

Free Public Library of Monroe Township

Out and About

A Community Newsletter

September 2025

Your guide to
what's going on in
Williamstown and
the surrounding
area!

Williamstown Fall Arts and Crafts Festival

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Summer's over, but fall activities in our town are just beginning...starting off with Williamstown's Fall Arts and Crafts Festival, taking place Saturday, Sept. 13th along Main Street from 10 AM to 3 PM! (Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 14th, same time.)

The event is free to the public. You'll find booths from local artisans and crafters selling all kinds of handmade wares, from jewelry to soap to specialty foods to treats for your furry friends (who, of course, are also welcome to the festival). There will be plenty of food trucks with all kinds of yummy food for sale. For the kids, there will be face painting, bounce houses, a petting zoo, hair tinsel applications, and other great family-friendly activities!

The festival will be located along Main Street from Church Street to Chestnut. Parking will be available along side streets. If you're interested in becoming a vendor or to find out more info, call Community Affairs at 856-729-9841.

Enjoy a fun day of shopping, food, and fun fall vibes in our wonderful town!



Special Points of Interest:

- *Glassboro's Italian-American Festival*
- *Autumn Lake Wine Mixer*
- *Stacked Bats at Creations by You*
- *Godspell onstage at the Grand Theater*
- *Spinal Tap returns to the big screen!*
- *Novels that feature the Master of Suspense*

Autism Car Show Fundraiser at Alisha's 5-Star

You can enjoy a fun day for a good cause at the Autism Fundraiser Car Show at Alisha's 5-Star Dive Bar (formerly Racks) on the Black Horse Pike on Sunday, Sept. 7th from 10 AM to 2 PM. (Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 14th.)



The car show will feature breakfast sandwiches starting at 9:30 AM, and a full menu after 11 AM. You can also take part in raffles and ticket auctions. If you'd like to enter your car, registration runs from 9 AM to 11 AM. Car judging begins at 11 AM.

Registration costs \$20. All proceeds from the show will go to benefit autism support.

Bring your vintage car and have a great time!

Autumn Lake Wine Mixer

Every fall, Williamstown's own Autumn Lake Winery on Malaga Road holds its Wine Mixer. This year's will fall on Saturday, September 13th from 12 PM to 5 PM.

Trucker Hat, a Delaware Valley-area band, will be on hand to play classic country, rock and soul tunes. There will also be a couple of the area's best food trucks available...Top Shelf Cuisine, with some upscale bites, and Elite Taste, with simpler fare. And, of course, there's Autumn Lake's best vintages for sale and for sampling. (The first 250 guests to check in get a complimentary promo glass with a wine of their choice!)

Even better...Platinum Helicopters will be offering rides over the property. (The helicopter ride is \$50 extra, payable in cash directly to Platinum Helicopters before boarding. Don't worry, the pilot hasn't sampled any of the wine. I think.)

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the gate for adults over 21. For guests under 21 (who will not, of course, be drinking) it's \$10, and kids under 10 get in free.

To order tickets or to find out more information, visit autumnlakewinery.com/event-calendar and click on the event's link. (You can also find out about plenty of other great events taking place this month at Autumn Lake!)



Lori Poisker Fall Craft Show In Pitman

The twice-annual Lori Poisker Craft Show (there's one in May as well) will take place in Pitman on Saturday, Sept, 20th from 9 AM to 3 PM. (Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 21st.)

The event, sponsored by the Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce, is free to the public and takes place on Broadway (the main street), Pitman Avenue, and Ballard Avenue. It features over 350 artisans/crafters, as well as non-profit booths with info on their causes, and plenty of food trucks (with food also available from eateries around town). There's parking at the Sony parking lot on Woodbury Road, with shuttles to take you to the festival.

For more information, visit www.pitmancraftshow.com. If you're interested in becoming a vendor, email the festival at craftshows@uptownpitman.com.



Duffields Food Truck and Apple Festival

Duffield's Farm on Greentree Road in Sewell is offering fun for the whole family with its Food Truck and Apple Festival on Saturday, Sept. 13th from 11 AM to 5 PM.



The festival is free to the public, though the food and some of the activities cost extra. You'll be able to take a hayride from Duffield's own orchards. There's also live music from a local band, as well as a Barn Bounce house, a Barnyard Express train ride, face painting, pony rides, and more. There are some food trucks on-site, and you can also buy goodies from the farm market such as cider, doughnuts, and other treats.

To find out more, visit duffieldsfarm.com.

Enjoy a perfect fall family day at one of Gloucester County's best local farms!



All The World's A Stage...

"Day by day/Day by day/Oh, dear Lord, three things I pray..." Williamstown's Grand Theater presents *Godspell* (that other New Testament-based pop-rock musical) from Sept 11th to Sept. 21st.



The show, with music by Stephen Schwartz of *Wicked* fame (his off-Broadway breakthrough) portrays the ministry of Jesus of Nazareth as if it were occurring in the modern day. Jesus gathers a diverse group of disciples from all walks of life. The group grows closer as Jesus presents His parables and teachings (often word-for-word from the Gospel of Matthew), sometimes acting them out in humorous ways with His followers. The disciples, in turn, express their own faith and devotion in song (many of them Episcopalian hymns with new musical settings). But as it becomes clear that Judas will betray Him, the disciples must come to grips with the potential loss of their dear teacher and friend...and figure out how they can carry out his teachings without Him.

To order tickets, visit roadcompany.com. With its charming pop score (including the standout hit "Day By Day"), this musical celebrates the joy, warmth, and community at the heart of religious faith at its best.

"Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes/How do you measure, measure a year?" Haddonfield Plays and Players presents the groundbreaking, beloved musical *Rent* from Sept. 19th to Oct. 4th.

Rent updates the story of Puccini's opera *La Boheme* to the 1990s. In New York's Alphabet City, musician Roger is dealing with the aftermath of his past drug use and his battle with AIDS...knowing his time is running out, he struggles to leave one great song behind. He gets support from his friends, filmmaker Mark, non-conformist professor Collins, and Collins' new love, drag queen musician Angel. The mix is only complicated by Mark's flighty ex-girlfriend Maureen, who's decided she prefers women, and their former friend and current landlord Benny, who's abandoned their past ideals. One Christmas Eve, Roger meets exotic dancer Mimi, who's got addiction issues of her own—and is also battling AIDS. Roger falls for her, but his unwillingness to deal with Mimi's addiction and illness causes him to push her away. Can he learn to choose love over fear—to live for "no day but today"?



The show's beloved by millions worldwide—and its creator Jonathan Larson's death on the eve of the preview performance adds an extra layer of poignancy to the show's message. For tickets, go to haddonfieldplayers.com.

And remember...*"measure your life in love."*

Divorced...Beheaded...*LIVE!!!* The hit musical *SIX* returns to Philadelphia's Academy of Music from Sept. 30th to October 5th!



Many of us know the story of the Six Wives of Henry VIII by now, but this unique show stages the six wives as would-be members of a girl group, performing a rock concert. They propose a competition as to who should be lead singer...depending on which of them has had the worst experience at Henry's hands. Catherine of Aragon tells us of how Henry cast her aside for Anne Boleyn...who, in turn, sings about how Henry executed her on trumped-up charges when he got disillusioned with HER. Jane Seymour had to live knowing how fickle Henry's love was, only to die after giving birth to the son he wanted. Then Anne of Cleves has her say...divorced by Henry because he claimed she was unattractive, she got the last laugh by getting a great settlement out of him. Katherine Howard, branded as the "slut" beheaded for adultery, gives us her side of the story as a teenage girl groomed and abused by men all her life. Finally, Katherine Parr, who had to submit to Henry's desire while loving another man, rejects the idea of competition between the wives...inspiring them to re-write their own stories and consider the kind of lives they could have if they'd had other options besides Henry.

To find out more or to order tickets, visit www.ensembleartsphilly.org ...and join this high-energy "histo-remix"!

What's New Onscreen!

The greatest band that never was returns to the big screen in *Spinal Tap II: The End Continues*, premiering September 12th!

Once again, director Marty DiBergi (Rob Reiner) is filming Spinal Tap, England's loudest rock band. The band has had its ups and downs over the years, and is now reuniting for a supposedly final tour. Neither Nigel Tufnel (Christopher Guest), David St. Hubbins (Michael McKean), nor Derek Smalls (Harry Shearer) is all that happy with the way they believe DiBergi misrepresented them in the previous movie...but can they prove him wrong by pulling off a flawless tour with no mishaps? C'mon, this is Spinal Tap...is anything they do flawless? Even the help of music royalty such as Sir Paul McCartney and Sir Elton John might not be enough to rescue the tour from disaster. Will they get the right prop for "Stonehenge" this time? Can they actually manage to keep a drummer safe and alive? No one can say...but one thing you can be sure of is that it'll be hilarious, especially with returning characters like Bobbi Flekman (Fran Drescher) and Artie Fufkin, Polymer Records (Paul Shaffer)!



This "rockumentary" (or is it "mockumentary"?) of one of the world's greatest fake bands is sure to take the laughs up to eleven!

~~In a dystopian future America, a contest among teenage boys has the potential to turn~~ deadly. That's the premise of *The Long Walk*, based on an early Stephen King novel and premiering Sept. 12th.



This movie comes from a novel Stephen King wrote under his Richard Bachman pseudonym. It's some time in the future, in an America ruled by a totalitarian regime. The powers-that-be run an annual contest called The Long Walk, in which 100 young adult men walk non-stop until there is only one survivor. Armed soldiers, led by The Major (Mark Hamill) accompany them, and they must keep up a certain speed. They are allowed three warnings...and whoever still falters after three warnings is shot dead. At the end of all of this, the winner is allowed anything he wants for the rest of his life. The teenage boys taking part in this, especially young Ray Garraty (Cooper Hoffman), have entered out of desperation...and desperation spurs them on, even as more and more of them drop dead from exhaustion or are executed by the armed escorts. The young men make alliances and try to subvert the contest to their advantages, but in this grueling, cutthroat environment, can these alliances survive?

Stephen King's proto-*Hunger Games* novel (the first one he wrote, although not the first one he published) makes for a compelling watch that's all the more relevant in today's world, and promises to leave you on the edge of your seat.

The PBS historical drama *Downton Abbey* took the world by storm and spawned two big-screen movies. Now, the final chapter in the Crawley family saga premieres Sept. 12th with *Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale*.

For as long as we've known them, the Crawley family has had to deal with rapid societal change. That hasn't stopped with the advent of the 1930s. Lady Mary (Michelle Dockery) is divorcing her second husband...and divorce is such a scandal to the British upper classes that it threatens to taint the family's reputation. To make matters worse, Downton's future itself is in jeopardy...the Crawleys had hoped to sell the main house and move into the Dower House, with Cora's (Elizabeth McGovern) money, as always, being the key to it. But Cora's feckless brother Harold (Paul Giamatti) has fallen victim to a scam and lost the money that was supposed to be Cora's. And, of course, there are tensions and problems among the servants that need to be resolved. But, as always, the Crawleys and those close to them will navigate these trials with a stiff upper lip and faith in each other, as they march forward into the future.



Fans of the series have the opportunity to bid farewell to these characters they've loved, with a moving and satisfying finale.



The Biblio-Files

Good evening. In honor of the sixtieth anniversary of *Psycho*, enjoy some new and upcoming novels that are connected with Alfred Hitchcock.

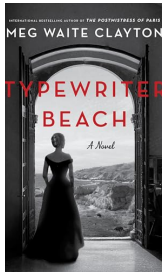
When the Master of Suspense throws a party, the only rule is to expect the unexpected...even if it means a journey into the supernatural. That's what happens in *The Last Spirits of Manhattan* by John A. McDermott, due to be released Oct. 14th.

It's 1956, and famed director Alfred Hitchcock announces his intent to throw a party at a supposedly haunted mansion on New York City's Upper East Side. As luck would have it, this mansion once belonged to the great-aunts of Carolyn Banks, a denizen of the Midwest who's come east looking for a new start. She ends up in her aunts' old house, attending the Master of Suspense's party along with such luminaries as cartoonist Charles Addams (da-da-da dum, click click) and actor Henry Fonda. But it turns out the rumors of the house being haunted (gleefully played up by Hitch) aren't rumors after all...the ghost of a young woman named Isabella, who calls herself "Snug", resides in the house and begins to mingle with the guests. Soon, Carolyn, along with Hitch, Addams, and company, begins to learn about her family's secrets, as well as to gain the insights that will help her move forward with her life...if this night doesn't end in total disaster for all involved, that is.



Combining paranormal thrills with genuinely heartfelt human drama, this compelling novel offers a look into the glittering world of 1950s Manhattan and the lives of the people who made it famous...as well as offering a tale of suspense the Master himself would have been proud of.

A young actress hoping for a role with Hitchcock ends up in a secluded area waiting for her fortunes to turn in *Typewriter Beach*, the acclaimed new dual-timeline novel by Meg Waite Clayton.

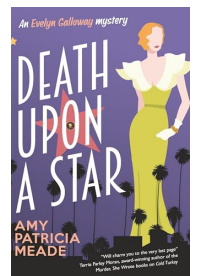


In 1957, aspiring actress Isabella ("Iz") Giori has been discovered by Alfred Hitchcock after having worked with Janet Leigh. She believes she has everything it takes to be the next Hitchcock blonde...but when Hitch finds out about an "expectation" she's having, the studio brass sends her to a secluded cottage in Carmel-by-the-Sea until she agrees to have it "taken care of", with the implication that her career is finished if she doesn't. There, Iz meets her neighbor Leon Chazan, a former Oscar-nominated screenwriter who's also been exiled here in the wake of McCarthyism. The two form a bond as Iz reads his new screenplay, a story worthy for Hitchcock to film. Years later, in 2018, Leon's granddaughter Gemma, at a similar crossroads, visits her recently deceased grandfather's cottage and finds mementoes of Isabella. As she learns about her grandfather's--and Iz's--history, she confronts the difficulties both of them had to deal with in Hollywood, and to re-assess what "family" really means.

This stunning novel, which has earned rave reviews from *Publisher's Weekly* and *Kirkus*, shows the gender and free-speech restrictions that so many had to deal with in 1950s Hollywood...and the human connections that overcame them.

In Amy Patricia Meade's *Death Upon A Star*, the first in a new mystery series, a young script supervisor on one of Alfred Hitchcock's most famous films finds herself smack-dab in the middle of a murder investigation.

New Yorker Evelyn Galloway has made her way to Hollywood looking for work as a script supervisor. She lucks out by landing a job on Alfred Hitchcock's new film *Rebecca*, getting to meet the likes of Laurence Olivier, Joan Fontaine, and the Master of Suspense himself. She also befriends a former silent-movie actor named John Cunningham Margrave, and accepts a lunch date with him...which he mysteriously bails out on. But when she walks by his apartment complex later that night, she witnesses some mysterious goings-on...which, she finds out the next day, are connected with Margrave's murder which was occurring at that very moment. When she stops by the police station to set some misconceptions straight, she finds herself getting in deeper and deeper. With some help from her new friend and roommate, would-be starlet Mary, and film archivist Antonio, she gets closer to the mystery's solution...and even gets a hand from the Master of Suspense himself.



This novel introduces a resourceful heroine and brings the glittering but sometimes dangerous world of late 1930s Hollywood to life. (The next in the series will center on Hitch's 1940 spy thriller *Foreign Correspondent*.)
