All ages

**The Great Give Back**

The Great Give Back is an opportunity for library patrons statewide to partake in meaningful, service-oriented experiences. At Bethlehem Public Library, we’re helping out by collecting new, unopened household cleaning and hygiene supplies for the Bethlehem Food Pantry from **October 9-20**. The food pantry is particularly looking for supplies such as Windex, bleach, Comet and scrub pads, as well as toothpaste, toothbrushes, paper towels, toilet paper and tissues. A donation receptacle will be set up in the lobby.

**Pop-Up Library at the Farmers Market**
Saturday September 9 • 9am-1pm
Saturday October 21 • 9am-1pm
Stop by our table at the Delmar Farmers Market to check out some new titles and learn more about the library.

**Community Art Supplies Swap**
Thursday September 21 • 6:30pm
Donate your unused or gently used art supplies and pick up some new-to-you supplies to take home.

**Grassroot Givers Book Donation Event**
Saturday September 23 • 10am-1pm
Accepted donations include adult fiction and nonfiction and children’s board books, picture books and chapter books — none older than 10 years.

**Puzzle Pandemonium**
Saturday September 30 • 2-4pm
Join us for an afternoon of competitive puzzling, where you will work in a group to see who can solve their puzzle fastest to win a prize.

**Bethlehem Senior Chorus: The Way We Were**
Friday October 20 • 2pm
Enjoy a musical afternoon on the Green. Rain location is at Town Hall.

**Pumpkin Carving at the Library**
Saturday October 28 • 2-4pm
Join us for an afternoon of pumpkin carving and decorating. We’ll supply the pumpkins and the tools, plus bags to take home seeds. Bring your own pumpkin.

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**Adults**

**Dungeons and Dragons**
Tuesday September 5 • 6pm
Tuesday October 3 • 6pm
Join us for a night of laughs, critical thinking, improvisation and role playing. All playing materials will be provided, but feel free to bring your own dice or D&D 5th Edition Character Sheet. Beginners welcome.

**Community Yoga**
Wednesday September 6 • 6pm
Wednesday October 11 • 6pm
Enjoy a class designed for all skill levels. Dan May shares Jai Yoga School’s Bhakti yoga practice, which includes song, cultural information and stories.

**Craftnoon: Pompom Pinecone Ornaments**
Friday September 8 • 2:30pm
Create a cute and colorful ornament to decorate for fall. Teens welcome!
Spark Your Creativity
Sunday September 10 • 2pm
Author Coleen Murtagh Paratore will lead a writing workshop. Her 2022 book, “Dear Writer, Inspiration and Advice on Writing,” is all about kick starting creativity if it has gone dormant for a while. Teens welcome!

Sustainable Kitchen
Monday September 11 • 6pm
Learn how to reduce your plastic consumption and live a more sustainable life. We will make beeswax wrappers from old fabric and no-sew produce bags from T-shirts. Tips for tackling the rest of the kitchen will also be shared. BYO T-shirts.

Look to the Skies: The Dancing Universe
Tuesday September 19 • 7pm
In this universe, there is no such thing as standing still. Join Dr. Mindy Townsend, Dudley Astronomer at Siena College, for a tour through the universe as she explains how everything is in constant motion. This is the first event in our Look to the Skies series.

The Stereoscope: A Gilded Age ‘Virtual Reality’ Experience
Wednesday September 20 • 7pm
In the 19th Century the new art of photography changed how people viewed the world. Join Stuart W. Lehman for a hands-on presentation about people using the stereoscope to journey to far off places without the expense or danger of travel. This series of historical talks is presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. All ages welcome!

Crash Course: Consumer Reports
Friday September 22 • 10am
Join us for an introduction over Zoom to our popular Consumer Reports database, and learn how to access unbiased reviews for all types of products.

Craft & Color for Adults
Monday September 25 • 11am
Monday October 16 • 11am
Choose between coloring or doing an open-ended craft activity. This program is specifically designed for adults of all abilities.

Refugees in Your Community
Tuesday September 26 • 7pm
What would it be like to leave behind everything you ever knew and start over in a strange place? Kelly Gourley from the Albany field office of the US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants will present this program for adults and parents to illuminate the struggles that refugee families face.

Spice Sharing: Cayenne Pepper
Thursday September 28 • 6:30pm
Prior to the program, sign up to pick up a sample packet of the spice, along with a few recipes that feature it. Then meet to discuss your experience and share recipes.

Friday Matinee: ‘Strangers on a Train’
Friday September 29 • 2pm
Enjoy this classic suspense tale directed by Alfred Hitchcock (1951) with a screenplay by crime novelist Raymond Chandler. The film was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Cinematography.

Fall Wreath Workshop
Saturday October 7 • 2pm
Make a festive seasonal wreath out of natural materials. All materials will be provided. Participants may bring their own gloves. Teens welcome!

Book Discussions

Day Books
Mondays at 1:30pm
September 11
The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb
October 2
The House of Broken Angels by Luis Alberto Urrea

Own Voices Book Group
Wednesdays at 7pm
September 27
Portrait of a Thief by Grace D. Li

Dark Corners Book Group
Wednesdays at 7pm
October 18
Two Truths and a Lie by Ellen McGarrah

Sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com | Virtual: program is virtual

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September/October 2023
Upcoming author talks

Get to know some of your favorite authors and enjoy Q&A opportunities through virtual author talks available exclusively to Bethlehem cardholders. Visit libraryc.org/bethlehempubliclibrary for more information, to register for upcoming talks or to view past discussions.

Coming up in September/October:

- September 7 • 7pm: Lidia Bastianich, bestselling cookbook author
- September 20 • 2pm: Adam Alter, author of “How to Get Unstuck When It Matters Most”
- September 27 • 8pm: International bestseller Amor Towles
- October 26 • 7pm: John Irving, author of “The Cider House Rules”

Discover your Roots with Ancestry.com

Tuesday October 10 • 6pm
Explore the different collections you can access with Ancestry, including census records, military records, immigration documents and more. You will also learn some tips and tricks to make your research more successful.

Career Prep

Thursday October 12 • 6:30pm
Learn about the different career prep programs offered by the library, including JobNow and Cypress Resume, so you can make a great impression on employers.

Crafternoon: Cork Pumpkins

Friday October 13 • 2:30pm
Make an adorable fall pumpkin craft out of corks. Teens welcome!

Upstate New York Tenant Farmers’ Rebellions in the 1800s

Wednesday October 18 • 7pm
Jill Knapp, author of “The Time For Redemption,” will discuss this era in history. This series of historical talks is presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. All ages welcome.

Squeegee Art

Thursday October 19 • 6:30pm
We may be using paint but in this art class all you’ll have is a squeegee to create your own masterpiece. Supplies provided.

Look to the Skies: The Fantastic Life of an Unexceptional Star

Tuesday October 24 • 7pm
The Sun is special to us. It is the ultimate source of everything that makes life possible on Earth. Dr. Mindy Townsend, Dudley Astronomer at Siena College, will discuss our fantastically normal star. This is the second event in our Look to the Skies series.

Monday Matinee: ‘Rope’

Monday October 30 • 2pm
Join us for a spooky screening of Hitchcock’s 1948 film about two college friends who commit a murder, then serve up clues about their deadly deed at a dinner party.

Based on the Novel: Frankenstein

Monday October 30 • 6pm
A book-to-screen discussion group where you’ll read the novel and then we watch a movie based on it together. This month we’ll be reading “Frankenstein” by Mary Shelley and watching “Young Frankenstein.”

Sunday Music to celebrate history

Bethlehem Public Library’s annual concert series, A Little Sunday Music, kicks off this fall with a performance by the Lost Radio Rounders on October 15 at 2pm. In honor of New York State History Month, they will be sharing songs to celebrate the state’s heritage. Since 2009, the Lost Radio Rounders have been one of the regions’ premiere acoustic Americana performers. Sponsored by the Friends of Bethlehem Public Library.

Tweens and teens

Recycled T-Shirt Book Bag

Tuesday September 5 • 2:30pm
Give a well-loved T-shirt a new life as a bag where you can store all your library materials. If you don’t have one you’re ready to part with, we’ll have extras. For grades 6 and up.

Squeegee Art

October 19

sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com | V: program is virtual
Tweens and teens (continued)

Beads & Brownies
Friday September 8 • 3:45pm
Friday September 22 • 3:45pm
Friday October 6 • 3:45pm
Friday October 20 • 3:45pm
Join friends at the end of a long week to relax and make beaded bracelets and necklaces. Refreshments will be served. For grades 6 and up.

DIY Elf Ear Cuffs
Monday September 18 • 6pm
Make your own elven ear cuffs to wear during the rest of Tolkien Week, whenever you're in your elf era, or to a cosplay event. Adults welcome!

Bullet Journaling
Tuesday September 26 • 3:30pm
Keep track of due dates, important occasions, feelings and more. Use our doodle sheets to try out new ways of writing. All supplies provided. For grades 6 and up.

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Afternoon
Friday September 29 • 3:45pm
Friday October 13 • 3:45pm
Friday October 27 • 3:45pm
Join your friends to play Super Smash Bros. Ultimate on the Nintendo Switch! For grades 6 and up.

Tiny Banned Books
Tuesday October 3 • 3:30pm
Celebrate Banned Books Week with tiny book keychains. Adults welcome!

Bad Art Night
Thursday October 5 • 6pm
Using markers, paint, glitter and more, participants will compete to create the worst art they can before voting for a winner. Come and get creative! For grades 6 and up.

Macrame Ghosts
Monday October 23 • 6pm
Make some spooky macrame ghosts to decorate for Halloween. This is a beginner level program and all supplies are provided. For ages 14 and up. Adults welcome!

Silly Acorn Craft
Wednesday September 6 • 2:30pm
Make your very own acorn magnet with a silly face! Children of all abilities are welcome. For ages 3 and up.

Paws to Read
Mondays September 11-October 30 • 4-5pm
Come to the library and practice reading skills with a registered therapy dog will listen calmly and quietly. For grades K-5.

Chess Club
Monday September 11 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm
Monday September 18 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm
Monday October 2 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm
Monday October 16 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm
Monday October 23 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm
Monday October 30 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm
Sign up for one session per night and try your hand at chess with peers or teen volunteers. All experience levels welcome. For grades K-5.

continued

Kids and families

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continued

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September/October 2023
Kids Build Anything
September 25 and October 9

Creation Station
Available 9:30am-8:30pm in the Children’s Place
September 5-10 — Autumn Hedgehogs
October 2-8 — Spooky Bats
All supplies provided!

The Three Little Pigs
October 9

Kids and families

Stuffy Friends Scavenger Hunt
Friday September 15 • 9:30am
Follow clues to hunt down our stuffy friends and complete a game sheet to earn special stickers. For ages 4-11.

Happy Little Hobbitses
Friday September 22 • 10am
Channel your inner Hobbit and take a break between second breakfast and elevensies to craft and decorate your own hairy Hobbit feet. For ages 6-11.

Kids Build Anything
Monday September 25 • 1:30pm
Monday October 9 • 1:30pm
Drop by for an open play session with multiple stations for building to your heart’s content. For ages 4-11.

Apple Crafts
Wednesday September 27 • 3pm
Drop in and make an apple-themed craft or two. For ages 6 and up.

Legos at the Library
Thursday September 28 • 3:45pm
Thursday October 26 • 3:45pm
Build something awesome with the library’s Lego collection. We provide the Legos, you bring the imagination! For ages 6 and up.

Marshmallow Engineering
Wednesday October 4 • 3pm
We’ll be using pantry staples for this engineering-based program, where you can create a building, a tall tower, or a sculpture of your own design. Work solo or in teams and learn about creating sturdy structures in the process.

Spooky Scary Skeleton Storytime
Friday October 6 • 2pm
Listen to skeleton stories, watch the animated version of “Dem Bones” and then make a spooky skeleton using Q-tips. For ages 6 and up.

The Puppet People Present: The Three Little Pigs
Monday October 9 • 11am AND 1pm
Enjoy a retelling of this classic story featuring colorful puppets and sets, humor, and audience participation.

Stencil Art
Thursday October 12 • 3pm
Learn how to draw animals, flowers, hearts and more using stencils. All abilities welcome.

Trick or Treat Storywalk
Wednesday October 18 • 4pm
Take a hike on the nature loop at Elm Avenue Park and enjoy a self-led Halloween story. Library and Parks and Recreation staff will be dressed up along the loop to hand out treats. Halloween bags will be provided by the Friends of the Library.

Make Your Own Spell Book
Tuesday October 24 • 3:30pm
Join us after school to make your own spooky spell book and dress for mess. For ages 6 and up. Tweens welcome!

Yarn Monsters
Monday October 23 • 3pm
Use cardboard rolls, yarn, pipe cleaners, feathers and googly eyes to make silly, scary and colorful yarn monsters. All abilities welcome.

sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com | program is virtual

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September/October 2023
Story times and more

Library Trick or Treat

Stop by the Children’s Place any time from 10-11am on Tuesday October 31 and trick or treat in a safe, dry place. Costumes are optional, but fun is not! Treat bags will be provided by the Friends of the Library. For ages 0-6 and families.

Tiny Tots
Tuesdays September 12-October 24 • 10am
Wednesdays September 13-October 25 • 10am
Songs, dancing, learning and fun. For children up to 35 months with caregiver.

Music and Movement
Tuesdays September 12-October 24 • 11am
Thursdays September 14-October 26 • 10am
Songs, dancing, learning and fun. Thursday's program will take place on the Green, weather permitting. For ages 0-6 with caregiver.

Family Story Time
Wednesdays September 13-October 25 • 11am
Stories, songs and more. For ages 0-6 with caregiver.

Preschool Story Time
Thursdays September 14-October 26 • 11am
Join us on the Green for stories, learning and fun. In inclement weather, we will move inside, where space will be limited. For ages 2-6 with caregiver.

Saturday Story Time
Saturdays September 30-October 28 • 11am
Stories, songs and more. For ages 0-6 with caregiver.

Sensory Story Time
Friday September 29 • 10am AND 11am
Traditional story time components blended with sensory elements for a gentler, more low-key story time. For ages 2 and up with caregiver.

Sensory Playtime
Friday October 13 • 10am
Stop by for open-ended play with our various sensory items including Play-Doh, squishy liquid tiles and more. For ages 2 and up with caregiver.

Monster Storytime and Craft
Friday October 27 • 11am
This monster-themed story time comes with a build-your-own monster craft. For children ages 2-5 with caregiver.

Parents, please note:
All abilities are welcome. No signup is required unless noted, but space is limited and storytimes begin promptly. There may be a limited capacity for each session. When Bethlehem schools are closed or delayed, all storytimes are cancelled.

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October 31

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September/October 2023
News and notes

Buy some books; support the Friends

It’s almost time for the Friends’ fall fundraiser book sale at the library! Stock up on some new-to-you books and DVDs at the Friends of Bethlehem Public Library’s Pop-Up Book Sale on the library plaza Saturday September 16, from 10am-4pm.

For sale will be books and other materials that have been removed from the library collection and are in excellent condition. Many are duplicate copies of popular titles. Enjoy music while you shop with Moonshine Holler at 11am and Matt Cusson at 1pm.

Pricing will be cash-only by suggested donation; the Friends will not be able to make change.

Share the music

Have you been hanging on to a musical instrument from your or your child’s past that is no longer being used?

Vanguard, a group of volunteer supporters of the Albany Symphony Orchestra, is seeking donations of instruments for low-income Capital District children whose families aren’t able to cover the rental or purchase fees. They will be on the library Green Saturday September 30, from 10:30am-1:30pm for a special collection event.

Donated instruments should be gently used and in good condition.

Bus trip to NYC with the Friends

The Friends of Bethlehem Public Library are once again sponsoring a trip to New York City on Saturday December 2.

The bus will leave CDTA’s Delaware Avenue park-and-ride lot in Elsmere next to The Warbler Brewery at 7:30am. The bus will depart New York City promptly at 6pm. Bryant Park is the arrival and departure point in New York.

If you are ordering matinee theater tickets, be sure to ask the time the performance ends so that you will be on time to depart.

The cost is $45 for members and $50 for nonmembers. For more information, call (no texts) the library at (518) 439-9314, ext. 3049.

Make your check out to Friends of Bethlehem Public Library and send it with the form on this page to:

Friends trip to New York City
c/o Bethlehem Public Library
451 Delaware Avenue
Delmar NY 12054

Friends bus trip to New York City
Saturday December 2

name __________________________________________
address ________________________________________
telephone _______________________________________

cell __________________________ Is texting OK? YES □ NO
email ________________________________
Friend—$45 □ nonmember—$50 □

Enclosed is my check made out to Friends of Bethlehem Public Library.
I understand that my cancelled check is my reservation and my money will be refunded only if my bus seat can be sold.

List names of others in your party:

name ____________________________ □ Friend
name ____________________________ □ Friend

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED __________________________