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PRESS RELEASE

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Martin Luther King Jr. events coming to the Ocean County Library

TOMS RIVER – Ocean County Library will present a variety of events through January and February honoring the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: The Making of a Holiday", a short documentary containing rare footage about the origin of the holiday, will be screened 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18 at the Plumsted branch, 119 Evergreen Road, New Egypt, 609-758-7888.

"Betty and Coretta", a 2013 film depicting the widows of Malcolm X and Dr. King, will be screened and discussed at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4 at the Lacey branch, 10 East Lacey Rd., Forked River, 609-693-8566. The film stars Mary J. Blige and Angela Bassett.

"Martin Luther King, Jr.: 'A Man of Conscience" will be hosted at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Island Heights branch, 121 Central Ave., 732-270-6266. Actor Keith Henley will perform his interpretation of Dr. King, detailing his life and thoughts. The program is funded by the Horizons Speakers Bureau of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The DVD Discussion Group will meet to discuss the 2014 film "Selma" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Stafford branch, 129 N. Main St., 609-597-3381. "Selma" tells the story behind the legendary march led by Dr. King to achieve voting rights for blacks in 1965.

"Martin Luther King, Jr.: A Chautauqua" will take place at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 17 at the Upper Shores branch, 112 Jersey City Ave., Lavallette, 732-793-3996. Actor/historian Marvin Jefferson will portray Dr. King.

Dr. King materials will be on display during the week of Monday, Jan. 18 through Saturday, Jan. 23 to honor his legacy at the Tuckerton branch, 380 Bay Ave., 609-296-1470.

Children will also be able to celebrate Dr. King with craft events across several branches, including: Upper Shores branch, 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 18 Lacey branch, 12 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18 Pt. Pleasant Beach branch, 1:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18 Tuckerton branch, 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18 Island Heights branch, 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19

The programs are free and open to the public but registration is required. To register or for more information call the branch or go to theoceancountylibrary.org and click the Events & News icon to view the Calendar of Events.