



Mount Laurel  
Library

# Newsletter and Program Guide

Vol. 35, Issue 2 February 2026



## ADULTS

### Blind Date with a Book

February is Library Lovers Month! Expand your reading repertoire and go on a "blind date" with a book by checking out one of the staff selected titles from our collection. Each book will be wrapped in brown paper with clues written on the front to help you make the right choice.

### 2nd Sunday Concert Series Featuring: Sustainable Jazz

#### **Sunday, February 8 2pm**

Based in Princeton, NJ, Steve Hiltner and Phil Orr, the Sustainable Jazz Ensemble, perform original compositions ranging in style from jazz to samba to funk, combining fresh melodies, inventive arrangements, and improvisation. Their music is fun for the whole family.

### Strength & Conditioning \*Virtual

#### **Mondays, February 2, 9, 23 6PM**

Join Harman Ransi in his beginner-friendly resistance training course. The class will teach fundamental stretches and weighted exercises to build flexibility and muscle. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.



### Knit and Crochet

#### **Mondays, February 2, 9, 23 6:30PM**

#### **Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 1PM**

#### **Fridays, February 6, 13, 20, 27 1PM**

Like to Knit or Crochet? Come and join this friendly group. Beginners to experts are welcome. Please bring your own materials. No registration required.



### Silent Book Club

#### **Mondays, February 9, 23 6:30PM**

Are you looking for a cozy spot to read in companionable silence? The first half hour will be set aside to share and socialize; the next hour will be quiet reading. We will provide comfortable seating and refreshments. No registration required.



### Dance Class: Rumba

#### **Tuesday, February 24 7PM**

Fight the winter blues with a fun dance class! Stop in the library for a beginners' dance lesson. Diane from Dances by Diane will be here teaching the Rumba. Have some fun and get yourself moving. No registration required.

### Introduction to Angel Cards

#### **Tuesday, February 3 6PM**

Angel cards are tools for spiritual guidance, featuring positive imagery and uplifting messages related to angels. Learning to read angel cards is an intuitive process focused on receiving positive spiritual guidance and clarity by trusting yourself and connecting to the cards. Registration Required.

### Romantasy Book Club

#### **Friday, February 13 5:30PM**

Calling all Romantasy fans! Our book club will meet on Fridays every six weeks, from 5:30-6:30. Come along to engage in book discussions with fellow Romantasy readers and enjoy refreshments. This month we will be discussing Alix E. Harrow's The Everlasting. Registration Required.

**The Library will be CLOSED Monday, February 16, 2026**



## Mah Jong

**Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24 1PM**

Mahjong is a fun and popular tile-based game of strategy, skill, and lots of luck. Some experience recommended. Bring your National Mahjong League 2025 card and a Mahjong set (if you have one). No registration required.

## Mindful Meditation \*Virtual

**Wednesdays, February 4, 18 10AM**

Join an experienced meditation instructor and relax your mind and body. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link to the meeting a day prior to the event.

## Tai Chi for Health \*Virtual

**Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 4PM**

Tai Chi is a gentle exercise that can improve muscle tone, flexibility, and coordination. It can be done sitting or standing. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before the event.

## ESL Conversation Class with NJ Literacy

**Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 6PM-8PM**

For upper-level beginner to lower-level intermediate learners. To register for free classes through NJ Literacy, please fill out an application on their website at <https://literacynj.org/become-a-student/?county=Burlington>, or text them at 609-388-1506. They will contact you and place you in an appropriate class for your learning level. This class is for adults only (18+).



## Yin Yoga

**Wednesdays, February 4, 25 7PM**

Join us for a beginner-friendly yoga class focused on restorative principles, with an emphasis on relieving stress and muscular tension, and maximizing range of movement. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one – a small number will be available to borrow. Registration required.

## Magic the Gathering Night

**Thursday, February 26 6PM**

New and experienced players welcome. Commander has been the most popular format for experienced players at these events. A librarian will be available to teach you the rules. No registration required.



## Dungeons & Dragons

**Thurs., February 5, 12, 19, 26 6PM**

Come and join one of the adventures in the original roleplaying game. 5E ruleset. New and experienced players welcome. Registration required.



## Crystal Bowl Sound Bath Meditation Sounds by a Fire

**Tuesday, February 17 7PM**

Join us for an immersive sound bath meditation in an hour of harmonic crystal bowl sound frequencies for mind, body, and soul healing. Please bring your pillow, yoga mat and/or blanket. Chairs will be available for those who choose not to lie down on the floor. Registration required.



## Scrabble Club

**Tuesday, February 10 6PM**

Join us for evening of Scrabble, perfect for word game enthusiasts of all skill levels. Scrabble boards and all necessary materials will be provided. Bring your friends or make new connections while enjoying a friendly game of Scrabble! **No registration required.**

## Chair Yoga \*Virtual

**Wednesdays, February 11, 25 10AM**

This class will teach guided breathing, simple physical stretches, and meditation. The exercises are safe for all levels. Registration required. You will receive a link to the meeting a day prior to the event.

## Music Program: Love Songs

**Thursday, February 19 7PM \*Virtual**

This meeting will be a belated Valentine to the love song, a heart-shaped jukebox featuring the Great American Song Book, The Beatles, soul music, and much more. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link.

## Mardi Gras Party!

### A Presentation on Mardi Gras Traditions

**Thursday, February 12 1PM**

Parade floats. Second-line marches. Bead throws. Feathered Indian costumes. It's Carnival season in New Orleans! Fat Tuesday is right around the corner, so join Big Chief Paul Howe as he celebrates Mardi Gras with a presentation of breathtaking images, fascinating facts, and (of course) that jazzy, funky, joyous music. *Laissez les bon temps rouler!* No registration required.

## Chess Club

**Saturdays, February 7, 21 2PM**

Come play Chess at the library! New and experienced players welcome. We'll provide chess boards, but feel free to bring your own if you like. Registration not required.

## ADULTS

### Film Forum: \*Virtual The Lady Eve

#### **Thursday, February 5 7PM**

One of the great “screwball” comedies by Preston Sturges, one of America’s wittiest screenwriters and directors, featuring a beautiful woman (Barbara Stanwyck) who schemes to con a naïve millionaire’s son (Henry Fonda) out of a fortune. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link before the program.

### Saturday Matinee: Wicked

#### **Saturday, February 7 1PM**

A visually stunning musical that tells the untold story of the witches of Oz. Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo) is a misunderstood young woman who has yet to discover her true power, while Glinda (Ariana Grande) is a popular and privileged student who has yet to discover her true heart. PG. 2hrs 40min. Free popcorn and snacks provided. No registration required.

### Foreign Film: The Lives of Others

#### **Sunday, February 15 1PM-4PM**

This intense drama is set in East Berlin in 1984 and focuses on a special officer on the secret Stasi police force who spies on a playwright and his actress partner, suspecting them of anti-state activities. His surveillance leads to a fascination with their daily lives that affects him in unexpected ways. Sebastian Koch, Martina Gedeck, and Ulrich Muhler star. 137 min. 2006. In German with English subtitles. R (Sexual situations, nudity, violence.) No registration.

### Poetry Discussion: \*Virtual

#### Centuries of Love Poems

#### **Thursday, February 12 7PM**

We'll examine several ways poets have devised to express their love throughout the ages. A packet containing a selection of the poems will be sent out by email before our meeting. This discussion is led by Paul Howe. Registration Required. You will receive a Zoom link before the event.

### Let's Put Some Wild in Your Yard

#### **Saturday, February 21 11:00AM**

Planting some wild meaning, native trees, shrubs and wildflowers, can reduce expenses and time spent on yard work. Plants suitable for your property will be discussed, as well as spaces where you can start small. You will also learn the benefits of gardening more on the wild side. No registration required.

### Book Chat \*Virtual Wild Dark Shore

#### **Wednesday, February 18 7PM**

Join us on Zoom for a discussion of Charlotte McNaughy's Wild Dark Shore, a New York Times bestseller and a Reese's Book Club pick. Register for a Zoom link. You will get a reminder email the evening before.

### Movie Club \*Virtual - Tues., February 18 7PM

The great Sidney Poitier is the focus of this salute to his life and films as an actor and director and as an outspoken leader and activist. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. Registration is required, you will receive a Zoom link upon registration and again the evening before the event.

### Downsizing Heirlooms and Collectables

#### **Saturday, February 28 2PM**

Learn how to assess your items, ask the right questions, and understand the different options you have as you decide what to keep and what to let go. Registration required.

## ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

### Programs for Adults with Disabilities

Note that the Library does not provide respite care; caregivers are required to stay with adults who need them. Adults who do not require a caregiver are also welcome to attend. Ages 18+ only.

### Arts & Crafts for Adults with Disabilities

#### **Tuesday, February 3, 10:30AM and Wednesday February 18, 10:30AM**

Fun arts & crafts class designed for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We may be using materials such as clay and paint that can get messy, so please wear appropriate clothing! Registration required.

### Music for Adults with Disabilities

#### **Thursday, February 26 11:30AM**

Join Mr. Jim Gaven for a fun, interactive music program designed for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This program will include sing-a-longs, guided percussion activities, and sign language through song. Registration required (please register participants only; no need to register for caregivers).

## KIDS EVENTS

Some events require registration. Some events require registration **WITH** a current Mount Laurel Library card. Please check the descriptions in advance to determine what you will need to participate. Many children's programs are designed for children and accompanying adults. Please plan to attend and be engaged with your child for these programs. Drop-offs will not be permitted.



### Storytimes

**Ages 0 – 2 years:**

**Tuesday, February 3, 10, 17, 24**

**10:30AM**

**Ages 2 – 5 years:**

**Wednesday, February 4, 11, 18, 25**

**10:30AM**

**Family all ages:**

**Sunday, February 1, 15 12:30PM**

**La Hora del Cuento (Storytime in Spanish):**

**Tuesday, February 10, 24 4:30PM**

**La Hora del Cuento (Storytime in Spanish):**

**Friday, February 6, 20 11:30AM**

### Caregiver & Me Yoga

**Thursday, February 12 10:30AM**

Connect with your child through yoga! This class incorporates yoga poses, breathing techniques, music, and games in a safe and engaging way. The class is open to children of all abilities, ages 2 – 5 years old. Please bring a mat or towel if possible and come prepared to have fun! Registration for children required (no need to register accompanying caregivers).



### Yoga for Kids

**Wednesday, February 11, 25 4:15PM**

This 45-minute yoga class is designed for kids ages 6 – 8 years old. Students will build strength, balance, and flexibility while promoting body awareness and self-confidence. This class features adaptations like lower lighting, smaller class size, a visual schedule, and fidget toys/tools. Registration required. Please bring a mat or towel if possible.

### Tumblin' Tots

**Thurs., February 5, 19 10:30AM & 11:15AM**

A fun and energetic movement class designed especially for ages 2.5 – 5 years old. Registration with library card required.

### Tots Art Time

**Thursday, February 5, 19 10:30AM**

An art class for the little ones to enjoy with parents and caregivers. Designed for ages 18 months – 3 years old. Registration with library card required.



### Art Workshop

**Tuesday, February 17 4PM**

Join the fabulous and knowledgeable Ms. Susan for a fun art lesson and go home with your own masterpiece! Suitable for kids aged 8-12. Registration required.

### Move & Groove

**Monday, February 2, 9, 23 10:30AM**

Does your little one love to dance, sing, and move? Designed for ages 18 months – 5 years old, this program will give kids a chance to learn new dance moves and get active! No registration required.

### Parent Café

**Wednesday, February 4 1PM**

Parent Cafés are guided group discussions on different topics surrounding parenthood. It is a safe space to be honest about the positives and negatives of parenting, and a good place to build a community and gain support from others. This series of cafés is led by Katie Mannino, Community Alignment Specialist with Connecting NJ. No registration required and children of all ages are welcome to attend with their caregivers. For questions, please email [kmannino@thecooperative.org](mailto:kmannino@thecooperative.org).

### Lunar New Year Celebration!

**Sunday, February 22 1PM**

Join us from 1-2PM for a special concert featuring music and cultural traditions celebrating the Lunar New Year, and from 2-3PM for family-friendly activities and crafts! All ages welcome. No registration required.

## KIDS

### Paws for Reading

**Saturday, February 7**

**11AM, 11:15AM, 11:30AM, 11:45AM**

**Sunday, February 15**

**2PM, 2:15PM, 2:30PM, 2:45PM**

Practice your reading skills with a captive canine audience in a private setting. Bring your favorite book from home or arrive early to choose a book from the Library's collection. Grades K – 4. Please note, sessions are in 15-minute blocks. Registration required.

### Art Time

**Sunday, February 8 2PM**

Miss Susan combines Art History, Literature, Science, and maybe even a little Math! Participants will be exposed to a variety of artists, mediums, and techniques. No experience or supplies necessary! This is a school-aged program for grades Kindergarten and up. A library card is required to register for this event.

## TEENS & TWEENS

### First Chapter Friday

**Friday, February 6 All day**

Wanna hear about a book? Join Ms. Carrie for a selected reading from It's Boba Time for Pearl Li, by Nicole Chen. Pearl Li thought she'd have a low-key summer, crocheting and hanging out with friends, but when financial pressure threatens her aunt's boba shop, Pearl must rise to the challenge! This program will be available on our YouTube account starting the first Friday of the month.



### Student Volunteer Sunday

**Sunday, February 1, 15 2PM**

Join us biweekly for a variety of volunteer service projects to help improve the library. Available for students ages 10-17 (18 if still a student), Volunteer Sundays are a great way to get community service hours and give back to your library. Limited to 12 students per Sunday. Registration required.

### Curbside Crafts

**All month long**

This month, we're making cute little bunny-shaped treat baskets to hold all our Valentines candies! Kits will be available on the table outside of the Youth Services office, starting February 1st, while supplies last. No registration required.



### Which Would Win?

**All month long**

This month, we're hoping to solve a perplexing pickle, which would win: The ability to read minds, or to talk to animals? Stop by the alcove near Juvenile Non-Fiction to cast your vote and make your voice heard. No registration required.



### Drawing Board

**All month long**

Visit the Drawing Board in the juvenile section for step-by-step drawing tutorials. For February, we're drawing SpongeBob's beloved pet snail, Gary. Meow! Stop by the circulation desk for drawing supplies. When you are finished, you can either take your drawing home with you or turn it into the Information Desk to be hung on the Drawing Board. No registration required.

### Literary Horoscope

**All month long**

See what the stars have in store for you, dear reader. Full horoscopes with reading recommendations are available on the slat wall in the teen section. Appropriate for readers ages 14+. No registration required.



### 2025: A Year of Holidays

**All month long**

Located on the wall next to circulation (across from the Holds Shelf), this is a monthly calendar that tells you how to celebrate each day. Celebrate 10 days in a month and collect a small prize. No registration required.

## AARP TAX HELP

Beginning Friday, Feb. 6 and continuing Fridays through tax season, AARP volunteers will be at the Mount Laurel Library to provide free tax help by appointment. **Call the Info Desk to make an appointment at 856-234-7319 x 4333 or use our online events calendar to make your own.**



### Take Your Child to the Library

**Saturday, February 7 10AM-4PM**

On Saturday, February 7, 2026, we are joining thousands of libraries across the world to celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day with fun activities for the whole family. Come take a tour, watch a movie, play a game, make a craft, or join in one of the many fun activities sprinkled throughout the Library.

### Special Event!

#### Jazz Legends with Kahlil Kwame Bell

**Saturday February 14 2:00PM**

Inspired by his children's book celebrating the sounds and stories of jazz, Kahlil Kwame Bell's Jazz Legends program introduces young audiences and families to the world of jazz through music, storytelling, and interactive learning. Using live performance, narrative, and hands-on rhythm demonstrations, Kahlil brings iconic jazz figures and their music to life, showing how creativity, culture, and history intertwine.



### Friends Corner

We have a number of books already but would love to have any books you may need or want to part with. The books could be books you sadly need to part with to make room for new books, because you are downsizing, because your taste in books has changed or because, in the case of children's and young adult books, they are no longer age appropriate for the people in your home.

Our next book sale is scheduled for April 22 to the 25.

Don't forget, for those of you that cannot wait until April we always have our in-house book sale, which is constantly being filled with new books.

Happy Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year. Enjoy Presidents' Day and a blessed Ramadan and Lent.

