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ELLIS LIBRARY &  
Reference Center

3700 South Custer Road  
Monroe Michigan  
(734) 241-5277

# Writers on the River 2023



**Sunday, November 12, 2023 from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm, featuring:**

- |                      |                      |                  |                    |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| • Jim Abb            | • Andy Butler        | • Keith Julius   | • Brandon Robinson |
| • Christine Allen    | • Will Canduri       | • David Kiluk    | • Jen Shaffer      |
| • Myrna Allen-Austin | • Jeff Ferris        | • Amanda Liford  | • Tim Shannon      |
| • T. Ariyanna        | • Susie Finkbeiner   | • Shawna Mazur   | • Lannie Stabile   |
| • Robert Austin      | • Dr. Arun Gupta     | • Jeremy McGarry | • Albany Walker    |
| • Nicole Beauchamp   | • Joyce Harvey       | • Tara Michener  | • Danni Williams   |
| • Jim Bolone         | • Jeri Holland       | • H.H. Miller    | • Brenda Ynclan    |
| • Ana Bruck          | • Franklin R. Jackes | • Cynthia Olsen  |                    |

Writers on the River returns to the Ellis Library & Reference Center, welcoming over thirty authors who will be eager to meet readers of all ages! This year's Writers roster features a fantastic blend of book genres and subject matter — from romantasy and poetry, to haunted histories and science fiction, and that's just for starters.

In addition to the opportunity to meet local authors, the day will also include raffles for attendees, as well as a bake sale! All of the authors and artists will have copies of their books available for purchase and personalization.

# Letter

## From the Director

It has become a tradition for me to reflect and give thanks in our fall newsletter. This year is no exception. As we approach the Thanksgiving season, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and a deep appreciation for Monroe County. It is a privilege to work alongside friends, neighbors, and partners as we strive to strengthen our shared goals of enrichment, education, and literacy.

This year has been an extraordinary one, filled with both triumphs and challenges. Through it all, the unwavering dedication and resilience of our staff shone brightly. Generous contributions from area organizations enhanced programming within our branches, improved our building facilities, and provided dinners for local families. We are also abundantly grateful for the vigilance of law enforcement, whose efforts to protect our citizens cannot be appreciated enough.

We here at the Library are thankful for the communities we serve, and for the individuals and organizations that make up the vibrant tapestry of Monroe. Your trust, support, and fellowship have been instrumental in our journey.

As we gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving, I hope you will find moments of warmth and connection. I look forward to a future filled with shared experiences, growth, and goodwill. Thank you for being an essential part the Monroe County Library System.

**- Nancy Bellaire**

## PICTURES FROM THE BRANCHES Halloween Fun

Our friends had a spellbinding time attending branch Halloween events!



Photos from the Vivian Branch Library's Trunk-or-Treat event!

## Plant and Seed Libraries

Plant lovers are invited to explore an exciting new collection offered at multiple branches of the Monroe County Library System – plant libraries, seed libraries, and propagation stations!

Plant clippings are now available at the Bedford, Dorsch Memorial, and Frenchtown-Dixie Branch Libraries. Clippings are free for patrons to take and nurture in their own homes. Plants do not need to be returned, however those wishing to donate clippings from their own collections are welcome to do so. These new green additions have excited plant parents of all ages since their first appearance in the branches.

Seed libraries are also available at the Ellis Library & Reference Center, as well as the Bedford, Blue Bush, and Vivian Branch Libraries.

### PLANT LIBRARIES & PROPAGATION STATIONS

- BEDFORD BRANCH LIBRARY  
8575 Jackman, Temperance, MI (734) 847-6747
- DORSCH MEMORIAL BRANCH LIBRARY  
18 E. First, Monroe, MI (734) 241-7878
- FRENCHTOWN-DIXIE BRANCH LIBRARY  
2881 Nadeau, Monroe, MI (734) 289-1035
- SUMMERFIELD-PETERSBURG BRANCH LIBRARY  
60 E. Center, Petersburg, MI (734) 279-1025

### Seed LIBRARIES

- BEDFORD BRANCH LIBRARY  
8575 Jackman, Temperance, MI (734) 847-6747
- BLUE BUSH BRANCH LIBRARY  
2210 Blue Bush, Monroe, MI (734) 242-4085
- ELLIS LIBRARY & REFERENCE CENTER  
3700 S. Custer, Monroe, MI (734) 241-5277
- ROBERT A. VIVIAN BRANCH LIBRARY  
2664 Vivian, Monroe, MI (734) 241-1430



Learn more online at:

<https://mymcls.com/plant-libraries>



## Ellis After School

### Ellis Library & Reference Center

**Mondays from 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

- November 13, 2023 - Celebrate National Kindness Day
- November 20, 2023 - Tiny Food Party
- November 27, 2023 - Ultimate Saran Ball Game
- December 4, 2023 - Holiday Crafts
- December 11, 2023 - Reindeer Games
- Register at [bit.ly/afterellis](https://bit.ly/afterellis)

Spend your Monday at the Ellis Library & Reference Center after school. We'll have fun crafts, exciting challenges, and other awesome activities for those students in second grade and older.

## Homework Helpers

### Summerfield-Petersburg Branch Library

**Tuesdays & Thursdays, November - April 2024 at 3:30 PM**

National Honor Society students from Summerfield High School will be at the library to help you with your homework.

## Monroe Michigan Crochet Club

### Ellis Library & Reference Center

- Meeting on the Second Wednesday & Third Monday of every month
- Second Wednesday - 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- Third Monday - 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

The Monroe Michigan Crochet Club is a group of crocheters who work on enriching our community through crochet! Bring your projects and work with friends. New to crochet? No problem! We have extra supplies on hand. New members always welcome!

## Extravaganza

### Bedford Branch Library

**Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM**

Kids are invited to celebrate the 95th birthday of everyone's favorite mouse! Enjoy cupcakes, crafts, games, and more! Register today! Space is limited.

Register at [bit.ly/meetsantavi](https://bit.ly/meetsantavi)

## Black Friday Craft

### Frenchtown-Dixie Branch Library

**Friday, November 24, 2023 from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Join us after shopping to relax and make a mason jar terrarium. Please register to ensure we have enough materials. Register at [bit.ly/fdblackfri](https://bit.ly/fdblackfri)

## Santa Visit

### Robert A. Vivian Branch Library

**Wednesday, November 29, 2023 from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

Let the Christmas season festivities begin! Join us for a spectacular visit with Santa. Please register each child individually. Register soon... this event will fill quickly. Register at [bit.ly/meetsantavi](https://bit.ly/meetsantavi)

## Santa Visit

### Frenchtown-Dixie Branch Library

**Friday, December 1, 2023 from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

Santa will be making a visit to kick off the Christmas season. Please join us to enjoy an evening with Santa! Please register each child individually. Space is limited. Register soon at [bit.ly/santafd](https://bit.ly/santafd)

## Elf School

### Rasey Memorial Branch Library

- Saturday, December 2, 2023 at 1:00 PM

### Erie Branch Library

- Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 10:00 AM

Do you have what it takes to become a full-fledged elf? You will learn all that is necessary to perform elf duties, earn your elf certificate, and your elf name! Registration is limited so register today! Register at [bit.ly/elflperie](https://bit.ly/elflperie)

## Drop-In Present Palooza

### Rasey Memorial Branch Library

- Tuesday, December 5, 2023 from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
- Dinner provided for children by MDE at 4:00 PM

### Erie Branch Library

- Monday, December 11, 2023 from 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Make some Christmas presents for the special people in your life. We will have all the materials ready for you to create your choice of special hand-made gifts. Teens and children welcome! Please register but drop in anytime during the program.

Register at [bit.ly/erlppresent](https://bit.ly/erlppresent)

## 2nd Annual Holiday Open House

### Ellis Library & Reference Center

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023 from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

The Ellis Library & Reference Center is spreading tidings of good cheer with a Holiday Open House. Bring the family for a night of festive fun. There will be craft stations, a viewing of a holiday movie, and other reindeer games sure to get you in the holiday spirit.

## Coming Soon Booklist

### February 2024

Chasing Endless Summer - V.C. Andrews  
Three-Inch Teeth - C. J. Box  
The Women - Kristin Hannah  
The Guest - B.A. Paris  
Simply the Best - Susan Elizabeth Phillips

### March 2024

Murder in the Tea Leaves - Laura Childs  
Every Single Secret - Christina Dodd  
The Inmate - Freida McFadden  
A Love Discovered - Tracie Peterson  
The New Couple in 5B - Lisa Unger

### Discover GREAT TITLES coming to MCLS:

- [mymcls.com/all-recommendations](https://mymcls.com/all-recommendations)



# YOUR MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

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## Holiday Closings

All branches of the Monroe County  
Library System will be closed:

**November 11, 2023** - Veterans Day  
**November 23, 2023** - Thanksgiving Day  
**December 23, 2023** - Christmas Eve (observed)  
**December 24, 2023** - Christmas Eve  
**December 25, 2023** - Christmas Day  
**December 26, 2023** - Christmas Day (observed)  
**December 31, 2023** - New Year's Eve  
**January 1, 2024** - New Year's Day  
**January 2, 2024** - New Year's Day (observed)

To receive this newsletter electronically,  
please visit [bit.ly/mclsnewsletter](http://bit.ly/mclsnewsletter)



# Become a Friend of the Library!

If you love the library and want to help enhance library services and promote library use, we extend an invitation to you to become involved in the Friends of the Monroe County Library System. Your membership also entitles you to invitations to Book Sale previews, special Friends events, and related Library mailings.

Please fill out the application below, call 734-241-5770, or visit <http://bit.ly/myclsfriends>

☐ **New Membership** ☐ **Renewal**

Name: .....

Address: ..... Phone: .....

City: ..... State: ..... Zip: .....

Please make checks payable to **FRIENDS OF THE MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM.**

### Classes of membership:

Individual (annual)-\$10.00

Family (annual)-\$15.00

Senior (annual)-\$5.00

Junior (annual)-\$2.00

Life- \$200.

Joining the **FRIENDS of MCLS** entitles you to membership in your local **FRIENDS** group. With which branch library would you like to be affiliated? .....

What would you like **FRIENDS** to support?

Books ☐ Technology ☐ Programs ☐ Beautification ☐

Other? .....

We also welcome corporate sponsors. Please call the library for details.

### The Monroe County Library System Board of Trustees

Catharine Calder, **Chair** ♦ Rob Peven, **Vice Chair** ♦ Beth LaPensee, **Secretary**  
Bernie Smith, **Trustee** ♦ Dr. Rita Gordon, **Trustee** ♦ **Director:** Nancy Bellaire