

October 2026 Newsletter



Library Hours

Monday – Thursday: 10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Friday & Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday: Closed



Middletown
PUBLIC LIBRARY



Closures

Monday, October 12, 2026

Closed for Columbus Day

Middletown Public Library closed

Monday, October 12th

The Middletown Public Library will be closed on Monday, October 12th in recognition of Columbus Day.

Our electronic resources are always available on our website.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, October 13th !



We will be

CLOSED



*on Monday,
October 12th in recognition of
Columbus Day.*



**We look forward to seeing you
on Tuesday, October 13th.**

**October
Maker Mondays for Adults**



October 5th - DIY Cheesecloth Ghost 6-7PM
October 26th - Haunted Houses from Old Books 5-7PM

 **For Adults 18+
Registration required**

Adult Services Programs!

Join us for fun, hands-on programs led by Julie!

- ★ Maker's Monday – Try out a new craft every Monday!
- ★ Cookbook Club – 2nd Thursday of every month
- ★ Plant Parent Group – 3rd Thursday of every month

Youth Services Programs!

**Youth Services Department
October 2026**

Key:
green = story time
purple = tween + teen
blue = young kids
black = all ages
★ Blue Star Welcome Week Storytime

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pajama Storytime 6-6:30pm ★	2 Kids Community Canvas All Day	3 Kids Community Canvas All Day	4 Kids Community Canvas All Day	5 Kids Community Canvas All Day	6 Kids Community Canvas All Day	7 Kids Community Canvas All Day
8 Kids Community Canvas All Day	9 Kids Community Canvas All Day	10 Kids Community Canvas All Day	11 Kids Community Canvas All Day	12 Kids Community Canvas All Day	13 Kids Community Canvas All Day	14 Kids Community Canvas All Day
15 Kids Community Canvas All Day	16 Kids Community Canvas All Day	17 Kids Community Canvas All Day	18 Kids Community Canvas All Day	19 Kids Community Canvas All Day	20 Kids Community Canvas All Day	21 Kids Community Canvas All Day
22 Kids Community Canvas All Day	23 Kids Community Canvas All Day	24 Kids Community Canvas All Day	25 Kids Community Canvas All Day	26 Kids Community Canvas All Day	27 Kids Community Canvas All Day	28 Kids Community Canvas All Day
29 Kids Community Canvas All Day	30 Kids Community Canvas All Day	31 Kids Community Canvas All Day	32 Kids Community Canvas All Day	33 Kids Community Canvas All Day	34 Kids Community Canvas All Day	35 Kids Community Canvas All Day

Exciting and engaging activities for kids of all ages, from babies to teens! Whether you're looking for a hands-on craft or a relaxing story time, our Youth Services department has a program for you!

Ghosts For a Good Cause! A Candlelight Fundraiser to Support the Middletown Public Library

Join us on Friday, October 2nd for a special fundraising candlelight tour of Belcourt of Newport to benefit the Middletown Public Library!

This will support the Middletown Public Library's new building project, helping bring its future home to life with furnishings, technology, equipment and programs for the whole community.

Meet the ghosts and give back!

Tickets: \$40 per ticket

Doors: 6:30 PM | Tour: 7:00 PM

Belcourt of Newport
657 Bellevue Avenue,
Newport, RI 02840

BUY TICKETS:

3common.com/library

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS UNLESS STATED
OTHERWISE! QR CODE TO REGISTER ON PAGE 11!**

Halloween Magic Show with Magician Tommy James!



Kids (3-12 years old) are invited to join us in the Meeting Room for a magical evening of safety tips and magic tricks with Magician Tommy James!

This is the perfect opportunity to show off your awesome Halloween costumes!

With over 40 years of performing experience behind him, Tommy James has established himself as one of the premier kid-show magicians in the world.

Registration appreciated, but not required.



Link to register on page 11

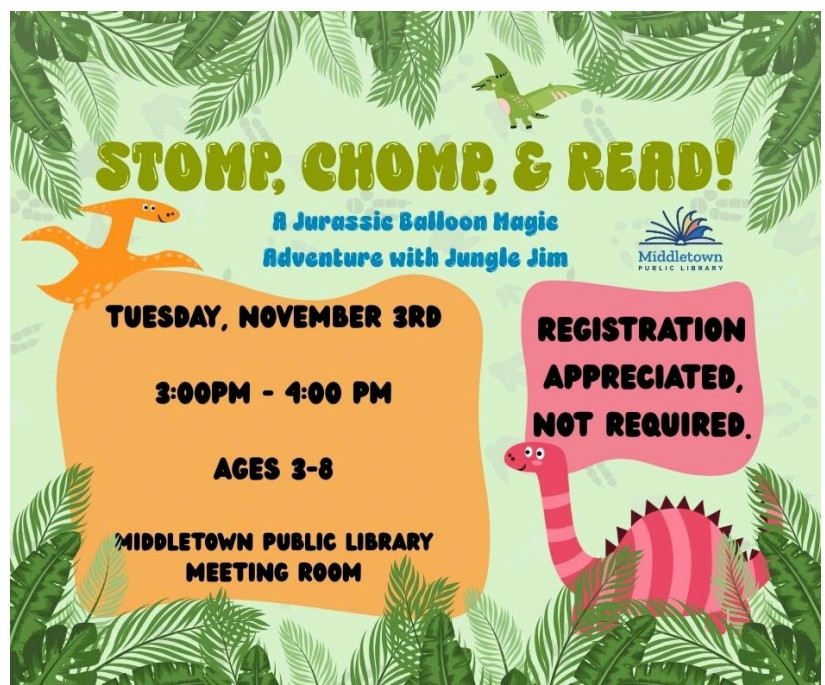
Stomp, Chomp, and Read: A Jurassic Balloon Magic Adventure with Jungle Jim!

It's almost DINO-vember and to celebrate we've invited Jungle Jim to perform his amazing dinosaur-themed balloon magic show!

Children ages 3-8 and family members are encouraged to join us in stomping and chomping in the Meeting Room on Tuesday, November 3rd at 3:00 PM.

The perfect way to spend a Tuesday out of school!!

Registration appreciated, but not required.



Link to register on page 11

Grief Group with Child Life Specialist



SESSION ONE - KIDS & TEENS

Memory Boxes

A hands-on grief program for children and youth

- Thursday, October 1 • 4:00-5:00 PM in the Meeting Room

A hands-on workshop giving children and teens (ages 2-18) a meaningful, tangible way to honor and remember someone they love and miss. Families are invited to bring a special item, a photo, a letter, or a small keepsake, to include in a memory box that's uniquely their own. All decorating materials and art supplies are provided.

Who: Ages 2-18, with a caregiver
Bring: A photo, letter, or keepsake
We provide: All art supplies

- Not a drop-off event, caregivers stay for the full hour
- Open to recent losses and those from months or years ago



Registration Required

SESSION TWO - CAREGIVERS

Supporting Grieving Children

An educational class for caregivers

- Thursday, October 8 • 4:00-5:00 PM in the Meeting Room

When a child loses someone they love, caregivers are often navigating their own grief while supporting their child's. This workshop offers a developmental lens on childhood grief, covering how children understand death at different ages, common reactions, and why behavior changes and big emotions are often part of grieving.

Who: Caregivers of grieving children
Includes: Take-home resources & pamphlets

- Age-appropriate language and coping strategies
- Practical ways to support your child while caring for yourself



Registration Required



Led by Stacey Malcolm, MS, CCLS

Certified Child Life Specialist - Owner, Healing Hearts
Drawing on extensive clinical experience supporting children and families through grief and loss, Stacey brings a compassionate, developmentally informed approach to both sessions.

Link to register on page 11

In October, the Middletown Public Library will be partnering with Memorial Funeral Homes and Healing Hearts to host two grief groups focusing on children.

The first session, on Thursday, October 1st at 4:00 PM is for children and caregivers to create a memory box in honor of their lost loved one.

The second session on Thursday, October 8th at 4:00 PM focuses on helping caregivers understand the best way to support a grieving child.

Both sessions will be hosted by Stacey Malcolm, MS, CCLS, Certified Child Life Specialist in the Middletown Public Library Meeting Room.

Registration recommended.

What Is Gen AI?: And What It Can Do

Are you curious about AI? Have you heard of "ChatGPT" but aren't really sure where to start, or how you might use it?

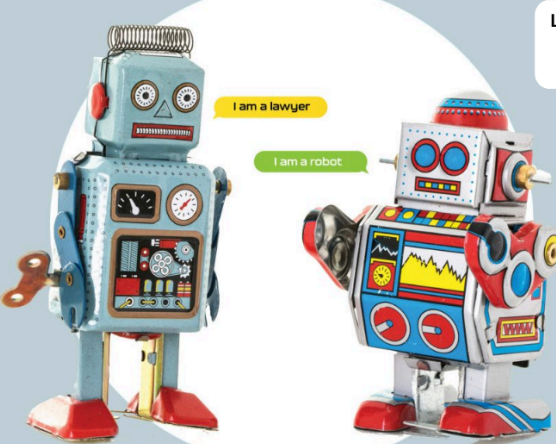
Perhaps you are just trying to grasp what all of the hype is about.

No technical experience is necessary.

This program is designed for anyone looking for an introduction to AI, and how to use these new tools thoughtfully and practically.

No registration is required.

WHAT IS GEN AI? (AND WHAT IT CAN DO)



LIBRARY PRESENTATION
TUESDAY, OCT. 13
2:00-3:00 PM

LEARN THE TERMS, HISTORY, AND BASIC WORKINGS OF THIS TECHNOLOGY. GET IDEAS ON WAYS YOU MIGHT USE IT YOURSELF.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



Middletown PUBLIC LIBRARY

Middletown Mental Health Day Programs

The Town of Middletown has officially declared October 19 as Mental Health Day! To celebrate, we're hosting two programs designed to help you relax, reflect, and reset.

Drop-In Craft: Mini Meditation Boxes

Stop by from 4:00 - 7:00 PM to create your own mini meditation box!

No registration required.

Guided Journaling Workshop

Take some time to slow down and reflect with a guided journaling workshop from 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the Meeting Room. Every participant will receive a new journal to keep! Registration is appreciated, but not required.

The Middletown Public Library celebrates
Middletown Mental Health Day
October 19th, 2026

Mini Meditation in a Box 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Drop-in program, registration not required

This fun and easy craft can be used for meditation, prayer, or simply for focus. Small tins, candles, and decorations will all be provided as well as suggestions on how to use your meditation box at home.

Me Time on Us 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Registration appreciated, not required

Attendees will receive a journal to keep, and take part in guided prompts and discussions facilitated by librarians. Learn and practice a valuable coping strategy and connect with fellow community members.

 Middletown
PUBLIC LIBRARY



Link to register on page 11

Join Our 1st Tuesdays Book Club!

Calling All Book Lovers!

BOOK CLUB

FOR ADULTS

YESTERYEAR
CARO CLAIRE BURKE

1st Tuesday of Each Month
OCTOBER 6
6:30 PM

Middletown Public Library
Local History Room

More information
matt@middletownlibraryri.org

We read one book per month and will discuss it on the first Tuesday of the following month

Link to register on page 11

The inaugural meeting of our 1st Tuesdays Book Club will be October 6, when we'll meet to discuss September's selection:
Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke.

The book we will be reading in October in preparation for November 3rd will be Whistler by Anne Patchett.

There will be copies of the book available at the library on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Register online or contact
matt@middletownlibraryri.org for more information.

Book club meetings take place in the Local History room on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

Countdown to Halloween with the Middletown Public Library!

The Middletown Public Library can't wait for Halloween... so we're starting a little early! We have fun, Halloween programs all October long, but we're starting Halloween weekend on Thursday, October 29th!

10/29 ➡ DIY Potion Bottles

5:00 - 7:00 PM

This is a drop-in, no registration required program.

Teens welcome with guardian present.

10/30 ➡ Adopt a Book Page Ghost

1:00 - 3:00 PM

This is a drop-in, no registration required program.

Teens welcome with guardian present.

10/31 ➡ Halloween Bingo!

1:00 - 2:00 PM

No registration required.

Ages 18+ only.



Help Us Build an Ofrenda at the Middletown Public Library

Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) is a holiday traditionally celebrated in Mexico on November 1 and 2 that reunites the living and the dead!

Families create ofrendas (offerings) to honor their family members that have passed. These altars are decorated with photos of the departed to encourage visits from the souls!

Starting on Monday, October 19th, patrons are encouraged to bring in photographs of departed loved ones to help us create a community Ofrenda in the Library. Photographs can be of a family member, friend, pet, or any other loved one who has passed.

Photo collection will end on Saturday, October 31st and pictures can be picked up the following week.



New and Improved Ocean State Libraries App!

There is a new and improved app for you to access your library anytime, anywhere!

Visit catalog.oslri.net/mobileapp today to get started with the Ocean State Libraries Catalog app and enjoy an improved library experience right from your phone.

The current Ocean State Libraries Mobile app will continue to work through October 31, giving you plenty of time to make the switch!

Need help getting started? Feel free to ask any of our amazing staff members to give you a hand!



Ocean State Libraries Catalog

A New Mobile App Experience Is Here!

Do more on the go!

- Search for books
- Place & manage holds
- Renew items
- View your account
- Use your digital library card
- Find locations & hours

Make the switch today!

Scan to get the app today and enjoy the improved performance!



Flu Vaccine Clinic on October 17th

Middletown PUBLIC LIBRARY

Visiting Nurse Home & Hospice

2026 FLU VACCINE CLINIC
ADULTS ONLY

Please bring your insurance card.

This public clinic is provided by
Visiting Nurse Home & Hospice.
www.visitingnursehh.org

Saturday, 10/17/2026
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Middletown Public Library
Meeting room

In partnership with Visiting Nurse Home & Hospice, immunizations will be available at the Middletown Public Library on Saturday, October 17th from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Meeting Room.

This clinic is for RI residents or those with health insurance provided by R.I. companies.

Please keep in mind:

- This clinic is for adults only.
- Individuals must present their insurance card before their immunization.
- For those who are uninsured, the vaccination will be provided free of charge

Estate Planning 101: Come Learn the Basics!

Join us for a FREE educational workshop about the estate planning process on Thursday, October 29th from 2:30 to 3:30 PM.

Presented by Tricia P. Martland, Esq., Professor of Legal Studies at Roger Williams University, and an Estate Planning Attorney in Newport.



ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOP

What is a will? What is a trust? Do I need one?

FREE Educational Workshop about the estate planning process

Appointment Guardians Probate Avoidance Protecting Children

Dying Without a Will Health Care Directives

Call, Email, or Scan to Learn more and Register

(401) 846-1573 Ext. 2 matt@middletownlibraryri.org

Middletown Public Library logo and QR code.

Jigsaw Puzzle Swap is Back!



Jigsaw Puzzle Swap!

Saturday, October 24th
10:30 - 11:30 AM

Middletown Public Library
Meeting Room

No Registration Required.

Middletown Public Library logo.

Feeling like you've been there and done that with all the puzzles hanging around your house?

Join us on Saturday, October 24 from 10:30 to 11:30 AM for a puzzle swap and trade them for new (to you) ones!

Requirements:

- ★ All Puzzles must be 300 pieces or more.
- ★ All puzzles must have no missing pieces.
- ★ All Puzzles must be in zip-lock bag with picture or in the original box taped closed

Did you know...

The Middletown Public Library now has Switch, Switch 2, and PS5 games in our catalog?!

Did you know the Middletown Public Library has officially added a selection of Switch, Switch 2, and PS5 games to our catalog!

You can find them on the bottom shelf at the end of our DVD collection, but feel free to ask a staff member if you have trouble finding them.

Come in and browse our new selection of games!

Video games can be checked out for 7 days, there are no renewals, and there is a \$1 per day late fee.

This project was made possible in part by a grant from the RI Office of Library & Information Services using funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



Video Games
are officially circulating!

We now have games for:

- Switch
- Switch 2
- PS5

Middletown Public Library logo and illustration of two people playing video games.



Become a Friend of the Library!



The Friends of the Middletown Public Library are a nonprofit that supports the library through fundraising and advocacy, helping fund programs, events, books, media, and equipment beyond the library's budget.

To learn more, join, or volunteer, email friendsmembers@middletownlibraryri.org or pick up an application at the library.

The Friends Bookstore

This October, all puzzles will continue to be half price and all of the non-fiction section will be 50% off as well in The Friends Bookstore.

Is there a particular piece of art in the Library you've always loved?

You might be able to take it home! Select pieces of Library art will be available for sale! Any art being sold will be marked with a number, but feel free to ask a Friend or staff if you have any questions!

We are always accepting donations.

Donations can be dropped off with the bookstore attendant or at the Public Services desk



Bookstore Hours

Monday – Thursday:

10:30am to 4:30pm



Friday & Saturday:

10:30am to 2:30pm



Sunday:

Closed

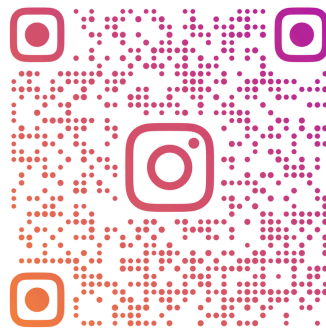


Middletown
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Use the QR code below to register
for one of our October programs!



Connect with us
on Facebook!



MIDDLETOWN_PUBLIC_LIBRARY_RI

Connect with us
on Instagram!



Connect with us
on TikTok!
