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NEW SERVICES & MORE...

ADULT WINTER READING CHALLENGE
Friday, January 8 through Friday, March 5
Take our reading challenge for a chance to win a Kindle Fire! Starting Friday, January 8, adults are invited to participate in our Winter Reading Challenge — a fun program aimed at encouraging adult readers to stay warm and read a good book! Pick up your Winter Reading Challenge bookmark at the Library, or via curbside pickup — you can also print your bookmark on our website. Once you complete the required challenges, turn in your bookmark and you’ll be entered in the drawing to win a Kindle Fire!

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY: THE 2021 SEED LIBRARY
Grow your own vegetables, herbs, and flowers from seed — with your BCPL library card! Our 2021 Seed Library is launching up again in early March, and we’re encouraging our patrons and community members to try their hand at growing (and harvesting!) seeds. You may “borrow” up to five seed packets consisting of no more than two of each variety. Once we launch for the season, you will be able to select your seed packets at the Circulation Desk.
To read more about how our seed library, please visit benlib.org/seed-library.

NEW! LAPTOP & HOTSPOT BUNDLES
Now available for checkout!
Chromebook laptops and T-Mobile hotspots have a 3 week checkout period. No renewals.

YOUTH KITS
Check out our new kits — bags filled with books and interactive toys or other items that are fun and educational! Check out these themes.

- Animals (Spanish animals)
- Dinosaurs
- Potty Training Girls/Boys
- Oyferki (Polish numbers)
- Kolory (Polish Colors)
- Zwierzat (Polish animals)

BINGE BOXES
A Binge Box is a collection of 5-6 movies following a theme, actor, or genre all bundled into one convenient grab-and-go case. Enjoy hours of entertainment with just one 3-week checkout. (BONUS: Every Binge Box comes with a free bag of microwaveable popcorn!) So pop your popcorn, get cozy on the couch, and start binging! Binge Box themes include: “Everybody Loves The Rock”, “21st Century Westerns”, “SNL Alums”, “Revenge!”, “Musicals”, “Stars of the Office”, and more!

Is the library open? What are your hours?
For the most up-to-date information, including hours of operation and additional library services, please visit us online at benlib.org or call us at (630) 766-4642.
Please note that library hours, programs, and services are subject to change due to the ongoing pandemic.
Turning to literature to pass the time and stay busy? Join a virtual book club and let’s talk books! Our virtual book clubs will be meeting on Zoom once a month. We feature a variety of book clubs for different interests.

Registration is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited. Books will be available one month prior to the event and can be picked up at the Circulation Desk or by using our Curbside Pickup Service. Registration closes one day prior to the event.

**20/30ish Book Club** **LIVE**

Were you born between 1981 and 1996? If so, that makes you a millennial! 👯‍♀️👩‍🎓👩‍🎓

Join this new virtual book club that is for (and by) your generation! The 20/30ish book club will be focusing on discussing interesting titles with your peers from the community. Meet new people and read good books in the process!

Meets the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

**Wednesday, January 27** | *All the Ugly and Wonderful Things* by Bryn Greenwood

**Wednesday, February 24** | *When All Is Said* by Anne Griffin

**Non-Fiction Book Club** **LIVE**

There’s a lot going on in the world around us, and thankfully there are a lot of fantastic non-fiction titles to help us gain perspective. Join our new non-fiction book group to read and discuss non-fiction titles that address important issues relevant to our society today.

**Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m.** | *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik

**Carapia’s Coven**

Do horror books have a place on your nightstand all year-round? Join Carapia’s Coven where we read all things related to the paranormal.

**Monday, January 11** | *Heart-Shaped Box* by Joe Hill

**Monday, February 8** | *Pet Sematary* by Stephen King

**Thursday Night Book Club** **LIVE**

We read popular titles, best sellers, award winners, and more!

Meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

**Thursday, January 7** | *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth

**Thursday, February 4** | *Fleishman Is in Trouble* by Taffy Brodesser-Akner

**Book Brunch** **LIVE**

We read popular titles, best sellers, award winners, and more!

Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom.

**Thursday, January 28** | *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth

**Thursday, February 25** | *Fleishman Is in Trouble* by Taffy Brodesser-Akner

**Lit Chicks** **LIVE**

We read young adult fiction; teens and adults welcome!

Meets the third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

**Monday, January 18** | *Denton Little’s Deathdate* by Lance Rubin

**Monday, February 15** | *Pride* by Ibi Zoboi

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**Cooking the Books… From Home!**

Grab your apron and join Cooking the Books… from home! For each discussion we pick a theme, you either borrow one of our selected cookbooks or browse the internet for recipes (or your own favorites!), select and make a recipe, and join us as we all get together (virtually) to talk about the finished products, our opinions, and experiences.

**February 11** | *Sweets*!

Registration is required. Books are available at the Circulation Desk!
How do I register for the Library’s virtual programs?

Registration for our virtual Zoom programs is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited. If materials are provided for a program, they will be available one week prior to the event and can be picked up at the Library or using our Curbside Pickup; participants must be registered prior to pickup. Materials are provided free of charge. Registration closes one day prior to the event. A link to the Zoom event will be emailed to participants after registration closes. Clicking on the Zoom link within this email will take you to the right place when it is time for the event to begin.

**Tuesday Tales**

**LIVE**

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. | Live on Zoom

**January 12 - February 23**

**AGES: 0 to 6 years old**

Storytime is live! Join the Youth Services staff every Tuesday for live virtual storytimes filled with songs and books!

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited.

**Friday Features**

Join the Youth Services staff every Friday at 10:30 a.m. for a variety of specialty virtual storytimes filled with songs and books! Visit our Facebook, Vimeo, or Instagram (IGTV) to watch each week!

**January 8 & February 5 | Polish Storytime**

**January 15 & February 12 | Signs and Stories**

**January 22 & February 19 | Spanish Storytime**

**January 29 & February 26 | Yoga Storytime**

**Pajama Storytime**

**LIVE**

Mondays at 6:30 p.m. | Live on Zoom

**January 11 and February 8**

**AGES: 0 to 8 years old**

Wear your pajamas and join Miss Kyrie for our favorite relaxing bedtime tales and rhymes. We will end the evening with a simple craft to help us off to sleep!

Registration for this Zoom program is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited. Craft materials available one week prior.

**New! Preschool Art Club**

**LIVE**

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. | Live on Zoom

**January 13 & 27 and February 10 & 24**

**AGES: 2 to 5 years old**

Join Miss Kyrie for a morning of painting, gluing, and cutting! Wear clothes you don’t mind getting messy as we get creative - at home - with some toddler and preschool friendly projects.

Registration for this Zoom program is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited. Craft materials available one week prior.

**New! Dog Man Book Party!**

**LIVE**

**Thursday, February 11 at 4:00 p.m. | Live on Zoom**

**AGES: 6 years old and up**

Do you love the “Dog Man” graphic novels by Dav Pilkey? Then come celebrate all things Dog Man with an assortment of Dog Man crafts and activities!

Registration is required. Craft materials are available February 4.

**New! Stamp Making for Kids**

**LIVE**

**Thursday, January 14 at 4:00 p.m. | Live on Zoom**

**AGES: 6 years old and up**

Join Miss Sophie as we learn how to make our own stamps for printmaking from a variety of fun materials!

Registration is required. Craft materials are available January 7.

**STEAM Club**

**LIVE**

**Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. | AGES: 8 to 12 years old**

**January 21 | DIY Crystals**

**February 18 | DIY Grabber Challenge**

Be your very own scientist in STEAM Club! Each activity will explore a new concept and make a cool experiment!

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required. Craft materials are available one week prior. See top of page for details.
CRAFT NIGHTS

Registration required. Materials provided and available for pickup one week prior. See page 4 for more details.

Snowglobe Craft

Tuesday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m.
AGES: 3 to 11 years old
This winter season, join Miss Diane to make your own snow storm indoors! We’re making a snow globe with plastic plates, fake snow and lots of your creativity. Just shake it up and let it snow!

No-Sew Fleece Pet Blanket

Tuesday, January 26 at 6:30 p.m.
AGES: 3 to 11 years old
Do you have a furry friend at home? Miss Kyrie will be teaching you how to make your own no-sew fleece blanket for your family pet during this chilly winter season.

Valentine’s Tree Craft

Tuesday, February 2 at 6:30 p.m.
AGES: 3 to 11 years old
Join Miss Sophie as we make a Valentine’s Day keepsake tree art with fingerprints and paint!

Fun with Snowmen!

Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m.
AGES: 3 to 11 years old
Join us as we celebrate all things snowmen with snowman stories, crafts, and treats!

Check out a craft supply kit!

These bags are perfect for school projects and library craft programs. When it’s time to return your craft kit, you can keep the crayons and glue sticks!

BINGO for Kids

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. | January 12 and February 9
AGES: 3 to 11 years old
Join Miss Diane and Miss Penny for a virtual night of gaming fun as we play Bingo online, where players will have a chance to win prizes!

Family Night: Virtual Candy Land!

Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m. | Live on Zoom
AGES: 3 to 11 years old
Do you like friendly competition? Do you like board games? You’re invited to play virtual Candy Land! Your computer screen will transform into the game board with YOU as the game piece. Compete with your family for your Candy Land prize!

TEEN PROGRAMS

Bullet Journaling

Do you buy planners and realize that you don’t have enough space to write everything down? Are you the type of person that has a wall full of sticky notes by your desk? Do you constantly reset your passwords because you don’t remember where you wrote them down? This program is for you! Organize your life and have fun doing it by creating a planner system that works for you and your lifestyle. Teens and adults welcome!

January 20 | New Year. New You! The basics of bullet journaling
February 17 | Namaste. How to use bullet journaling for self-care and meditation

Teen Craft: DIY Woven Mandala

Wednesday, January 13 at 4:00 p.m.
Live on Zoom | GRADES: 7th-12th
Join Mr. Parish for an evening of crafting as he teaches you how to create a “God’s Eye,” a woven mandala using items found in your household!

Teen Gaming: Trivia

Wednesday, January 27 at 4:00 p.m.
Live on Zoom | GRADES: 7th-12th
Calling all teens! Join us for a virtual game night and hangout as we test our wits with an evening of trivia!

Teen Subscription Book Boxes

Take our short survey about your reading preferences and receive a personalized monthly subscription box with a book hand-selected by our Youth Services staff and other goodies!

Once you finish the book, return both the book and the box, but keep everything else inside it! To fill out your survey and sign up visit benlib.org/teen-book-box Sign up and complete the survey by the first Monday of each month to receive that month’s box!

Teen Craft: DIY Stress Balls

Wednesday, February 24 at 4:00 p.m. | Live on Zoom
GRADES: 7th-12th
Join us as we make your very own squishy stress ball!

Registration is required. Materials available 2/17.
**Introduction to Tai Chi**

**Thursday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. | Live on Zoom**

Learn new ways to calm your mind and body! Come learn Tai Chi, a Chinese martial art practiced for defense, training, health benefits, and meditation. Instructor Jarett Sanchez will teach us the 24 standardized movements and exercises on relaxation, breathing, and coordination to rebalance the body's own healing capacity.

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required. Please see below for details.

**Madam President**

**Thursday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m. | Live on Zoom**

After President Woodrow Wilson suffered a paralyzing stroke in the fall of 1919, his wife, First Lady Edith Wilson, began to handle the day-to-day responsibilities of the Executive Office. Join us as author William Hazelgrove discusses her largely forgotten legacy as "First Woman President".

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required. Please see below for details.

**The 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic, World War I, & Wilson**

**Sunday, February 7 at 2:00 p.m. | Live on Zoom**

The year is 1918. Thousands of United States troops are involved in World War I and millions will die. In the United States, an additional war is forming. It is called "influenza" and it will take between 40-100 million more lives. President Wilson must make a choice. He needs to decide to either quarantine the troops as the war rages on, or to send the troops over to win the war and hope for the best. Historian Jim Gibbons will take you on the rollercoaster ride of your life: the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic, the decade of the 1910’s, and World War I. Gibbons will describe all the ups and downs, twists and turns, fear, mourning and joy of the 1910’s that will take you into the excitement of the Roaring 20’s!

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required. See below for details.

**MOTOWN: Music That Moved the World**

**Monday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m. | Live on Zoom**

In Detroit in the 1960’s Motown Records produced hits as efficiently as the Ford Motor Company produced automobiles - 110 Top Ten hits to be exact! Using audio and visual content, we'll trace the amazing musical journey from the power soul of "Dancing In The Streets" and "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" to the psychedelic soul of "Cloud Nine" and "What's Going On" to the pop soul of The Jackson 5. Timeless music that moved us then and moves us now. Celebrate Black History Month with a musical journey to the Motor City.

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required. Please see below for details.

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**Local History**

**Family Archiving Workshop**

**Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

Do you know where your family history is? Have you been looking around your house at boxes you need to go through? Bring a box of your family records, photos, letters, documents, tapes, textiles and digital files, and learn how to do basic preservation and organization of your precious family memories and history with Elizabeth Morris, the Library’s Digital Librarian & Archivist. Be a hero in saving your family history for future generations.

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required. Please see below for details.

**Genealogy Discussion Group**

**Wednesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.**

Join Elizabeth Morris, the Library’s Digital Librarian & Archivist, for an all-skill-level group discussion on getting started with genealogy using Ancestry.com, and overcoming roadblocks in your research. If you have a genealogy journey that you would like to share with the group, you are invited to share how you started, stay organized, and saved your journey back in time.

Registration for this virtual Zoom program is required. Please see below for details.

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**Okay, I registered! What is Zoom and where is the link to the program?**

Zoom is an online meeting platform that has served as an extremely popular way to connect with people during the pandemic. Zoom requires an internet capable device such as a computer, tablet, or smartphone, as well as an internet connection. You must install the Zoom software to use the program, but it’s pretty quick and easy.

Registration for our live Zoom programs is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited. Registration closes one day prior to the event. A link to the Zoom event will be emailed to participants after registration closes. Clicking on the Zoom link within this email will take you to the right place when it is time for the event to begin.
CRAFTS & DIY | ADULT PROGRAMS

DIY Beaded Mask Lanyard
Thursday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m. | Adults only
Inside-outside, mask-on, mask-off... We all do it, many times a day. When it’s time to put your mask on again, do you find yourself rummaging around looking for it? Make this fun and convenient mask lanyard and you can just hang it around your neck so it’s close at hand when you need it! Materials available 1/3.

Essential Oil Positive Vibes Roll-On
Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 p.m. | Adults only
Join us as we promote peace, happiness, and positivity in this relaxing DIY. Participants will learn about the properties of different essential oils and create a custom blend in a rollerball/roll-on. All necessary materials will be provided. Materials available 1/7.

DIY Heart Pincushion
Thursday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. | Adults only
Valentine’s Day is coming up, so you know what that means... Valentine’s Day crafts! Join Sofia and make a cute little heart-shaped pincushion; your pins will love it! Materials available 1/28.

DIY Stretchy Beaded Bracelet
Thursday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. | Adults only
We love to bead! A simple beaded bracelet is the perfect accessory, and also makes a wonderful handmade gift. Join Mary for this beading craft as we make stretchy beaded bracelets! Materials available 2/11.

Do you buy planners and realize that you don’t have enough space to write everything down? Are you the type of person that has a wall full of sticky notes by your desk? Do you constantly reset your passwords because you don’t remember where you wrote them down? This program is for you! Organize your life and have fun doing it by creating a planner system that works for you and your lifestyle. This program is for teens and adults and will be live on Zoom.

Wednesday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m. | New Year. New You! The basics of bullet journaling
Wednesday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m. | How to use bullet journaling for self care & meditation
Registration is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited.

Take and Make

Adults are invited to join us live on Zoom for DIY crafts! We’ll supply the crafting materials for free — we’ll have them bagged up ready to go and you can pick them up!
Registration for Take & Make programs is required through our online calendar or by phone; space is limited. Materials are available one week prior to the event; participants must be registered prior to pickup and must be a BCPL cardholder. One Take & Make kit per person, please.
Registration closes one day prior to the event. A link to the Zoom event will be emailed to participants after the event registration closes. Clicking on the Zoom link within this email will take you to the right place when it is time for the event to begin.

Looking for this “LIVE” icon to know that this is a virtual program and that registration is required.

Bullet Journaling

Cooking Made Easy
Monday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, February 1 at 7:00 p.m.
Thinking about cooking for yourself more often but hate how much of a hassle it is? Join Bill and learn some quick and easy dishes with minimal clean-up!
Visit our Facebook, Vimeo, or Instagram (IGTV) to watch!

Valentine’s Day Gift: M&M Cookies Jar
Friday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m.
How do you make Valentine’s Day better? By having cookies! How do you make cookies better? By adding M&Ms! How do you make a loved one happier? By giving them a cookie-making kit! Tune in for a simple tutorial on how to make a Valentine’s Day gift jar filled with cookie ingredients anyone will love.
Watch on Facebook, Vimeo, or Instagram!

Valentine’s Day Card Making
Wednesday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Join Mr. Parish for an evening of card making as he teaches us how to make two of his favorite Valentines — perfect for your special sweetheart! Valentine’s Day is on Sunday, February 14! This program is for kids and adults.
Visit our Facebook, Vimeo, or Instagram (IGTV) to watch!
Learn anything. Learn anytime. Learn anywhere.

UNIVERSAL CLASS — FREE ONLINE CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

benlib.org/universal-class