

# THE COASTER

FEBRUARY 22, 2024

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## Abuzz with Activity at Asbury Park Thurgood Marshall School

On Feb. 15, Thurgood Marshall Elementary School in Asbury Park partnered with the Asbury Park Kiwanis Club and Bridges of Books Foundation to unveil the Book Ark, which is a community collaboration to promote literacy and empowers city youth.

The book ark provides free books for students in grades pre-K through fifth. The ark, which was decorated by Art Teacher

Jan McLaren and student artists Yanelise, Yuritz and Jael, came stocked with more than 500 book provided by Bridges of Books Foundation, which since its inception in 2003 has distributed more than 1.5 million books.

In addition, Thurgood Marshall Elementary students received a wrapped book to take home from the Asbury Book Cooperative. The celebration, dubbed

"TMES Loves Reading," kicked off with a performance by TMES' fourth-grade drumline under the direction of Music Teacher Karen Schwarz. Later that

evening, the school hosted its annual Family Fun Dance, which was attended by more than 250 students and parents.



Coaster Photo by Chanta L. Jackson  
At Thurgood Marshall Elementary School in Asbury Park fourth grade students performed under the direction of Karen Schwarz, music teacher.

### A Winter Idea...