

MARCH / APRIL 2026



YOUR PLACE TO CONNECT

Registration Starts Monday, March 2

RIVERHEAD REMEMBERS PROJECT

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PET FOOD DRIVE

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SUNDAY AFTERNOON SPECIALS

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LIBRARY BUDGET VOTE ~ TUESDAY, APRIL 14

The mission of the Riverhead Free Library is to provide the diverse community it serves with access to ideas, information, and a variety of educational, cultural, recreational, and intellectual resources. The Library will do so in an inviting, accessible, and eco-conscious manner.



We ♥ our Riverhead Community

Riverhead Residents...

...love to borrow!

55,163
ITEMS BORROWED



20,330
ITEMS STREAMED

1,102
DISCOUNT TICKETS SOLD

100,782
AUDIO/EBOOK DOWNLOADS

643
MUSEUM PASSES

...love technology!

93,751 **10,361**
WIFI USES COMPUTER USES



...love to know!

27,637
REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED



...love to save!

LIBRARY USERS SAVED
\$6,060,908.55
BY BORROWING LIBRARY MATERIALS



...love to learn!

1,641
CLASSES & EVENTS OFFERED



167,389
DIGITAL RESOURCE USAGE

25,915
CLASSES & EVENTS ATTENDEES



...love to visit!

24,270
ACTIVE MEMBERS

121,019
IN-PERSON VISITS

156,766
WEBSITE VISITS



525
MEETING ROOMS BOOKED

VOTE! LIBRARY BUDGET & TRUSTEE ELECTION Tuesday, April 14, 10 am-8 pm • Library Grand Room

Proposed Operating Budget 2026-2027

	2025-2026	2026-2027	% Change
MATERIALS/PROGRAMS			
Books	\$88,000	\$88,000	0.00%
Digital Resources	\$280,000	\$280,000	0.00%
Media	\$30,000	\$30,000	0.00%
Periodicals	\$12,000	\$12,000	0.00%
Library of Things	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.00%
Programs	\$120,000	\$130,000	8.33%
Museum Passes	\$15,000	\$15,000	0.00%
BUILDING			
Computer Equipment	\$60,000	\$70,000	16.67%
Furniture & Equipment	\$55,000	\$55,000	0.00%
Building Improvement & Maintenance	\$90,000	\$90,000	0.00%
SUPPLIES			
Office, Computer & Program	\$65,000	\$65,000	0.00%
Custodial Supplies	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.00%
SALARIES			
Salaries	\$2,413,400	\$2,590,494	7.34%
UTILITIES			
Electricity	\$100,000	\$100,000	0.00%
Fuel	\$35,000	\$35,000	0.00%
Water	\$10,000	\$10,000	0.00%
CONTRACTS			
Building & Grounds	\$220,000	\$220,000	0.00%
Equipment Servicing	\$31,100	\$31,100	0.00%
SCLS - PALS	\$30,000	\$34,000	13.33%
SCLS - Automated Services	\$55,000	\$55,000	0.00%
Membership	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.00%
Professional	\$215,000	\$215,000	0.00%
Payroll Service	\$22,000	\$25,000	13.64%
Computer Software	\$20,000	\$20,000	0.00%
LIBRARY OPERATION			
Insurance	\$75,000	\$75,000	0.00%
Postage	\$28,000	\$28,000	0.00%
Printing & Publicity	\$110,000	\$110,000	0.00%
Professional Development	\$13,000	\$13,000	0.00%
Telephone	\$9,000	\$9,000	0.00%
Internet	\$29,000	\$29,000	0.00%
Voting	\$11,000	\$11,000	0.00%
MANDATED EXPENSES			
Mandated Expenses	\$1,133,000	\$1,282,025	13.15%
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM			
Capital Improvement Program	\$138,000	-	-100.00%
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET			
Total Operating Budget	\$5,537,500	\$5,752,619	3.88%
TO BE PROVIDED BY:			
Contract Districts, State Aide, Donations, PILOTS	\$287,500	\$182,000	-36.70%
Use of Fund Balance	\$50,000	\$100,000	100.00%
OPERATING BUDGET TAX LEVY			
Operating Budget Tax Levy	\$5,200,000	\$5,470,619	5.20%

Please note the tax levy limit for the year 2026-2027 from the Office of the State Comptroller is \$5,472,668 for the Riverhead Free Library. The proposed levy is \$5,470,619 for the 2026-2027 year for the Riverhead Free Library. The proposed levy is under the tax cap levy limit by \$2,049. The levy limit is composed of the tax base growth factor of 1.0094 and the allowable levy growth factor of 1.0200 for a total allowable levy increase of \$272,668 to remain under the tax cap. *Real property Tax Cap Form from the Office of the State Comptroller.

Voter Information: To be eligible to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, and have been a resident of the Riverhead Central School District for at least 30 days. If you have not voted in a general, school, or library election within the past four years, you must re-register. For registration details, please contact the District Clerk at (631) 369-4724.



A Message to the Community



Riverhead Free Library continues to move forward thoughtfully and responsibly as we advance our five-year improvement plan. Thanks to the community's support, this past year has brought meaningful progress.

We are making substantial improvements to our facilities, including the current renovations of the Browsing Room with a new Coffee Bar, as well as progress toward new ADA-compliant, gender-neutral public restrooms to better serve all members of our community. Our new Makerspace is also nearing completion and will provide expanded opportunities for creativity, technology learning, and hands-on participation.

Behind the scenes, we continue strengthening our technology infrastructure to ensure secure, reliable service for patrons who depend on our digital resources and public access computers.

However, in consideration of our patrons' fiscal well-being, the Library has made the prudent decision to pause the next phase of our five-year capital improvement program for the upcoming fiscal year. Additionally, we will not be piercing the tax cap this year. This approach allows us to maintain strong services while being mindful of the broader economic pressures facing our community.

The proposed 2026-2027 budget focuses on:

- Maintaining high-quality programs and services for all ages
- Supporting essential operational costs
- Protecting the Library's infrastructure and technology systems
- Ensuring financial stability and long-term sustainability

This balanced budget is under the NYS tax cap levy limit and reflects our commitment to responsible stewardship while continuing to provide the services and resources our residents value.

We invite you to attend our Budget Informational Meeting and Trustee Meet-and-Greet on Monday, March 30 at 6:30 PM to learn more about the proposed budget and meet the individuals dedicated to guiding the Library's future.

Most importantly, please remember to vote on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. Your continued support ensures that Riverhead Free Library remains a strong, welcoming, and forward-thinking community resource.

Kerrie McMullen-Smith

Library Director

HOW PROPERTY TAXES ARE CALCULATED

- 1) The Riverhead Free Library Proposed Tax Levy for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year is \$5,470,619
- 2) The Riverhead School District 2025-2026 Assessed Valuation is \$768,194,060
- 3) The tax rate is determined by dividing the Tax Levy by the total Taxable Assessed value of all property in the jurisdiction
- 4) Because tax rates are generally expressed as "per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value," the product is multiplied by 1,000
- 5) $\$5,470,619 / \$768,194,060 = 0.00712140237 \times 1,000 = \7.12 . The estimated tax rate for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year is \$7.12 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value
- 6) Per the Town of Riverhead Tax Assessor's Office, the average assessed value for a home in the Riverhead Central School District in the Town of Riverhead portion is \$45,347
- 7) Therefore, a home with an assessed value of \$45,347 would pay an estimated \$322.89 in taxes towards the Riverhead Free Library's 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget. $\$45,347 / 1000 = \$45.35 \times \$7.12 = \322.89

COMMUNITY SERVICES ~ Caring for our Community

Island Harvest Food Distribution

*Mondays, March 2 & April 6 • 9:00-11:00am
(While supplies last)*

For Seniors who have already qualified to receive a food distribution from Island Harvest. For more information about qualifying for a food distribution, call (631) 873-4775 ext. 210.

Stony Brook Healthy Libraries Program (HeLP):

*Tuesdays, March 3 and March 24
10:30am-1:00pm*

Free blood pressure screenings and health related questions answered on a variety of topics.

Suffolk County Office for the Aging - Senior Advocate

*Wednesdays, March 4 & April 8
10:00am-12:00pm*

A Suffolk County Office for the Aging advocate will be available to meet with seniors one-on-one on a walk-in basis to help them determine program eligibility. **No appointment required.**

Long Island Cares Mobile Food Assistance

Thursdays, March 5 & April 2 • 11:00am-12:00pm

Are you in need of emergency food? Long Island Cares will supply pre-packaged bags filled with non-perishable food items. No identification is required to pick up your supply of food. This is a walk-up service only. **No Registration Required.**

Veterans Resource Table

Wednesdays, March 18 & April 15 • 3:00-5:00pm

A Veteran peer mentor from the Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project will share resources for Veterans and their families.

HIICAP Free Medicare Counseling

Thursdays, March 19 & April 16 • 1:00-3:30pm

To register for a ½ hour one-on-one appointment, call (631) 727-3228 ext. 301.

Community Legal Help

Wednesdays, March 25 & April 22 • 2:00-5:00pm

Free limited legal information and referrals. Appointments preferred; walk-ins welcome. Call (631) 822-3272 to schedule.

Stony Brook Healthy Libraries Program (HeLP): Social Work Intern

Tuesdays & Thursdays • 9:30am-4:30pm

The social work intern will be available to meet with patrons in-person during the hours listed. Call (631) 727-3228 ext. 301 to schedule an appointment.

SCORE Free Individualized Business Counseling

Mentoring and advice for small business owners and entrepreneurs. Call to schedule a ½ hour in-person or virtual appointment 631-727-3228 ext. 301.

Free to Low Cost Health Insurance Need Health Insurance? Health & Welfare Council of Long Island's certified bi-lingual Healthcare Navigators are available to help! Enroll anytime for Medicaid, Child Health Plus and the Essential Plans. Apply for a Qualified Health Plan if eligible for Special Enrollment. All based on household size and income. **Call to schedule a phone appointment: (516) 505-4426.**

Board of Elections Demonstration

*Thursday, April 9
10:00am-7:00pm*

Suffolk County Board of Elections will show how to use the new voting machines.



ESBOCES Riverhead Literacy Zone Job Fair

Thursday, March 26 • 5:00-8:00pm

Meet with employers who are seeking applicants to fill a variety of full-time and part-time positions.

RECYCLING

E-Waste Recycling

*Tuesday, April 14
11:00am-2:00pm*

Drop off your old electronics at the Pupfish Sustainability Solutions e-waste recycling table in the library parking lot.



Paper Shredding with A Shred Away Inc.

Tuesday, April 14 • 4:15-7:15pm

A Shred Away Inc. will be in our library parking lot to assist you with your shredding needs.

Riverhead Remembers Project

Riverhead Free Library would like to collect, share and preserve your memories, photographs and ephemera for future generations. (We will scan all original documents.) The project will culminate with a community exhibition on June 13. Please contact riverheadremembers@riverheadlibrary.org if you have questions or would like to participate or submit.



COMING SOON!

MAKERSPACE

Check social media for opening day and programs.

Pet Food Drive

April 1-30

Our annual Pet Food Drive will take place throughout April, generously sponsored by Assemblywoman Jodi Giglio, with all donations benefiting Baxter's Pet Pantry. Most-needed items include 5-10 lb bags of dog or cat food, canned pet food, kitty litter, and new pet toys. All donations must be unopened and in original packaging. Help support local pets and families in need.



Citizen Preparedness Corps Training

Friday, March 13 • 10:00-11:00am

Sponsored by Senator Anthony Palumbo and Assemblywoman Jodi Giglio, this New York State training teaches how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Learn to create an emergency plan and build a supply kit. Each family will receive a free preparedness bag if at least 50 people attend. Registration is required. To register, visit www.prepare.ny.gov.



Unless otherwise noted, all classes for children from birth through Pre-K are intended for parents and children together. Classes for children in grades K-5 are intended for children on their own. **Children must be registered with their library card. Please adhere to all posted age/grade requirements for programs or registration will not be valid.**

FOR FAMILIES

Game On!

*Wednesdays, March 4 and April 1
5:00-7:00pm*

Drop-in to play awesome board games that spark creativity and build friendships. **For families with children in grades K-5.**

LEGO Club

*Thursdays, March 26 and April 23
4:00-7:00pm*

Join us for family LEGO Club! All ages are welcome—just bring your imagination!



Sock Bunnies

*Monday, April 6
11:00am-12:00pm*

For Families with children in pre-k-grade 2. Create a cozy, soft sock bunny to display this Spring.

K-Pop Demon Hunters

Movie Matinee
*Wednesday, April 8
1:30-3:30pm*

Come sing along to the Netflix smash-hit movie!

Paint Together with Bob Ross

*Thursday, April 9
1:00-1:45pm*

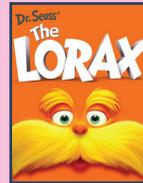
Gather your family for a relaxing paint-along! We'll follow a full Bob Ross episode together, creating landscapes, happy little trees, and colorful skies.



Truffula-Palooza Movie Night

*Monday, April 27
4:00-6:00pm*

For Families with children in pre-k-grade 5. Enjoy a screening of *The Lorax* (2012) with some light snacks while making your own colorful Truffula tree craft to take home! Please register each individual child.



Hunter/X K Pop Demon Hunters Concert

Saturday, April 11 • 12:00-12:30pm
Join us for an epic supernatural adventure as the K-Pop Demon Hunters arrive at the library.

FREE FOR THE DAY, DROP-IN TO ONE OF OUR PROGRAMS

Leprechaun Lookers

*Saturday, March 7 • 11:00am-1:00pm
(Grades K-5)*

Create magical leprechaun seeking binoculars.

Cherry Blossom Art

*Monday, March 30 • 5:00-7:00pm
(Grades K-5)*

Spring has officially sprung! Come in to create a beautiful cherry blossom picture.



Eco-Friendly Earth Day Cards

*Wednesday, April 15
4:00-7:00pm
(Grades K-5)*

Let's show a little love for our planet by making biodegradable greeting cards!



Spring Tote Bags

*Wednesday, April 29 • 4:00-7:00pm
(Grades K-5)*

Spring is here! Join us as we turn tote bags into blooming works of art!

INFANT, TODDLER AND PRESCHOOL (With a Parent/Caregiver)



Babies Boogie

*Mondays, March 2 and 23
10:30-11:15am*

Thursday, April 9 • 10:30-11:15am
For ages birth-23 months. Clap your hands, stomp your feet and move to the beat in this interactive music and movement class.

Music Storytime

Tuesday, March 31 • 10:30-11:00am
For ages 2-4 years. Join Reprise Music and experience the joy of music and storytelling together!

Dance With Me

*Mondays, March 9 and April 13
10:30-11:00am*

For ages 18-35 months. Little ones will enjoy a story, move, groove, and play through creative dance activities, tumbling on mats, and free play.

Dr. Seuss Yoga

Monday, March 9 • 4:30-5:15pm

For ages 18 months-3 years. While sharing *My Many Colored Days* by Dr. Seuss, we will bend, stretch, sing, and laugh, allowing your children to experience story time like they never have before.

Little Artists

Tuesday, March 10 • 3:00-5:00pm

For ages 2-5. Little artists are invited to explore colors, textures, and materials in this hands-on drop-in art program for preschoolers.

Music and Movement

Tuesday, March 10 • 10:30-11:00am

For ages 2-4 years. Move and groove with Reprise Music as we explore music through simple, joyful movements like clapping, stomping, and swaying to favorite songs.

Toddlers Tango

*Wednesdays, March 11, 18, and 25
11:00-11:45am*

For ages 2-4 years. Clap your hands, stomp your feet and move to the beat in this interactive music and movement class.

Tiny Talkers

Thursday, March 12 • 10:30-11:15am

For ages 18-36 months. Read, sing, and play in a themed class with pediatric speech-language pathologist Kristina Potter.

Tiny Tunes

*Fridays, March 13 and 27
10:30-11:00am*

Fridays, April 10 and 24 • 10:30-11:00am
For ages 1-3. This short and sweet program is for the littles who love to have fun with some new friends.

INFANT, TODDLER, AND PRESCHOOL CONTINUED (With a Parent/Caregiver)

Shamrock Silliness

Monday, March 16 • 4:30-5:00pm
For ages 2-5 years (not yet in Kindergarten). Come share the luck of the Irish with A Time for Kids, Inc. in this family fun preschool program all about St. Patrick's Day!

Music on the Farm

Tuesday, March 17 • 10:30-11:00am
For ages 2-4 years. Join Reprise Music for a musical adventure down on the farm! Sing along to favorite farm-themed songs, move like animals, and explore rhythm with fun instruments.

Sing, Sign, with Me

**Wednesday, March 18
4:00-4:45 pm
Thursday, April 23
10:30-11:15am**

For ages birth-5 years. Learn sign language in a meaningful and playful way with Registered and Licensed Occupational Therapist and Certified Signing Time Instructor, Lisamarie Curley.

Lil' Tots Sports

Thursday, March 19 • 10:30-11:15 am
For ages 18-36 months. Lil' Tots Sports Studio will introduce your little athletes to the world of sports through play, sensory crafts and activities, all while ensuring they have a blast!

Music Makers

Tuesday, March 24 • 10:30-11:00am
For ages 2-4 years. Get creative and make music in this hands-on workshop! Kids will build their own instruments using everyday household items while learning about percussion, string, and even "mouth" instruments.

Drama with Your Mama

Thursday, April 2 • 10:30-11:10am
For ages 2-4. Enjoy live music, storytelling and imaginative play in this introduction to acting!

Baby & Toddler Playdate

**Wednesdays, April 8, 15, and 22
10:00-11:00am**
For ages birth- 24 months. Join us for a fun, relaxed playdate designed just for babies and toddlers and their caregivers!

Sensory Playtime

**Tuesdays, April 14, 21, and 28
10:30-11:10am**
For ages 2-5. A toddler-and-me session that blends nature, art, and sensory experiences. **Due to the nature of this program we do not allow younger siblings.**

The Ms. Rachel Experience

Tuesday, April 14 • 4:30-5:00pm
For ages 6 months-5 years. Enjoy an interactive circle time with a Ms. Rachel impersonator!

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Thursday, April 16 • 4:30-5:00pm
For ages 2-5 years (not yet in Kindergarten). Join A Time for Kids Inc. in this creative, sensory program designed to celebrate Eric Carle's "The Very Hungry Caterpillar".

Sprouts & Friends

Monday, April 27 • 10:30-11:15am
For ages birth-5 years. Sprouts & Friends is a music and movement program for families with children. Come ready to move and sing with your child.

SCHOOL AGE CLASSES (K-5th grade) These classes are ALL in person. Registration is required.

Slime Time

Tuesday, March 17 • 5:30-6:15pm
(Grades 1-5)
Get festive for St. Patrick's Day with a lucky green slime! Dress for a mess.

Shamrock Pudding Cups

**Wednesday, March 11
5:30-6:15pm (Grades K-5)**
Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by making a delicious holiday treat!



Crazy Cryptids Escape Room

Thursday, March 12 • 5:00-6:00pm
(Grades 3-5)
Solve your way out of some tricky puzzles, and be the first to prove once and for all that Bigfoot is real!

Creative Crew:

Dots of Inspiration

Tuesday, March 24 • 5:00-6:00pm
(Grades K-5)
Join the Creative Crew and bring your creativity to life through hands-on arts and crafts projects.

Leprechaun Traps

**Wednesday, March 9
6:00-7:00pm (Grades 3-5)**
Design your very own leprechaun trap using creativity, engineering, and a little luck.



The Pawject: Paws and Portraits

Tuesday, March 31 • 5:00-6:00pm
(Grades 3-5)
Help shelter pets find their forever homes! Create portraits of adoptable animals from Kent Animal Shelter, and see your artwork displayed in the library during the last week of April in celebration of Adopt a Shelter Pet Day on April 30. **Participants will earn 1 hour of community service.**

Slime Time

**Friday, April 3
2:00-3:00pm (Grades 1-5)**
Easter themed slime time is here! Make sure to dress for a mess!



Money Quest: Smart Choices

Tuesday, April 7 • 1:00-1:45pm (Grades K-2)
Children will earn play money and make smart choices while learning the basics of earning, saving, and spending through fun games and activities.

Money Quest: Smart Choices

Tuesday, April 7 • 2:00-2:45pm
(Grades 3-5)
Children will earn play money, work in teams, and discover how smart decisions lead to success—all through exciting, hands-on fun.

Mighty Makers: Spring Sips

Tuesday, April 7 • 5:00-6:00pm (Grades 2-5)
In this session, participants will design and decorate their own tumblers using Cricut vinyl.

Mystical Creature

Reading Lights

Monday, April 6 • 5:00-5:45pm
(Grades K-5)
Create your own enchanted jar that sparkles with twinkle lights and a silhouette of a mermaid, fairy, or dragon.

Creative Crew:

Recycled Self-Portraits

Tuesday, April 21 • 5:00-6:00pm
(Grades K-5)
In this session, celebrate Earth Day by turning trash into treasure!

Teen Art Show

Thursday, March 12 • 4:30-6:30pm
The Youth and Family Services Department is thrilled to present the artwork of Riverhead High School students in grades 9-12. Come drop by to check out the creative and different types of art and enjoy light refreshments at the opening.



YOUTH CHOICE AWARDS: LIBRARY EDITION

It's Library Budget Vote Day! On Tuesday, April 14 from 9:00am-7:30pm children of all ages are invited to vote for their favorite authors, books, characters, and movies. Voting will be available all day at the library. Each child who votes will be entered into a raffle.

TEEN AND TWEEN DROP-INS

Drop-In anytime the Teen Loft is open to participate in any of these activities.

Meta Quest VR Free Play

Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 • 4:00-6:00pm (Grades 6-12)

Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, and 28 • 4:00-6:00pm (Grades 6-12)

Step into the next dimension of gaming with our VR headset.

Featured this month: Beat Saber. **No registration required.**

Rainbow Sand Art Terrariums

Sunday, March 8-Saturday March 14 (Grades 4-12)

Drop-in and layer bright rainbow sand to design your own mini terrarium. The perfect decoration to celebrate the Spring and St. Patrick's Day! **No registration required.**

Shamrock Tea Light Holders

Sunday, March 15-Saturday, March 21 (Grades 6-12)

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by making festive shamrock tea light holders, perfect for adding a touch of luck to any space.

No registration required.

3D Pocket Cryptids

Sunday, March 22-Saturday, March 28 (Grades 4-12)

Create miniature 3D displays of your favorite cryptids, from Nessie to Bigfoot and Mothman. **No registration required.**

Pastel Painted Mason Jars

Monday, April 6-Saturday, April 11 (Grades 6-12)

Mix your own paints to create custom pastel colors and transform a glass mason jar into a unique decorative piece. **No registration required.**

Tiny Book Keychains

Sunday, April 12-Saturday April 18 (Grades 4-12)

Create your own mini book keychain! Complete with real pages, a custom cover, and glossy finish. Use it as a keychain or charm!

No registration required.

Pressed Flower Bookmarks

Sunday, April 19-Saturday, April 25 (Grades 6-12)

Design your own pressed flower bookmarks by arranging real blooms to create a beautiful, one-of-a-kind keepsake.

No registration required.

Make Custom Stickers!

Sunday, April 26-Saturday May 2 (Grades 4-12)

Design and cut your own custom stickers using our Cricut machine! Use your favorite images, quotes, or original artwork. Sign-up for a time slot to craft your personalized set of stickers.

TEEN LOFT (Independent Programs for Grades 6-12)

D&D Nights

Thursdays,
March 5 and
April 2 • 4:30-6:30pm

Join our dimension-hopping party for a unique campaign every month. New and veteran players welcome!



Tabletop Thursdays

Thursdays, March 19 and April 16
4:00-7:00pm

Stop by for a laid-back afternoon of board gaming. Featured this month: think fast to fool your friends in a game of *Chameleon*.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Teens attended these programs by themselves

Teen Leaders

We are looking for teen leaders in grades 10-12 to assist the Youth Services Department in planning and implementing library sponsored events as well as providing input on services for teen programs and spaces. If you are interested please see a librarian at the Teen Reference Desk for an application.

Middle School Survival Guide Workshop

Thursdays, March 12, 19, and 26

3:00-5:00pm (Grades 6-8)

This three part bilingual workshop series invites students to lead honest, meaningful conversations with one another. Working together, participants share advice and real life tips that are compiled into a Survival Guide written by students, for students. Every participant is featured as a contributor, and the completed book is published and added to the library's collection for the community to enjoy. Snacks will be served. Participants must attend all 3 sessions and will earn a total of 6 community service hours. Certificates will be awarded at the completion of the last session.

The Pawject: Paws and Portraits

Monday, March 30 • 4:00-5:00pm

(Grades 6-12)

Help shelter pets find their forever homes! Create portraits of adoptable animals from Kent Animal Shelter, and see your artwork displayed in the library during the last week of April in celebration of Adopt a Shelter Pet Day on April 30. **Participants will earn 1 hour of community service.**

Teen Window Painting

Thursday, April 9 • 4:30-6:30pm

(Grades 6-12)

Exercise your creativity and spruce up the library for Spring! **Participants will earn 2 hours of community service.**

Author's Unlimited

Saturday, May 2 • 9:30am-2:30pm

Located at St. Joseph's University in Patchogue

In need of community service hours? Authors Unlimited celebrates reading, writing, and art by connecting teens with young adult authors!

Rowana Miller (Secrets of the Blue Hand Girls), Dave Roman (Unicorn Boy), and Kara Thomas (The Champions) make up this year's all-star lineup! Join us for a group panel followed by solo sessions with each author. Books will be sold and can be signed during the autograph session! Attendees can earn three hours of community service credit for attending and filling out a survey at the end of the day. Register for this free event at au2026.eventbrite.com!



Call (631) 727-3228 or visit our website at riverheadlibrary.org to register for programs that do not have a fee. Register in-person at the front desk for all programs with a fee. Payment is due at the time of registration. Registration fees are non-refundable unless the program is canceled by the library.

NEW ADULT (AGES 18-30)
Passion Presentation

Thursday, April 30 • 6:00-7:00pm
Have something you're passionate about and want to share it with others? Join us in the viral trend of giving funny yet informative presentations! Don't want to present? That's fine! Feel free to sign up simply to attend and learn something new. If you do have a topic you want to present, please call Reference at 631-727-3228, ext. 301 or email askadultref@riverheadlibrary.org.



BOOKS AND BEYOND

Vintage Vignettes:
Historical Fiction Club

Thursday, March 19
1:00-2:00pm
America's First Daughter
by Stephanie Dray
Thursday, April 16 • 1:00-2:00pm
The Dressmakers of Prospect Heights
by Kitty Zeldis



Trues and Brews at Mugs on Main

Join us each month to discuss a true crime novel.
Thursday, March 19 • 6:00-7:00pm
The Art Thief: A True Story of Love, Crime and a Dangerous Obsession
by Michael Finkel
Thursday, April 23 • 6:00-7:00pm
The Lazarus Files: A Cold Case Investigation
by Matthew McGough



The Doormen of New York with Sara Leeds

Wednesday, April 8 • 7:00-8:00pm
Sara Leeds, creator and host of viral sensation "Doorman Stories" on TikTok, shares some of the stories of New York City's doormen.



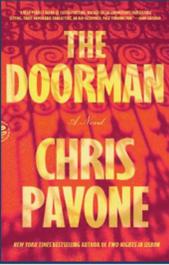
Scandalous: Scandals in the Art World

Thursday, April 9 • 7:00-8:00pm
From stolen masterpieces to artwork that shocked the world, artist and professor Chris Vivas discusses major events that rocked the art world.



Long Island Reads Book Discussion

Thursday, April 23 • 1:00-2:00pm
Join us as we discuss the 2026 Long Island Read's Pick, *The Doorman*.



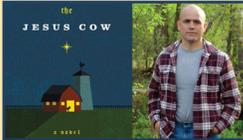
Long Island Reads Author Event

Sunday, April 26 • 2:00-3:00pm
Author Chris Pavone will be honored at the 2026 Long Island Selection Award event for his book, *The Doorman*. The event will take place at Half Hollow Hills Library (Dix Hills Branch).

LIVE ONLINE AUTHOR TALKS



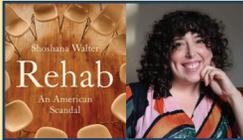
The Jesus Cow and Population: 485 by Michael Perry
Wednesday, March 4 • 2:00pm



The Astral Library by Kate Quinn
Thursday, March 12 • 7:00pm



Rehab An American Scandal by Shoshana Walter
Tuesday, March 24 • 2:00pm



On a Mission by Valerie Neal
Thursday, April 2 • 2:00pm



Shadow Strike by Brad Taylor
Tuesday, April 14 • 7:00pm

Coach by Jason Reynolds
Thursday, April 30 • 7:00pm



NATURE AND GARDENING

Seeds of Knowledge
Seed Library Opening

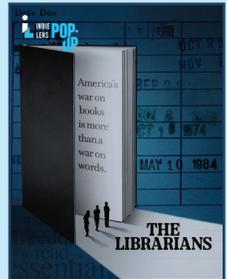
Monday, March 9
10:00am-12:00pm
Stop by the seed library informational table to find out more about how you can request seeds.



National Library Week April 19-25

Indie Lens Pop-Up

The Librarians
Wednesday, April 22 • 5:30-7:30pm
Librarians across the U.S. examine how book review policies are shaping their communities.
Join us in celebrating National Library Week with this thought-provoking documentary that highlights book banning across the country. Conversation about the film will follow.



ALL THINGS IRISH

\$ Teatime in Ireland with Margaret Johnson

Wednesday, March 4 • 1:00-2:30pm

Join local author Margaret M. Johnson, for a program that includes Irish tea history, teatime recipes, and innovations on afternoon tea today. Patrons should bring their own teacup and saucer. **\$5 per person due at time of in person registration.**

Paper Flowers: Shamrocks

Monday, March 9 • 2:00-3:30pm

Join Casey Cunningham in making these shamrocks just in time for St. Patrick's Day.

\$ Irish Soda Bread with Chef Rob

Wednesday, March 11 • 2:00-3:30pm

See "Cooking."

Irish Genealogy

Saturday, March 14 • 1:00-3:00pm

Learn how to find your Irish roots with Genealogist Eileen Swanberg.



ARTS AND CRAFTS

Birdhouse Kits Make and Take

Monday, March 23

Beginning on March 23 come by the Adult Reference Desk and pick up a birdhouse that you can build and paint on your own. Registration is required. Must be a RFL cardholder. **One birdhouse per household.**



Spring Earrings with Lisa

Thursday, April 24 • 1:00-2:00pm

Learn to make these earrings in time for spring.

Flower Felting with Amanda

Monday, April 13 • 1:00-2:00pm or

Monday, April 20 • 6:00-7:00pm

Learn the art of needle felting. All supplies are included, please register for either the afternoon or evening class.

"Yarn Tales" Knitting and Crochet Club

Mondays • 2:00-3:15pm

Join a group of knitters and crocheters to share knowledge, projects and all things yarn. Ages 18 and up.



LIFELONG LEARNING

Baseball and the Presidency Live from the FDR Library

Wednesday, March 18 • 1:00-2:00pm

Join FDR Library Education Specialist Jeff Urban where he will highlight the relationship of various presidents with the national pastime.

Benefits of Volunteering that Will Inspire You

Wednesday, April 8 • 2:00-3:00pm

Volunteering to help others can be very beneficial.

Learn how volunteering can change your life and how you can get involved.



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women of Ireland

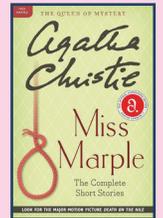
Wednesday, March 18 • 6:30-7:30pm

Meet the women of Ireland from ancient Celts to the present day.

Not Dead Yet: Old Women are Killing it in Popular Culture

Tuesday, March 24 • 7:00-8:00pm

Join us as we trace the rise of fictional female detectives, spies, serial killers and assassins of a certain age, from Miss Marple to the members of the Thursday Murder Club.



MOVIE MATINEE FRIDAY

Join us as we enjoy an old favorite or get introduced to a new one.

We will supply all concession stand snacks.

The Quiet Man

March 13 • 1:00pm

The Crossing

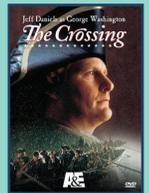
March 20 • 1:00pm

National Treasure

April 10 • 1:00pm

Wicked for Good

April 24 • 1:00pm



LANGUAGE LEARNING

Intermediate German

Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7, 14, 21, 28
9:45-11:00am



Italian Dialogue, Grammar & Culture

Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18 & April 1, 8, 15 • 4:00-5:30pm



Conversational Spanish

Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19 & April 9, 16, 23 • 4:00-5:30pm



Conversational German

Fridays, March 6, 13, 20, & April 10, 17, 24 • 9:45-11:00am



COOKING

\$ Irish Soda Bread with Chef Rob Scott

Wednesday, March 11 • 2:00-3:30pm

Join Chef Rob in making this wonderful Irish Soda Bread. **\$5 per person due at time of in person registration.**

\$ Lemon Tartlets with Judy's Cucina

Saturday, April 11 • 1:00-3:00pm

Learn to make these lemon tartlets just in time for Spring. **\$5 per person due at time of in person registration.**

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250TH ALL YEAR LONG



Two Hundred Years on the Erie Canal

March 1-March 30

This exhibit focuses on the builders and the groups that built the canal.

Talking the Bill of Rights via Zoom

Friday, March 13 & April 17 • 6:00-7:00pm

Learn about the history and relevance of the Bill of Rights and its role in the founding of the country.



Movie Matinee Friday: The Crossing

Friday, March 20 • 1:00pm

The story of George Washington's perilous gamble of crossing the Delaware River and attacking the Hessian forces at Trenton.

The Culper Spy Ring: The Lasting Legacy of Long Island's Revolutionary Roots

Saturday, March 21 • 2:00-3:00pm

Explore the true story behind the Culper Spy Ring — a network of citizen spies led by George Washington that operated in secrecy from Setauket to Manhattan.



Yankee Stargazing with Joe Roa

Thursday, March 26 • 6:30-7:30pm

A Semiquincentennial tribute to American astronomers. And we'll clue you in on where to look in the sky to see a star, whose light began on its journey to Earth 250 years ago, and is only arriving now, for us to view in 2026.

Patriots, Traitors, and CIA Case Officers: Spying Then and Now

Thursday, April 16 • 1:00-2:00pm

From George Washington's spies to double agents in British ranks, intelligence operations sustained the Revolutionary cause and outmaneuvered one of the world's strongest empires.

Tavern Tea with Margaret Johnson

Monday, April 20 • 1:00-2:30pm

To celebrate the nation's 250th birthday, join us for tea at hosted by local author Margaret M. Johnson who will weave colonial history into an afternoon tea menu based on period foods. **\$5 per person due at time of in person registration.**



STAY HEALTHY



Tips for Successful Aging in Place

Tuesday, March 3 • 2:00-3:00pm

Learn the tips for successful aging in place that can help you stay safe, healthy, and happy in your own home.

When Dementia Meets the Law:

What Every Family Should Know

Thursday, March 12 • 2:00-3:00pm

Dementia affects how a family makes decisions. This presentation will go over guardianship, what documents prevent crisis, and what care options exist locally. Presented by CarePatrol of East Long Island.



Healthy Start for the New Year- How to Boost Your Immunity in the Winter Months

Thursday, March 19 • 12:00-1:00pm

Start your new year with a healthy immune system! Learn how incorporating specific power foods into your diet can help strengthen your immune response.



Parkinson's Disease

Thursday, April 16 • 12:00-1:00pm

In honor of Parkinson's Awareness Month, join Sarah Cohen, PT, DPT, to learn more about Parkinson's disease, why rates are increasing, and what we can do to live with the disease.

Chair Boxing with Johnathan Arroyo

Wednesdays, March 4 & April 1

10:30-11:30am

Go another round with Johnathan in this energetic, fun boxing class. No experience required, all gloves and equipment will be provided as well as some fun music to box along to. **Must register for each individual class.**



GET FIT

Mat Pilates with Leisa

Mondays, March 9, 16, 23 & April 6, 13, 20

10:00-11:00am



Tai Chi with Denise

Mondays, March 9, 16, 23 & April 13, 20

4:00-5:00pm



Reiki Circle with Machi

Mondays, March 2, 9, 16 & April 6, 13, 20

7:00-7:45pm



Virtual Breathe Together with Charyl

Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 &

April 7, 14, 21, 28 • 10:00-10:25am



Virtual Body Sculpting with Claire

Tuesdays & Thursdays

March 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 24, 26, 31 &

April 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 • 9:00-10:00am



Moving Zen: Karate for Aging Adults

Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17 &

April 7, 21, 28 • 5:30-6:30pm



Virtual Meditation Classes with Susan

Wednesdays, March 25 & April 29 • 7:00-8:00pm



Virtual and In-Person

Chair Yoga with Susan

Thursdays, March 5, 12, 26 & April 2, 9, 16

11:00am-12:00pm



Zumba Nights with Tiana

Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19 & April 2, 9, 16

6:00-7:00pm



Virtual Zumba Gold with Irina

Fridays, March 6, 13, 20 & April 17 • 10:00-11:00am

Classes will be conducted virtually, but you may choose to join others, in-person, as we project Irina's classes on the big screen.



Class on March 13 will be virtual only.

SENIOR SOCIALS WITH LAURA

Registration is required
for all socials!



Senior Lunch Social (Singles)

Wednesday, March 11
1:00-3:00pm
Watermark of Wading River
2925 Wading River Road,
Wading River

Senior Dinner Social (Everyone is welcome!)

Wednesday, March 18
5:30-7:30pm
Maple Tree BBQ
820 Main Street, Riverhead

Senior Social at the Library

Friday, March 20
2:30-4:00pm
Come to the library to enjoy
light refreshments and have
some fun.

Senior Lunch Social (Everyone is welcome!)

Wednesday, April 8
1:00-3:00pm
Bagel Lovers
673 Osborne Ave, Riverhead

Senior Dinner Social (Singles)

Wednesday, April 15
5:30-7:30pm
Bistro 72 at Hotel Indigo
1830 W. Main Street,
Riverhead

Senior Social at the Library

Friday, April 17 • 2:30-4:00pm
Come to the library to enjoy
light refreshments and have
some fun.

GET TOGETHER

Structures of Sound

Thursday, March 5, 19 & April 2, 16 • 5:30-6:30pm



Dungeons and Dragons

Saturdays, March 14 & April 11 • 1:00-4:30pm



Hallockville Old Time Jam

Thursdays, March 12, 26 & April 9, 23 • 5:30-7:30pm



Writer's Workshop: The Fiction Factory

Tuesdays, March 10, 24 & April 14, 28 • 5:30-7:30pm



Poetry Street: The Room Without a Roof Where Every Voice is Heard

Saturdays, March 28 & April 25 • 2:00-4:00pm



DEFENSIVE DRIVING



\$ Defensive Driving Courses

Saturdays, March 14 & April 18 • 9:30am-3:30pm

Thursday, April 30 • 9:30-3:30pm

On the day of the class, bring your driver's license and
payment to be given to the instructor. **Fee \$35.** (Payment can
be made using **cash or United States Postal Service money
order** payable to Empire Safety Council.)

With Appreciation:

The Riverhead Free Library would like to express gratitude
to the following for their monetary donation:

**Sheila & Thomas Mohrman, Parkview Community,
David Troyan in honor of Eloise Parker and Richard Gadzinski,
Riverhead Garden Club in Honor of Eileen Norton,
To all who generously donated to the Library's Annual Appeal**

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SPECIALS

Donovan Project:

Celebrating the Music of the Irish

Sunday, March 8 • 1:30-3:00pm

Let's celebrate the music of the Irish,
just in time for St. Patrick's Day.



Women of Broadway performed by Yvette Malavette Blum

Sunday, March 22 • 1:30-3:00pm

Join us as Yvette Malavette-Blum,
accompanied by Al Koll on piano
showcase the Women of Broadway.



Radio Flashback

Sunday, April 12

1:30-3:00pm

Get ready to rock out
with Radio Flashback, the
ultimate 70's and 80's rock
tribute show!



"Back To The Beginning" Jazz & Classical guitar with Craig Boyd & Hui Guo Boyd

Sunday, April 26 • 1:30-3:00pm



BOATING

New York State Safe Boating Certification Course

Saturday, April 4 • 9:30am-5:00pm

Assemblywoman Jodi Giglio will be sponsoring this
1-Day course offered by Safe Boating America.
Pre-registration is required and seating is limited.
The fee for the course is \$70 with the discount offered
through Assemblywoman Giglio's office. Registrants
must be a minimum of 10 years of age. Upon
successful completion, participants will be issued
a New York State Boating Safety Certificate.
For more information about registering please call
(631) 727-3228 ext. 301.

America's Boating Course Presented by United States Power Squadron

Saturdays, April 25 & May 2 • 9:00am-2:00pm

The 2 sessions (continues on 5/2 and students must
be present for both sessions) will cover boating law,
safety equipment, safe boating practices, navigation,
boating emergencies, personal watercraft, charts,
GPS, trailering and much more. The \$65.00 fee covers
the cost of the America's Boating Course manual.
Students must be at least 10 years of age on or
before May 2, 2026. Register on line at www.PBPS.us/education/schedule before 4/10/26 or call Helen
Horton at 631-523-7889 to learn more.

Genealogy Appointments Need help researching
your family tree? Appointments can be made at
genealogy@riverheadlibrary.org or by calling the
reference desk at (631) 727-3228 ext. 301.



330 Court Street, Riverhead, NY 11901
 Phone: 631-727-3228 Fax: 631-727-4762
www.riverheadlibrary.org

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Kerrie McMullen-Smith

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

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HOURS:
 Monday-Thursday: 9:00am – 8:00pm
 Fridays & Saturdays: 9:00am – 5:00pm
 Sundays: 12:00pm – 4:00pm
 (October 19-April 26, 2026)

The Library will be closed on Sunday, April 5 for Easter.

The Monthly Board of Trustees Meetings will be held on Wednesdays, March 11 & April 8 at 6:30pm.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR YELLOW BARN



The Yellow Barn will be reopening this spring, and we are looking for volunteers to help welcome visitors, organize books, and support this popular community space.

Hours are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., plus one Saturday per month.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email contact@riverheadlibrary.org. We would love to have you join us!

ON DISPLAY
IN THE SHOWCASE
March - Riverhead School District
April - Riverhead School District

THE OVERTON GALLERY
March - Riverhead School District
April - Riverhead School District

Discounted aquarium tickets are available for sale at the Library's circulation desk.

CLUB CALENDAR

Weekly and Monthly clubs include the following:

BRIDGE - Mondays • 1:00-4:00pm

CHESS - Mondays • 5:45-7:45pm

MAH JONGG - Wednesdays • 1:00-3:00pm

TOASTMASTER CLUB - March 3, March 18 & April 1, April 15
 6:00-7:30pm

STAMP CLUB - 2nd & Last Thursday • 6:00-7:00pm

ITALIAN CONVERSATION CLUB - Thursdays • 2:00-4:00pm

RIVERHEAD PHOTO CLUB - 2nd & Last Thursday • 6:30-7:30pm

CANASTA - Fridays • 1:00-3:00pm

Join your neighbors. Interested in something you don't see?
 Email us at adultprograms@riverheadlibrary.org




MUSEUM PASSES

Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame (printable)
 LT Michael P. Murphy
 Navy Seal Museum
 Museum of Modern Art
 New York Hall of Science
 Parrish Art Museum (printable)
 Planting Fields Arboretum
 Raynham Hall Museum (printable)
 The South Fork Natural History Museum and Nature Center (printable)
 Vanderbilt Museum

Passes are subject to availability.

9/11 Memorial & Museum
 American Airpower Museum
 American Museum of Natural History vouchers
 Brooklyn Botanic Garden
 Children's Museum of the East End (printable)
 Cradle of Aviation Museum
 Empire Pass
 Fire Island Lighthouse (printable)
 The Frick Collection
 Guggenheim Museum
 Intrepid Museum (printable)
 Long Island Children's Museum (printable)
 Long Island Maritime Museum (printable)
 Long Island Museum



