

Happy May Friends!

I'm hoping all the rain from the weekend leads to an explosion of beautiful flowers over the next few weeks. I'm ready for some warm sunshine! Summer reading and programming will be here before you know it. Be sure to place your holds or check out your favorite books for the summer reading program that will start in June!

In OCL news: The OCL is looking for the public's input. If you have time please fill out the survey that can be found on the homepage of the OCL website www.theoceancountylibrary.org

Thank you to everyone that dropped off their dues and membership forms! We currently have 55 paid active Friends. Please get those membership and dues in when you can. Please consider inviting a family member or friend to join our awesome Friends of the Berkeley Library. Memberships are \$10. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. THANK YOU for being a Friend!

Our next meeting will be Monday May 8th at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you!

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. Please help support and share our fundraisers, as well as attend the many events and programs the Berkeley Branch hosts each month.

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.

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.

Through May 31st, Berkeley Friend Mark Retacco's artwork is on display in the meeting room.

Wednesday May 3rd 10:30am - Baby & Me

Wednesday May 3rd 6pm - Intro to Computers: Stop by the library with your own device for this introduction course.

Saturday May 6th 3pm - Pinecone Flamingoes: Transform a pinecone into a whimsical flamingo.

Wednesday May 10th 6pm - Spring Ballet Performance: Join us for a ballet performance by the Basically Ballet Studio.

Thursday May 11th 6:30pm - Teen Travel: Asian Pacific Islander Month

Tuesday May 16th 4pm - Paws for Reading: Practice your reading skills in the company of gentle therapy dogs.

Tuesday May 16th 6:30pm - Acoustic Jam Session

Wednesday May 17th 6pm - Japanese Kokedama: Learn how to mount a plant and make a Japanese moss ball. (sponsored by the Friends of the Berkeley Library)

Monday May 22nd 3pm - Japanese Watercolor Koi Pond: Create a beautiful work of art inspired by a traditional Japanese Koi Pond.

Tuesday May 23rd 3:30pm - Teen Health and Wellness Cafe: Unwind with tea, snacks, and peers. Learn about mental health literacy and mindfulness practices in this welcoming atmosphere.

Teens will receive information about an Ocean County Library provided database, Teen Health & Wellness: Real Life Answers and book recommendations.

Wednesday May 24th 6pm - Ice Cream Blending: Blending Fun with Amy will teach about the joys of ice cream blending. (sponsored by the Friends of the Berkeley Library)

Thursday May 25th 7pm - Teen Game Night (sponsored by the Friends of the Berkeley Library)

As always, Barbara, Linda, and myself thank each of you for your support. We appreciate your support and encouragement. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Warm wishes,
Melissa