

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



Important News

(1) All branches of the Monmouth County Library will be closed on October 9, 2023 in observance of Columbus Day.



Keeping Up With The Friends

(1) Thank You for Being a Friend -- October 15, 2023 - October 21, 2023 is National Friends of the Libraries Week. We are most grateful for your continued support as we strive to both promote and support our town's wonderful library. And, as we look ahead to the coming year, we are excited about plans being made, in conjunction with our tremendous branch staff, to significantly enhance our library building (Stay tuned for more details!)

This month is also a perfect time to consider renewing your Friends membership for the coming year.

Like many non-profits, our group relies on fund raising efforts and membership dues (**our annual dues are only \$5.00**) to continue to provide services and support our library and keep you informed of what programs, events and services are available to you.

But, we need your help if we are to continue to provide these services going forward. How can you help?

(A) If your membership has lapsed, please renew today (remember it only costs \$5.00 annually). If your membership is current (memberships run from January to

December of each year), plan ahead and pay your 2024 membership dues now. Membership Renewal Forms are available online at our website: www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org or directly by clicking [here](#)

(B) If you find the services we provide helpful, 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 thank you!

(2) Get Your Toes Tapping -- **The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library are very excited to announce that we are sponsoring a special musical tribute to the singer and songwriter Bobby Darin on November 1, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at our library. For more details see item #2 in the "Updates from the Township of Ocean Library" section below. This is one event you won't want to miss.**

(3) See You There! -- **As a reminder, we've decided to hold another Book Donation Day at our library, on October 14, 2023 (RAIN OR SHINE) from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (or until our shelves reach capacity).**

This will help us ensure that we have plenty of new inventory for our next book sale (in the spring of next year). As you know, the proceeds from our sales help us support our library and its many wonderful adult, teen and children's programs.

Of Special Note: Our donation day is open to all residents of our town, so please spread the word and let your friends, family and neighbors know about our October 14th Book Donation Day. Encourage them to join you in gathering up unwanted books, CDs and DVDs (that are in good condition) and heading over to the library on October 14th.

BUT BEFORE YOU DO...PLEASE READ AND SHARE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT WE CAN AND CANNOT ACCEPT...

Items we can ACCEPT:

- Adult and Children's, Fiction and Non-Fiction hard or soft covered books in good or better condition
- Travel Guides Dated dated 2018 or newer

· CD Audiobooks, music CDs, and viewable DVDs in good condition **(Please check that each case has a disc inside before donating. Thank you.)**

· **We are especially in need of both Fiction and Non-Fiction Large Print Books**

Items we CANNOT ACCEPT:

- Books in poor or damaged condition
- Books with mildew, mold, water, or other stains, or without covers
- Books with wrinkled, marked, or highlighted pages
- Encyclopedias, Test books, Text Books, Reference, Reader's Digest
- Dated Non-Fiction
- VHS tapes or cassettes

For more information on what we can and cannot accept go to [this link](#).

URGENT REQUEST: WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS -- If you'd like to volunteer at the Book Donation Day, we would love to have your help. **Simply RSVP to this email with your availability and we'll be in touch with more details about how you can help. Thanks in advance for your support!!**



Updates from the Township of Ocean Library

(1) Poetry Program -- our branch will present a special poetry program, particularly for animal lovers, on October 21, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. **Please come and join local poets Flora Higgins and Evelyn Hampton (who is also a member of the Friends) for a poetry reading in tribute to the joys of pet ownership and the majesty of the animal kingdom** through the works of famous poets and a few of their own originals. Audience members are welcome to share their favorite animal-related poem at the conclusion of the reading. **And, cat toys and dog treats will be available to take home to that special "fur baby" in your life.**

(2) A MUST See -- We are happy to announce that the **Friends of the Township of Ocean Library is sponsoring "Beyond the Sea: The Life and Times of Bobby Darin"** an exciting musical retrospective coming November 1, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in the upstairs library meeting room. Bobby Darin was an American musician, songwriter and actor. His hits included "Mack the Knife," "Dream Lover," "Beyond the Sea," and hundreds more. **This interactive program will entertain and enlighten audiences about everything Bobby Darin -- not only his music, but also the hurdles, trials and tribulations of this self-made man.** The official Darin archivist,

Jimmy Scalia, will bring Jimmy's life and music to life by using Bobby's memorabilia (which will also be on display for you to see), documents, music and videos. You won't want to miss this special performance...so get the date on your calendar and we'll see you there!

(3) In a Reading Groove -- Our branch's results for the Monmouth County Library's recent Summer Reading Challenge show that our residents were really in a reading groove -- completing over 1,950 books during the challenge. Way to go Ocean Township!!

(4) 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, all the movies are free to attend!**

October 5, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Sun Moon -- After being left at the altar, a young woman escapes to Taiwan on a quest for hope and healing. Stars Michael Jong-Quin Huang, Madison McLaughlin, Leanne Morgan and Mackenzie Mauzy. (2023) (Rated PG)

October 12, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Big George Forman -- In the face of a humble inner-city upbringing and ruthless treatment at the hands of schoolyard bullies, George Forman aspired to overcome significant odds and achieve greatness in the world of boxing. Forman rose through the ranks of the sport to achieve notoriety in the heavyweight division. Based on a true story. Stars Forest Whitaker, Sonja Sohn, and John Magaro. (2023) (Rated PG-13)

October 19, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Avatar: The Way of Water -- Directed by James Cameron, this film tells the story of Jake Sully who lives with his new-found family formed on the extrasolar moon Pandora. Once a familiar threat returns to finish what was previously started, Jake must work with Neytiri and the army of the Na'vi race to protect their home. Stars Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver and Stephen Lang. (2022) (Rated PG-13) (Please note that this movie's length is 3 hours and 12 minutes.)

October 26, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. -- Polite Society -- When her demure older sister, Lena, announces her impending nuptials, Ria vows to thwart the marriage by whatever means are necessary, believing she is saving her sister from an uncertain fate. Stars Priya Kansara, Ritu Arya, Renu Brindle, and Rekha John-Cheriyana. (2023) (Rated PG-13)

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

(5) 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 October 3, 2023 and October 24, 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.**

(6) FREE ESL Classes -- English as a Second Language in-person classes continue in October. The classes will be held from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on October 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2023 for adults (age 18 or older). The meetings will be held every Wednesday evening through December 20, 2023. **Registration is required. Call our library branch at 732-531-5092 or register online at 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.**

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

(8) 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 October 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).

(9) 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. To find out what is happening this month simply go to: <https://monmouthcountylib.org/wp-content/uploads/cocean.pdf>



Monthly Tip

(1) Enjoy Reading the Paper with Your Morning Coffee? -- Then we have some good news for you. Your library card gives you online access to all the local news

in *The Asbury Park Press* and it is very easy to access. **Simply follow the steps explained in this YouTube video** to keep up-to-date on all the latest happenings in and around our county and state: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4j7ylnhMfF0>

If you need help, please ask one of our wonderful library staff members -- they will be happy to assist you.



Happening Around Town

(1) Helping Our Neighbors --The Township of Ocean Community Hope Fund and the Township of Ocean Department of Human Services are hosting their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Each year schools, businesses, public employees, families and neighbors work together to ensure that people in need in our community are remembered during the holidays -- something particularly important during these tough economic times.

You can donate individual items or a complete box of food to accommodate a family of 4 - 6 people. Items most in need include: stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned soup, instant gravy, canned fruits/vegetables, instant potatoes, hot/cold cereals, peanut butter and jelly, pasta and sauces, instant hot chocolate and coffee, cookies, fruit snacks and crackers. **Please check expiration dates on all food before making a donation.**

If you wish to make a monetary donation to allow for the purchase of perishable items, gift cards, and turkeys, please make your check payable to the Community Hope Fund. (The Community Hope Fund is a 501c(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and support the charitable needs of our community.)

All donations must be received no later than November 10, 2023.

All donations should be dropped off at the Department of Human Services building at 601 Deal Road. For more information please call 732-531-2600.

SPECIAL NOTE: Please considering give some of your time to help as well. Volunteers are needed to help deliver the boxes of food throughout our community on November 18, 2023. **For more information and to volunteer, please call 732-531-2600 or reach out via email to mrudolph@oceantwp.org**

(2) Get Informed -- The League of Women Voters of Monmouth County is hosting an Ocean Township Board of Education Candidates Virtual Forum on October 11, 2023 via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. **You must register to participate** and you will have an opportunity to submit questions in advance. **To register go to: www.oceantwp.org and click on this event (you'll find it under the heading Township News).**

(3) Love a Bargain? -- Then you won't want to miss **our town's annual township-wide garage sale**. The sale **takes place October 6, 7 and 8, 2023**. **Happy Shopping!**

(4) Shred It -- **Our town will be hosting a Paper Shredding Event** for Confidential Documents only **on October 7, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Dow Avenue School**. The shredding event is **only open to town residents**.

(5) Trick or Trunk! -- **To kick off the most spookiest of spooky celebrations, our town will be hosting a Halloween trunk or treat event on October 25, 2023 at the Joe Palaia Park**. More details will be available soon from the town. **IMPORTANT NOTICE: ALL PARTICIPANTS (EITHER AS A TRUNK AND/OR A TREATER MUST REGISTER THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE**. If you have questions, you can reach out to the Department of Human Services at 732-531-2600.

(6) Redesign -- **Our town's website recently underwent a major upgrade**. Be sure to check out the new and improved site at www.oceantwp.org

(7) Have a Hyundai or Kia? -- Then you'll want to pay special attention to an alert issued by New Jersey State Attorney General, Matthew J. Platkin. According to the Attorney General, a nationwide trend has started impacting New Jersey in recent months where **thieves are targeting Hyundai and Kia vehicles due to a viral social media challenge that provides step-by-step instructions for thieves looking to exploit the vehicles' anti-theft vulnerabilities**. The target of these thefts are **Hyundai and Kia vehicles without push-button ignitions and immobilizing anti-theft devices** (there are some 143,000 such vehicles registered in our state). **Owners of such vehicles are encouraged to contact Hyundai at 800-633-5151 or Kia at 800-333-4542 for information on the FREE technology fix**.

(8) Recycling -- **Ocean Township is taking a major step forward to support a cleaner environment with the launch of a one-year pilot program for single-family units**, in partnership with Un-Waste, a local organics and recycling company. **During this pilot program Ocean Township will include "plastic film" as an accepted item in its curbside recycling program**.

Important Things To Know About the Program:

- Plastic Film includes food packaging plastic (such as bread wrappers), dry cleaning bags, food storage bags such as Ziplock^(R), plastic wraps that come around multi-packs of bottled water/paper towels/diapers.
- It **DOES NOT INCLUDE** chip bags, pet food bags, waxed paper containers, food-soiled paper or cardboard, diapers, polystyrene or foam containers.

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST PLACE THE PLASTIC FILM IN SPECIAL PLASTIC FILM ONLY Recycling Bins These new bins are available for **FREE pick-up at the town's Recycling Center** located at 3603 Sunset Avenue Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Un-Waste will pick up the material ON THE LAST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH. Simply put out your Plastic Film Only Recycling Bin curbside the night before.

(9) Street Lights -- Our town's police department is reaching out to let residents know the proper procedure for reporting street light outages in the community. Working street lights are an effective tool to prevent crime, as well as help ensure motorist, bicyclist and pedestrian safety. **If you have a street light in your area that isn't working properly, please report it immediately by using this Jersey Central Power and Light Outage Form:**

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/content/customer/service_requests/report-lighting-problem.html.html

(10) Senior Services -- 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 at the West Park Recreation Center, [615 West Park Avenue](#):

Oct 23, 2023 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Lunch & Learn with Progressive Pain Management.

Are you experiencing pain or discomfort? Learn more about possible conditions and treatments associated with the locations of your pain. Back, neck, knee or shoulder are some of the most common areas. **Dr. Brian Bannister MD**, of Progressive Pain Center, will discuss topics to help you understand what you may be dealing with and the solutions they offer. Lunch will be provided. Registration is required.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Oct 26, 2023 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Samba & Smoothies with Willow Springs Rehabilitation

Beth Ganley, from Willow Springs Rehabilitation Center & Healthcare Center, will be on hand to guide seniors through a special low impact chair yoga and Zumba combo session with refreshing smoothies afterwards. Registration is required.

[Click Here to Register](#)

(11) Hats Off to Our Super Seniors -- Our town will be celebrating its super seniors (those who are 85+) at a special luncheon at Falco's on November 2, 2023. Details are still being finalized, but sign-up is required. **For more information, contact the Department of Human Services at 732-531-2600.**



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) Snuggle in with a Good Book -- With the official arrival of Fall comes AARP's "Big Fall 2023 Book Preview," a list of wonderful new fiction -- including two books already earning rave reviews ("Wellness" by Nathan Hill and "North Woods" by Daniel Mason). In addition to those two new novels, AARP's list includes 24 other new novels from the likes of Stephen King, John Grisham and Lauren Groff. **To browse the list for your next Fall read go to:** <https://www.aarp.org/entertainment/books/info-2023/fall-book-preview.html>

(2) For the Little Ones in Your Life -- Now that school is back in session, don't forget to encourage the little ones in your life to still make time to read. The editors at Amazon can help you find the best new books for elementary school students to enjoy. They've created a list of "Editor's Picks for Kids Ages 6 to 8". The list includes books by the actor Matthew McConaughey, Sylvie Daigneault, and Jason Reynolds. **Check out the list at:** https://www.amazon.com/amazonbookreview/read/B0CHTVB5YH?ref_=abr_widget_nav&theme=light

(3) Celebrity Picks -- Curious about what books celebrities are reading and enjoying? Well, one top Emmy and Tony Award winning actress and singer is sharing her top picks. **Kristin Chenoweth (of Broadway's acclaimed Wicked production) recently sat down with the Book Editors at Amazon to list her most recent recommended reads.** The list includes books by Kelly Ripa, Ralph Macchio, and Katie Couric. **You can find Kristin's picks**

at: https://www.amazon.com/amazonbookreview/read/B0CHGN7894?ref=abr_widget_nav&theme=light

(4) Get a Personalized Recommendation -- Another great source for book recommendations is READOW. This site starts by asking you a few simple questions about the books you've recently read and enjoyed. Then the site uses technology to pair you with your next great read. The more books you list that you've read and liked, the more the recommendations will match your preferences. To get started go to: <https://readow.ai/>

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

October 11, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this Romance book club to discuss "*An American Beauty*" by Shana Abe. This book is about Arabella a woman who possess unyielding grit and a strong determination to escape her life of struggle and poverty. With the help of a railroad baron, Arabella leaves Richmond, Virginia and moves to New York posing as a well-to-do Southern widow. No one is surprised when Arabella marries the railroad baron after his wife's death. But, the question remains, will Arabella earn her place in Society -- despite the scandalous truth and an unexpected romance that will test her loyalties and her heart. (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!!



More To the Story

Coming in October to the Monmouth County Library System...

(1) Book Expo -- Don't miss a great opportunity to meet-and-greet more than 30 Monmouth County and New Jersey authors/illustrators of kids, teens and adult books **on October 7, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan.** You'll have an opportunity to purchase signed copies of their works, and hear talks on writing and publishing. **No registration is required.**

(2) There's Loads More Going On Too -- **The Monmouth County Library system will host a wide range of virtual and in-person programs this month including:** several author talks (by the likes of Ruth Ware, Rick Steves, and John Irving), virtual cooking sessions with Chef Rob, yoga sessions, lectures (on topics such as the history of the harmonica in American music, Barbie, the haunted history of the Jersey Bayshore, how stress affects your brain, haunted New Jersey & spiritualism, life in the last frontier: Alaska, the benefits of walking, tragic shipwrecks of Asbury Park, infamous ghost stories of New York and New Jersey, the case of Lizzie Borden, emergency readiness measures for seniors, the sky by day and by night, healthy living for your brain and body, a history of horror, and J.P. Morgan), writing workshops, English as a Second Language classes, 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 October.**



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
You truly are making a difference!**

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