

## **OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY**

Connecting People ... Building Community...Transforming Lives

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Black History Month showcased at the Ocean County Library

**TOMS RIVER** – The Ocean County Library will host a multitude of interesting events honoring Black History Month throughout February.

"African American Genealogy" will take place at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 16 at the Lacey branch, 10 East Lacey Road, Forked River, 609-693-8566. This event will explain the basics of researching African American genealogy despite the unique challenges in documenting African American family stories.

"Black Indian Storytelling" will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 18 at the Long Beach Island branch, 217 S. Central Ave., Surf City, 609-494-2480. Attendees will learn about the similarities between traditional Native American and African teachings.

Music, storytelling and sign language will be utilized to depict traditional Native American and African teachings of love and respect for nature and one another. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Island Library.

"Random Fandom: Minorities in Comics" will be held at 3 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 23 at the Toms River branch,101 Washington Street, Toms River, 732-349-6200. This installment of this monthly program will focus on African American comic book and graphic novel creators and characters.

"Black History Month Celebration with the Toms River Area NAACP" will take place at noon, Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Toms River branch. This celebration will feature food by members of Toms River Area NAACP, a performance by the N'Step dance troupe of Toms River North High School, and storytelling by Michelle Washington Wilson.

This event is sponsored by the Toms River Area NAACP and the Friends of the Toms River Library.

Local R&B/Motown group BJ & the Band will perform at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Stafford branch, 129 N. Main Street, Manahawkin, 609-597-3381. BJ & the Band's

performances are memorable and energetic, featuring songs by such artists as Stevie Wonder, The Jackson 5, The Temptations and more.

To register or for more information please call the branch or go to the library website at theoceancountylibrary.org and click the "Events & News" icon.