

footnotes

BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

March/April 2025

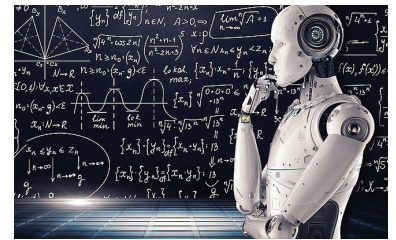


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451 Delaware Ave., Delmar • 518-439-9314

www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org



footnotes

March/April 2025

Kristen Roberts, editor/staff writer

Trustees

Mark Kissinger, *president*
Michelle Walsh, *vice president*
Caroline Brancatella, *vice president*
Sarah Patterson, *secretary*
Lisa Scoons, *UHLS board*
Laura DiBetta, *trustee*
Gail Sacco, *trustee*
Sharon Whiting, *board treasurer*

Director

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick

Library board

- Monday March 10 • 6pm
- Monday April 7 • 6pm

Friends board

- Monday April 21 • 6:30pm

Library hours

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

Holiday hours

- April 20 CLOSED: *Easter*

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.

All ages

Get growing with our seed library!

Our seed library returns this spring with a selection of open-pollinated vegetables, herbs and some flowers. Seed packets can be selected in-person at the Information Desk while supplies last. Limit of 5 seed packs per household.

Seed libraries like ours support sustainability and food security by allowing the community free access to the means of growing their own food.

NEW THIS YEAR: We're putting together a select number of themed salsa grow kits for pick-up. Each kit will contain the seeds and instructions you'll need to start your own salsa garden: tomato, onion, jalapeño and cilantro (salt and lime juice not included). Registration required for salsa kits; limit of one per household.

Share photos of your finished salsa with the library to earn bragging rights. Prizes will be awarded for the best submissions!

Start those seeds off right

New to gardening? You'll find some items in our Library of Things that will help you cultivate your burgeoning hobby.

Sprout seeds faster and more reliably with a **seedling heat mat and thermostat controller** combo set. Simply place under a planter with seeds ready to grow and watch them germinate quickly and vigorously.

A suitable soil environment is important for healthy plants. We've got **soil testers** that will help you avoid some of the common mistakes made by gardeners, such as over or under watering or planting in an area with insufficient lighting. It will even highlight potential issues with soil that is too alkaline or acidic.

Search our online catalog at **bethpl.org** to see what's available.



A Little Sunday Music: Musicians Of Ma'alwyck

Sunday March 2 • 2pm

Enjoy a fun and energetic program with music from Bartok, Porro, Paganini and Schenectady composer Esta Blood as the Musicians of Ma'alwyck celebrate their 25th anniversary. Sponsored by the Friends of Bethlehem Public Library.

Board Game Café

Thursday March 6 • 6:30pm

Join us for a fun, free night of board games at the library. Come as a group, or come ready to make new friends! Refreshments will be served.

Competitive Puzzling: 500-Piece Edition

Saturday April 26 • 2:30pm

Competitive Puzzling is back and bigger than ever! For the first time, compete in a 500-piece puzzle showdown. Please sign up your team of 1-6 puzzlers (NOT individual participants) so we can make sure there are enough puzzles.

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

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Adults

French Conversation Club **S**

Monday March 3 • 3:30pm

Thursday March 13 • 3:30pm

Monday April 7 • 3:30pm

Thursday April 24 • 3:30pm

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

Demystifying Artificial Intelligence **S**

Tuesday March 4 • 6pm

*Are you AI curious? Join Dr. Kristine Gloria for a discussion of all things artificial intelligence. We'll start from the beginning learning how it works and traverse topics related to the opportunities and potential harms, as well as the many ways AI shows up in your life. **Teens 13 and older welcome!***

Emergency Preparedness Course **S**

Wednesday March 5 • 2pm

With severe weather events becoming more frequent and more extreme, it is more important than ever that New Yorkers are prepared for disasters. This one-hour course is taught by members of the NY Air and Army National Guard, as part of the Citizen Preparedness Corps program. It includes a certification by the state.

Casual Moms Meet-Up

Thursday March 6 • 2pm

Thursday April 10 • 2pm

We welcome all women of all stages of motherhood to ask questions, exchange stories and share resources to better our mental, emotional and social well-being. Children of all ages welcome. Learn more at www.nwralbany.org.

Listen and Learn: Sonny & Perley

Friday March 7 • 1pm

Come and enjoy the music and personality of these wonderful artists.

Parenting in Times of Stress: Raising Resilient Youth **S**

Friday March 7 • 10am

Join a representative from Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County to discuss strategies that can help caregivers manage the impact of stressful events on youth of all ages and families. Light refreshments will be served.

Monday Matinee: "Laura"

Monday March 10 • 2pm

Join us for a screening of this 1944 film noir classic (PG, 88 min.) where a New York City detective investigates the slaying of a beloved ad exec. The more he learns about her, the more he, too, comes under her spell.

English Conversation Club

Tuesday March 11 • 5:30pm

Tuesday March 25 • 5:30pm

Tuesday April 8 • 5:30pm

Tuesday April 22 • 5:30pm

Practice your English language skills through guided discussions, natural conversations and learning games. All levels welcome.

The Erie Canal at 200 **S**

Tuesday March 11 • 7pm

This program outlines the story of the canal and how it has been heralded in pop culture, folklore, and the history books. Discover what celebrations the corridor has planned for its 200th anniversary! Presented by an educator from the Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site.

continued



Sonny & Perley

March 7

Book Discussions

Day Books

Mondays at 1:30pm

March 3

Don't Forget To Write
by Sara Goodman Confino

April 7

Leave the World Behind by Rumaan Alam

Dark Corners Book Group

Wednesdays at 7pm

March 12

The Book of Accidents by Chuck Wendig

April 16

Penpal by Dathan Auerbach

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



The Erie Canal at 200 **S**

March 11

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March/April 2025



Awakening the Garden in Spring S March 17

Upcoming author talks ov

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 March/April:

March 12 • 2pm — Power of Reset: Author Talk with Dan Heath

March 20 • 2pm — Clara Bingham: How Women's Liberation Transformed America

March 26 • 7pm — Dreams We Chase: An Author Talk with Jennifer Weiner

April 2 • 7pm — Wordsmith and Wonder: An Author Talk with Jodi Picoult

April 8 • 2pm — The Stories, Science, and History of Trees with Horticulturalist Matthew Fleming

April 24 • 7pm — The Thrill of Writing: A Conversation with Gregg Hurwitz

Adults *(continued)*

Craft & Color for Adults: Afternoon Edition

Monday March 17 • 2pm

Monday April 14 • 2pm

Choose between coloring or doing an open-ended craft activity. This program is specifically designed for adults of all abilities.

Awakening the Garden in Spring S

Monday March 17 • 6pm

Learn the essential steps for getting your garden off to a good start in the spring including planning, starting seeds, spring clean-up, amending your soil, choosing seeds and plants, and more.

In Stitches

Wednesday March 19 • 6pm

Wednesday April 30 • 6pm

Our fiber arts social hour is back! 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.

History of the Albany Fire Department S

Wednesday March 19 • 7pm

City of Albany Historian Anthony Opalka will present a program on the history of the Albany Fire Department and firehouses. This is part of a series of historical talks presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association.

All ages welcome!

One-on-One Tech Help S

Thursday March 20 • 5:30pm, 6:30pm OR 7:30pm

Thursday April 24 • 5:30pm, 6:30pm OR 7:30pm

We can provide one-on-one assistance to help work through your technology challenges.

Listen and Learn: Sleep Well with Feng Shui

Friday March 21 • 1pm

Discover how Feng Shui can help you create a serene and supportive bedroom environment to enhance your sleep and overall well-being.

Upcycled Book Page Greeting Cards S

Sunday March 23 • 3pm

Help us make use of some of our weeded books by upcycling them as greeting cards. Supplies are limited, so be sure to sign up in advance.

Albany Plans for America's 250th Anniversary S

Monday March 24 • 7pm

Learn about Albany's plans for 2026's nationwide celebration. This is part of a series of historical talks presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. **All ages welcome!**

Community Paint Night S

Tuesday March 25 • 7pm

Tuesday April 22 • 7pm

Join us for painting at the library. We will have painting supplies and video instructions. We will be using acrylic paints which can stain. Please dress accordingly.

Community Yoga

Wednesday March 26 • 6pm

Wednesday April 23 • 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.

Spice Sharing: Aleppo Pepper S

Thursday March 27 • 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.

continued

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

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Adults *(continued)*

Show and Tell for Grown-ups

Monday March 31 • 6pm

Stop by the library for our first ever show and tell for adults. If you're interested in presenting, email rachael@bethpl.org and include your name and what you'll be showing, as well as any technology needed to present.

Stop, Think, Act: How to Recognize and Avoid Scams **S**

Tuesday April 1 • 7pm

Gain insights on how to secure your financial safety from Kimberly Maercklein with the New York State Division of Consumer Protection.

Improving Family Communication **S**

Friday April 4 • 10am

Learn strategies and practical ways to develop stronger family connections that make the tougher parts of parenting and discipline easier and more rewarding.

Listen and Learn: Preventing and Responding to Identity Theft

Friday April 4 • 1pm

Gain insights on how to secure your financial safety from a professional with the New York State Division of Consumer Protection.

Audiobooks Your Way **S**

Saturday April 5 • 3pm

Whether you prefer to listen on CD, Playaway, or digitally, we'll provide an overview of all your options. Bring your smartphone or tablet if you'd like help getting set up.

Alcohol Ink Dyed Candles **S**

Thursday April 10 • 6:30pm

We'll be transforming white candles into colorful centerpieces. Wear clothes that you don't mind staining as alcohol ink can be messy!

Felted Landscapes **S**

Monday April 14 • 6pm

Did you know felt can be used to create beautiful landscapes? Join us for a night of felt-tastic fun! **Teens 14 and older welcome!**

A Short History of the Bicycle **S**

Wednesday April 16 • 7pm

We'll trace the history of bicycles from 1815 to 1900, including the draisine, the velocipede, the boneshaker, the high wheel and the safety bicycle, as well as the social changes bicycles brought about for both men and women. *This is part of a series of historical talks presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. All ages welcome!*

Listen and Learn: "Free for All: The Public Library"

Friday April 18 • 1pm

Join us as we celebrate libraries and National Library Week with a special sneak preview of the forthcoming PBS documentary "Free for All: The Public Library," which explores how public libraries shaped the country and continue to be a sanctuary for Americans everywhere. A discussion with Tim Burke from UHLS will follow.

Monday Matinee: "Storm Center"

Monday April 21 • 2pm

Stop by the library to enjoy this 1956 film a librarian, played by Bette Davis, who is persecuted when she opposes the removal of a book from her shelves (NR, 85 min.).

Embroidered Lavender Sachets **S**

Sunday April 27 • 2:30pm

We'll be making lavender-scented sachets out of felt. New to embroidery? This craft is suitable for beginners.

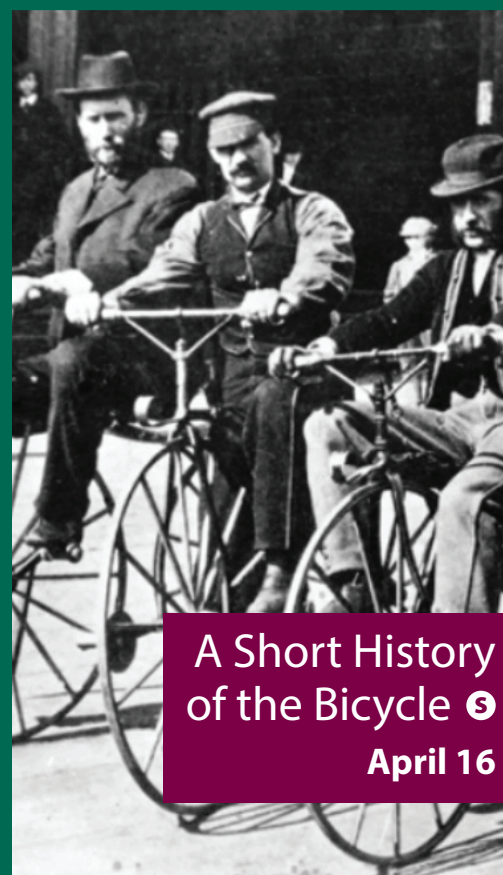
Let Me Explain **S**

Monday April 28 • 6pm

Do you have a hot take and no one will hear you out about it? Now's your chance to share! Sign up for a spot in our new series and choose a topic you're passionate about to discuss. To sign up, e-mail rachael@bethpl.org with your topic.



Spice Sharing: Aleppo Pepper **S** March 27



A Short History of the Bicycle **S** April 16

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March/April 2025



Your Fries,
Your Sauce 🍷
April 15



Silent Wings:
Birds of Prey
April 15

Tweens and teens

Your Fries, Your Sauce 🍷

Tuesday April 15 • 6:30pm

Enjoy some fries while learning about consent FRIES (Freely Given, Reversible, Informed, Enthusiastic, Specific). Join us for a discussion regarding consent and boundaries presented by Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood. Parents are welcome, but not required, to attend. **For ages 14 and older.**

BCSD Art Show Closing Reception

For elementary and middle school students: Tuesday April 29 • 6pm

For high school students: Tuesday April 29 • 7pm

Join us for the final night of BCSD Annual Art Show at the library. This is a chance for local student artists to receive recognition for their work.

Kids and families

Paws to Read

Monday March 10 • 4-4:45pm

Monday March 24 • 4-4:45pm

Monday April 7 • 4-4:45pm

Monday April 21 • 4-4:45pm

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

Chess Club

Monday March 10 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm

Monday March 24 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm

Monday April 7 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm

Monday April 21 • 5:30pm OR 6:30pm

Attend one session per night and try your hand at chess with peers or teen volunteers. All experience levels welcome. **For grades K-5.**

Leprechaun Fizz: A Pot of STEM Gold 🍷

Thursday March 13 • 6pm

Go for the gold with some fizzy, bubbly science. **For grades 1-5.**

Super Girl Party

Monday March 31 • 10am

Celebrate the last day of Women's History Month with us at this gender-inclusive event! Decorate your own superhero cape, create a super power tool belt, and learn about some of the most influential super girls in history. **For ages 6 and up.**

Page-to-Screen Book Club: "The Wild Robot"

Monday April 14 • 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 9 and up.**

Minecraft Adventure

Thursday April 17 • 10am

Stop by the library for some Minecraft fun including Legos and blocks, a scavenger hunt around the library, and more. **Best for ages 6 and up but all are welcome.**

Silent Wings: Birds of Prey

Tuesday April 15 • 11am OR 1pm

Discover the intriguing world of hawks, falcons, eagles, and owls. The Wildlife Institute of Eastern New York will be here with some feathered friends to teach us all about these birds. **For ages 5 and up.**

Newspaper Seed Planters and Planter Decorating

Wednesday April 16 • 11am

Make a seed planter out of newspaper then decorate a planter to take home. We will even give you some seeds to get started! **For grades K-5.**

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

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Story times and more

Saturday Story Time

Saturdays March 1-April 26 • 11am*

Stories, songs and more. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** *except April 19

Family Story Time

Monday March 3 • 1:30pm

Wednesdays March 5-April 30 • 10am*

Stories, songs and more. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** *except April 16

Tiny Tots

Tuesdays March 4-April 29 • 10am*

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

*except April 15

Music and Movement

Tuesdays March 4-April 29 • 11am*

Thursdays March 6-April 24 • 10am*

Songs, dancing, learning and fun. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** *except April 15 and 17

Family Play Time

Wednesdays March 5-April 30 • 11am*

Free play and socialization with a variety of toys.

For ages 0-6 with caregiver. *except April 16

Preschool Story Time

Thursdays March 6-April 24 • 11am*

Join us for stories, learning and fun. **For ages 2-6 with caregiver.** *except April 17

Sensory Story Time and Play

Friday March 14 • 10am

Friday April 18 • 10am

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

Sensory Play Time

Friday March 21 • 10am

Friday April 25 • 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.**

Baby and Me

Monday March 24 • 10am

Monday April 28 • 10am

A special story time for babies who are not yet walking and their caregivers. There will be a 15-20 minute circle time with books, bounces, songs and tickle rhymes followed by a gentle playtime where everyone can socialize.

Story Time with Shannon the Irish Dancer

Monday March 17 • 10am

Join us for St. Patrick's Day stories, songs and fun! **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.**

Afternoon Tea with Snow White

Monday March 24 • 2pm

Snow White will read a few stories and answer your questions about her adventures and the friends she made along the way. Juice and cookies will be served. Please register each child separately. **For ages 0-5 with caregiver.**

Earth Day, Every Day

Saturday April 19 • 11am

Join us for a special edition of Saturday Story Time where we will celebrate our planet with stories and songs. We will then paint with recycled materials to create beautiful pictures of Earth! **Best suited for ages 3-6 with caregiver.**

Literacy tip

Singing is a great way to help children learn new words and information. Songs are a natural way to learn about language.



Story Time
with Shannon
the Irish Dancer
March 17

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.

Earth Day, Every Day
April 19



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

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March/April 2025



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What's new?



Trustee candidate info

Nominating petition forms and informational packets are available at the library or digitally by e-mailing information@bethpl.org for candidates interested in serving on the Bethlehem Public Library Board of Trustees. There are two seats on the 2025 ballot. They are currently held by incumbents Lisa Scoons and Laura DiBetta. Scoons will be stepping down at the end of her term and DiBetta is seeking re-election. Each seat will be filled for a five-year term.

Petitions will need at least 61 signatures of voters residing in the Bethlehem Central School District. Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk, Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Ave., Delmar by **5pm on April 21**. The election will be held **Tuesday May 20**.

National Library Week at BPL

National Library Week is a celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening our communities.

This year, it will take place **April 6-12**, but we'll be celebrating all month long with creation stations, movies, a library card design contest for all ages and more!

Stay tuned and follow us on social media to learn more about these upcoming events.

Bethlehem Reader

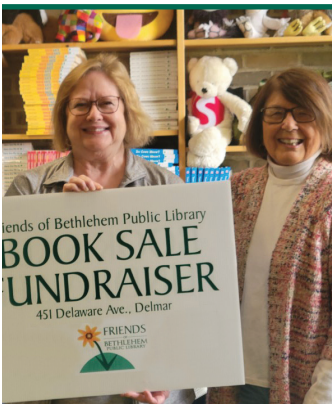
Pick up a copy of the second issue of the Bethlehem Reader at the Information Desk. Our new reader's advisory publication just might introduce you to your next favorite thing.



Friends Book Sale

Save the date for the spring Friends of Bethlehem Public Library Book Sale Fundraiser **Saturday May 17**. 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, and large print titles will be available.

Pricing is cash-only by suggested donation. Stay tuned for hours and additional details.



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