



# MPL NEWS

## May 2023



### Events and Happenings at Middletown Public Library

#### From the Director's Laptop

The neat thing about public libraries, aside from

- welcoming, helpful staff
- free access to technology, books, dvd's, magazines, programs, meeting space
- flexible hours of service

is the opportunity for self-directed learning.

Self-directed learning is active learning whereby the student takes the initiative. It's a very successful method because it fosters self-motivation, an understanding of one's learning style, and persistence.

Online learning courses have become a popular platform for self-directing learning. Mango Languages is a tutorial for foreign language instruction. It's provided by the state of Rhode Island. You can find it on our [webpage](#).

If online learning interests you, take a look at [Universal Class](#). There are hundreds of courses, not just tutorials, but real courses that include lessons, assignments, exams, discussion boards, and actual assessment of your progress. Students receive grades, performance feedback, and the opportunity to earn a certificate to document CEU's (continuing education units). The courses range from career oriented, to hobbies, to personal development. There is no penalty if you start a course, decide it's not for you, and go on to try something else. There is no limit to the number of courses you can sign up for. It's a great way to build your online portfolio. You can also take a course just for fun.

It all starts with registering for a library card. Your card is your key to open the door to something new and life changing. Over the years, the public library has been called "the people's university", and it's true. Where else can you learn at your own pace free of charge?

In closing,

Thank you to Rep. Alex Finkleman for sponsoring a Rhode Island Legislative Grant which has purchased podcasting equipment for our teen programming. Soon we will be creating in-house podcasts and contributing globally to [StoryCorps](#).

Congratulations to the Friends of the Library who are celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Friends Bookstore, where there is a fantastic sale of low-priced, pristine items during the month of May. Plus – when you purchase five books, you can enter a raffle for a beautiful basket filled with garden supplies. Everything you need to get started with spring planting.

Also, we have a broad schedule of engaging programs for youth and adults in the works, namely our poetry club, book club, writer's club, upcoming summer genealogy workshop, youth programming, and much more.

See you at the MPL!

Theresa

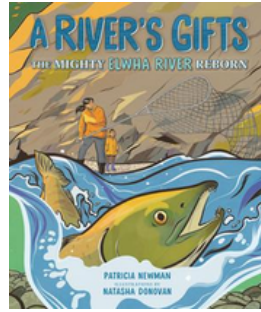
Theresa Coish is the Director of Middletown Public Library

She is currently reading, *CONVERSATIONS with RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Life, Love, Liberty and Law*, by Jeffrey Rosen.

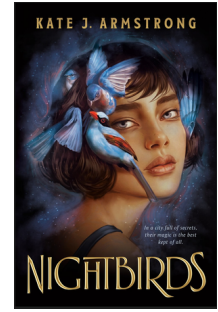
## What's New at the Library



New Adult Books



New Children's Books



New Teen Books

**The Bloodmobile is coming to MPL!**

Tuesday, May 30th  
10:00am – 1:30pm



**DONATIONS BY APPOINTMENT!**

(walk-ins will be welcomed if availability permits at time of arrival)



*Eat, hydrate, bring identification with you.*

**Sponsor Code  
0456**

**YES! I want to make an appointment to give blood and help save lives!**

## **MPL's closings in May:**

Sunday, 5/14

**CLOSED** in observance of  
Mother's Day



Sunday, 5/28 & Monday, 5/29

**CLOSED** in observance of  
Memorial Day



## Youth Services Spotlight

RECORD YOUR STORY  
SUNDAY MAY 21, 1-4PM

"Questions My Grandchildren Ask"



Your Story Lives On through our podcast

CALL 401-846-1573 EXT 3  
TO RESERVE A SPOT

We need YOU  
to help us  
Garden



Children's Gardening  
Club

Every Friday  
in May

SATURDAY  
MAY 13  
2:00 - 3:30

READ HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, SOLVE PUZZLES TO GET  
THE BOTTOM OF THE TILLINGHAST FAMILY MYSTERY

TEENS ONLY

THE HISTORY  
**MYSTERY  
PARTY**

After the sudden death of Sarah Tillinghast in 1799, her family  
underwent a bizarre series of events related to the mysterious  
nature of her death. Join a group of sleuths to get to the  
bottom of this strange and mysterious happenings.

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**IMPROV  
WORKSHOP**

EVERY FRIDAY  
3PM TO 4PM

LEARN THE BASICS OF  
IMPROV ACTING BY  
PLAYING THEATRE GAMES  
TOGETHER!

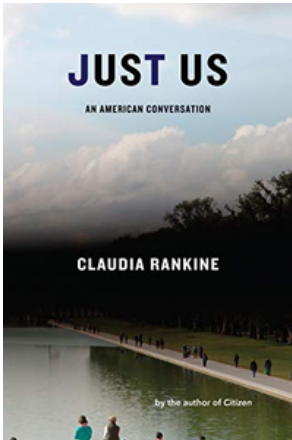
Check out our full calendar of events [HERE](#)





# Have you heard about...

## MPL's Adult Programming?



### Adult Book Club

**Monday, May 8th at 3:30pm**

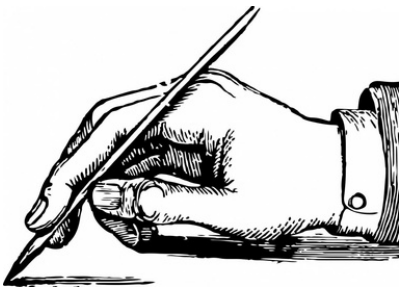
*Just Us : An American Conversation*, by Claudia Rankine

A collection of essays, poems and images. As racial issues become increasingly vocalized with no clear answers at hand, how best might we approach one another? Claudia Rankine, without telling us what to do, urges us to begin the discussions that might open pathways through this divisive and stuck moment in American history.

[Library Catalog\(print copy\)](#)

[Libby\(ebook\)](#)

We hope you can join us! Click [HERE](#) to register.



### Adult Writer's Club

**Thursday, May 11th at 5:00pm**

Aims at providing a space for local writers to meet and share their writing!

**ALL** writing styles and **ALL** experience levels are welcome!

We hope you can join us! Click [HERE](#) to register.



### Adult Poetry Club

**Wednesday, May 24th at 5:00pm**

In this club, we come together to share our love for words, inspire each other, and grow as poets. We will be reading famous poets, sharing favorite poems and writing some of our own. Whether you're a seasoned poet, just starting out or just want to listen, we welcome you to join us on this journey of creative expression.

We hope you can join us! Click [HERE](#) to register.



## IMPORTANT CHANGES are coming to eZone and the online catalog

Click [HERE](#) for more information. And remember, we're here to help you! Call or stop by the circulation desk if you have any questions.

### The Friends Corner

## *Celebrating the Bookstore's*

*15 Year Anniversary*

### Gifts for Mother's Day

If you are looking for gifts for Mother's Day, the Friends Bookstore has plenty of novels, cookbooks, and general interest books for Mother. Stop in and make a selection.



Buy 5 books and receive a raffle ticket for this gardening goodie bag!  
Raffle to be drawn on June 1, 2023.



A big THANK YOU to all those who donated books for our collection. We are still accepting donations, so stop by the Circulation Desk to drop off your gently used books.

**The 25 cent book sale is still going on. There are some exceptional bargains!**



Remember to renew your membership of the Friends of the Middletown Library. The Friends support library programs for children and adults. You can stop by the bookstore and the library for an application or email [FriendsofMiddletownRILibrary@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofMiddletownRILibrary@gmail.com).

### Connect with us!



Middletown Public Library  
700 West Main Road  
Middletown, RI 02842  
401-846-1573  
[middletownpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middletownpubliclibrary@gmail.com)  
[middletownpubliclibraryri.org](http://middletownpubliclibraryri.org)

Library Hours:  
Monday – Thursday 10 am – 7 pm  
Friday – 10 am – 5 pm  
Saturday – 10 am – 5 pm  
Sunday\* – 12 pm – 5 pm  
\*Sunday hours begin on the Sunday following Labor Day  
and end on the Sunday before Memorial Day  
Library closed on Sundays preceding Monday Holidays