

"ALWAYS WORTH A BROWSE"
FRIENDS OF THE OCEAN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY NEWS
NOVEMBER 2022



Important News

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

November 8, 2022 in observance of Election Day

November 11, 2022 in observance of Veterans Day

November 24 & November 25, 2022 in observance of Thanksgiving

Please also note: All branches of the Monmouth County Library will close at 5:00 p.m. on November 23, 2022.

(2) A Lifetime of Library Support -- We recently honored Phyllis Fyfe, Friends Vice President and a member of our group for almost 60 years, with a Lifetime Volunteer Appreciation Award, in recognition of her extraordinary years of service to the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library and to our community. Thank you Phyllis for working so tirelessly to make our organization successful and our library such an integral part of our community!

(3) Friends Meeting Friends -- On October 20, 2022 we hosted a meeting at our library of Friends groups from around Monmouth County. The meeting, which included representatives from Oceanport, Allentown (in Western Monmouth County), and Bradley Beach, provided all attendees with an excellent opportunity to share information and explore initiatives that have been successful. The two-hour meeting left all participants with new insights and some great ideas to explore going forward. Thank you to Phyllis Fyfe for identifying the need for and benefits of such a meeting. And, another big thank you to our treasurer, Harriet Cook, for all she did to create a directory of Friends groups (something that previously did not exist) and plan the meeting.

(4) Fall Fest Recap -- Seems like it was only yesterday, but on September 25, 2022 the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library participated at our town's highly successful and well-attended Fall Fest. The event provided us with a wonderful opportunity to promote all of the amazing programs and resources available at our library.

We gave out bookmarks, pencils and "I Love To Read" wristbands (a big hit) and signed up quite a few new members too.

(5) As this year draws to an end, we wanted to remind you about The Friends of the Ocean Township Library Annual Membership Drive -- This year, as we finally emerge from the worst of the COVID-19 crisis, our library has resumed offering many wonderful programs -- from children's story time to fun young adult programs, to performances by the talented Charlie's Band. **The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library is happy to support these and other programs as our library branch fulfills its critical role as part of the town's Cultural Center.**

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 and aware 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 to be a member of the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library). If your membership is current (memberships run from January to December of each year), plan ahead and pay your 2023 membership dues now. Membership Renewal Forms are available online at our website: www.friendsfoceantwplibrary.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.friendsfoceantwplibrary.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.friendsfoceantwplibrary.org

We appreciate your support and thank you!



Updates from the Township of Ocean Library

(1) Laughter is the Best Medicine -- Come enjoy a night of laughs and fun with comedian Larry Donsky on November 2, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at our library. A native of Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Donsky was the star of the original 2009 comedic series "Old Jews Telling Jokes" and he has opened for a variety of seasoned performers during his career. Mr. Donsky's delivery and spot-on timing will keep you laughing non-stop.

(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!

November 3, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. -- Citizen Kane starring Orsen Welles, Joseph Cotten, Agnes Moorehead, Ruth Warrick and Dorothy Comingore (1941) (Rated PG)

November 10, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. -- Tyson's Run starring Major Dodson and Amy Smart (2022) (Rated PG)

November 17, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. -- Dog starring Channing Tatum and Ryder McLaughlin (2022) (Rated PG-13)

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

(3) Explore Hidden History -- Come join author Rick Geffken on November 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. for an illuminating discussion of the hidden history of Monmouth County. Included in his talk are stories about how Ocean Township came to exist, Christ Church and its historic cemetery in Shrewsbury, and the local shipwreck of the *Malta*. You're guaranteed to come away with lots of fascinating and fun facts from all over Monmouth County.

(4) Calling All Teens -- If you have family members in grades 6 through 12, then make sure they don't miss a fun evening creating gratitude journals out of recycled old library cards. This event is scheduled for November 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. All materials will be provided by our library. Registration is recommended, but not required. To register go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) Scroll down to the date of this event you you will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description

(5) Music is in the Air!!! -- Come enjoy an hour of music as our branch welcomes the very popular Charlie's Band on November 16, 2022 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 co-sponsored by the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library.)**

(6) State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) Counseling for People with Medicare -- On November 1, 15, and 29, 2022 a SHIP counselor will be available at our library branch from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. to provide free one-on-one help to **New Jersey Medicare beneficiaries** who have problems with or questions about their Medicare insurance. Counselors can help you deal with claims, evaluate health insurance options, apply for financial assistance for prescription plans, etc. **All information is confidential. To schedule an appointment for the one-on-one counseling, please call the offices of SHIP at 732-728-1331.**

(7) Eligible for Medicare? -- Then you won't want to miss our branch's special program **"New to Medicare" on November 17, 2022 at 12:30 p.m. presented by Janet Schindler of the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP).** The workshop will provide the important facts you need to know to make an informed decision. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

(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 November 22, 2022.** 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) Children's Programs Abound -- at our library branch. 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 this month.** Select the event you are interested in and 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 from November 24, 2022 through December 2, 2022 for Thanksgiving. The museum will be open on all other Sundays in November from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and all other Thursday evenings in November from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Please note: Beginning November 24, 2022 the museum will be closed on Thursdays until March 2, 2023.

Upcoming Events:

Turn Old Jewelry and More Into Cash -- and benefit the Ocean Township Historical Museum. The event is November 9, 2022 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Eden Woolley House, 703 Deal Road in Oakhurst.

Fully licensed local jeweler and appraiser Earth Treasures will buy your unwanted jewelry and donate 15% of its profits to the museum.* Bring your gold, silver, and platinum items (not just jewelry), costume and estate jewelry. An appraiser will meet with you in a private session. **Sign up online at: <https://tohmfutureevents.blogspot.com/p/turn-old-jewelry-and-more-into-cash-and-28.html>** and the museum will send you a confirmation. You walk away with cash. Visit shopearthtreasures.com/sell-your-gold for a full list of saleable items. (Earth Treasures will keep the fundraiser open at its store one week past the event.)

*** The donation comes from Earth Treasures' profit, not your payment. You receive the same price for your items as you would at Earth Treasures' store.**

Doll Clothes Sale -- The museum will once again be hosting its popular doll clothes sale just in time for the holidays. The sale will be held on November 12 and 13, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the museum.

2022 Holiday Quilt Raffle -- The museum is raffling off a beautiful "Celtic Garden" homemade quilt. The drawing will take place on December 4, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. (winner need not be present). To see a photo of this stunning quilt and to obtain a raffle ticket go to: <https://tohmforms.blogspot.com/p/blog-page-72.html>

Mark Your Calendar -- for the museum's 2022 Holiday Open House and Craft Sale. You won't want to miss this annual holiday event that takes place on December 3, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and December 4, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(2) Turner Art Gallery -- The Turner Art Gallery, is currently featuring the work of talented photographers Katie and Joe Valencia. The showing is entitled "Beauty in the Ordinary". The public is invited to stop by the library during regular operating hours to see Katie & Joe's beautiful photos. Please note some of the displayed photos are available for purchase.

(3) Don't Miss The Ocean Township Garden Club's Holiday Wreath Sale -- After more than 15 years of selling wreaths, grave blankets, and swags by the Ocean Township Historical Museum, this year the Garden Club is trying something different for its annual fundraiser. But act fast -- you won't want to miss out on owning one of these beautiful items. Your order will be ready and waiting for you to pick up at the side entrance of The West Park Recreation Center at 615 West Park Avenue on November 18, 2022 (from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) and November

19, 2022 (from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) The cost is \$30 each for a grave blanket or wreath and \$15 for a swag. Photos of the blankets, wreaths and swags are available to view on the Garden Club's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/597553924494267/> If you are interested in purchasing one of the Club's beautiful holiday items, you can email them at otgardenclub@gmail.com or contact the Club through its Facebook page. They will send you an order form to fill out and you simply mail it back to the Club with your check.



Happening Around Town

(1) Helping Our Neighbors --The Township of Ocean Community Hope Fund is hosting its annual Thanksgiving Drive this month. 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. The Drive is coordinated by The Community Hope Fund and the Department of Human Services. **(The Community Hope Fund is a 501c(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to promote and support the charitable needs of our community.)**

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. And, no glass containers, please.**

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.**

All donations must be received no later than November 10, 2022.

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.

(2) Honoring Our Heroes -- Please join veterans from the Oakhurst VFW Post 2226, Catholic War Vets Post 714, Jewish War Vets Post 125 **and local dignitaries as our town recognizes the tremendous sacrifices made by the men and women of our country's Armed Forces.** The event will take place on Veterans Day, November

11, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at the beautiful new memorial located behind our town's library on Deal Road.

(3) Garden State Parkway Closures -- The South Bound entrance ramp at the Garden State Parkway Exit 105 will be closed for approximately 8 months due to construction work on the roadway. Motorists can go to www.gspexit105.com for closure updates and detour maps.



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) Cozy Mystery -- As the weather turns cooler it is the perfect time to sit with a hot cup of tea...or coffee...or hot chocolate... and lose yourself in a cozy mystery or spine tingling thriller. Goodreads' latest list of readers' favorite new mysteries and thrillers is the perfect place to get started. Included in the list are books by well-known authors such as Lisa Scottoline, James Patterson, Ruth Ware, Simone St. James, Rachel Hawkins, and many more. **So snuggle down in your favorite arm chair and find your next cozy mystery or thriller by going to [this link](#)**

(2) Behind the Fame -- If you enjoy reading about the lives of celebrities, you may want to check out this AARP recommendation -- a new memoir about Paul Newman. According to the AARP's review, this book details the actor's struggles with insecurity, loneliness and his discomfort with fame. To read the review [click here](#).

(3) Listening to Your Next Book -- If you enjoy audiobooks, *The Washington Post* is recommending a few new audiobooks that they rate as "great." The list includes "*Act of Oblivion*" by Robert Harris (about two anti-royalists in 1660 who escape to America to avoid being hanged as traitors) and "*The Bullet That Missed*" by Richard Osman (the third installment of the Thursday Murder Club, a small posse of residents of a retirement village in Kent).

(4) Book Clubs at a Distance -- Since the pandemic first hit, virtual book clubs have grown in popularity with readers around the world. To help you connect with other book lovers the AARP has compiled a list of the best online book clubs that you can join now. The list includes the New York Public Library and WNYC Book Club,

The Girlfriend Book Club (for women over 40), The Los Angeles Times Book Club, and more. **To check out the list and find out how to join one (or more!) of these clubs go to [this link](#).**

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

November 10, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this virtual mystery book club to discuss ***The Spellman Files: Document #1*** by **Lisa Lutz**. This book tells the story of Isabel "Izzy" Spellman, a private investigator at her family's firm. She has a checkered past full of romantic mistakes, excessive drinking and even vandalism. She's good at her job, but now if only she and the other Spellman's could leave their work at at the office.

November 17, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this virtual short story club to discuss ***The New Dress*** by **Virginia Woolf**. In this story a middle-aged, lower-class woman is consumed by feelings of inadequacy brought on by a new dress she wears to a society evening party.

**** (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) Holiday Story & Recipe Swap -- 'Tis almost the season, so break out some early holiday cheer and join the Monmouth County Library's Holiday book and recipe swap this year!

It is easy to participate. Share your favorite holiday recipes (desserts, entrees, cocktails, etc) -- including the name of your recipe, a full list of ingredients and instructions, and the number of servings it makes -- and email your recipe to MonCoLibrary2022@gmail.com

Please be sure to include your name in your email.

Then plan on joining the live Zoom virtual holiday book and recipe swap next month (on December 7, 2022) where the recipes will be shared. The Monmouth County Library will compile all the recipes sent and share them with the virtual participants. **Registration is required.**

(2) Gardening Helpline -- Does your garden need help? Are your plants in need of some TLC? Well, look no further! **Plan on joining Diane Larson**, Monmouth County Horticulturist of the Rutgers Master Gardeners, **as she answers your questions and provides helpful advice during this virtual program November 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** Please email your questions to Ms Larson at MonCoLibrary2022@gmail.com by November 2, 2022 .

(3) The November Food Festival -- Join **Chef Rob** on **November 5, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.** as he whips up some delicious food guaranteed to combat the chill in the air **LIVE on the Monmouth Library's Facebook Page** -- which can be accessed through the Library's website at: www.MonmouthCountyLib.org

The three items on the menu are:

Day-After-Thanksgiving Turkey Soup
Delicata Squash Salad with Cranberries, Feta Cheese & Balsamic Maple Dressing
Grandma's Roasted Sweet Potato Pie

(You will receive emailed recipes and photos when you register.)

(If you miss the LIVE Facebook event, this program will be rebroadcast on the Monmouth County Library's YouTube [Food Festival Playlist](#) after its initial airing.)

(4) Veterans Day Virtual Concert -- In honor of Veterans Day the Monmouth County Library is featuring a month long virtual program conducted by the **Florian Schantz Jazz Combo**. These talented musicians will perform music popular during World War I, including military music and other standards. **The program is available for viewing from November 11, 2022 through November 30, 2022 on the Monmouth County Library's website:** www.monmouthcountylib.org

(5) Zentangle Inspired -- Satisfy your inner artist by participating in this virtual art class with **Barbara Freiberg** on **November 15, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.** You'll learn how to draw different types of designs and how to put them together to form an interesting composition. You'll need the following supplies to participate: pencil, eraser, ruler, one piece of 9x12 white drawing paper or 6x6 sketch paper, and crayola markers or similar brand.

(6) Enjoy the Bounties of the Season -- Join **Rachel Tansey**, Family & Community Health Sciences, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County, **as she discusses the wonderful variety of Fall fruits and vegetables available now and the health benefits they provide.**

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

November 9, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. -- "1620: The First Year" --

Join historian **Christopher Daley**, as he takes a look back at the **400th Anniversary of the Pilgrims landing** (an anniversary that was largely overlooked back in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic). Mr. Daley will detail the difficult journey the pilgrims faced, the history of Plymouth Rock, their early encounters with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, and other aspects of the dangers and challenges these new arrivals faced.

November 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. -- Coming to America -- Join historian **Oscar Israelowitz** as he tells the story of **Ellis Island located near the Statue of Liberty**. Some 12 million immigrants were processed through Ellis Island between 1892 and 1954 and it houses many artifacts, including religious articles brought by Jewish immigrants from their villages in Poland and Russia.

November 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. -- eBay 101: The Basics of Buying & Selling on eBay -- Join author, auctioneer and appraiser **Mike Ivankovich** as he covers all you need to know about buying and selling on the popular eBay website. You'll learn how to locate treasures, how to gauge the reputation of sellers and buyers, how to sell on eBay, and even how to use eBay as a part-time job.

November 16, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. -- The History and Legacy of the 1850 Black Burying Ground in Lincroft, Cedar View Cemetery -- Join author and historian **Rick Geffken** as he provides a detailed history of the **Cedar View Cemetery, an over 170 year-old African America burial ground in Lincroft**. You'll learn more about the dedicated Civil War soldiers interred in this hallowed ground, as well as others buried there including the formerly enslaved Charles Reeves.

November 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. -- Preserving Family Photos -- Join archivist and photographer **Gary D. Sarekzky** as he provides guidance on how to extend the life of family photographs so they can be passed down from generation to generation. The lecture includes examples of how old photographs can be enhanced or restored with a computer after digitization.

(8) 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...

November 1, 2022 through November 9, 2022 -- The Shadow Knows -- Classic Radio Road Show recreates the Golden Age of Radio with an episode of "The Shadow Knows" In this episode, called the Case of the Flaming Skull, the Shadow tries to find the truth after a burning skull kidnaps his friend Lamont Cranston and later robs a home and a jewelry store. As the Shadow tries to get to the truth, people are

killed and the kidnapped victim's wife is threatened. The Shadow, originally written by Walter Gibson, was the most popular fiction radio program of the 1930s and 1940s.

November 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. -- The Food/Mood Connection -- Join Rachel Tansey of Rutgers Family & Community Health Sciences **as she discusses how food impacts our moods and how our mood impacts the foods we crave.** You'll leave with a better understanding of this important connection.

November 11, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. -- The Smallest War Heroes: US Army Pigeon Service -- Join historian **Mary Rasa as she discusses how the US Army Pigeon Service began with a few donated pigeons on the battlefields of World War I and the heroic work these tiny pigeons played in both World War I and World War II --** including saving the lives of nearly 200 soldiers with the 77th Infantry.

November 30, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. -- Mary Todd Lincoln -- Join historian **Greg Caggiano as he explores the life, times and tragedies of Mary Todd Lincoln.** You'll learn about her early life, her marriage to Abraham Lincoln, and the popular misconceptions surrounding her mental health following her husband's assassination.

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.

(9) 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 during the month of November. **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) Don't Forget To Vote -- November 8, 2022 is Election Day. Among the important choices you will make -- voting for who will be on our town's local school board. **If you**

need more information go to the League of Women Voters of Southern Monmouth County's website at www.lwvsmc.org

(2) Child Tax Credit -- New Jersey households with incomes of \$80,000 or less are eligible for gross income tax credits of up to \$500 per child under the newly amended child tax credit law. The credit will be available in 2023 when you file your 2022 tax forms. **To learn more go to [this link](#)**

(3) Get Boosted -- If you haven't already done so, be sure and get the new COVID-19 bivalent booster that offers stronger protections against severe illness and death from the Omicron sub-variants. 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

(4) Don't Miss Out -- More than three million NJ residents are eligible for up to \$1,500 in property tax relief under the new ANCHOR program (which replaces the Homestead Rebate Program). **The deadline for filing is December 30, 2022.** To be eligible for this year's ANCHOR benefit, you must have occupied your primary resident on October 1, 2019 and met income limits. You must also file (or be exempt from) NJ income taxes. Payments will be sent out no later than May 2023. **To find out more about the ANCHOR program, including how benefits are calculated and paid, and answers to frequently asked questions, you can visit [this link](#).**

**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