, biography, etc.), **and tone** (casual conversation or in-depth discussion).
- **Who do you want to invite? Start with your network.** A group of 6 - 8 works best.
- **Where and when? Find a convenient location** -- library, coffee shop, your home, etc.
- **How will it work? Set clear expectations up front: how books will be selected, who facilitates, and how often you'll meet.** Debbie strongly suggests setting up a structure and guidelines up front.

Take Advantage of Monmouth County Library's Book Club Kits:

The Monmouth County Library (MCL) offers Book Club Kits with everything your book club will need. Each kit contains 10 copies of the same title in a handy tote bag. The kit can be borrowed for 5 weeks. As of now, there are 338 kits available featuring many different genres and themes -- so you are bound to find something that sparks a great discussion.

To reserve a Book Club Kit simply:

- Visit monmouthcountylib.org
- Log in with your library card.
- Click on "Find It Here" in the top menu.
- Select "Book Your Kit".
- Browse the available list of kits (there's a summary included for each title).
- Choose your pickup library and borrowing dates.

There are FAQs to help guide you through this process and you can always ask our branch's librarians for help if you need it.

Explore Other Available Resources

- **Books About Starting a Book Club -- Here are a few you might wish to consider** *"Read it and Eat: A Month-by-Month Guide to Scintillating Book Club Selections and Mouthwatering Menus"* by Sarah Gardner, *"The Reading Group Handbook: Everything You Need to Know, From Choosing Members to Leading Discussions"* by Rachel W. Jacobsohn, and *"The Reading Group Book: The Complete Guide to Starting and Sustaining a Reading Group"* by David Laskin and Holly Hughes. (**Our librarians can suggest other titles if you wish to do more exploring.**)
- **Online Resources -- The Monmouth County Library offers online resources that provide helpful tools such as discussion questions and reading guides. Here are a few you can check out --** **NoveList** (library card is required), **Mostly We Eat**, BookMovement.com and BookBrowse.com (subscription site).

- **Author Talks -- Debbie suggests looking into author talks to complement your club's reading.** The Monmouth County Library offers virtual author discussions every month and many authors' personal websites include dates for in-person talks, book tour events, etc.

So whether you're diving into historical fiction, contemporary novels, memoirs, or mysteries, the Monmouth County Library is your best ally for getting your book club off the ground -- and keep it thriving.

More To the Story

(1) Coming in June -- The Monmouth County Library System will host a wide range of virtual and in-person programs this month including:

- **Author Talks** (Brian Gratwicke and Dr. Gina Della Togna of the Smithsonian, Lisa Jewell, Phil Coffin, Lee Hawkins, and Katherine Applegate)
- **Yoga Sessions**
- **Lectures** (Meet the Bruce Springsteen Archives & Center for American Music, Fraud Crime Watch: Vigilance Against Cybercrime, The Tragedy of the Schooner John K. Shaw, Environmental Well-Being, Plant-based Diets, Cemetery Preservation in Practice, Gardening with Chickens, Retirement Savings & Strategies: Building a Lasting Nest Egg, Democracy Today: What's My Role?, The History of Emancipation and Juneteenth, Lost Amusement Parks of the North Jersey Shore, Lecture & Art: Impressionism, etc.)
- **The Joy of Embroidery: An Exhibit of the Monmouth Chapter Embroiderer's Guild of America**
- **Community of Lifesavers Health Event**
- **Carnaby St. Duo** (Relive the musical experience of the 60's)
- **Writing Workshops**
- **English as a Second Language Classes**
- **Learn to Play Bridge**
- **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 on [this link](#). Once on the site, simply select the month from the drop-down box at the top of the page and **check out all the wonderful programs you can take advantage of in June.**

(2) Coming in June to the New Jersey State Library System (NJSL)...
The New Jersey State Library System offers "NJSL Presents Webinars" which are free and open to anyone interested in attending. Registration is required in advance and all webinars are recorded and posted to their [YouTube page](#) afterward. You can also check out event recaps on their [blog](#).

Here's what is on tap in June from the NJSL:

- **Deferred Compensation Plan Overview for NJ State Employees -- June 2, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.**
- **Researching Your Pre-May 1848 NJ Ancestors -- June 11, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.**
- **Virtual Author Talk: Abolition and the Underground Railroad in South Jersey - June 19, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.**

- **The Talking Book and Braille Center: Resources and Services for the Print Disabled** -- June 24, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.
- **Understanding Post Traumatic Stress Disorder** -- June 27, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.

For a description of each webinar's content and to register -- simply go to: <https://www.njstatelib.org/> Scroll down to the listing of Upcoming Events and click on the program you are interested in attending.

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

Ocean Township Department of Human Services website: www.oceantwp.org (look at the bottom of the home page for "Community Highlights", then click on the red arrow on the right until you see Human Services and click on it)

Ocean Township Garden Club: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/597553924494267/>

Ocean Township Historical Museum: www.oceanmuseum.org

Ocean Township Town Website: www.oceantwp.org

Monmouth County:

Monmouth County Department of Health: www.visitmonmouth.com

Monmouth County Library: www.MonmouthCountyLib.org

New Jersey:

New Jersey Official State Web Site: www.nj.gov

Thank you again for your continued support of
The Friends of The Township of Ocean Library

We love hearing from you. If you have a comment please send an email to friendsofoceantwplibrary@gmail.com