

A message from the director

Typically, in this issue of the *Footnotes*, you would be receiving information about the upcoming budget vote and trustee election, as well as our scheduled programs and events. Due to the rapidly changing nature of the worldwide Coronavirus emergency, we will focus this issue instead on what we offer online and beyond our building. We think these services will continue to grow in importance, allowing us to meet this community's needs in a way that adheres to social distancing guidelines even after the library is able to reopen its doors.

Please know that the staff at Bethlehem Public Library continue to work diligently for you. We have quickly added online video programs to allow kids to see their librarians reading stories, and we are developing new ways to engage with our patrons virtually. Our staff has also compiled and vetted timely information on our website to help individuals and our community bounce back from adversity.

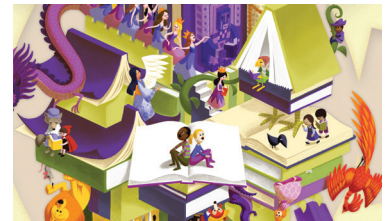
In order to take away any concerns about fines, we shifted due dates on all materials and suspended fines until after the library reopens. If you have questions, do not hesitate to reach out to us by phone, email or even on social media.

The library budget vote and trustee election has been moved back at least until June. This is a developing situation, and we will continue to work closely with the school district to keep you informed.

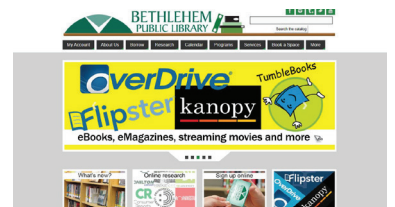
Even in the midst of this current crisis, we continue to look ahead, integrating new lessons into our long range plan as we work toward serving you better, long into the future.

Stay safe and be well.

— Geoffrey Kirkpatrick, Bethlehem Public Library director



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Your library misses you! 😞

Stay healthy and safe until we see you again!



451 Delaware Ave., Delmar • 518-439-9314

www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org • www.bplteens.org • www.bplkids.org



Summer Reading 2020

Let's read together!

Are your summer plans up in the air? Not anymore! Let your imagination transport you during the 2020 Summer Reading Challenge. This year's theme, **Imagine Your Story**, invites readers of all ages to explore the stories that inspire and encourage us. Sharing this reading adventure with others is a great way to feel connected to your community, and you can do it all online.

Summer Reading sign-up for adults, teens and children begins online **June 22** at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org. Once you sign up, you can get started checking off your reading milestones right away!

Open to all ages —
children, teens and adults!

Bookmark Contest

Entries accepted July 1-August 27.
Forms available at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org.



Your library online

Explore our digital content

We have so many online resources available to Bethlehem cardholders without even stepping foot in the library – resources that we are devoting additional spending to so that we can keep wait times reasonable and introduce even more variety.

Get a library card online

Ready to check out all the great eContent on our website? If you don't already have one, you'll need a library card. To make it easier for our patrons to get immediate access to our digital materials and services, you can sign up for a library card online at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org.

Read, listen and watch

Head to the library's eContent webpage to see what's available. You'll find helpful links and tips if you are new to using these services, but if you need more help, send an e-mail to information@bethpl.org, and we'll get back to you.

You can download eBooks, audiobooks and eMagazines through **OverDrive** – and there are thousands of titles to choose from. More eMagazines are available through **Flipster**, and we are adding new titles all the time, including *Do It Yourself*, *Elle Décor*, *Simply Gluten Free*, *Paleo Magazine* and more.

You can also stream movies, high-quality children's programming or explore one of The Great Courses through **Kanopy**. Watch on any computer, television, mobile device or platform by downloading the Kanopy app.

Even more eBooks and audiobooks for all ages are available through the Upper Hudson Library System, including **Tumblebooks**, **Teen Book Cloud**, **Audio Book Cloud**, **Romance Book Cloud** and **myON**. You'll find links to these on our eContent page.

We've also been working with Upper Hudson and our partner libraries to provide you with additional high-quality eContent through **Hoopla**, an on-demand streaming service for eBooks, music, video and audiobooks.

continued

footnotes

May/June 2020

Kristen Roberts, editor/staff writer

Trustees

Mary Redmond, *president*
Mark Kissinger, *vice president*
Brian Sweeney, *vice president*
Caroline Brancatella, *secretary*
Lisa Scoons, *trustee, UHLS board*
Harmeet Narang, *trustee*
Michelle Walsh, *trustee*

Robert Khalife, *board treasurer*

Director

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick

Library board

- Monday May 11 • 6pm
- Monday June 8 • 6pm

Friends board

- See online calendar for schedule

Library hours

weekdays 9-9 • Saturdays 10-5
Sundays 12-5

** 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

- May 23-25 CLOSED: *Memorial Day Weekend*
- 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

bethlehempubliclibrary.org

Visit our website

bethlehempubliclibrary.org

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



518-439-9314 • www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org • www.bplteens.org • www.bplkids.org

Your library online *(continued)*

Research and learn

With our Research webpage, you have access to a robust collection of online local history materials, newspaper archives, encyclopedias, **Consumer Reports**, **Chilton's Auto Repair** and more. You'll also find academic resources, health and medicine databases, as well as business and investment tools like **Morningstar**, **Value Line** and **ReferenceUSA**. Ready to learn a new language? Choose from 163, including American Sign Language, with **Pronunciator**.

Are you thinking about researching your family tree? We've got the tools to help you get started. **Ancestry.com**, one of the biggest names in do-it-yourself genealogy, is temporarily available to use offsite with your library card. **HeritageQuest** gives you access to U.S. census data and over 1 million genealogy and local history articles. Click through to our **Local History** webpage and find even more resources, including our Spotlight newspaper archive and the New York Heritage digital collections. Need some help getting started? E-mail us at **information@bethpl.org** with your genealogy research questions so we can point you in the right direction.

Engage with us online

While social distancing guidelines have halted in-person programming for the time being, our librarians have been busy coming up with creative new ways to connect with you online, starting with a digital scavenger hunt to help you familiarize yourself with our website at **www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org**.

Our popular book discussion groups have moved to Goodreads so you can keep up with your reading list and stay in touch with your librarian moderators and fellow readers. Are you a fan of our Listening Parties? The themed music discussion group can now be found on our website.

We're also offering video storytimes, STEM/STEAM tutorials, and sewing and crafting instruction with your BPL librarians. We're debuting some of these on YouTube and Facebook, but you can also find many of them on our website. Be sure to check our online calendar for more upcoming virtual programs.

And don't forget to follow us on social media for staff book recommendations, activity ideas, library news and more!

Stay connected



WiFi out and about

As part of an ongoing effort to make sure our services reach patrons where they are, 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.

We're here to help

Got questions?

In uncertain times, it can be hard to know where to find the right answers. We can help! We are available to answer your reference questions — even when our doors are closed. Just reach out by email at **information@bethpl.org** and staff will assist you. You can also call the library at **518-439-9314** and leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as we are able, but please allow additional time for questions asked via voicemail.

Book Discussions on Goodreads

Visit www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/programs/adult/book-discussions and click on the link to Goodreads.

DayBooks

May

The Library of Lost and Found
by Phaedra Patrick

June

The Tattooist of Auschwitz
by Heather Morris

Check 'Em Out Books

May

The School of Essential Ingredients
by Erica Bauermeister

AfterDinner Books

June

Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate

Let's Talk About It!

New topics each month; visit us on Facebook to join the discussion.

MAY

How do you balance family time with other responsibilities?



JUNE

What is a favorite tradition that you enjoy with your child(ren)?

2020 Read It Forward:

Croak by Gina Damico
AND *Nimona* by Noelle Stevenson

A collaborative project with
the Upper Hudson Library System.





451 Delaware Avenue · Delmar, NY 12054
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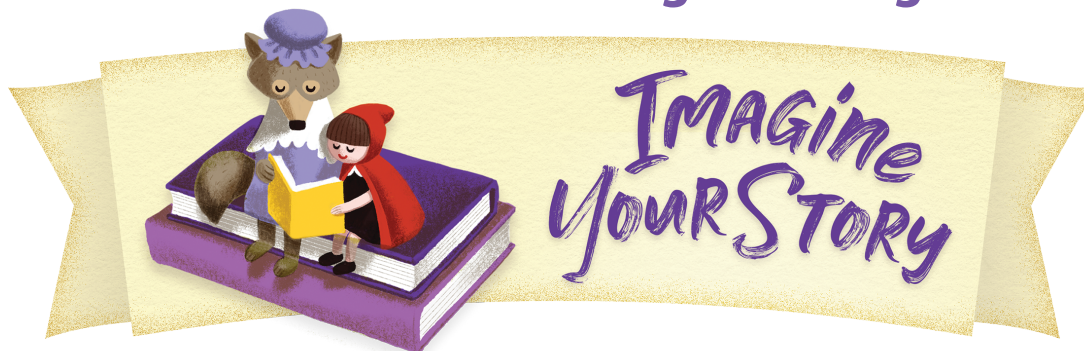
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2020 Summer Reading Challenge



Board of Trustees

Virtual board meetings

Our commitment to organizational transparency continues, even as group gathering guidelines and building closures pose a challenge to holding our monthly Board of Trustees meetings.

Please be assured that these meetings will continue to take place at their scheduled times and remain open to the public virtually even if our board members are not able to meet in person.

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

A draft of the minutes will be available within 10 days of the meeting.

Good to know: Emergency relief info

Bethlehem Public Library has compiled a list of emergency relief resources available to our community. See an updated and expanded list online at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/local-resources-for-coronavirus-information-and-aid.

• **Department of Labor:** If you are filing a new unemployment insurance claim, the day you should file is based on the first letter of your last name. Please refer to NYS Department of Labor for more information. The state is waiving the seven-day waiting period for Unemployment Insurance benefits for people who are out of work due to Coronavirus closures or quarantines. Visit www.labor.ny.gov/home or call 888-469-7365.

• **Mental Health Care:** Over 6,000 mental health professionals have volunteered to help New York state provide free online services to those who need it amid the state's Coronavirus outbreak. Call 844-863-9314.

• **Town of Bethlehem food pantry:** Providing food essentials to those in need. Visit www.townofbethlehem.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1148.

• **BCSD Grab and Go:** Providing meals for children ages 18 and younger. Visit www.bethlehemschools.org/grab-go-meals-for-children-while-schools-are-closed.

• **Town of Bethlehem Coronavirus webpage:** Provides information on the Town of Bethlehem response and provides links to other resources. Visit www.townofbethlehem.org/873/COVID-19.

