

## A message from the director

The library of July/August 2020 is a very different one from what we pictured when we first started making plans for our Summer Reading Challenge and all of its accompanying events. While the concerts, performances, lock-ins and big community gatherings will not be a part of the Summer Reading experience this year, I have to credit your amazing library staff with being flexible and quickly finding ways for you to still participate online. Look inside this issue for more information about the online Summer Reading Challenge, and start checking off those milestones!

That same flexibility has been crucial as we continue to navigate a world that has been reshaped by the Coronavirus pandemic. We have had to learn how to plan and prepare in the face of uncertainty.

We do not take the safety of this community lightly, and we want to assure you that much thought has gone into the library's phased reopening — from discussions about how to handle book returns and curbside pickup to staff training about safety and sanitization procedures. All of this has been done as part of a greater collaborative effort among all of the libraries in the Upper Hudson system.

The silver lining in all of this is that we have learned a great deal about new technologies — knowledge that benefits staffers and patrons alike, and we have discovered novel ways to provide library services. While this does not replace what many people love about their library, it helps us all maintain a connection until the days we can once again serve as your vibrant community gathering place.

— Geoffrey Kirkpatrick,  
Bethlehem Public Library director



Summer Reading Challenge  
INSIDE

## footnotes

July/August 2020

Kristen Roberts, editor/staff writer

### Trustees

Mary Redmond  
Mark Kissinger  
Caroline Brancatella  
Harmeet Narang  
Michelle Walsh  
*\*elected trustee*  
*\*elected trustee*

*\*Please visit our website for the latest information about our elected trustees and officers.*

### Director

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick

### Library board

- Monday July 13 • 6pm
- Monday August 10 • 6pm

### Friends board

- See online calendar for schedule

### Library hours

weekdays 9-9 • Saturdays 10-5  
Sundays (closed in July and August)

*\* Hours and closings are subject to change based on Health Department guidelines. Please see our website for the most up-to-date information.*

### Holiday hours

- July 3 & 4 CLOSED: Independence Day (Closed July 5 for start of summer hours)

### Contact us

- 518-439-9314
- information@bethlehempubliclibrary.org
- trustees@bethlehempubliclibrary.org

### Visit our website

[bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://bethlehempubliclibrary.org)

The *footnotes* newsletter is published six times a year and mailed to all households in the Bethlehem Central School District.

## Your library online

### A chance to chat

To bring back an opportunity for face-to-face connection and conversation, we have started hosting online **Community Chats** through Zoom. At the Community Chats, we will give a short introduction or presentation and then open up the meeting for questions or discussion. A librarian will be on hand to facilitate, but the forum is really about you and what's on your mind.

Visit our online calendar ([go to www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org) and click on the "Calendar" tab) to see what's coming up. Past chats have featured a sew-along, genealogy discussion, children's literature advice and more. To participate, sign up through the calendar with your e-mail address. The library will send a Zoom invitation when the chat is scheduled to begin. If you are new to Zoom video conferencing and would like to know more about how it works, e-mail us at [information@bethpl.org](mailto:information@bethpl.org).

### Check our calendar

While it may be some time before we can hold in-person programs at the library, our librarians have been busy coming up with ways to offer some of your favorite events virtually, such as Escape Rooms, storytimes, book discussions and more.

Just like our Community Chats, new programs are being added all the time, so please bookmark our online calendar and check it frequently!

Do you have an idea that might make a great virtual library program? We want to know! Drop us a line at [information@bethpl.org](mailto:information@bethpl.org).

### Sign up for our weekly e-newsletter

With so many things up in the air these days, we are working hard to get you the latest library news in timely way. For the most up-to-date building and program information delivered to your inbox, subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter, which also includes information about library tools and resources you may have not heard about. We promise to keep it short and sweet, and we won't overload your inbox! Sign up here: [mailchi.mp/bethpl.org/e-newsletter](http://mailchi.mp/bethpl.org/e-newsletter).

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## Summer Reading 2020

### Are you up for a challenge?

The 2020 Summer Reading Challenge is here! Sign up online at [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org) and get started checking off your reading milestones right away. Complete as many as you can to win prizes.

**KIDS and TEENS:** For every four activities you complete, you can select a book of your choice. When you have completed four activities, fill out the online prize form to indicate your selection.

**ADULTS:** For every four challenges you complete, we'll automatically enter you in a drawing to win one of five summer reading prize bags. Complete all 16 challenges and we'll award you a bonus fifth chance to win. The drawing will take place and winners notified when the program concludes.

Open to all ages —  
children, teens and adults!

### Bookmark Contest

Entries accepted July 1-August 27.  
Forms available at [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org).



# Summer Reading 2020 *(continued)*

**Directions:** Register online at [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org) or use the gamecards below to track your progress.

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: PRE-K

- Register for the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Read a non-fiction book.
- Share a book with someone else.
- Read a fiction and non-fiction book on the same topic.
- Read a book from a reading list.
- Read a book published in the last year.
- Read a Caldecott or Geisel Award winning book.
- Read a picture book.
- Read outside.
- Submit a book review in your summer reading account.
- Read/Listen to a read-along or Vox book.
- Read with a real pet or stuffed pet.
- Participate in a library program online.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Play with a toy.

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: KIDS

- Register for the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Read a non-fiction book.
- Read a graphic novel.
- Read a fiction and non-fiction book on the same topic.
- Read a book from a reading list.
- Read a book published in the last year.
- Read a book with pictures.
- Read a magazine.
- Read outside.
- Submit a book review in your summer reading account.
- Recommend a book to someone.
- Read a poem (J 811.54).
- Participate in a library program online.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Read a fantasy book.



## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: TEENS

- Register for the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Read a non-fiction book.
- Read a fiction book.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Read a graphic novel.
- Read a book from a reading list.
- Read a biography or memoir.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Read a book with pictures.
- Read a book published in 2020.
- Read a book published before you were born.
- Read a poem.
- Read a fantasy book.
- Read a magazine.
- Read outside.

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: ADULTS

- Register for the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Read a book of your choice.
- Read a National Book Award winner.
- Read a book published in 2020.
- Recommend a book to a friend.
- Read a short story or essay.
- Read two of Aesop's Fables.
- Read a book that has been made into a movie.
- Read a graphic novel.
- Read a biography.
- Read a book of historical fiction.
- Listen to an audiobook.
- Read a World Fantasy Award winner.
- Read a book or short story set in New York.
- Read a book recommended to you.
- Read a children's book.







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518-439-9314 · [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org)

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## 2020 Summer Reading Challenge



### Your library online *(continued)*

#### Learning tools to get you on your feet

If you've found yourself in-between jobs or with some extra time on your hands, Bethlehem Public Library has got two new learning tools for cardholders that might be just what you need to move forward.

**Pronunciator** takes a personalized approach to make language learning work for you. Just select the language and topics you love, the skills you want to build and how much you want to study each day, and Pronunciator will build a personalized course just for you — in a matter of seconds. You can choose from more than 160 languages to learn, including American Sign Language.

**JobNow** by Brainfuse is a multi-faceted resource to help give you the competitive edge you need to re-enter the workforce. You'll find live job coaching, interview practice, resume templates and help, along with 24/7 access to local job resources. Brainfuse also offers tutoring and academic

support through HelpNow.

Pronunciator and JobNow, along with dozens of other helpful resources, can be found on the library's Research page at [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/webapps/research.asp](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/webapps/research.asp).

#### Need a library card?

Ready to check out all the great eContent on our website? If you don't already have one, you'll need a library card. You can sign up online at [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org).



#### Virtual board meetings

Our monthly Board of Trustees meetings continue to take place at their scheduled times and are broadcast live to the public on our YouTube channel and website.

Please visit our Board of Trustees webpage ([www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/about-us/board-of-trustees](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/about-us/board-of-trustees)) for more information.

#### WiFi out and about

The library offers free WiFi available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the following locations: **outside the library building, at the Elm Avenue park and pool, at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center and at Colonial Acres Park**. Whenever you see "Free Library WiFi" show up on your device, you'll know you've tapped into the library's growing digital network that provides Internet access all over town.



518-439-9314 • [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org) • [www.bplteens.org](http://www.bplteens.org) • [www.bplkids.org](http://www.bplkids.org)