



SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday:

10:00 am - 8:00 pm

Friday & Saturday:

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday:

Closed



CLOSURES

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY



Middletown
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Middletown Public Library closed Saturday, September 5th and Monday, September 7th

The Middletown Public Library
will be closed on Saturday,
September 5th and Monday,
September 7th in honor of Labor
Day.

Our electronic resources are
always available on our website.

We look forward to seeing you
on Tuesday, September 8th !



Save the Date!

Middletown Family Day on September 12th !



Be sure to join the Middletown
Prevention Coalition for the 17th
Annual Middletown Family Day at
Second Beach on Saturday, September
12th!

From 4:00 - 8:00pm, there will be fire
pits, games, and all sorts of other fun
activities to explore!

Make sure to bring your own beach
chairs and blankets!



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



September Maker Mondays for Adults

September 14th - Stamped Dish Towels
 September 21st - Crafterwork*
 September 28th - Wood Scarecrow



*Our new Crafterwork program invites patrons to bring their own portable craft project to work on.

 **6:00 - 7:00 pm**
For Adults 18+
Registration required

Youth Services Department September 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Ken green = story time purple = teens red = young kids black = all ages ♥ = registration		2 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm Adventures Around The World 4-5pm Korea	3 Block Party 4-6 PM	4 Kids Community Canvas All Day	5 Closed for Labor Day Weekend!	
6 Closed for Labor Day!	7 Story Time 11-11:30am	8 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm Read To A Therapy Dog 4-5pm ♥	9 Block Party 4-6 PM	10 Kids Community Canvas All Day	11 Kids Community Canvas All Day	12 Closed for Labor Day Weekend!
13 Story Time 11-11:30am	14 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm Read To A Therapy Dog 4-5pm ♥	15 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm Read To A Therapy Dog 4-5pm ♥	16 Block Party 4-6 PM	17 Kids Community Canvas All Day	18 Kids Community Canvas All Day	19 Open Nintendo Switch Play 11-1pm
20 Story Time 11-11:30am	21 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm Adventures Around The World 4-5pm Columbia	22 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm	23 Block Party 4-6 PM	24 Kids Community Canvas All Day	25 Kids Community Canvas All Day	26 Kids Community Canvas All Day
27 Story Time 11-11:30am	28 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm	29 Clay Play 10:30am - 12:30pm	30 Block Party 4-6 PM	Middletown PUBLIC LIBRARY		

Youth Services Programs!

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!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE! QR CODE TO REGISTER ON PAGE 10!

Thank You to All of Our Incredible Summer Reading Sponsors!

Thank you to all of our wonderful community members, local businesses, and other generous sponsors for supporting the Middletown Public Library's 2026 Summer Reading Program!

An extra special thank you to The Friends of The Middletown Public Library for their continued support of all that we do, and especially for their amazing sponsorship and support of our Summer Reading Program each summer.

Thank you to Ben and Jerry's, Burger King, Clemmies, Custom House Coffee, Dahlia Shed, Del's Lemonade, Dudek Bowling, Friends of the Middletown Public Library, Hamilton Aquarium, Island Books, Maher Garden Center, Moore Blooms, Newport Art Museum, Newport Gulls, Pizza Hollywood, Providence Performing Arts Center, The Roasted Clove, Roger Williams Zoo, Rotary Club, Sail Newport, The Sailing Museum, Shaw's, Simmons Family Farm, Starbucks, Sweet Berry Farm, Newport Tennis Hall of Fame, and Top Golf.



Thank You to Representative Finkelman and Representative Cortvriend!



Thank you to Representative Alex Finkelman and Representative Terri Cortvriend for gifting the Middletown Public Library a \$1500 legislative grant for educational and technology materials for the Children's circulating collection on Monday, August 24, 2026.

Pictured: Library Director Kimberly Usselman accepting the check from Reps Finkelman and Cortvriend, along with Sue Connor (Assistant Library Director), and Middletown Board of Library Trustee members: Joan DeFinis (Chair), Ruth Donahue (Secretary), Anna Anton, Anthony Ciulla, Ron Heroux, and Dr. William Jones.

Kids Community Canvas

Throughout September, the Youth Services Department will be hosting a new weekly program, Kid's Community Canvas.

Every Friday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, young patrons can create a work of art for our Community Canvas.

At the end of the day, that week's masterpieces will be displayed on the bulletin board in the Youth Services Department.

Make sure to bring your little one by so they can make their mark!



Grief Group with Child Life Specialist



SESSION ONE - KIDS & TEENS	SESSION TWO - CAREGIVERS
Memory Boxes A hands-on grief program for children and youth	Supporting Grieving Children An educational class for caregivers
Who: Ages 2-18, with a caregiver Bring: A photo, letter, or keepsake We provide: All art supplies	Who: Caregivers of grieving children Includes: Take-home resources & pamphlets
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.	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.
- Not a drop-off event, caregivers stay for the full hour - Open to recent losses and those from months or years ago	- Age-appropriate language and coping strategies - Practical ways to support your child while caring for yourself
 Registration Required	 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 10

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.



Make Your Own Sea Glass Pendant

Join us for this special program taught by craft teacher extraordinaire, Carol on Tuesday, September 15th at 5:00 PM.

During this program patrons will learn how to wrap floral wire around a piece of sea glass to create a beautiful pendant.

All supplies will be included.

Registration required.

For adults 18+

Link to register on page 10



Right in The Middle of It!

Middletown's Role in the American Revolution

Discover the American Revolution as it unfolded right here in Middletown!

Did you know that both the British and French armies came ashore in Middletown? Or that local residents ran a spy network to convey valuable intelligence to the Patriots, and produced ammunition to support the Revolutionary cause?

Presented by George Krol, the chair of Middletown's 250 Commission and a retired U.S. ambassador.

Krol teaches as an Adjunct Professor at the U.S. Naval War College and is a frequent lecturer in Salve Regina's Circle of Scholars program.

Link to register on page 10

Part of Middletown's 250th Anniversary programming.



Join Our 1st Tuesdays Book Club!

Calling All Book Lovers!

Looking for your next great read or a chance to connect with fellow book lovers in the community?

Join MPL's 1st Tuesdays Book Club!

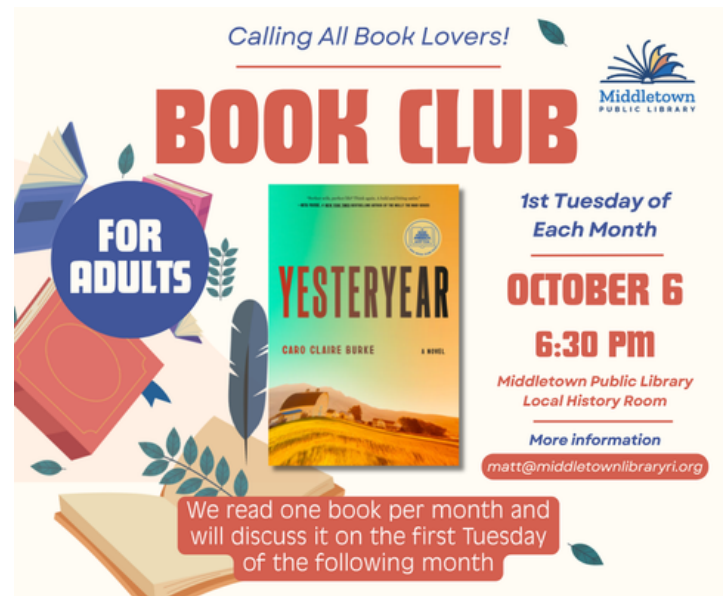
Each month, we'll choose a different book to read and then gather the following month for a discussion.

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

Our first meeting will be October 6, when we'll meet to discuss September's selection:
Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke

At least 8 copies of the book will be available at the library this month on a first-come, first-serve basis.

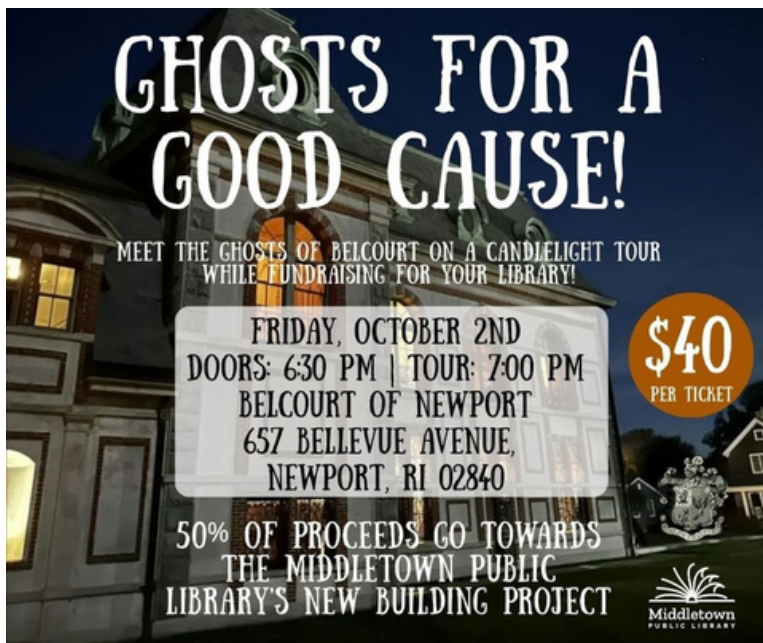
Register online or contact
matt@middletownlibraryri.org for more information.



Link to register on page 10

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!

Explore Newport's most haunted house after dark, hear stories of its history and hauntings, and experience this Gilded Age mansion like never before!

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

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month!

This September, the Middletown Public Library invites you to celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month and discover how a library card can hit all the right notes, no matter what your tastes are.

To celebrate, MPL is offering referral cards so YOU can help your loved ones hear the music too!

All you have to do is fill out your contact information on the cards, give them to your friends and family and invite them to sign up for a library card!

When they sign up and return the referral card to us, they will receive a free book, and you will be entered to win a \$25 Barnes & Noble gift card!

Thank you for helping us spread the library love!

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!

Did you know...

You have free access to Roku Premieres with your Middletown Public Library card?!

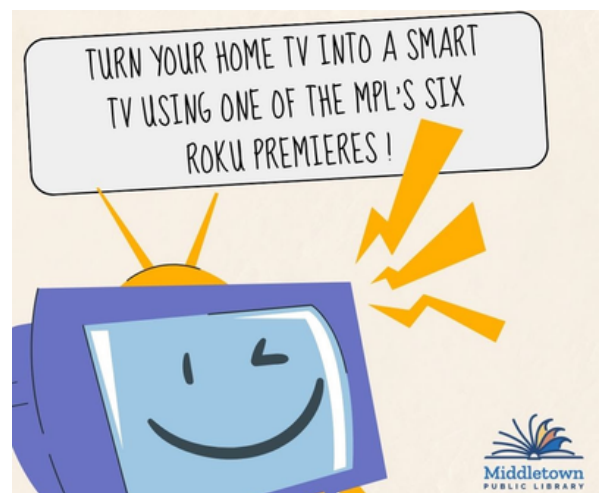
The Middletown Public Library offers you free access to a Roku Premiere for 3 weeks with your library card!

Stream hundreds of free movies through the Library's VUDU account, plus ROKU TV already loaded on the device.

A strong internet connection, TV with an available HDMI port, and nearby electrical outlet are required.

Setup instructions are provided at checkout.

Patrons must have had their library card for at least 3 months to borrow a Roku.





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 September, all puzzles will be half price and children's books will be marked down to 50¢ 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! In September, 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



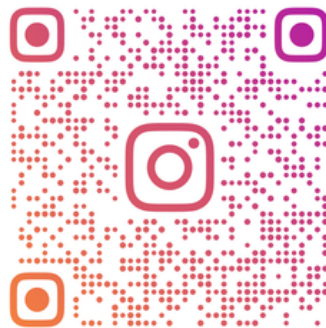


Middletown
PUBLIC LIBRARY

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



Connect with us
on Facebook!



MIDDLETOWN_PUBLIC_LIBRARY_RI

Connect with us
on Instagram!



Connect with us
on TikTok!
