



There's a llama at the library!
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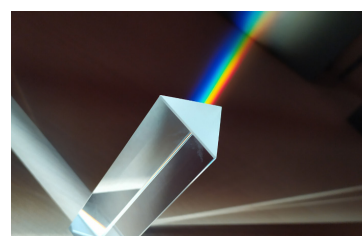
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footnotes

September/October 2025

Kristen Roberts, editor/staff writer

Trustees

Caroline Brancatella, *president*

Sarah Patterson, *vice president*

Laura DiBetta, *secretary*

Mark Kissinger, *UHLS board*

Jill Adams, *Friends' liaison*

Gail Sacco, *trustee*

Michelle Walsh, *trustee*

Sharon Whiting, *board treasurer*

Director

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick

Library board

• Monday September 8 • 6pm

• Tuesday October 14 • 6pm

Friends board

• Monday October 20 • 6:30pm

Library hours

weekdays 9-9 • Saturdays 10-5

Sundays 12-5

Holiday hours

• August 30-September 1 CLOSED
Labor Day weekend

• Monday October 13 OPEN 9-9
Columbus Day (observed)

Contact us

• 518-439-9314

• information@
bethlehempubliclibrary.org

• trustees2@
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.

What's new?

Buy books; support 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 Book Sale fundraiser **Saturday September 27, from 10am-4:30pm**. For sale will be books and other materials that have been removed from the library collection and are in excellent condition.

Pricing will be cash-only by suggested donation; the Friends will not be able to make change. Money from the sale helps the Friends support the library with special projects and purchases not covered by traditional funding.

The Friends will be accepting book donations for the sale **Thursday September 25 from 10:30am-4:30 pm**. Donations must be undamaged books no older than 10 years. The Friends will not be accepting donations of magazines, periodicals, games, puzzles, VHS or cassette tapes, CDs, or DVDs. Mildewed or defaced books can not be accepted.



All ages

Join in 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 supplies, toiletries, paper towels and pet food for the Bethlehem Food Pantry from **October 6-17**. A donation receptacle will be set up in the lobby.

There's a Llama at the Library!

Tuesday September 2 • 11am

Meet Nimbus, a very sweet and gentle llama from Maverick Farm. Learn about how his owner, Nicole, cares for him. Best of all, pat Nimbus' soft fur.

Grassroot Givers Book Donation Event

Saturday September 13 • 10am-2pm

Accepted donations include adult fiction and nonfiction and children's board books, picture books and chapter books — none older than 10 years.

Competitive Puzzling

Sunday September 14 • 2:30-4:30pm

Work solo or in a group to see who can solve their puzzle fastest to become the reigning library puzzle champion.

Inclusive Gaming

Monday September 22 • 10am

Monday October 27 • 10am

This is an inclusive space for people, regardless of ability or age, to play games with or nearby others. The most important part of gaming is coming together and having fun.

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

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Adults

Recommended reading

Are you looking for some new reading recommendations this fall? Beginning **October 1**, you can pick up a copy of Vol. 4 of the *Bethlehem Reader* at the Information Desk. Past volumes are also available. Our reader's advisory publication, written by Bethlehem librarians, just might introduce you to your next favorite thing.

Table Tennis: Open Play

Tuesday September 2 • 6pm

Sunday October 12 • 1pm

Join us for some friendly competition and maybe meet some new friends! Paddles and balls will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. All skill levels are welcome. Registration is requested, but not required.

Spanish Conversation Club

Wednesday September 3 • 3:30pm

Wednesday September 17 • 3:30pm

Wednesday October 1 • 3:30pm

Wednesday October 15 • 3:30pm

Join us to practice speaking Spanish. Whether you are just starting out or a fluent speaker, all are welcome.

Listen and Learn: Baroque and Classical Opera

Friday September 5 • 1pm

Join us for opera arias in English, French and Italian. Our performer, Daniel Pascoe Aguilar, will provide historical context for the music, perform the pieces, and answer questions as time allows.

One-on-One Tech Help

Monday September 8 • 5:30pm, 6:30pm OR 7:30pm

Monday September 15 • 7:30pm

Monday September 22 • 1:30pm, 2:30pm OR 3:30pm

Monday October 6 • 5:30pm, 6:30pm OR 7:30pm

Monday October 13 • 7:30pm

Having tech trouble with your cell phone, computer, or tablet? We can provide one-on-one assistance to help work through your tech challenges.

Tech Tuesday: Research It at the Library

Tuesday September 9 • 10am

Our databases include academic journals, resume builders, language-learning tools, genealogical and historical resources, business and finance tools, health information, literature reviews, and consumer resources. Join us over Zoom to learn how to access these resources.

Dungeons and Dragons for Adults

Tuesday September 9 • 6pm

Tuesday October 7 • 6pm

Join us for a night of laughs, critical thinking, improvisation and roleplaying in Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition.

French Conversation Club

Thursday September 11 • 3:30pm

Thursday October 2 • 3:30pm

Thursday October 23 • 3:30pm

Whether French is your first language or you are an enthusiastic beginner, come practice speaking French at the library.

continued



Great Give Back
October 6-17

Book Discussions

Day Books

Mondays at 1:30pm

September 8

Let us Descend
by Jesmyn Ward

October 6

Go As a River by Shelley Read

Dark Corners Book Group 
Wednesdays at 7pm

September 10

This Wretched Valley
by Jenny Kiefer

October 15

When the Wolf Comes Home
by Nat Cassidy

New members welcome. Copies are available at the information desk. Audio, large print and downloadable copies may be available.



Spice Sharing:
Fenugreek 
September 22

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

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September/October 2025

Needle Felting: Candy Corn October 1



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 library.org/bethlehempubliclibrary for more information, to register for upcoming talks or to view past discussions.

Coming up in September/October:

September 3 • 7pm: Hannah Nicole Maehr, NYT bestselling author and TikTok superstar

September 10 • 2pm: Jefferson Fisher, NYT bestselling author and social media sensation

September 17 • 2pm: Gabe Henry, spelling historian and author of "Enough is Enuf"

October 2 • 2pm: Nuestra América, stories of 30 inspiring Latinas/Latinos who have shaped the United States

October 9 • 7pm: Leigh Bardugo, fantasy novelist and NYT bestselling author

October 29 • 2pm: Philipa Gregory, historical novelist and author of "The Other Boleyn Girl"

Adults *(continued)*

Emergency Preparedness Course

Friday September 12 • 3pm

With severe weather events becoming more frequent and extreme, it is more important than ever that New Yorkers are prepared for disasters. The NY Citizen Preparedness Training Program teaches residents to have the tools and resources to respond to any type of disaster and recover as quickly as possible.

The 80th Anniversary of D-Day

Tuesday September 16 • 7pm

*Retired history teacher Richard Muggeo will discuss the invasion, some of the events of the day, the reasons why the Allies succeeded, and how the news reached America. He will also talk about his visit to Normandy and the human cost of the war. This is part of a series of historical talks presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. **All ages welcome!***

In Stitches

Wednesday September 17 • 6pm

Wednesday October 8 • 6pm

Knitters, crocheters and fiber artists of all experience levels are welcome. Instruction will not be available but experienced crafters may be able to talk you through the process and recommend resources.

Listen and Learn: Travelogue of Scotland, England and France

Friday September 19 • 1pm

Come on a journey with us! Presenter Terry McMaster will guide us through his trip to Scotland, England and France. Special emphasis will be paid to historic sites and a robust slide show will accompany the narrative.

Spice Sharing: Fenugreek

Monday September 22 • 7pm

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.

Accessing Digital Magazines

Tuesday September 30 • 6pm

Your library card gives you instant access to dozens of popular magazines, including The Atlantic, The New Yorker, Time, Architectural Digest and many more. Academic journals and newspapers like The New York Times and the Times Union are also available. Bring your tablet or smartphone if you'd like help getting started.

Needle Felting: Candy Corn

Wednesday October 1 • 6pm

*Join us for a night of felt-tastic fun and get ready for the spooky season with this cute candy corn craft. Felting is a beginner-friendly craft, but be mindful that needle felting involves sharp needles used to stab wool. **Teens 14 and older welcome!***

Listen and Learn: Music of Warren Sieme

Friday October 3 • 1pm

Warren Sieme is a guitarist, singer, songwriter whose music resonates with the unmistakable vibe of the '70s singer/songwriter genre, a fusion of contemporary folk and popular music.

Listen and Learn: The Baron of Second Avenue

Friday October 17 • 1pm

Join us as local author Dean Calamaras discusses the research and writing of his 2024 book "The Baron of Second Avenue: Nicholas Calamaras and the Archive of the Greek-American League," which "provides unique and rich primary source information about a little-known aspect of the tightly knit society of the Greek immigrant, and of an association created to assist those new Americans in their new world."

continued

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

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Adults (continued)

Songs and Sounds of the Anti-Rent Movement

Tuesday October 21 • 7pm

During the 1840s, tenant farmers on the region's patroonships engaged in organized protest to contest monopoly ownership of the land they worked. Their aspirations took shape in new poetry set to contemporary tunes. Musicologist Nancy Newman will share renditions of several works while discussing the movement's expressive culture. This is part of a series of historical talks presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. All ages welcome!

Embroidered Fall Leaf Earrings

Friday October 24 • 2:30pm

Enjoy a fun afternoon of creating beautiful hand-embroidered fall leaf earrings. New to embroidery? This craft is suitable for beginners.

Community Paint Night

Tuesday October 28 • 7pm

Join us for painting at the library. We will have painting supplies and video instructions. Please dress accordingly.

Tweens and teens

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Afternoon

Friday September 19 • 3:45pm

Friday October 3 • 3:45pm

Friday October 17 • 3:45pm

Join your friends to play Super Smash Bros. Ultimate on the Nintendo Switch!

For grades 6 and up.

Haunted Library Open Mic

Monday October 27 • 7-8:30pm

Brave souls will take turns reading classic scary stories (open-mic style). Some selections will be available, or you can bring your own. This hair-raising event is recommended for ages 10 and up.

Kids and families

Back-to-School Show and Tell

Wednesday September 3 • 2pm

Kick off the new school year by sharing a favorite summer memory or souvenir, a cool new backpack, a beloved toy, or a book you've read. For ages 6-11.

Chess Club

Monday September 8 • 5:30pm

Monday September 22 • 5:30pm

Monday October 6 • 5:30pm

Monday October 20 • 5:30pm

Try your hand at chess with peers or teen volunteers. All experience levels welcome.

For grades K-5.

Paws to Read

Monday September 8 • 4pm

Monday September 22 • 4pm

Monday October 6 • 4pm

Monday October 20 • 4pm

Come to the library and practice reading skills with a registered therapy dog who will listen calmly and quietly. For grades K-5.

continued



Songs and Sounds of the Anti-Rent Movement October 21

Check the online calendar for the dates and times of our Dungeons & Dragons for Teens sessions this fall!



Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Afternoon September-October



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September/October 2025



Kids Build September 23

Creation Station

Available 9:30am-8:30pm
in the Children's Place

September 8-14
October 6-12

All supplies provided!



Yarn Monsters October 6

Kids and families

Let Your Yoga Dance **S**

Wednesday September 10 • 4pm

Friday October 10 • 4pm

Join us for a combination of yoga and free style dance led by Ania LaRose. All abilities welcome. **For ages 6-11.**

Hot-Air Balloon Craftapalooza

Friday September 19 • 10am

Create hot-air balloon inspired art in celebration of the Adirondack Balloon Festival.

For ages 2 and up with caregiver.

Kids Build

Tuesday September 23 • 1pm

Kids build in a free play session with Lego, Duplo, snap circuits, puzzles and more.

For ages 4-11.

Curiosity Club: Rainbow Science **S**

Tuesday September 30 • 3:30pm

Welcome to the Curiosity Club! This month we will learn about the science of light and rainbows with hands-on experiments. **For kids and families.**

Dudley Observatory Program: Life in Space

Thursday October 2 • 11am

Join Dr. Mindy Townsend from the Dudley Observatory as she teaches us all about life in space. How would you fare as an astronaut? **For ages 6-11.**

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Trivia **S**

Thursday October 2 • 2pm

We will start the afternoon by making a special Wimpy Kid craft before testing our knowledge with some trivia. **For ages 6-11.**

Yarn Monsters

Monday October 6 • 10am

Use cardboard rolls, yarn, pipe cleaners, feathers and googly eyes to make silly, scary and colorful yarn monsters! All abilities welcome. **For kids and families.**

Fire Safety Education and Prevention

Monday October 13 • 1pm

We will be joined by members of the Delmar Fire Department to learn how to prevent fires in the home and how to keep yourself safe in the event of a fire or emergency. **For ages 6-11.**

Page-to-Screen Book Club: "Coraline"

Monday October 13 • 2pm

Read the book (copies at the library), come to the library to watch the movie and then join in the group discussion. **For ages 8 and up.**

Trick or Treat Story Stroll

Wednesday October 15 • 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.

Trunk or Treat at Elm Avenue Park

Wednesday October 22 • 4pm

How many treats do you get when the library and the Town of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation department team up to host an awesome Halloween extravaganza? A whole trunkload! The event will feature dozens of creative trick-or-treating stations hosted by local community groups.

World Awareness Children's Museum: Mexican Traditions **S**

Saturday October 25 • 2pm

Museum educators from the World Awareness Children's Museum are visiting to share Mexican culture and traditions, including "Dios de los Muertos."

For ages 8 and up.

S sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com | **V**: program is virtual

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Story times and more

Music and Movement

Tuesdays September 9-October 28 • 11am*

Thursdays September 4-October 30 • 10am*

Songs, dancing, learning and fun. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.**

**except September 23 and 25, and October 2*

Preschool Story Time

Thursdays September 4-October 30 • 11am*

Join us for stories, learning and fun. **For ages 2-6 with caregiver.**

**except September 25, and October 2 and 9*

Saturday Story Time

Saturdays September 6-October 25 • 11am*

Stories, songs and more. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** **except September 20 and 27*

Tiny Tots

Tuesdays September 9-October 28 • 10am*

Stories, songs and fingerplays. **For children up to 35 months with caregiver.**

**except September 23*

Family Story Time

Wednesdays September 10-October 29 • 10am*

Stories, songs and more. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** **except September 24*

Family Play Time

Wednesdays September 10-October 29 • 11am*

Free play and socialization with a variety of toys. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.**

**except September 24*

Sensory Story Time and Play

Friday September 5 • 10am

Friday October 3 • 10am

Traditional story time components blended with sensory elements for a gentler, more low-key story time. **For ages 2 and up with caregiver.**

Family Story Time and Play

Friday September 12 • 10am

Learn new songs and rhymes in this interactive story time. When the story time is over, stay to play! **For ages 0-6 and families.**

PJ Story Time

Monday September 15 • 6:30pm

Monday October 13 • 6:30pm

Come to an early evening story time in your pajamas! **For ages 0-6 and families.**

Bethlehem Early Readers Club

Saturday September 20 • 11am

Join us for an early literacy event promoting good ready-to-read habits. Snacks provided, along with free books. **For ages 0-6 and families.**

Gabby's Dollhouse Craft: Cat Masks

Tuesday September 23 • 10am

Celebrate the new "Gabby's Dollhouse" film with a drop-in cat mask craft and scavenger hunt through the library. **For ages 0-6 and families.**

Fall Fun Family Story Time

Friday October 17 • 10am

Join us for fall-themed books, songs and crafts. **For ages 0-6 and families.**

Sensory Play Time

Monday October 20 • 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.**

Library Trick or Treat

Thursday October 31 • 10-11am

Stop by the Children's Place and trick or treat in a safe, dry place. Costumes are optional, but fun is not! **For ages 0-6 and families.**



Fire Safety Story Time
Thursday October 9 • 11am

Parents, please note:

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



Library Trick or Treat
October 31

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

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September/October 2025



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What's new?

Friends and HILL team up

The Humanities Institute for Lifelong Learning (HILL), located in the Town of Bethlehem, has offered inexpensive college-level courses since 1993 and is now an affiliate of Friends of Bethlehem Public Library. Twice a year, HILL programs present a diverse array of topics in history, literature, music, art history, politics and more. Each six-week course meets once a week for two hours, combining lectures with question-and-answer periods.

HILL's Fall program begins October 6:

- **U.S. Immigration Policies and Politics in Global Perspective**, Rey Koslowski, Professor of Political Science, UAlbany, Mondays, 10am-noon.
- **American Musical Theatre History**, Dan Venning, Associate Professor of Theater and Dance, Union College, Tuesdays, 10am-noon.
- **Art and Globalization in 18th-Century Europe**, Sarah R. Cohen, Professor of Art History, UAlbany, Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30pm.

Registration opens on or about **September 1**. Classes take place at Delmar Reformed Church. For costs and additional information, please go to www.hillclasses.org.



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 6**.

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 \$60 for members and \$65 for nonmembers. For more information, cancellations, or to be added to the waitlist, please call (no texts) Patty Caporta at (518) 439-1328.

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 6

name _____

address _____

telephone _____

cell _____ Is texting OK? YES ☐ NO ☐

email _____

Friend—\$60 ☐ nonmember—\$65 ☐

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 _____

