

# MAY 2026 HAPPENINGS



## REVOLUTION TO REPUBLIC SATURDAY, MAY 2 1:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.



Monroe Township Historian **John Katerba** and **Kyle Johansson** present Monroe's role during the American Revolution, serving not only as the headquarters for Revolutionary soldiers on the eve of the Battle of Monmouth, but also illustrating how the Township helped serve as a cornerstone of the American Republic. In person. Registration required.

## NEW JERSEY MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION MOBILE UNIT TUESDAY, MAY 5 9:30 A.M. - 2:45 P.M.



The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission is bringing their services to you! Available services include REAL ID, registration renewal and non-driver ID. The Mobile Unit is wheelchair accessible and will be in the Library's parking lot. Appointments are required.

## INDO-AMERICAN MONTH THURSDAY, MAY 7 2:30 P.M.



This presentation on two major Hindu holiday celebrations of Holi, the "Festival of Colors", the arrival of spring, and the triumph of good over evil and Diwali, the "Festival of Lights," the spiritual victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. In person. Registration required.



## ELDER FRAUD CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS FRIDAY, MAY 8 1:00 P.M.

Presented by **Anicee Monfleury**, ISC2 NJ Chapter, this information session will help seniors recognize warning signs and avoid fraud, including romance scams, grandparent scams, tech support scams, and Medicare fraud. In person. Registration required.



## THE CLEARING METHOD SATURDAY, MAY 9 2:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Transform anxiety and stress to inner peace. **Meryl Hayton**, Inner Peace Specialist, advanced EFT Tapping Practitioner, Registered Yoga Teacher, Reiki Practitioner, and Meditation Facilitator presents EFT Tapping (Emotional Freedom Techniques) to calm your mind and body. In person. Registration required.



## BOOK SALE THURSDAY, MAY 14 *preview sale* 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 15 & 16 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Purchase gently-used books at bargain prices. Attend the preview sale on Thursday for a \$5 admission fee. Most books are priced between 25¢ and \$2.00. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Monroe Township Library.

# Continuing Programs

## Family Karaoke

**Sunday, May 3, 2:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not required.*

## Open Mic Night

**Monday, May 4, 6:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Mahjong Club (Chinese Style)

**Friday, May 8, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Poetry Workshop

**Monday, May 11, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Photography Club

**Tuesday, May 12, 3:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not required.*

## Mix & Mingle Social for Adults with Special Needs

**Tuesday, May 12, 5:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Creative Writing Workshop

**Wednesday, May 13, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Genealogy Club *special session*

### Obituary Writing Workshop

**Wednesday, May 13, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## The Music Lounge

**Thursday, May 14, 3:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*Bonnie Raitt*

## Magic the Gathering Casual Gaming **NEW!**

**Sunday, May 17, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not 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 Word Basics

**Tuesday, May 5**

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m. OR 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Getting Started with Computers

**Thursday, May 7**

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m. OR 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Microsoft Excel Worksheet Basics

**Thursday, May 21, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Internet Basics

**Thursday, May 28**

**3:00 - 4:30 p.m. OR 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

# Support Groups

## Bereavement Support Group

**Monday, May 4, 1:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Caregiver Support Group

**Wednesday, May 13**

**11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Spouse Caregiver Support Group

**Wednesday, May 20, 11:00 a.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

## Caregiver Support Group

**Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 p.m.**

*Online. Registration required.*

## A Time for Me Caregiver Support Group

**Thursday, May 21, 11:00 a.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*



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, May 6**

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

*In person. Registration required.*

## Women Writers Book Discussion Group

**Monday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett*

## Literary Book Club

**Thursday, May 14, 11:00 a.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*The Secret History by Donna Tartt*

## Non-Fiction Book Discussion

**Monday, May 18, 2:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*Rogues: True Stories of Grifters, Killers, Rebels and Crooks by Patrick Radden Keefe*

## Cozy Mystery Book Club

**Tuesday, May 19, 11:00 a.m.**

*Hybrid. Registration required.*

*Detective Aunty by Uzma Jalaluddin*

## Page Turners

**Thursday, May 21, 11:00 a.m.**

*Hybrid. Registration required.*

*Asian and Pacific Islander month*

## Short Story Discussion Group

**Thursday, May 28, 2:00 p.m.**

*In person. Registration required.*

*"Taking Care" by Joy Williams in The Penguin Book of the Modern American Short Story*

*"Black-Eyed Women" by Viet Thanh Nguyen*



# Virtual Author Talks

The library showcases a virtual author talk series each month featuring bestselling, award-winning, and highly acclaimed authors from around the world. The featured writers and thought leaders will cover a wide range of genres.

Register, submit questions to the authors, view upcoming author talks and previously recorded content at:



[www.monroetwplibrary.org/authortalks](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/authortalks)

## Marjan Kamali

**Thursday, May 7, 7:00 p.m.**

Join internationally acclaimed author Marjan Kamali for a discussion about her *New York Times* bestselling novel, *The Lion Women of Tehran*.

## Dr. Vivienne Ming

**Tuesday, May 12, 2:00 p.m.**

Join us for a timely conversation on AI, humanity, and the next steps towards building a better future with self-proclaimed "mad scientist" Dr. Vivienne Ming as we discuss her new book, *Robot-Proof: When Machines Have All the Answers, Build Better People*.

## Nir Eyal

**Tuesday, May 19, 2:00 p.m.**

Most of your limits aren't physical. They're psychological. In *Beyond Belief*, Nir Eyal reveals how the hidden assumptions you carry shape what you see, how you feel, and what you do—and how to replace them with beliefs that unlock your true potential.



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

## Design Your Own Sequined Pillowcase

Sunday, May 3, 12:00 p.m. OR

Monday, May 4, 2:00 p.m.

*In person. Registration required. Register for one session.*

## Crafty Creations: Polymer Clay Keyring

Wednesday, May 6, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

*In person. Registration required.*

## Meet Your Sewing Machine

Monday, May 11, 3:00 p.m. OR

Thursday, May 21, 6:30 p.m.

*In person. Registration required.*

## Sit-N-Stitch

Friday, May 15, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*In person. Registration not required.*

## Make It: Beaded Wind Chimes

Monday, May 18, 3:00 p.m.

*In person. Registration required.*

## Sewing Project Class: Sewing Machine Organizer

Thursday, May 28, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

*In person. Registration required.*



Creativebug is an online learning platform that offers a variety of arts and crafts video workshops. Learn techniques in areas such as painting, knitting, crocheting, sewing, and screen printing. Craft from the comfort of your own home. All you need is an internet connection and your library card! Visit [www.monroetwplibrary.org/databases](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/databases).



# Library Chef



## LIBRARY CHEF

Join  
-US-

Exciting Live  
Online Classes  
this MAY



Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

7:30 PM ET | 6:30 PM CT  
4:30 PM PT

### Break a Chicken

Learn how to break down a whole chicken safely and efficiently, perfect for meal prep or mastering kitchen skills.



Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

7:30 PM ET | 6:30 PM CT  
4:30 PM PT

### Keto Lifestyle basics

A quick, engaging snapshot of keto—what it is, how it works, what you eat, and how to build simple meals to see if it fits your goals.



Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

7:30 PM ET | 6:30 PM CT  
4:30 PM PT

### Zippy Dill Potato Salad

Discover the best type of potatoes for a zesty dill potato salad and learn tips for creating this classic, flavorful dish.



Enhance your kitchen skills with expert-led classes, from the comfort of your home with **Library Chef** for adults, teens and kids.

All recipes, instructions, and equipment lists are available on the Library Chef platform. It's free and easy to join—just visit [app.librarychef.com](http://app.librarychef.com) or scan the QR code to create your account or sign in if you already have one! No Zoom required—just great cooking and fun!

SCAN ME



If you miss an event, our archive keeps the culinary adventure alive for you to explore at your convenience.



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.

# Film

**World Cinema Wednesday**  
**Wednesday, May 6, 2:30 p.m.**

*In person. Registration not required.*  
*Little Forest (2018, Korea)*

**International Film Discussion**  
**Thursday, May 14, 2:30 p.m.**

*Online. Registration required.*  
*Citizens of the World (2019, Italy)*

**Friday Afternoon Movie**  
*will return in June*



Stream movies, documentaries, TV shows and more from your library with the Kanopy app!

**STEP 1 | INSTALL KANOPY** 

Install Kanopy on your device or visit [Kanopy.com](http://Kanopy.com). Then follow the prompts to find your library, enter your library card and create an account.

**STEP 2 | SEARCH** 

View your library's curated lists of films on the home tab, browse by category or search for specific titles.

**STEP 3 | WATCH** 

Tap play  to begin streaming. Things you watch use Tickets. Each month you receive a set number of tickets from your Library.

**STEP 4 | ENJOY** 

Unfinished movies appear in My Lists alongside titles you add to your Watchlist.



For more help with Kanopy, visit [help.kanopy.com](http://help.kanopy.com)

# Golf Outing



**Save the Date!**

3rd Annual  
MONROE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY FOUNDATION  
**GOLF OUTING**  
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2026

Join us for a day of fun and friendly competition on the greens with luncheon and raffle to follow.

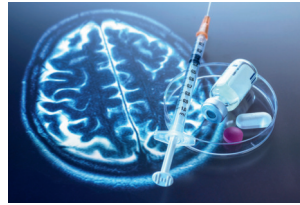
**COST PER PERSON \$125**

 Greenbriar Golf Course  
 [www.monroetwplibrary.org/golf](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/golf)  
 Rain Date: Monday, June 15



SCAN ME

# Health Program



**SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 22**  
**3:00 P.M.**

The Middlesex County Office of Health Services will present the risks and preventative factors for substance use, local trends, resources available in our community, and more! In person. Registration required.

**Magic the Gathering Casual Gaming**  
**Sunday, May 17, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
*In person. Registration not required.*

**NEW!**



**MAGIC THE GATHERING**

*Casual Gaming*



**Sunday, May 17th at 2pm**

Bring a deck and play others in a casual setting.

Ages: Adults and Teens; 13+.  
No registration.



Monroe Township Public Library  
4 Municipal Plaza  
Monroe Township NJ 08831



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.

# On Display

## Lobby Display Case

Check out the display celebrating Indo American month throughout the month of May.

## Fine Arts Gallery

The photography of **Sherwin James** will be on display throughout May and June 2026. This showcase will focus on nature, primarily local to New Jersey.

# Cultural Arts

**Tuesday, June 9, 2:00 p.m.**



The Forgotten History of Archibald Willard's **Spirit of '76**

**Tuesday June 9 2pm**

An Art History Presentation With Professor James J. Kimble

Archibald Willard's iconic painting "Spirit of '76" was created as part of the centennial celebrations in 1876 and has since become one of the central images we associate with the Revolutionary War, despite emerging 100 years after the events it depicts.

How do images like these convey information about the values, feelings and ideas they represent? How do these meanings change over time? Why does this picture in particular continue to have appeal as a representation of the American Revolution?

This talk will be given by James J. Kimble, Professor of Communication, Media & Arts at Seton Hall University. Co-sponsored by the Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission.

Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission  
www.monroetownshiparts.com

REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
Opens on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am online at  
[www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar)  
or by phone at (732) 521-5000

MONROE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY  
4 Municipal Plaza 08831

Visit the Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission website at [www.monroetownshiparts.com](http://www.monroetownshiparts.com) or scan the QR code for information on all Cultural Arts events and sign up for the eNewsletter. *Music in the Park* summer concert series information is coming soon!



SCAN ME

# Meetings

## Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 6:30 p.m.

## Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 26, 3:00 p.m.

# Calling All Artists

Are you an artist, photographer, or collector? The Monroe Township Public Library is actively seeking artists and collectors to display their work in the Library.

Complete the exhibit application, available at the Circulation Desk or on our website.

The Library Board of Trustees will approve future displays at the Library Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2026. We are now booking the Lobby Display Case for winter 2026 and the Fine Arts Gallery for summer 2027.



# Calling All Artists

Submit an application to display your work or collection.

YOUTH SERVICES DISPLAY CASE

FINE ARTS

LOBBY DISPLAY CASE

MONROE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY



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.

The Library will be closed on Friday, May 1 for Staff Training and Sunday, May 24 & Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day.

## Pop-Up Shops

**POP-UP SHOP**  
@ Monroe Twp Library

Saturday, May 9  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**AREVA ESSENTIALS**  
HANDCRAFTED NON-TOXIC AND PARABEN FREE SKIN CARE PRODUCTS INCLUDING CREAMS AND LOTIONS

**KINDFLAMES**  
CANDLES CRAFTED WITH ORGANIC, ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MATERIALS



**POP-UP SHOP**  
@ Monroe Twp Library

Saturday, May 16  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**THE PAMPERED CHEF**  
Quality and innovative kitchen and entertaining products designed for home cooking, entertaining, baking and make great hostess gifts



The Monroe Township Library Foundation provides Pop-Up Shop rental space on select Saturdays between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Local residents who have their own direct sales businesses are welcome. This space is not intended to sell a service. Applications are available in the library and at [www.monroetwplibrary.org/popup-shops](http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/popup-shops)

## Bookmobile & Outreach

We bring library services to you!

### Monroe Township Public Library **AT HOME SERVICES**

Unable to visit the library?

At Home Services ensures you stay connected to the resources you love.

#### Why choose home delivery

- Health or mobility issues
- Sensory sensitivities
- Recovery from surgery
- Lack of transportation
- Immunocompromised conditions
- Special needs
- Vision impairment
- Other life circumstances



#### What We Offer

- Personalized selection of books, audiobooks, DVDs and more
- Regular deliveries and pickups at your doorstep
- Notary services by appointment
- Talking Book and Braille
- Temporary or permanent service



Available to all Monroe Township residents  
Contact us for more details:

732-521-5000 ext. 135 | [ahs@monroetwplibrary.org](mailto:ahs@monroetwplibrary.org)



Scan the QR code for a schedule and more info.



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

MTPL



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.

# MAY 2026 AT A GLANCE

FRI	1		Library Closed	
SAT	2	1:00 - 2:30	Revolution to Republic: Monroe's Role in the Revolution	In person
SUN	3	12:00	Design Your Own Sequin Pillowcase	In person
SUN	3	2:30	Family Karaoke	In person
MON	4	1:00	Bereavement Support Group	In person
MON	4	2:00	Design Your Own Sequin Pillowcase	In person
MON	4	6:30	Open Mic Night	In person
TUE	5	9:30 - 2:45	New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Mobile Unit	In person
TUE	5	3:00 - 4:30	Microsoft Word Basics	In person
TUE	5	6:30 - 8:00	Microsoft Word Basics	In person
WED	6	11:00	Book Café	In person
WED	6	1:00	Book Café	In person
WED	6	2:30 - 5:00	World Cinema Wednesday <i>Little Forest</i>	In person
WED	6	6:00 - 8:00	Crafty Creations: Polymer Clay Keyring	In person
WED	6	7:30	Break a Chicken	Online
THU	7	2:30	Indo-American Month Celebration	In person
THU	7	3:00 - 4:30	Getting Started with Computers	In person
THU	7	6:30 - 8:00	Getting Started with Computers	In person
THU	7	7:00	Virtual Author Talk: Marjan Kamali	Online
FRI	8	1:00	Elder Fraud Cybersecurity Awareness	In person
FRI	8	2:00 - 4:00	Mahjong Club	In person
SAT	9	10:00 - 4:00	Pop-Up Shop: <i>Areva Essentials &amp; Kindflames</i>	In person
SAT	9	2:30 - 4:00	The Clearing Method	In person
MON	11	11:00 - 12:30	Poetry Workshop	In person
MON	11	3:00	Meet Your Sewing Machine	In person
MON	11	7:00	Women Writers Book Discussion Group	In person
TUE	12	2:00	Virtual Author Talk: Dr. Vivienne Ming	Online
TUE	12	3:30	Photography Club	In person
TUE	12	5:00	Mix & Mingle	In person
WED	13	11:00 - 12:30	Caregiver Support Group	In person
WED	13	12:30 - 2:30	Creative Writing Workshop	In person
WED	13	2:00 - 3:30	Obituary Writing Workshop	In person
WED	13	7:30	Keto Lifestyle Basics	Online
THU	14	11:00	Literary Book Club	In person
THU	14	2:30	International Film Discussion <i>Citizens of the World</i>	Online
THU	14	3:00	The Music Lounge	In person
THU	14	5:00 - 7:00	Book Sale Preview Night	In person
FRI	15	10:00 - 4:00	Book Sale	In person
FRI	15	10:30 - 12:00	Sit-N-Stitch	In person
SAT	16	10:00 - 4:00	Book Sale	In person
SAT	16	10:00 - 4:00	Pop-Up Shop <i>Pampered Chef</i>	In person
SUN	17	2:00 - 4:00	Magic the Gathering Casual Play	In person
MON	18	2:00	Non-Fiction Book Discussion	In person
MON	18	3:00	Make It <i>Beaded Wind Chimes</i>	In person
TUE	19	11:00	Cozy Mystery Book Club	Hybrid
TUE	19	2:00	Virtual Author Talk: Nir Eyal	Online
TUE	19	6:30	Library Board of Trustees Meeting	In person
WED	20	11:00	Spouse Caregiver Support Group	In person
WED	20	7:00	Caregiver Support Group	Online
WED	20	7:30	Zippy Dill Potato Salad	Online
THU	21	11:00	Page Turners	Hybrid
THU	21	11:00	A Time for Me Caregivers Support Group	In person
THU	21	6:30 - 8:00	Microsoft Excel Basics	In person
THU	21	6:30	Meet Your Sewing Machine	In person
FRI	22	3:00	Substance Abuse Prevention	In person
SUN	24		Library Closed	
MON	25		Library Closed	
TUE	26	3:00	Friends of the Library Board Meeting	In person
THU	28	2:00	Short Story Discussion Group	In person
THU	28	3:00 - 4:30	Internet Basics	In person
THU	28	6:30 - 8:00	Internet Basics	In person
THU	28	6:30 - 8:30	Sewing Project Class: Sewing Machine Organizer	In person



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.