



Mount Laurel  
Library

## Newsletter and Program Guide

Vol. 34, Issue 12 December 2025



### ADULTS

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Concert Series Featuring: Harmony Show Choir**

**Sunday, December 7, 2PM**

The Show Choir is a group of high-energy, high-school-age singers. They'll be performing a fun, family-oriented holiday musical revue. No registration required.  
No registration required

#### **Strength & Conditioning \*Virtual** **Mondays, December 1, 8, 15 6PM** **Saturdays, 6, 13, 20 11:30AM**

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 before.

#### **Knit and Crochet** **Monday,**

**December 1,8,15,22,29 6:30PM**  
**Wednesday, December 3,10,17, 1PM**  
**Friday, December 5,12,19,26 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, December 1,15,29 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: The Cha Cha**

**Tuesday, December 16 7:00PM**

Fight the winter blues with a fun dance class! Stop in at the library for a beginner's dance lesson. Diane from Dances by Diane will be here teaching the Cha Cha this Tuesday evening. Have some fun and get yourself moving. No registration required.



#### **Music:** **Jingle Jammin \*Virtual**

**Monday, December 15 7PM**

Our annual selection of holiday pieces, from medieval to modern times. We'll hear seasonal folk tunes, classical compositions, Tin Pan Alley hits and misses, and R & B and R & R obscurities. Hosted by Paul Howe. Registration required. You will receive a zoom link before the event.

**The Library will be CLOSED Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25,  
Wednesday, December 31 and Thursday, January 1.**

Library Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30am - 9pm, Fri. 9:30am-7pm, Sat. 9:30am - 5pm, Sun. 12noon-5pm  
100 Walt Whitman Avenue, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 856-234-7319 [www.mountlaurellibrary.org](http://www.mountlaurellibrary.org)



## Mah Jong

**Tuesday, December 2,9,16, 30 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

**Wednesday, December 3,17 10:00AM**

**Saturday, December 6, 20 10:30AM**

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

## Tai Chi for Health \*Virtual

**Wednesdays, December 3,10,17 4PM**

Certified instructor Bob Stanton teaches tai chi, 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, December 3,10,17 6PM**

This class is 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, December 3,17 7PM**

Join us for a beginner-friendly yoga class led by Monica Walsh, 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.

## Winter Zentangle

**Saturday, December 6 1PM**

Come and color our world with Zentangle! Zentangle is an easy and meditative way to create art through structured patterns. No prior art experience is needed. Registration required.



## Crystal Bowl Sound Bath Meditation Sounds in the Snow

**Saturday, December 6, 2PM**

Join us for an immersive sound bath meditation in an hour of harmonic crystal bowl sound frequencies for mind, body, and soul healing, combined with the ambient sound of gently falling snow that will soothe away your stress and anxieties. 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.



## Dungeons & Dragons

**Thursdays, December 4,11,18 6PM**

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



## Scrabble Club

**Tuesday, December 9 6PM**

Join us for an enjoyable and engaging 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.

## Talk: Winter Holidays

**Thursday, December 11 1PM**

Winter, the days are short, and the nights are long. This is the perfect time to bring family and friends together for warm festivities. Learn about the history, customs, and foods of various winter celebrations including Christmas, the Winter Solstice, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Twelfth Night, and more! Discover how current and ancient cultures celebrate the winter months. Hosted by Judith Krall-Russo. No registration required.



## Movie Club \*Virtual

**Peering into Hitchcock's Rear Window**

**Tuesday, December 9, 7PM**

Rear Window has been among Alfred Hitchcock's most popular films since its release, over 70 years ago. We'll delve into its production, look at Hitch's unsettling tendencies, and consider how James Stewart, Grace Kelly, and Thelma Ritter brought the concept to life. Joining us will be Jennifer O'Callaghan, author of the new book *Rear Window: The Making of a Hitchcock Masterpiece in the Hollywood Golden Age*. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link before the event.

## ADULTS

### **Film Forum: \*Virtual Remember the Night**

**Wednesday, December 10, 7PM**

On trial for pilfering a bracelet from a jewelry store, a shoplifter finds herself unexpectedly released on bail and into the custody of an assistant district attorney, who winds up whisking her to Indiana for the holidays, and love unexpectedly blooms between lawyer and thief. Hosted by Paul Howe. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link before the event.

### **Saturday Matinee: A Complete Unknown Saturday, December 13 1PM**

A Complete Unknown (2025) is set against the backdrop of a vibrant music scene in New York City in 1961. A 19-year-old Bob Dylan (Timothée Chalamet) arrives in Greenwich Village with his guitar and revolutionary talent, destined to change the course of American music. This is the true story of the relationships he forged during his meteoric rise to fame and his refusal to be defined by folk music. Free popcorn and snacks provided. No registration required. R. 2hrs 21min. #

### **Chess Club**

**Saturday, December 13, 27 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.

### **Foreign Film: Kedi**

**Sunday, December 14 1PM**

In the winding streets of Istanbul, stray cats express a freedom as timeless as the city itself. This enchanting documentary invites viewers to experience the urban landscape through the curious lives of its most beloved residents, offering a rare glimpse into an ancient metropolis. 79 min. In Turkish with English subtitles. 2016. Not Rated. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. No registration required.

### **Literature Discussion: Christmas Memoirs \*Virtual**

**Wednesday, December 17 7PM**

We'll discuss short pieces about Christmas memories, including classics by Dylan Thomas and Truman Capote, as well as a few other surprises. Hosted by Paul Howe. Registration required. You will receive a zoom link before the event.



### **Book Chat \*Virtual Project Hail Mary**

**Wednesday, December 17 7PM**

Join us for a lively book discussion on Zoom. This month we are discussing Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir. You can pick up a copy of the book to borrow at the Information Desk. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link before the event.

### **Book Club: The Boyfriend**

**Saturday, December 20, 1PM**

Please join us for a discussion about The Boyfriend by Freida McFadden. This group meets every six weeks and the book for the next discussion will be passed out at this meeting, if you would like to borrow a copy. Newcomers are always welcome. No registration required.



### **The Year in Review: Film and TV \*Virtual Tuesday, December 23 7PM**

We discuss the best (and maybe the worst) and most popular—deserved or not deserved?—film and television from the past year. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link before the event.

## 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, December 2 10:30AM**

**Wednesday, December 17 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 Monday, December 22 10:30AM**

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 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

**Babies ages 0 – 18 months:**

**Friday, December 12 10:30AM**

**Toddlers ages 18 months – 3 years:**

**Tuesday, December 2, 9 10:30AM**

**Preschoolers ages 3 – 5 years:**

**Wednesday, December 3, 10 10:30AM**

**Family all ages:**

**Saturday, December 6 10:30AM**

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

**Tuesday, December 9 4:30PM**

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

**Friday, December 5, 19 11:30AM**

Join us for stories, songs, and rhymes as we explore a new theme every week! No registration required.



### Baby & Me Meetup

**Friday, December 5  
10:30AM**

Bring your coffee and snacks and chat with other caregivers about the joys and challenges of raising babies — or about whatever you'd like! We will provide developmentally appropriate toys and books to play with. Older siblings are welcome. We ask, however, that you only attend this program if you have a baby between the ages 0 – 18 months. No registration required.

### Caregiver & Me Yoga

**Friday, December 5, 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 adults).



### Yoga for Kids

**Wednesday, December 3, 17  
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

**Thursday, December 4, 11  
10:30AM and 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, December 4, 18  
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.



### Kids' Movie Time

**Tuesday, December 2, 9  
11:30AM**

Join us in the craft room for an open-house style movie! This program is perfect for kids and their caretakers, and is a great way for little kids to practice being in a movie theater! No registration required.


### Move & Groove

**Monday, December 1, 8, 15, 22  
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.




## KIDS

 **Paws for Reading**  
**Saturday, December 6, 13**  
**11AM, 11:15AM, 11:30AM, 11:45AM**

**Sunday, December 21**  
**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.

 **Whatcha Readin'?**  
**Saturday, December 20 11AM**  
 Attention 2nd, 3rd and 4th readers! Join Ms. Molly in the Craft Room the last Saturday of each month for a small, relaxed book club where we get to talk about the books we are reading, our favorites we read repeatedly, the ones we disliked so much that we had put them down or discover new titles from others in the group. There is no required book to read. Registration required.

 **Art Time**  
**Sunday, December 7 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.


**Hunters of the Sky**  
**with Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge**  
**Tuesday, December 30 10:30AM**  
 Students are introduced to a variety of raptors (birds of prey) through an engaging lesson. Observe each species' unique characteristics and learn about its adaptations. Learn how raptors fit in our ecosystem and use these adaptations to succeed in the wild. Program includes live animals. Best for ages 6 and up. Registration required for kids (no need to register accompanying adults).

## TEENS & TWEENS


**First Chapter Friday**  
**Friday, December 5 All day**  
 Let's get comfy for December's first chapter Friday! Join Ms. Carrie for chapter one of Maryrose Wood's Bad Badger, a book that promises to be as cozy and comforting as a cup of tea in your favorite mug! This program will be available on our YouTube account starting December 5!

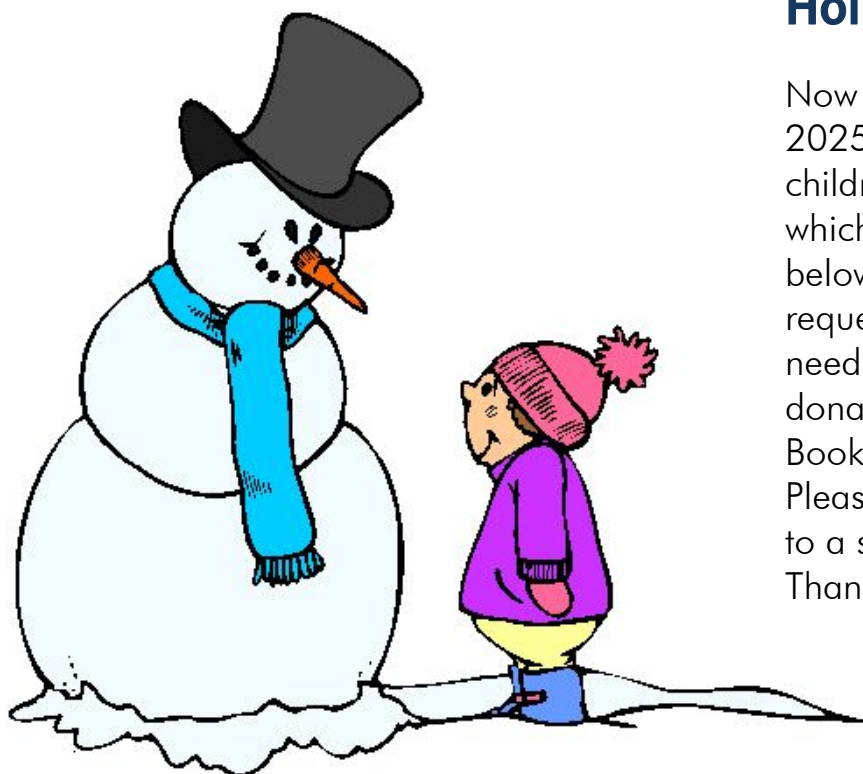
 **Curbside Crafts**  
**All month long**  
 We're closing out the year with a dazzling 3d snowflake. Kits will be available on the table outside of the Youth Services office starting December 1.

**Which Would Win?**  
**All month long**  
 This month we're hoping to solve a delightful dilemma, which would win: a bed that makes itself, or every day is pancake day? Stop by the alcove near juvenile non-fiction to cast your vote and make your voice heard.

 **Drawing Board**  
**All month long**  
 Visit the Drawing Board in the juvenile section for step-by-step drawing tutorials. December's fiery drawing challenge is Charmander! 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.



## Holiday Books for Kids 2025

Now through **Monday, December 15, 2025**, we are collecting new books for all children ages 0-17. If you are unsure which title to choose, scan the QR code below for our curated wish list. Book request slips with the ages of children in need and envelopes for monetary donations are available at our Holiday Books for Kids display in the lobby. Please hand your cash/check donation to a staff member at the Circulation desk. Thank you for your generosity!



## Friends Corner

Wishing everyone a very, happy, healthy, blessed, fun-filled holiday season with family and friends.

We would like to thank everyone who donated books, set up the room, volunteered to help at the sale and for all of you who bought items from us. We collected \$8,662 and which will be used by the library to enhance our already excellent library.

Still looking for the perfect gift for that special someone in your life? Remember you can purchase books from our in-house book sale any time the library is open. We have all types of genres for both adults and children. The books in the in-house sale are like brand new.

