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101 Washington St., Toms River, NJ 08753-7625 Telephone: 732-349-6200 <u>www.theoceancountylibrary.org</u> Susan Quinn, Director June 4, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

WHAT: Jonathan Edwards ConcertWHEN: 7 p.m. Friday June 19WHERE: Toms River library branch, 101 Washington Street

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Jonathan Edwards to perform at TR library branch

TOMS RIVER – Ocean County Library's Toms River branch, 101 Washington Street, will host Jonathan Edwards Folk and Americana concert 7 p.m. Friday June 19 for children, teens and adults.

Jonathan Edwards began his solo performances in the 1970s. His popularity was cemented with the 1971 release of his song "Sunshine." He has since opened for national acts including the Allman Brothers Band and B.B. King.

Edwards draws on his life experiences for song development. In 1987 he focused on his daughter Grace when creating the album "Little Hands: Songs for and about Children." The album was honored by the National Library Association.

Edwards recent project was a pair of 13-week documentary series, "Cruising America's Waterways," produced for PBS.

An artist who measures his success by his ability to attract and take good care of an audience for four decades, he says that it is the feedback he receives after his shows that keeps him going.

"Sometimes, in our darker moments, we imagine our music not finding receptive ears, unable to reach open hearts. So it is really gratifying to hear someone say, 'Your stuff has meant a lot to me over the years,'" he said.

Now in his fifth decade performing, Edwards continues to evolve as a song writer, with no sign of letting up. He continues to make good on that promise he made back in 1971, "Sunshine, come back another day... I promise you I'll still be singing."

The program is free and open to the public but registration is required. To register telephone the branch 732-349-6200 or 609-971-0514 or go to the library website: www.theoceancountylibrary.org.