

Friends of the Township of Ocean Library

"ALWAYS WORTH A BROWSE"
FRIENDS OF THE OCEAN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY NEWS
APRIL 2021

Important News

(1) **All Monmouth County Library Branches will be closed Friday, April 2, 2021**, in observance of Good Friday.

(2) Thanks to State Senator Vin Gopal, Township of Ocean Mayor Chris Siciliano and the Monmouth County Medical Center -- **on Friday, April 9, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** there will be a **COVID 19 VACCINE DAY**. The Vaccine Day is **ONLY OPEN TO SENIORS WHO ARE 65 AND OLDER AND WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN**. **Important Note: REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED -- NO walk-ins will be accepted.** Vaccine quantities are limited so register soon. To register contact State Senator Gopal's office at 732-695-3371 or via email at info@vingopal.com You can also register by completing the registration form at www.tinyurl.com/LD11seniors If you have questions contact Tracey Berkowitz at tberkowitz@oceantwp.org.

(3) **National Library Week** -- National Library Week -- April 4 - 10, 2021 -- is an annual celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming and strengthening our communities. **This year's theme is "Welcome to Your Library."** This theme recognizes the fact that today the role of libraries now extends far beyond the usual book stacks. Today libraries are not only community centers of learning, but also provide many services and programs reflective of our digital age.

(4) **Our Membership Drive Continues** -- Many thanks to those of you who have renewed your Friends membership! If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership for 2021 today. Annual membership dues (only \$5.00/person) are one of our major sources of funding now -- especially with our inability to hold book sales due to the pandemic.

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

And, don't forget to reach out to your family members, friends, and neighbors to see if they would like to join the Friends of the Township of Ocean Library. Simply direct them to our website or 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: You can choose to pay your membership dues either by check/money order or via our new 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!

(5) **Book Donations** -- As a reminder, although we greatly appreciate your kind intentions, **we are still unable to accept any book donations at this time**. But, please hold on to your donations. We hope to host our book sales later this year and we will let you know as soon as we are once again accepting donations. Thank you for your understanding.

Updates from the Township of Ocean Library

(1) **Take a Seat** -- Our library branch is now offering limited indoor seating for visitors. Only one person is permitted per table and there are a limited number of tables available.

(2) **Calling All Artists** -- To celebrate National Library Week, the Monmouth County Library is looking for artists of all ages to help design the library's next bookmarks. **The "Welcome to the Library" Bookmark Design Challenge**

offers you a chance to show what you love most about the library. Designs must be submitted between April 1 and April 30, 2021. Please submit your design as a JPEG file to MonCoLibrary2021@gmail.com with the subject line "Bookmark Challenge" for the opportunity to have your artwork featured on the library's next bookmarks. If you need help submitting your design, scanners and computers are available to use at our branch, (just bring a USB drive to save your file). Please review the entry guidelines before submitting your design:

Limit one entry per person or group (Artwork categories include Grades K-4, Grades 5-8, Grades 9-12 and Adult.)

Entries may not include any licensed characters or groups or copyrighted art or logos

Your submission should include the artist's first name, home library branch, and grade

Designs can be vertical or horizontal. (Check out the Monmouth County Library website for bookmark size/dimension requirements at www.MonmouthCountyLib.org)

(3) National Library Workers Day Is April 6, 2021 -- If you visit our library be sure and thank the staff for all they do to keep our library a vibrant part of the Township of Ocean community (particularly in light of the challenges of the past year).

Updates from Our Cultural Collaborators

(1) The Township of Ocean Historical Museum -- [The Township of Ocean Historical Museum](http://TheTownshipofOceanHistoricalMuseum.com) will be open on Sundays in April from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Please Note: Masks will be required for all visitors and staff.

While the Monmouth County Historical Commission will not be hosting its "Weekend at Old Monmouth" event this year, be sure and check out the Township of Ocean Historical Museum's website to find a wonderful array of historical events that are scheduled for around the state this year. Simply go to museum's website at [The Township of Ocean Historical Museum](http://TheTownshipofOceanHistoricalMuseum.com) and click on "Events", then click on "Historic Happenings Blog" to find some fun and interesting places to go and things to do in our state.

If you enjoy poetry, you will want to stop by the museum and pick up a copy of "Reflections." The collection of 23 poems, which costs \$15, was written by museum member, Joe Bove. (A portion of the proceeds from sales of the poetry book will benefit the museum.)

And, mark your calendar for the **Museum's annual handmade quilt raffle. Raffle tickets will be available the first week of September and the drawing will be held on Sunday, December 5, 2021.**

(2) The Township of Ocean Garden Club -- If you are interested in joining the Township of Ocean Garden Club, you can contact the Co-Presidents Pat Mercurio at (732) 493-8725 or Joanne Krulikowski at (732) 804-3139.

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) Take the April Reading Challenge -- For April our library's round table of suggested reading based on a monthly theme is going **BOTH in-person and virtual**. This month's theme is **"Celebrate National Library Week."**

Debbie Bagchi, one of our library's reference librarians, has compiled a variety of books featuring libraries, librarians or books. So if you love visiting libraries and all things "book related" check out Debbie's picks on our website: www.friendsofoceantwplibrary.org

(2) Want to Get a Jump on Spring? -- Then be sure and check out **Goodreads "Spring's Most Anticipated New Books" list**. Goodreads has assembled a list of the 31 most anticipated books scheduled for release this spring. (Each with a release date between March 20 and June 20, 2021.) The list includes fiction, mysteries, science fiction, romance and some intriguing non-fiction picks -- including a report from the front lines of the pandemic. Be sure to check off your "must reads" on the list so you'll be ready to start reading when your picks are released. To browse the list go to: https://www.goodreads.com/blog/show/2040-goodreads-members-most-anticipated-spring-books?ref=pe_3097180_566855410&rto=x_gr_e_nl_general&utm_campaign=March162021&utm_content=Big.Spring.Books&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter

(3) In the Mood to Do Some Serious Sleuthing? -- Then check out **Goodreads list of "The Best Crime and Mystery Books."** Whether you like historical, crime, cozy, or literary mysteries, Goodreads makes it easy for you to find your next great read. So put on your sleuthing cap -- there are mysteries waiting for you to solve! Simply go to: https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/11.Best_Crime_Mystery_Books to get started.

(4) Discover Books You'll Love -- with "**BookBub**," a website that recommends free or extremely low-cost ebooks (usually only \$0.99 - \$2.00) based on your interests and the books you've read. **BookBub** sends you an email every day with book deals that day -- often under the radar titles you may have missed. Just type in the name of a book you liked and this site will analyze a huge database of real readers' favorite books to provide you with suggestions on what to read next. To get started go to: <https://landing.bookbub.com>

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

April 6, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. or April 7, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- Join this virtual book club to discuss "**The Duke and I**" (**The Bridgerton Series Book 1**) by **Julia Quinn**. Love is in the air as this book club begins a three-part exploration of Julia Quinn's romance series now the basis of a very popular Netflix series. In "The Duke and I" Daphne Bridgerton and Duke Simon Basset concoct a scheme to take the pressure off of Daphne's hunt for a husband. While the plan works well at first, soon it is clear that love ignores every rule among London's elite. This discussion will be moderated by Stephanie Laurino.

April 15, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- This virtual book club will discuss "**Keeper of Lost Causes**" by **Jussi Adler-Olsen**. In this mystery one of Denmark's best homicide detectives blames himself after a hail of bullets destroys the lives of two fellow cops. Once promoted, this detective takes on cold cases including the vanishing of a liberal politician five years ago. But, the politician isn't dead yet and the detective may have a chance to save her and redeem himself. The discussion will be moderated by Jeanmarie Kantor.

April 21, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- This virtual book club will discuss "**Walking Lions**" by **Ayelet Gundar-Goshen**. After one night's deadly mistake, a man will go to any lengths to save his family and his reputation in this gripping suspenseful drama of guilt, survival, shame and desire. The discussion will be moderated by Beth Miller.

April 28, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- This virtual book club will discuss "**American Dirt**" by **Jeanine Cummins**. This book tells the story of Lydia Quixano Perez who runs a bookstore in Acapulco, Mexico, where she lives with her journalist husband and their son. When her life is turned upside down, she and her son flee Acapulco, setting them on a journey that they will share with countless other Central and Southern Americans turned migrants. This discussion will be moderated by Robyn Miller.

Registration for these book discussions is required. Simply go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper by clicking [here](#) and select "Literature & Writing" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of each virtual book discussion description. **Internet access is required to participate.** Event access information will be emailed to you prior to the start of the event. If you have questions you can email mcl@monmouthcountylib.org

(6) Read the Book, Then Hear from The Author -- The Monmouth County Library is offering several opportunities to join discussions with authors this month.

April 9, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- Meet virtually with **Rebecca Freimann in commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Day**. Rebecca Freimann, author of "**Family Tree: Rooted in Survival**," will discuss her never-before-told-true story of three family branches and their struggles to survive the horrors of the Holocaust.

April 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. -- Join **Jon Gertner, author of "The Ice at the End of the World: An Epic Journey into Greenland's Buried Past and Our Perilous Future"** in a virtual author talk in celebration of Earth Day. Mr. Gertner's book delves into the history, exploration, and investigation of Greenland's ice sheet and its future in the era of global warming.

April 30, 2021 at 10:30 -- Meet virtually with **Monmouth County Commissioner Lillian G. Burry to discuss her first book "A Tour of Historic Colts Neck."** This guide covers the thirteen designated historic sites in Colts Neck, including a brief history of each location and photos from historic and current scenes.

These sessions will be conducted on Zoom and are free of charge. **Registration and internet access is required.** To register simply go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper by clicking [here](#) and select "Timely

Topics" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of each virtual book discussion description. The link will be emailed to you the day before the program between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

(7) Try A Short Story -- Then join a discussion of "I Stand Here Ironing" by Tillie Olsen on April 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. The short story is about a mother examining her own life while reflecting on the years of parental challenges she faced with her daughter. **A PDF of the story will be emailed to you after registration.** The discussion will be moderated by Mary Patterson.

The session will be conducted on Webex and is free of charge. **Registration and internet access is required.** To register simply go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper by clicking [here](#) and select "Literature & Writing" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of each virtual book discussion description. The link will be emailed to you the day before the program between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. We hope you find this spotlight helpful. Happy Reading!!

Grab Some Popcorn & Binge Watch a Movie

The Monmouth County Library is now offering **The Reel Movie Discussion: A Virtual Program.** You simply watch the film at your leisure and then join a virtual discussion. The April offerings are:

April 14, 2021 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. -- "NOVA: Decoding the Weather Machine" (2018) (PG). In this two-hour documentary, NOVA cuts through the confusion around climate change -- disastrous hurricanes, widespread droughts and wildfires, withering heat and extreme rainfall -- to discover why scientists agree that human activity is changing our climate. This virtual discussion will be moderated by Donna Mansfield. **Please note special instructions for accessing this documentary:** Go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper by clicking [here](#) and select "Timely Topics" from the drop-down box. You will see two options for accessing this documentary at the end of the description for this program.

April 29, 2021 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. "Wild Mountain Thyme" (2020) (PG-13). The film stars Emily Blunt, Jon Hamm, and Christopher Walken. The discussion will be moderated by Kristen Harvey. To reserve a physical copy of this film, please call our local branch at **732-531-5092** to place a hold. Pickup is available in person or through curbside service.

Discussions will be conducted on Webex and are free of charge. **Registration is required to participate in a Reel Movie Discussion.** To register simply go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper by clicking [here](#) and select "Movies" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of each movie discussion description.

Other Fun and Helpful Library Offerings

(1) Enter The World of a Copy Editor -- if you've ever wondered what it is like to be a copy editor for one of the country's leading publications -- now you can find out from a pro. **On April 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Kate Norris, Copy Editor at "The New Yorker"** for more than 30 years, **will talk about what goes into producing such a renowned publication.** She also will answer your questions about grammar and language. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions through chat.

The session will be conducted on Zoom and is free of charge. **Registration and internet access are required.** To register go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#). Select "Timely Topics" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description. Please note that the link for the session will be mailed to you the day before the program between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

(2) Get More Healthy -- By checking out Rutgers Virtual Health Seminars offered by the Monmouth County Library.

April 20, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- Lighten Up the Fat Learn about the different types of dietary fats, how not all fats are "bad," and the importance of fat as part of a balanced and healthy diet.

This program is offered by Family and Community Health Sciences Department Educator Sharese Porter, PhD, MPH, CHES, Sr. Program Coordinator Supervisor, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Burlington and Monmouth Counties.

These sessions will be conducted on Zoom and are free of charge. **Registration and internet access are required.** To register go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) and select "Health & Well Being" from the drop down box. You'll find the register button at the end of the seminar description. Please note that the link for the session will be mailed to you the day before the program between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

(3) Be WISE -- With WISE, the Wellness Initiative for Senior Education, a presentation by Samantha White of FCS for Family & Children's Services of Monmouth County, **you'll participate in a series of virtual lessons that cover a wide range of topics designed to increase your knowledge about how bodies age, health care empowerment, and use of over-the-counter medications.** The first two sessions of this series will be held:

April 6, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- Understanding the Changes Associated with Aging

April 27, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. -- Aging Sensitivity

These sessions will be conducted on Zoom and are free of charge. **Registration and internet access are required.** To register go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) and select "Health & Well Being" from the drop down box. You'll find the register button at the end of the series description. Please note that the link for the session will be mailed to you the day before the program between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

(4) Are You Eligible for Medicare and Need Help Navigating the Confusing Array of Medicare Options? - Then you'll want to check out **"Medicare for Newbies: A Virtual Workshop" on April 13, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.** conducted by Samantha White, SHIP Coordinator from Family & Children's Services of Monmouth County. You will receive the helpful information you need to know to make a thorough and informed decision.

These sessions will be conducted on Zoom and are free of charge. **Registration and internet access are required.** To register go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) and select "Timely Topics" from the drop down box. You'll find the register button at the end of the series description. Please note that the link for the session will be mailed to you the day before the program between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

(5) Learn More About One of the Smallest Birds -- On April 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., thanks to the **Rutgers Master Gardener Virtual Program**, you can learn more about the hummingbird, one of the smallest and most fascinating bird species on Earth. The presentation will be made by Ann Sherwood, Certified Master Gardener, Rutgers Master Gardeners.

This session will be conducted on Webex and is free of charge. Registration and internet access is required to participate. To register simply go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) Select "Timely Topics" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description.

(6) Celebrate National Poetry Month -- April is National Poetry Month and the Monmouth County Library will be hosting a poetry reading by poet and author Flora Higgins on April 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.. Hear the lyrical wit and wisdom of poets as they write of love, nature, the passing of years, and their gardens.

This session will be conducted on Zoom and is free of charge. **Registration and internet access is required.** To register go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) Select "Literature and Writing" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description.

(7) Sit In on a Lecture From the Comfort of Home -- The Monmouth County Library is sponsoring several lectures in April. Be sure and check them out!

April 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. -- Join Monmouth County Historical Association (MCHA) Associate Curator, Joe Zemias, for "Beneath the Floorboards: Whispers of the Enslaved from Marlpit Hall." This discussion will focus on the enslaved African Americans who lived and worked at Marlpit Hall, the circa 1756 home once owned by the Taylor family of Middletown. Mr. Zemias tells the full story through the use of original archival documents and recently discovered artifacts.

April 22, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. -- Join former Sandy Hook Park Ranger and Museum Curator Mary Rasa in celebrating Earth Day by exploring the history of our country's national parks. You'll receive insider tips on park visits and learn more about the parks located within a two-hour drive.

April 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. -- Join author and historian Tom Clark as he recounts the story of shipwrecks in New Jersey during The John Minturn nor'easter of 1846. The storm which arrived on February 14th claimed countless lives and nine vessels along the coast of New Jersey. The story of the disaster is retold in Tom Clark's book "Undiminished Violence" which narrates the unfortunate events and poor decision making that gave the storm its name.

(8) Need a Little Music in Your Life? -- Then be sure to check out **Folk Music From Around the World" with the Simple Gifts** in a virtual concert premiering on the Monmouth County Library website on **April 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. (and available to view through April 30, 2021.)** The Simple Gifts consists of two women, twelve instruments and a host of ethnic folk styles. The talented, award winning duo plays everything from lively Irish jigs and down-home American reels to haunting Gypsy melodies and Balkan dance music. You can get a song in your heart and join this performance by going to the Monmouth County Library website at www.MonmouthCountyLib.org

(9) Do You Want to Become a United States Citizen -- Be sure and join the **free virtual citizenship classes** co-sponsored by the Monmouth County Library, Catholic Charities and Literacy NJ Monmouth. The 12-week class prepares participants for the citizenship test. Students will learn U.S. history, civics and vocabulary and will have a chance to practice for their interview. Students will also meet with an immigration attorney who can help with the N-400 application. **Classes are held April 8, 2021 through June 24, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please note: Green Cards are required to participate.** To register contact Jhanna Even at 732-702-1895 or jeven@literacynj.org

(10) Use Yoga to Unwind, De-stress And Relax -- From the Monmouth County Library and Master Yogi **Steven Russell** of Becoming Sound **comes a series of virtual yoga sessions** to help you unwind, improve flexibility and relax your mind. **The Series will free-cycle throughout the month of April and can be found on weekends beginning on Thursday (after 5:00 p.m.) through Sunday evenings.**

These sessions are free of charge. No library card is required. **Internet access is required to attend.** To access the sessions go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) and select "Health & Well-Being" from the drop down box. You'll find the link to view the session at the end of the program description.

A Few Reminders:

(1) Please note that until further notice The Friends of the Township of Ocean Library in-person meetings are canceled. We will let you know when these meetings will resume.

(2) The library's in-person times are:

Monday - Thursday: 1 - 9 p.m.

Friday: 1 - 5 p.m.


Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(3) Curbside pickup is now available:

Mondays: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

No curbside service will be available on Friday or Saturday.

 **Help Our Community** -- Want to do your part to help our community and our state during these difficult times? Here are simple ways you can make a difference.

(1) You Know Everyone Is Being Encouraged to Get the COVID 19 Vaccine, But Do You Still Have Questions? --Well thanks to the Monmouth County Library answers are available. **To learn more about the COVID 19 vaccines join Dr. Jay Kostman, Director of the John Bell Health Center on April 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** for a virtual program offering information on the vaccines for COVID -19 including how they were developed, how they are being used, their effectiveness and how they are tolerated.

This session will be conducted on Zoom and is free of charge. **Registration and internet access is required.** To register go to the Monmouth County Library EventKeeper site by clicking [here](#) Select "Timely Topics" from the drop-down box. You will see a small "Register" box at the bottom of the presentation description.

(2) Roll Up Your Sleeve -- As the country continues to face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, good news is on the horizon as vaccines against the virus are becoming more readily available to residents of our state. **If you haven't already done so, go to <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/> to preregister to get the vaccine.** Registration takes just a few minutes (be sure to have your insurance card handy). Once registered, you will receive an email notifying you when you are eligible to make an appointment to be vaccinated.

For more information on vaccination sites in New Jersey, see [this list](#) which is updated frequently as the vaccine roll out protocols and locations change. Use [this link](#) if you want to be put on a Monmouth County vaccine wait list.

(3) Having Trouble Booking a Vaccine Appointment? -- **If you are 65 years or older you can call the New Jersey State Vaccine Appointment Support Hotline at 855-568-0545 for help.** The hotline is open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. every day and can help callers in more than 240 languages.

(4) Our State's Furry Friends Need Your Help Too -- Most nonprofit groups, including animal shelters, are facing unprecedented challenges as a result of the pandemic. Many families, who are struggling financially during the pandemic, are finding it difficult to keep and provide for their pets. Please contact one of these groups if you're looking for a new four-legged friend or if you can help with a donation:

The Monmouth County SPCA:
<https://monmouthcountyspca.org/>

The Associate Humane Society of Tinton Falls: <https://www.ahscares.org/Contentpage/169>

Thanks for standing up for New Jersey!

**Thank you again for your continued support of
The Friends of The Township of Ocean Library
You truly are making a difference!
Please continue to take care and stay safe!**

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