



Issue 2023- 4

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Hello Laura,

Welcome warm weather and longer daylight hours! Spring is a time for renewed energy after snuggling in all winter. The library is busy getting ready for our summer reading programs, but we still have plenty going on right now.

Looking forward, on Thursday, May 18th at 6 pm, we are having a program on next year's total solar eclipse. Even though it takes place in April, we need to learn about and discuss the immense impact this will have on our area. Join us to find out what will happen and how you can prepare.

Looking to the nearer future, our tent will be going back up for summer programs and use by the community. Tables and chairs have been returned to the back patio, where there is always Wi-Fi and outlets for charging your devices.

The Friends of Bethlehem Public Library is holding a clean up day for the pollinator garden and StoryWalk® on Wednesday, May 24th at 9am. If you can spare some time, they would appreciate it. This garden is a lovely addition to our back yard space, and more plants will be added during the summer months.

I hope you will take some time to visit the garden and the library soon.

Have a good day,

Laura

Laura Clerkin
Library Director
lcclerkin@bethlehemlibrary.org



***The Library will be closed Monday,
May 29th for Memorial Day***

Upcoming Program

Preventing Fraud and Identity Theft

Thursday, May 11th 6pm

Pete Begin, VP Senior Security and Fraud Prevention Officer at Mascoma Bank, presents tips on protecting your identity and your finances.

This program was a response to patron requests. If you have an idea for a program, [let us know here!](#)



Upcoming Program

Garden Tea Party

Saturday, May 13th 11am



Celebrate Mother's Day early! We'll have drinks and snacks, flower crafts, and a selfie station. Children may bring their dolls and tea sets for pretend play!

Recommended for children ages 2-9 and their adult (mom, grandma, auntie, dad!)

****Reservations are required. Call the Library 603-869-2409 to let us know you're coming!****

Upcoming Program

Darkness in Daylight: 2024 Total Eclipse of the Sun

Thursday, May 18th 6pm



Douglas Arion, PhD, Executive Director of Mountains of Stars and Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy at Carthage College, will speak on the total solar eclipse, occurring Monday, April 8, 2024.

Why does this extremely rare event happen? What will we experience? How are we preparing for it? How can we enjoy the spectacle? Join us and find out!

Weekly Program

Preschool Story Time and Stay & Play



Tuesdays 10:30am

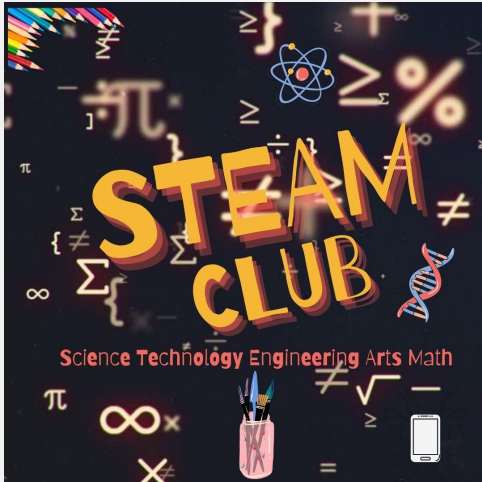
Join Miss Kami for stories, songs, and activities for children ages 2-5 and their caregivers. Stay after for open play: social play for kids, socializing for adults.

The last Tuesday of the month is Stay & Play. After Story Time, stay for an extra-special play time. In May, stay for Big Block fort construction!

Weekly After School Programs

Mondays & Thursdays 2:30 - 3:30pm

For Ages 5+



STEAM Club Mondays
Community Room

We still have Legos out too!



Arts & Crafts Club Thursdays
Children's Room

Different every week!

****Note****

Weekly children's programs will go on hiatus after June 8th as we prepare for Summer Reading programs. But they'll be back in September!

Weekly Program

Let's Talk

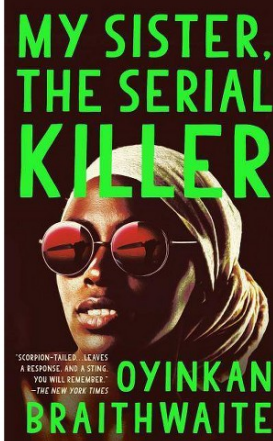


Fridays 10:15am

An informal conversation with a different topic/theme each week. A thoughtful, safe, and open discussion. Coffee included!

May topics include: What if you had superpowers, Favorite music, Books to film.

Monthly Programs



Readers Cafe Book Discussion

Thursday, May 18th Noon AND Saturday, May 20th 9am

May's book is *My Sister the Serial Killer* by Oyinkan Braithwaite.
Same book, two discussion times. Copies are available at the Circulation Desk.

When Korede's dinner is interrupted one night by a distress call from her sister, Ayoola, she knows what's expected of her: bleach, rubber gloves, nerves of steel and a strong stomach. This'll be the third boyfriend Ayoola's dispatched in, quote, self-defense and the third mess that her lethal little sibling has left Korede to clear away. She should probably go to the police for the good of the menfolk of Nigeria, but she loves her sister and, as they say, family always comes first. Until, that is, Ayoola starts dating the doctor where Korede works as a nurse. Korede's long been in love with him, and isn't prepared to see him wind up with a knife in his back: but to save one would mean sacrificing the other...

My Sister, the Serial Killer is a blackly comic novel about how blood is thicker - and more difficult to get out of the carpet - than water... (Goodreads)

[Click here for the 2023 list](#)

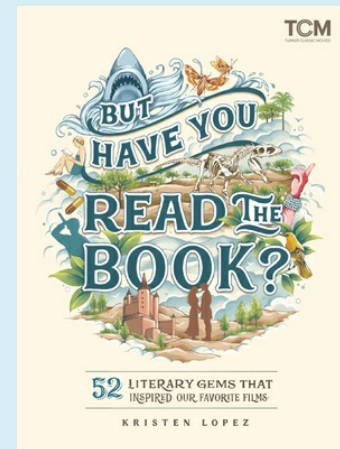
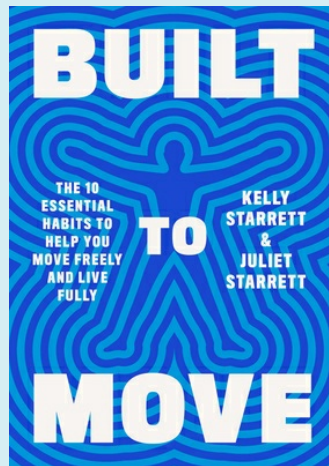
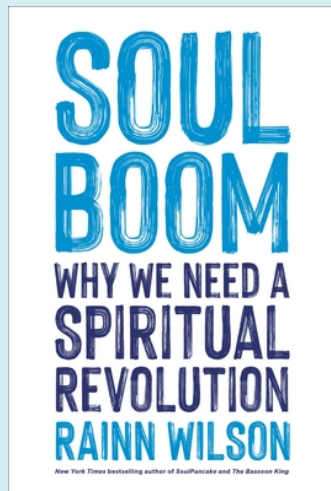
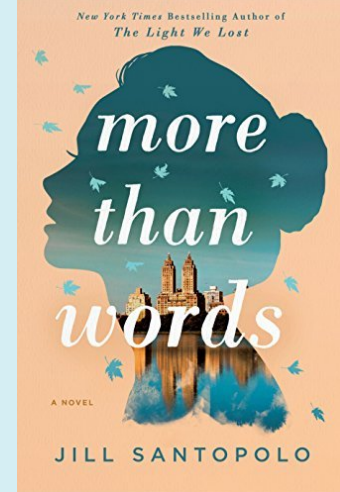
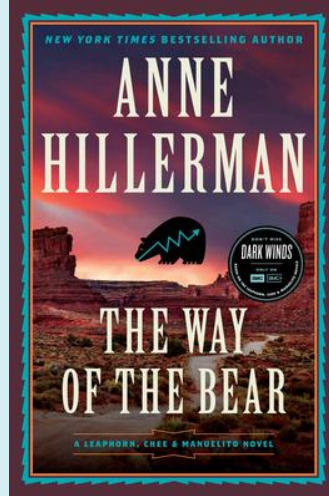
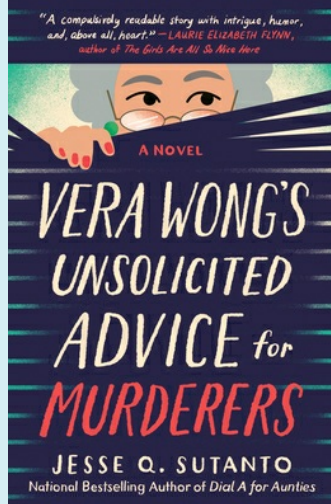


Trivia Night Thursday, May 25th 6pm

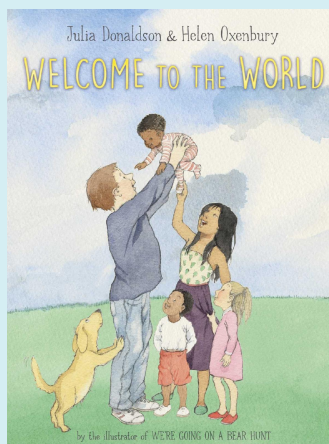
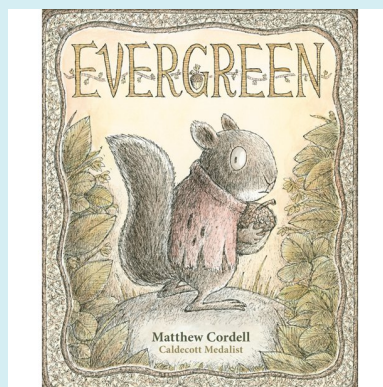
Bring yourself, or bring a team!
All ages welcome!

Brush up on your knowledge of Bethlehem history for the final question!

Check this out!
Click on cover for more information , or to reserve



Written by Dwight
from "The Office"



One of the books purchased by
our Friends group to
commemorate Bethlehem
births!

Coming Soon!

Summer Reading 2023



Kick-off Tuesday, June 27th 11am - Mime Robert Rivest!
Programs every week in July!
Bingo for kids and adults!
More info in our next newsletter!

The freedom to read is essential to our democracy. It is continuously under attack. Private groups and public authorities in various parts of the country are working to remove or limit access to reading materials, to censor content in schools, to label "controversial" views, to distribute lists of "objectionable" books or authors, and to purge libraries. These actions apparently rise from a view that our national tradition of free expression is no longer valid; that censorship and suppression are needed to counter threats to safety or national security, as well as to avoid the subversion of politics and the corruption of morals. We, as individuals devoted to reading and as librarians and publishers responsible for disseminating ideas, wish to assert the public interest in the preservation of the freedom to read.

From the Freedom to Read Statement, adopted June 25, 1953, by the ALA Council

[Click here to read more](#)



Bethlehem Public Library

2245 Main Street
Bethlehem, NH 03574
603-869-2409

Email Us

Bethlehem Public Library | PO Box 250, 2245 Main Street, Bethlehem, NH 03574
www.bethlehemlibrary.org

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