

Hello Summer!

We hope everyone enjoyed their Independence Day celebrations. The Berkeley Branch has been full of so many faces lately. Programs are bursting at the seams. Books are flying off the Book Sale shelves ... and regular checkout shelves too! It's great to see the library so full of activity!

Our next meeting will be Monday September 11th at 7pm.

Fundraising ... our fundraisers, dues, and generous donations help to support programs and events at the Berkeley Branch. The Berkeley Branch receives a small budget for programming from the library system itself. With the help of the Friends of the Berkeley Library, we are able to supplement their budget and offer many extras, programs, and events that go beyond the established OCL programming budget - such as Winter and Summer Reading Prizes, floral arranging, children's toys, Unique Creatures, and much more! Please help support and share our fundraisers, as well as attend the many events and programs the Berkeley Branch hosts each month.

Through September 5th we are hosting a Summer Bag O Book Sales. Bring your own regular size reusable shopping bag and fill it with books for \$5! Please share with family and friends. These book sales are our biggest fundraisers throughout the year. We are accepting donations of children's and fiction books. We are fully stocked on nonfiction.

The Fall Psychic Night will be Thursday October 12th. We will have 4 of our favorite psychics returning. \$30 for a 15 minute appointment.

Here is a snippet of events that are happening at our branch as well as a few that are sponsored by The Friends of the Berkeley Library. Please contact the library at 732-269-2144 or register at www.theoceancountylibrary.org to register or have questions. Please stop in the branch or view the website for many other events and programs happening at the branch.

The Ocean County Library's 2023 Summer Reading Challenge theme is All Together Now. Registration will take place from June 1st – September 15th. You can begin logging books on June 5th. The last day to log books for the challenge is September 15th. To earn your completion badge read or listen to 5 books. Keep track of your Summer Reading book log by logging on to the Ocean County Library Reading Challenge Site or the Beanstack mobile app. If you need assistance navigating the Reading Challenge, please ask for help at the Berkeley Branch. The Friends of the Berkeley Library are sponsoring 4 prizes - adult, teen, childrens 0-5 years old and 6-11 years old. Happy Reading!

Thursdays 1pm: Mah Jongg: Join our Mah Jongg mavens for weekly play on Thursdays. Players must bring their own set and current card. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Berkeley Library.

Thursday July 6th 10:30am - Nifty Nature NikNaks: Learn about nature and our local environment, the NJ Pinelands. Get to see and touch fascinating animal artifacts, like deer antlers, turtle shells, animal furs, skulls, and more. A naturalist from Jakes Branch County Park will present each object and encourage group discussions. Ages 6 and up. Please Register.

Monday July 10th, Wednesday July 19th, & Monday July 24th 11am - Reading Buddies: Join the Berkeley Branch SAIL Teens as they help your child, grades K-3, develop confidence in their reading skills. Please register as space is limited.

Monday July 10th 6:30pm - Surfin' Ron Albanese's Pineapple Time Show: This is an all-ages, celebratory, and super-interactive "all together now" type of show, where everyone joins in to sing, dance, and laugh along! With cool tunes and lots of improv comedy, it's going to be the show of the summer! Please Register

Wednesday July 12th 10:30am - Teen Take Over Shark Week Story Time: Join enthusiastic teen volunteers as they host a Shark Week™ story time and craft for early readers. Please register.

Thursday July 13th 5:30pm - Lumpia Making for Teens: Learn to make lumpia with The Filipino-American Community & Development Center of Ocean County Inc. Lumpia are a delicious type of spring roll, popular in Filipino cooking. They can be sweet or savory and can be eaten as an appetizer, main course, or snack. Food may contain potential allergens. Registration required.

Friday July 14th 10:30am - Snow Queen Storytime: Meet the beautiful Snow Queen and enjoy stories, songs, and activities. Sponsored by the Friends of the Berkeley Library. Please Register

Tuesday July 18th 4pm - Paws for Reading: Practice your reading skills in the company of gentle therapy dogs.

Tuesday July 18th 6:30pm - Acoustic Jam Session: Bring an instrument and play with other musicians. All styles and skill levels are welcome.

Thursday July 20th 6:30pm - Teen Movie Night: Watch a movie and enjoys snacks with other teens and tweens. The film will be selected on July 20th.

Saturday July 22nd 10am - Playtime Fun: Drop-in anytime between 10 am –11:30 am to play with our toys, socialize with other kids, and more! This is a great place for parents and caregivers to make new friends and have fun. Ages 1 – 4.

Monday July 24th 6:30pm - Service Dogs: Puppy Raisers from Canine Companions for Independence will show you what it takes to train dogs to become important helpers. You will get a chance to meet some of these impressive hard working dogs. Please Register

Wednesday July 26th 6pm - The Strictly 60s Band: The Strictly 60's Band is a group of musicians dedicated to giving its listeners the best songs and sounds of the 1960s. The Strictly 60's Band will take you on a musical journey with a spectacular playlist in a wide variety of styles including British Invasion, Motown, Rock and Roll, Soul, Surf, and some Doo Wop and R&B. They also incorporate trivia, musical facts, and an interactive sing along to their performance.

Thursday July 27th 1pm - Sidewalk Chalk: Express your creativity outside on our sidewalks. Weather permitting.

Saturday July 29th 3pm - Book Page Flowers: Learn how to create beautiful flowers out of book pages.

Wednesday August 2nd 2pm - Whalemobile Meet Nile the Humpback Whale: Nile, the life-sized inflatable humpback whale is coming to your library. Learn about how whales and humans are similar and different, and touch baleen, teeth, and bones. All family members between ages 5 and 12 must register separately. Please call the branch at 732-269-2144 to register. Ages 5 - 12. Registration is Required.

Thursday August 3rd 1pm - Leaf Printing: Learn how and why leaves change color. A little finger paint and a lot of leaves are all it takes to make a colorful print to prepare for fall. Sponsored by the Friends of the Berkeley Library. Ages 5 – 8. Registration Required

As always, Barbara, Linda, and myself thank each of you for your support. Please consider inviting a family member or friend to join the Friends of the Berkeley Library. Dues are only \$10 a year! If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sunny wishes,

Melissa