



## From the director:

As we ring in a new year with almost as much uncertainty as the one we just left behind, we'd like to assure you that your library is planning to be there for you in every way we can.

The changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and upticks in local spread mean that we may be forced to pull back some of the service advances we have made in recent months in order to protect the health of our community. Even so, it is our goal to continue providing curbside pick-up for as long as we are safely able to. Virtual programming will continue uninterrupted, library staff are available to answer questions through e-mail and phone, and our website remains a valuable resource for research, eBooks, digital magazines, movies and more.

We know it has been a difficult past few months for everyone, but we want you to know that we stand ready to foster the strength and resilience that will help our community face what's ahead.

— Geoffrey Kirkpatrick, Bethlehem Public Library director

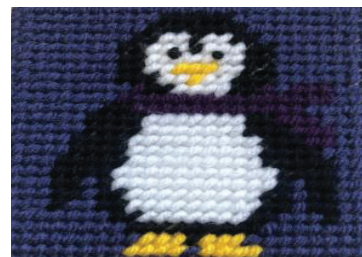
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## footnotes

January/February 2021

Kristen Roberts, editor/staff writer

### Trustees

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Sharon Whiting, *board treasurer*

### Director

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick

### Library board

• Monday January 11 • 6pm

• Monday February 8 • 6pm

### Friends board

Monday February 15 • 6:30pm

### Library hours

Please visit the website for up-to-date in-person hours/services and curbside pickup.

### Holiday hours

• January 1: CLOSED

*New Year's Day*

• January 18: OPEN *MLK Jr. Day*

• February 15: OPEN *Presidents Day*

### Contact us

• 518-439-9314

• information@

bethlehempubliclibrary.org

• trustees@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.*



## News and notes

### A heads up about fines

**The library is scheduled to begin charging fines for overdue items returned after Dec. 31, 2020.** At the beginning of the pandemic, we waived fines until there was a safe and reliable way to return materials. These days, we are able to accept most returns 24/7, with a "reverse curbside pickup" for Library of Things items. Automatic due date reminders are going out, and quarantine procedures are being rigorously followed.

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

- Please check your account for any overdue materials that you might have forgotten about and bring them in.
- Because of the mandatory four-day quarantine, items returned will not show up on your account right away. Don't worry, we will be taking that lag time into account so you will not be charged for the time your items spend in quarantine.
- Remember to always renew or return your items by the due date to avoid late charges.
- Fees for lost or damaged items are not being waived.

Visit our website at [bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://bethlehempubliclibrary.org) for more information about our loan periods and fines for different materials. **\*Please note: The maximum charge for an overdue item is \$5.**

### Books to People Boredom Busters

Our **Books to People** free delivery service is now providing **Boredom Busters** kits for our homebound residents to let them know the library is thinking of them. The kits will be full of fun activities that are meant to keep minds active and engaged. Books to People is available to homebound residents of the Bethlehem Central School District. To request the Books to People delivery service, call the library at **(518) 439-9314** or use the online request form at [bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://bethlehempubliclibrary.org).

## Adults

### Book discussions ☎

Did you resolve to read more in the new year or maybe just try some new genres? **Our Book Discussion Groups** for adults are a great way to connect with fellow readers, and with four groups to choose from — **Daybooks, AfterDinner Books, Check 'em Out Books and The Anti-Racist Book Group** — there is a time and topic for everyone.

In January and February, we're also hosting a couple of free-form book talks called **BYOBB — Bring Your Own Books (and Brew)**.

Visit our online calendar for upcoming titles and times. Our groups are also on Goodreads. Find out more here: [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/book-discussions](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/book-discussions).

*continued*

**\* A NOTE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS:** Programs are currently taking place virtually and most require advance registration. Those listed here are only highlights; new programs are being added all the time. **Visit our online calendar to see all of our programs or to sign up for one.**

## Adults *(continued)*

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### Escape Room: Winter Wonderland

Monday January 18 • 7pm

*A virtual escape room where you try to decode the locks before you're frozen out.*

## Listening Parties

Our Listening Parties meet monthly to hear selections from classic albums while discussing the life and music of great musicians. Join fellow music lovers and share your personal impressions while you talk about the artists that have shaped the musical landscape. It's like a book club, but for music.

**Visit our online calendar for upcoming titles and times.**

## Kids, tweens and teens

### Snowy Stories Contest

Celebrate all things winter and show off your creative writing skills at the same time! From **December 21 to January 29**, we're inviting kids and teens in grades K-12 to write and submit an original short story by e-mailing it to us at [contest@bethpl.org](mailto:contest@bethpl.org). Stories incorporating visual elements may be e-mailed as PDFs.

Visit [bethlehempubliclibrary.org/snowy-stories-contest](http://bethlehempubliclibrary.org/snowy-stories-contest) for more information. Winners will be posted online in February.

### Chill Out: Penguin Needlepoint Craft

Monday January 18 • 2pm

*Warm up with a cool craft as you hang out virtually over Zoom. Craft kits available for pickup prior to the program. **For ages 9 and up.***

### Group Chat: Relax, Review and Recommend

Tuesday February 16 • 3pm

*Join us online to chat about what books you have been reading. Tell us what you liked and what you didn't. **For grades 3-5 and families.***

## Storytimes and more

### Winter Potpourri

This winter, you'll find some of your favorite storytime and early literacy programs on Zoom. Bring your baby, toddler or preschooler and join us for **stories, music and activities.**

With our **Winter Potpourri**, you can warm up with some winter fun at home and connect with your library friends virtually! **Visit our online calendar for upcoming dates and times.**

 **sign up: [bethlehem.librarycalendar.com](http://bethlehem.librarycalendar.com)**

## eContent @ BPL

eBooks, eAudiobooks, digital magazines and streaming video

[bethpl.org/borrow/ebooks-emagazines](http://bethpl.org/borrow/ebooks-emagazines)



### Just for Me: Book Boxes for Teens

Register online for a curated box of books and treats to keep!  
**For BCSD residents in grades 6-12.**

### Virtual Family Storytime

Visit our online calendar for details.







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## Storm warning

In the event of inclement weather, the library's telephone system will provide the latest information on any changes in service. Please call ahead.



## Your library online

It seems like a good time to remind our Bethlehem cardholders of all the great online resources that can be accessed through our website — [bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://bethlehempubliclibrary.org) — without ever stepping foot in the library.

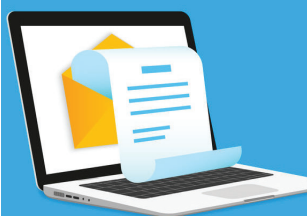
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Head to our Research page, where you will find a robust collection of online local history materials, newspaper archives, encyclopedias, **Consumer Reports**, **Chilton's Auto Repair** and more. You'll also find academic resources, health and medicine databases, as well as business and investment tools like **Morningstar**, **Value Line** and **ReferenceUSA**. Ready to learn a new language? **Pronunciator** makes it easy and fun. Genealogy buffs can search **Ancestry.com**, one of the biggest names in do-it-yourself genealogy, and **HeritageQuest**, a U.S. census data resource with over 1 million genealogy and local history articles.

Got questions? E-mail us at [information@bethpl.org](mailto:information@bethpl.org) or give us a call.

## Get our e-newsletter

For the most up-to-date building and program information delivered to your inbox, subscribe to our e-newsletter. 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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**YouTube**

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