



# MONROE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

4 Municipal Plaza  
Monroe Township, NJ 08831  
(732) 521-5000  
[www.monroetwplibrary.org](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org)

Monday-Thursday  
Friday  
Saturday & Sunday

9:30am-9:00pm  
9:30am-5:00pm  
10:00am-5:00pm

## FEBRUARY 2026 HAPPENINGS



### HARRIET TUBMAN LIVING HISTORY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 2:00 P.M.

**Millicent Sparks** brings history alive with her portrayal of Harriet Tubman. Millicent concludes her portrayal by answering questions from the audience in character as Harriet Tubman. Sponsored by the Friends of the Monroe Township Library. In person. Registration required.



### RECYCLE MY BATTERY SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 11:00 A.M.

Recycling a single battery can save our soil, our water and our planet. Saving Earth starts one battery at a time — and that “one battery” can be yours. Presented by **Sri Nihal Tammana**. Sponsored by the Monroe Township Environmental Commission. Hybrid. Attend in-person or register with an email to receive the link. Walk-ins welcome.



*Thirsty Radish*

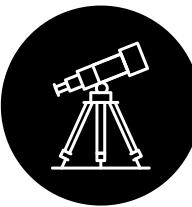
### HEALTHY EATING WITH THIRSTY RADISH TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 2:30 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Healthy eating and wellness expert **Vanessa Young** presents simple ways to have a healthier relationship with food, improve meal planning, and bring more freshness and zest into your daily diet. In person. Registration required.



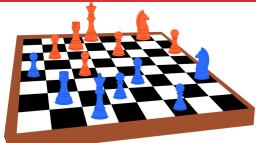
### MEDICARE 101 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 11:00 A.M.

Learn to navigate the available options, understand plans and supplements, and determine what plan best suits your needs. Presented by **Jackie Spear**, Medicare Specialist and Senior Advisor. In person. Registration required.



### SIDEWALK ASTRONOMY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23 6:30 P.M.

Join us outdoors to observe the Moon, Jupiter, and Mars using a 10" Dobsonian telescope. Weather permitting. Registration not required. Rain date is Wednesday, February 25 at 6:30 p.m.



### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28 CHESS WITH A CHAMP 10:30 A.M.

International Master and reigning NJ State Chess Champion **Dean Ippolito** will teach a special class and live simulation, plus fun game challenges to warm you up before our first library-wide tournament. In person. Registration required.



### CHESS TOURNAMENT 11:30 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

Join our informal Chess Tournament for all ages. Chess boards will be open all day, but official tournaments will begin at 11:30 a.m. Casual and beginner players are encouraged as well as experienced players! \*This event is casual and is not a rated or FIDE official event\*. Preregister in person or online.

# Continuing Programs

**Mahjong Club (Chinese Style)**  
**Friday, February 6, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration required.*

**Family Karaoke**  
**Sunday, February 8, 2:30 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration not required.*

**Poetry Workshop**  
**Monday, February 9, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration required.*

**Photography Club**  
**Tuesday, February 10, 3:30 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration not required.*

**Mix & Mingle Social for Adults with Special Needs**  
**Tuesday, February 10, 5:00 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration required.*

**Caregiver Support Group**  
**Wednesday, February 11, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration required.*

**Creative Writing Workshop**  
**Wednesday, February 11, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration not required.*

**Genealogy Club**  
*We will not meet this month. Join us in March.*

**The Music Lounge**  
**Thursday, February 12, 3:00 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration required.*  
*Linda Ronstadt*

**Caregiver Support Group**  
**Wednesday, February 18, 7:00 p.m.**  
*Online. Registration required.*

# Technology

## Device Advice

Get one-on-one help with library resources or basic technology questions, like email, e-readers, basic smartphone operations, library catalog & databases. Open to adult Monroe Library cardholders and residents. Limit one session per cardholder per month. Registration required.

## Microsoft Excel Worksheet Basics

**Wednesday, February 11**  
**6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

This class is for adults who are new to Excel or want to get reacquainted with Excel. Prerequisite: know how to use a computer keyboard and mouse. Topics include: What is a worksheet? Opening and saving a new workbook, Parts of the Excel screen, Entering and formatting data, Calculating Data, Copying, Deleting, and Moving Data. In person. Registration required.

## Getting Started with Computers

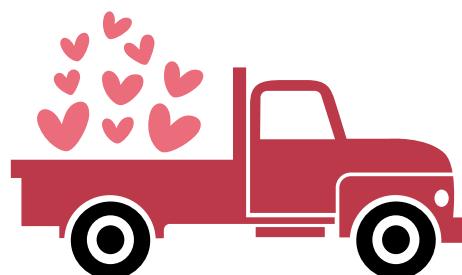
**Wednesday, February 18**  
**3:00 - 4:30 p.m. OR 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

Learn basic computer skills. Topics to be covered are: What are computers? What kinds of computers are there? What is on a computer? How do you control a computer? Finding your way around the computer. Adults 18 and over. In person. Registration required. Register for just one session. Registrants must have an email address to create a Northstar Digital Literacy Learner account.

## Internet Basics

**Wednesday, February 25**  
**3:00 - 4:30 p.m. OR 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

Learn Internet Basics. Topics to be covered are: Connecting to the internet, using the internet, browsers and websites, finding what you need online, finding what you need within webpages, staying organized and staying safe online. Adults 18 and over. In person. Registration required. Register for just one session. Registrants must have an email address to create a Northstar Digital Literacy Learner account.



For a complete listing of all programs, detailed descriptions, and to register, visit [www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar) or scan the QR code. Questions? Call (732) 521-5000.

# Book Discussions

## Book Café

**Wednesday, February 4**

**11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Women Writers Book Discussion Group

**Monday, February 9, 7:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid*

## Banned Book Discussion Group

**Friday, February 13, 3:00 p.m.**

*Hybrid. Registration required.*

*All Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson*

## Coffee and a Book

**Tuesday, February 17, 11:00 a.m.**

*Hybrid. Registration required.*

*The Retirement Plan by Sue Hincenbergs*

## Page Turners

**Thursday, February 19, 11:00 a.m.**

*Hybrid. Registration required.*

*Books to Keep You Warm (Steamy romance)*

## Non-Fiction Book Discussion

**Monday, February 23, 2:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*Framed: Astonishing True Stories of Wrongful Convictions by John Grisham & Jim McCloskey*

## Short Story Discussion Group

**Thursday, February 26, 2:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*"Girl" by Jamaica Kincaid in The Penguin Book of the Modern American Short Story*

*"Just Another Family" by Lori Ostlund*

## All You Need is Love Book Club

**Friday, February 27, 11:00 a.m.**

*Hybrid. Registration required.*

*The Love Elixir of Augusta Stern by Lynda Cohen Loigman*

# Virtual Author Talks

Brought to you via digital live-stream in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium. Register, submit questions to the authors, view upcoming author talks and previously recorded content at: [www.monroetwplibrary.org/authortalks](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/authortalks)

## Vanessa Riley

**Thursday, February 5, 7:00 p.m.**

Vanessa Riley will discuss her newest book, Fire Sword and Sea, based on the folk story of the female pirate Jacquette Delahaye.

## Lindsey Stewart

**Thursday, February 12, 2:00 p.m.**

Feminist philosopher Dr. Lindsey Stewart's book, The Conjuring of America: Mojos, Mermaids, Medicine, and 400 Years of Black Women's Magic, tells the stories of Negro Mammies of slavery; the Voodoo Queens and Blues Women of Reconstruction; and the Granny Midwives and textile weavers of the Jim Crow era.

## Smithsonian Curator Emeritus Tom Crouch

**Tuesday, February 24, 2:00 p.m.**

Take part in a conversation with Tom Crouch about the trials, errors, and incredible legacy of the Smithsonian's foundation in his book, Smithson's Gamble: The Smithsonian Institution in American Life, 1836-1906.



For a complete listing of all programs, detailed descriptions, and to register, visit [www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar) or scan the QR code. Questions? Call (732) 521-5000.



## Make & Create

### Open Sewing

### Sit-N-Stitch

**Fridays, February 6 & 20, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not required.*

**Monday, February 9, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. OR**

**Thursday, February 12, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

### Crafty Creations: Quilling

**Wednesday, February 11, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. OR**

**Wednesday, February 25, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

### Sew a Cork Wallet

**Thursday, February 26, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

### Open Maker Hours

**Mondays, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Fridays, 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not required.*

## Films

### International Film Discussion

**Thursday, February 12, 2:30 p.m.**

*Online. Registration required.*

*The Marriage Escape (2020, Netherlands)*

### World Cinema Wednesday

**Wednesday, February 18, 2:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not required.*

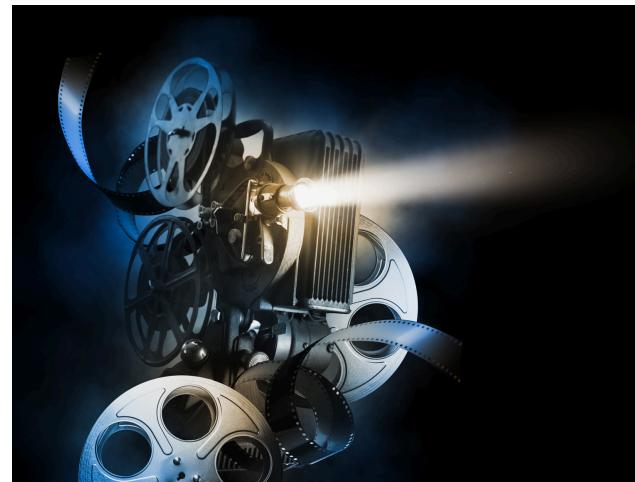
*The Rose Maker (2020, France)*

### Friday Afternoon Movie

**Friday, February 27, 2:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not required.*

*My Girl (1991)*



## Virtual Cooking Classes with Library Chef

**LIVE**

Upcoming February Live Cooking Classes

**FREE WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD**

**Sourdough Flatbread**  
Learn the essentials of sourdough baking and make a soft, flavorful flatbread from scratch. Free, live, online.

**WED, FEB 4TH 7:30 PM EST**

**Valentine's Day Special**  
Cook a restaurant-quality meal at home. Perfectly seared scallops with sage lemon brown butter over creamy polenta. Free, live, online.

**WED, FEB 11TH 7:30 PM EST**

**The \$10 Meal Challenge**  
Discover how to create a delicious meal on a budget. Fun, interactive cooking for all skill levels. Free, live, online.

**WED, FEB 18TH 6 PM EST**

**Breathwork Basics with Audra**

learn simple breathwork techniques to boost wellbeing.

**LIVE**

**LIVE ONLINE CLASS**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 | 7:30PM EST**

**Free with your library card**

Enhance your kitchen skills with expert-led classes, from the comfort of your home with **Library Chef**. Go to [www.monroetwplibrary.org/databases](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/databases) and select **Library Chef** to create an account or sign in if you already have one on **Library Chef**—it's free and easy! No Zoom required! Missed the live class? No problem! Watch previous classes at [app.librarychef.com](http://app.librarychef.com) or scan the QR code.



For a complete listing of all programs, detailed descriptions, and to register, visit [www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar) or scan the QR code. Questions? Call (732) 521-5000.

# Holiday Hours

Monday, February 16 Library Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

## Meetings

**Friends of the Library Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 24, 2:00 p.m.**

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 24, 6:30 p.m.**

## On Display

### Lobby Display Case

*The photography of Rochelle Kaplan will be on display in the Lobby display case throughout the month of February 2026.*

### Fine Arts Gallery

*The Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission Annual Juried Art Show will be held in the Fine Arts Gallery through February 2026.*

## Cultural Arts

The following events are sponsored by the Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission. Registration not required. Open seating. Scan the QR code for more information.



**PRINCETON SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA CONCERT**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4**  
**1:00 P.M.**

Bergamot Quartet will perform on four hardanger fiddles, the traditional instrument of Norway.



**THE STATE OPERA OF NJ  
PERFORMANCE LECTURE**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10**  
**1:00 P.M.**

The State Opera of NJ, formerly Boheme Opera NJ, performs ***Love Viennese Style***, the songs and stories from Johann Strauss II's operetta, "Die Fledermaus".

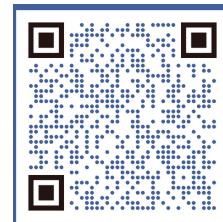


**JAMES AUSTIN TRIO JAZZ**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15**  
**3:00 P.M.**

Don't miss this afternoon of Jazz including interpretations of the songs of Stevie Wonder, alongside originals and standards performed by the James Austin Trio. In person. Registration required.

## Bookmobile & Outreach

Check out the Bookmobile schedule by scanning the QR code below to find a stop near you.



**At Home Services** is not just for seniors. New baby at home? No vehicle? Health or mobility issues? We bring library services to your door!



A library delivery service for Monroe residents welcoming a new child—by birth, adoption or foster care.



For a complete listing of all programs, detailed descriptions, and to register, visit [www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar) or scan the QR code. Questions? Call (732) 521-5000.

# FEBRUARY 2026 AT A GLANCE

WED	4	11:00	Book Café	In Person
WED	4	1:00	Book Café	In Person
WED	4	1:00	Princeton Symphony Orchestra	In Person
WED	4	7:30	Sourdough Basics: Sourdough Flatbread	Online
THU	5	7:00	Author Talk: Vanessa Riley	Online
FRI	6	10:30 - 12:00	Sit-N-Stitch	In Person
FRI	6	2:00 - 4:00	Mahjong Club	In Person
SUN	8	2:30	Family Karaoke	In Person
SUN	8	2:30	Family Karaoke	In Person
MON	9	11:00 - 12:30	Poetry Workshop	In Person
MON	9	3:00 - 5:00	Open Sewing	In Person
MON	9	7:00	Women Writers Book Discussion Group	In Person
TUE	10	1:00	The State Opera of NJ Performance Lecture	In Person
TUE	10	3:30	Photography Club	In Person
TUE	10	5:00	Mix & Mingle Social for Adults with Special Needs	In Person
WED	11	11:00 - 12:30	Caregiver Support Group	In Person
WED	11	12:30 - 2:30	Creative Writing Workshop	In Person
WED	11	2:00	Harriet Tubman Living History	In Person
WED	11	3:00 - 5:00	Crafty Creations: Quilling	In Person
WED	11	6:30 - 8:00	Microsoft Excel Worksheet Basics	In Person
WED	11	7:30	Seared Scallops over Creamy Polenta	Online
THU	12	2:00	Author Talk: Lindsey Stewart	Online
THU	12	2:30	International Film Discussion <i>The Marriage Escape</i>	Online
THU	12	3:00	The Music Lounge	In Person
THU	12	6:30 - 8:30	Open Sewing	In Person
FRI	13	3:00	Banned Book Discussion Group	In Person
SAT	14	11:00	Recycle My Battery	Hybrid
SUN	15	3:00	James Austin Trio Jazz	In Person
MON	16		<i>Library Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	
TUE	17	11:00	Coffee and a Book	Hybrid
TUE	17	2:30 - 4:00	Healthy Eating with Thirsty Radish	In Person
WED	18	2:30	World Cinema Wednesday <i>The Rose Maker</i>	In Person
WED	18	3:00 - 4:30	Getting Started with Computers	In Person
WED	18	6:00	\$10 Meal Challenge	Online
WED	18	6:30 - 8:00	Getting Started with Computers	In Person
WED	18	7:00	Caregiver Support Group	Online
WED	18	7:30	Breathwork Basics	Online
THU	19	11:00	Page Turners	Hybrid
FRI	20	10:30 - 12:00	Sit-N-Stitch	In Person
SAT	21	11:00	Medicare 101	In Person
MON	23	2:00	Non-Fiction Book Discussion	In Person
MON	23	6:30	Sidewalk Astronomy	In Person
TUE	24	2:00	Author Talk: Smithsonian Institution Curator	Online
TUE	24	2:00	Friends of the Library Board Meeting	In Person
TUE	24	6:30	Library Board of Trustees Meeting	In Person
WED	25	3:00 - 4:30	Internet Basics	In Person
WED	25	6:00 - 8:00	Crafty Creations: Quilling	In Person
WED	25	6:30 - 8:00	Internet Basics	In Person
THU	26	2:00	Short Story Discussion Group	In Person
THU	26	6:30 - 8:30	Sew a Cork Wallet	In Person
FRI	27	11:00	All You Need Is Love Book Club	Hybrid
FRI	27	2:30	Friday Afternoon Movie <i>My Girl</i>	In Person
SAT	28	10:30	Chess With a Champ	In Person
SAT	28	11:30 - 1:30	Chess Tournament	In Person

**For a complete listing of all programs, detailed descriptions, and to register, visit [www.monroewplibrary.org/calendar](http://www.monroewplibrary.org/calendar) or scan the QR code. Questions? Call (732) 521-5000.**