



508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville, TN 37804
Phone: (865) 982-0981 Web site: www.blountlibrary.org



BCPL – Celebrating History, Creating Connections, Inspiring Imagination

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Janna Federer, Public Events Coordinator
Phone: 865-982-0981, ext. 1408; Email: blountcountylibrarypr@blounttn.org
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August and September 2019 Events and Programs at the Blount County Public Library

MARYVILLE, TN (July 22, 2019) It's hot outside, but the library is still one of the coolest places to be. While the end of summer usually means winding down, we're just getting started. Throughout August, we'll be bringing back our "Hot Summer Nights" concert series every Thursday. This indoor, free concert is a great way to get the families together for some local music. Our Ugly Vegetable Contest is in full swing, and we've gotten so many submissions of your silly looking veggies! If you have a harvest that is particularly horrendous to see, email spennycuff@blounttn.org. Our all-ages trivia challenge, "Are You Smarter Than a Librarian," will be back August 5 and September 9 for some special edition '80s and '90s factoids - we hope you come and join us. Our Southern Appalachian Series is still going strong with our "Moonshine in the Great Smoky Mountains" program on August 26, followed closely by our "Seed Saving 101" program with Ben Cohen, founder of The Michigan Seed Library Initiative, on August 28. We'll be hosting a "Return to Downton Abby Tea" to celebrate the new movie release on September 14. Don't worry teens, there's plenty of activities for you to make the transition back to school a little bit easier! We'll have gaming contests on August 10 and September 14 and we'll also be starting our Micronational Club, in September, where you can create your own country! Parents, please note, there will be NO regular Growing Ready Readers Early Literacy Programs and NO regular Elementary Aged Programming in August, with the exception of Chess Club, Bluegrass Club, Quiltin' Bee, and Thursday Night Gaming. They will all resume in September! Check out these other programs throughout August and September:

- Social Media For Business, Microsoft and Google Classes, and ongoing Soft-Skills workshops,
- Back-To-School Chess Party and Tournament for all Ages,
- Smart Bicycling Skills 101 for ages 16 and up,
- Meet the Anime
- NASA In-Flight Downlink
- Special Open Labs
- Garden Series
- BCFOL Pre-Owned Book Sale

And much more! Pick up your copy of the monthly calendar so that you'll have your own schedule of summer events for August and September. These items are also available on the library website at www.blountlibrary.org We look forward to seeing you at the library!

THE BOOKMARK CAFÉ

The Bookmark Café's Centennial Celebration "100 Years of Recipes" parties on with these featured items: August (1980's) Peanut Butter Logs; September (1990's) Apple Crisp. The Café will also offer the following Seasonal Items: for August: Adventure Lemonade (lemonade with your choice of fruit flavor and club soda), Banana Split Latte, Berries & Cream Iced Latte; for September: Cinnamon Crisp Cider, Pumpkin Spiced Latte, Maple Frappe. For more information go to the library's website or [click here](#). Come celebrate BCPL's Centennial at The Bookmark Café!

CENTENNIAL BOOK SHOWER

When the Blount County Public Library first opened in 1919, the community held a book shower to fill the shelves. Celebrate the Library's 100th birthday with a monetary donation for new books. Every \$25 contribution will bring a new book to the library collection and be designated with a Centennial Logo sticker. Contributions gladly accepted online or in person. Form is available on the library's website or [click here](#).

BCPL CENTENNIAL TIMELINE

Our library has been around for 100 years! Watch our changes over the last century on the BCPL Centennial Timeline: www.blountlibrary.org / *scroll down to* 2019 Centennial Celebrations / 100 Years of BCPL (*on left*) or [click here](#).

NEW: REVIEW YOUR BOOK OR DVD!

Did you like it? Hate it? Let everyone know with a review! For instructions: Go to the library website www.blountlibrary.org / How Do I? / Learn About / Reviewing a Book or [click here](#).

NEW WAY TO LEARN: NO CHARGE WITH YOUR BCPL CARD

Be a life-long learner. **Universal Class** offers over **500 online classes** you can take at times convenient to you. Classes are both self-paced and instructor-led. You can be enrolled in up to 5 classes at a time and have 24/7 access to courses. From Dog Training to How to Start an Online Business to Electronics 101 to Cake Decorating to Criminology Basics or Web Development Classes, there is something here for most people. Whether for personal hobbies or something to help in your career, **Universal Class** offers practical information that you can put to immediate use.

Universal Class not only offers CEUs (continuing education units), the industry measurement of non-credit education, they are accredited as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET).

If you don't have a computer, use the library's internet computers. To register and start learning, go to www.blountlibrary.org / Learning / Continuing Education / Universal Class Courses to set up an account with your Blount County Public Library card or [click here](#). With your library card, there's no charge!

WHY PLAY CHESS? COME PLAY AT THE LIBRARY FOR ALL AGES

Chess helps you to: 1. Focus 2. Develop problem-solving skills 3. Exercise both sides of the brain 4. Have fun!

Who said it? "Chess teaches foresight, by having to plan ahead; vigilance, by having to keep watch over the whole chess board; caution, by having to restrain ourselves from making hasty moves; and finally, we learn from chess the greatest maxim in life — that even when everything seems to be going badly for us we should not lose heart, but always hoping for a change for the better, steadfastly continue searching for the solutions to our problems." (Benjamin Franklin)

Play chess at the library Thursdays 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Meets in Adult Services in the Reference area of the library.

MUSIC / CONCERTS: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428

- **Thursdays in August, 7 p.m., "Hot Summer Nights Concert Series" at the library!** Concerts will be inside the library in air conditioning and are sponsored by the Blount County Friends of the Library.
 - **August 1: Wild Blue Yonder Band**, a rootsy East Tennessee ensemble, preserves the musical traditions of the Appalachian region while giving fresh voice to ancient themes of love and loss, time and trials. All three members, Melissa Wade (guitar and vocals), Phil Coward (banjo, mandolin and vocals) and Cindy Wallace (fiddler), are veteran entertainers who not only deliver their music with passion and sincerity, but also engage every audience as if it were sitting on the living room couch sharing life stories up close and personal. Formed as a five-piece band in 2001, Wild Blue Yonder has flourished in East Tennessee and Western North Carolina, producing

- three CDs, two of which received airplay on Bluegrass and Folk stations across the U.S., and in the UK, Australia and the Netherlands. For more info, visit online at www.wildblueyonder.band and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/wbyband.
- **August 8: Dirt Road Sweetheart** is a daughter-father duo. Nora Jane and Alan Struthers have been performing publicly since 2006 with a repertoire of heavily stocked classic brother-duets, banjo-driven murder ballads, and the occasional original song. With just an acoustic guitar and a banjo for accompaniment, it is the close-family-harmonies, often so close it sounds as though they are singing with one voice, that make this duo shine. To learn more: <https://www.norajanestruthers.com/>.
 - **August 15: The Streamliners Swing Orchestra** is a seventeen-piece big band **led by Mike “Catfish” Spirko** and are based out of Knoxville. They play songs by the likes of Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Count Basie, and Louis Prima. This stylish jazz dance band will get your feet moving with their infectious music, as they smoothly blend blues, bebop and traditional swing. Checkout their Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/TheStreamliners/>
 - **August 22: Teen Spirit** is a 90’s tribute band. Come and enjoy the music of your favorite 90’s songs. For more information about them go to their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SoundsliketeenspiritTN>.
 - **August 29: Knoxville Opera presents a concert of Broadway, Operetta, and Opera Selections**, will be this year’s Hot Summer Nights finale. Included will be music from their upcoming season’s productions of *Madame Butterfly*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and the Tennessee Premiere of Nkeiru Okoye’s *Harriet Tubman*. This annual visit by the company is always an audience favorite. **Maestro Brian Salesky**, Executive and Artistic Director of Knoxville Opera, will host the event and accompany two outstanding young artists. To learn more about the Knoxville Opera go to www.KnoxvilleOpera.com

NEW EVENTS: Phone 865-982-0981 or 865-273-1428 (See recurring events below the new events)

- **Through Thursday, October 31, “Seed Library @ BCPL,”** will be available during library hours and for **all ages**. There will be seeds available and located in the Reference Area of Adult Services and a location for kids in Youth Services end of the main desk. To check out seeds you must have a valid Blount County Public Library card. Please go to the library website or [click here](#) for further information.
- **Through Thursday, October 31, “Ugly Vegetable Contest.” For All Ages!** The Seed Library @BCPL announces our first ever "Ugly Vegetable Contest!" As lots of veggies are producing, even though they're tasty and healthy for us, let's face it, some are prettier than others. So, we want to celebrate even the ugly ones, because they're just as delicious. **If you've got a tomato that's not perfect, or a cucumber that's not comely, send a photo to spennycuff@blounttn.org, and include your name and the name of the variety if you**

know it. Please send a selfie photo, in addition to the ugly vegetable close-up, with you and your veggie. We'll award a winner on Thursday, October 31, for the prize of a \$100.00 gift card to our local garden center, "Out Of Eden." So, if your pumpkin is puckered, or your gourd isn't gorgeous, be sure to share it with us. Watch the library's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for some spotlights on your entries, throughout the season!

- **Saturday, August 3, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “During Open Lab: Robots.”** Curious about robots? Meet Edison (<https://meet Edison.com/>), a Lego compatible robot that is fun and easy to program. In this workshop everyone will have the opportunity to learn about robots, play with Edison and program it to avoid obstacles or follow a line or make silly sounds. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages. Learn more about materials costs, equipment certification, and lab policies by emailing abaker@blounttn.org Open Lab (is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) will be in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.
- **Monday, August 5 and Monday, September 9, 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., “Are You Smarter than a Librarian? BCPL ‘80s and ‘90s Trivia Challenge.” All Ages Are Welcome!** While on the job, librarians learn new things every day. So it's safe to say that we're pretty smart. But now you have a chance to test your knowledge against one of us! If you beat one of our librarian’s scores, you could walk away with an extra prize! The library’s monthly trivia challenge covers a variety of topics, from geography and history to pop culture and sports. For August and September, we’re focusing ENTIRELY on the **1980s (August)** and **1990s (September)**, so brush up on your Cold War history and dust off that boy bands playlist. Bring your teammates and compete for a prize! On August 5, trivia will be in Dorothy Herron Room A and in the Sharon Lawson Room on September 9.
- **Friday, August 9, Noon until 2 p.m., “NASA In-Flight Downlink.” All Ages Welcome!** Let’s listen in on a conversation between NASA astronauts aboard the International Space Station and Slover Library (Norfolk, Virginia). **Christina H. Koch and Dr. Drew Morgan** will be answering kids’ questions about their work and life in space. Bring your lunch if you like and join the livestream in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Tuesday, August 13, 7 p.m., “Garden Series: Stop, Look, and Listen (Your Yard is Full of Wonders!)”** This one hour of information for **children and adults** is **presented by Elin Johnson**. It will cover trees, flowers, bugs, pets, birds and animals like bunnies and squirrels. There are so many things to see and hear if you just slow down and pay attention! Sponsored by Blount County Master Gardeners and Blount County Extension Office. This will be located in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, August 24, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., “Back-To-School Chess Party and Tournament.”** Want to see what one of the world’s most enduring strategy games is all about? Want to test your skills -- or learn the basics? **All ages and levels are welcome!** Grandmaster Simon Williams said, “The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be.” What will chess be for you? While you answer that question, we’ll serve up snacks and

drinks -- and, of course, an informal competitive chess tournament, with experienced players on hand to advise, teach or compete. Join or watch the games in the Sharon Lawson Room; come at any time during the festivities.

- **Monday, August 26, 7 p.m., “*Southern Appalachian Studies Series: That Good Ol’ Mountain Dew: Moonshine in the Great Smoky Mountains,*” presented by Dr. Daniel Pierce**, University of North Carolina, Asheville history professor. Pierce will relate stories of the moonshine “industry” in the Great Smoky Mountains--the motivations behind the practice, the variety of methods used, and the types of people who made corn in a jar. This event will be in the Main Gallery.
- **Wednesday, August 28, 2p.m. to 4 p.m., “*Seed Saving 101 With Ben Cohen.*”** Ben Cohen, founder of The Michigan Seed Library Initiative, owner of Small House Farms, and author of the book, “*From Our Seeds and Their Keepers,*” will be presenting a seed saving talk and workshop. This workshop will cover the specifics of how and when to harvest seeds from a number of traditional garden veggies. It will cover the basics of pollination, interspecies crossing and isolation, but will mostly focus on harvesting, cleaning, and storage of seeds. Ben will also demonstrate seed harvesting basics with tomatoes and discuss fermentation techniques. The talk will also be laced with information of community seed banks and why community participation is crucial to the seed library’s continued success. This event will be held in the Sharon Lawson Room
- **Friday, August 30, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., “*It’s Your Career: Communicating and Listening Effectively,*”** is part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. In this workshop you will learn effective communication is an essential component of professional success. Learn practical communication strategies that will help make you a better leader, improve productivity, and combat communication breakdowns. Class format features a short lecture on each topic, case studies discussion in small groups and resources for use in businesses and organizations. **Bring your mobile device, tablet or laptop, or one will be provided for your use.** All participants will earn .5 CEUs (Continuing Education Unit) for participating. **Registration begins July 29.** This class will be at the Blount County Public Library’s Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign. Registration is required. **For class synopsis and registration information, go to** <https://www.blountchamber.com/community/festivals-events/soft-skills/> Soft Skills are strengthened and developed over time and are necessary if you desire to climb the career ladder. The classes are a collaboration of Blount Partnership, Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and the Blount County Public Library. For more information go to bcpl.populr.me/itsyourcareer
- **Saturday, Sunday and Monday, August 31, September 1 and 2, “*Library Closed in Honor of Labor Day.*”**
- **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 5, 6 and 7, “*Pre-Owned Book Sale.*”** This fundraiser for the library offers more than 50,000 books available for sale—\$1 for soft cover

and \$2 for hard cover, plus movies (DVD & VHS), audiobooks and specially priced rare books, collectibles and others—by the [Blount County Friends of the Library \(BCFOL\)](#):

- **Thursday, September 5, 12 noon until 6 p.m., “Members Only Sale”** is an opportunity for FOL members to purchase books before the public are admitted to the sale. FOL memberships are available at the elevator doors, before accessing the Library Lower Level.
- **Friday and Saturday, September 6 and 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., “Pre-Owned Book Sale – Open to the Public”** in the Library Lower Level.
- **Saturday, September 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “During Open Lab: You Can Code.”** Think coding is hard? Everyone can code. Join us at the workshop to get started. We use Blockly, a drag and drop language to instruct the computer. We will be trying a number of puzzles, mazes and games to explore sequential events, selection and repetition. After, students will be able to access the web pages at home to continue their learning. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages. Learn more about materials costs, equipment certification, and lab policies by emailing abaker@blounttn.org Open Lab (is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) will be in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.
- **Tuesday, September 10, 7 p.m. “Garden Series: Preparing for a Fall Garden and Putting your Garden to Bed.”** What vegetables and flowers can be planted in the fall? How can you extend you garden season past the first frost? **Bob Hornyak** will answer these questions and offer other helpful tips for the first half of this program. The second half will be devoted to putting your garden to bed for the fall. This session will include information on cleaning out your garden, green manure, and other helpful information. Sponsored by the Blount County Master Gardeners and Blount County Extension Office. This will be located in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, September 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., “Smart Bicycling Traffic Skills 101: Ages 16 and Up,”** presented by **Donna Dixon**, with the Jeff Roth Cycling Foundation, using the League of American Bicyclists BikeEd Program. **Course is free.** This course combines online instruction with parking lot and on-road practice of vehicular bicycling principles. **Preregistration is required: call Smoky Mountain Wellness at 865-803-8887, or email: donnasuedixon@hotmail.com or [click here](#).** For more information about the Jeff Roth Foundation and to learn more about the League of American Bicyclists, go to www.jeffrothcyclingfoundation.org **For certification, the course begins with participants completing an online, self-guided course. Go to www.bikeed.org The Certificate of Completion must be printed by the participant and brought to the biking skills course.** The Smart Bicycling Skills course will be held at the Blount County Public Library’s Learning Lab Parking Lot.
- **Saturday, September 14, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., “Return To Downton Abbey Tea.”** Join us as we celebrate and get ready for the new Downton Abbey movie release! We will enjoy tea,

scones, cake, and finger sandwiches. There will be an epic Downton Abbey trivia contest. Wear your best Downton Abbey attire, including hats, for a hat and fascinator contest (adult and youth) with prizes! This program is for Downton Abbey lovers of **all ages**. We extend our deepest gratitude to the Blount County Friends of the Library for providing this program, as well as the Foothills AMC Theatre for some of our prizes. This will be located in the Main Gallery.

- **Saturday, September 21, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (3rd Saturday of every other month), “Appalachian Reads Book Club.”** The book discussed this month is the *Prayers the Devil Answers* by Sharyn McCrumb. McCrumb combines historical research with mountain superstitions to create this depression era novel set in rural East Tennessee. Discussion will be **led by Jim Stovall**, the library’s writer-in-residence. The book group will meet in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Wednesday, September 25, 11 a.m., “Focus on Seniors: Get Moving!”** The right sort of exercise is vital to maintaining good health and independence, especially for seniors. The program is **presented by volunteer instructors with** the exercise class *Staying Active and Independent for Life (S.A.I.L)*. The S.A.I. L. instructors will lead attendees in exercises that improve strength, balance and flexibility. Come join them in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Friday, September 27, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., “It’s Your Career: Empowering and Motivating Employees,”** is part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. In this workshop learn to empower employees and enable better performance. Learn strategies to help employees be the best they can be. Class format features a short lecture on each topic, case studies discussion in small groups and resources for use in businesses and organizations. **Bring your mobile device, tablet or laptop, or one will be provided for your use.** All participants will earn .5 CEUs (Continuing Education Unit) for participating. **Registration begins September 2.** This class will be at the Blount County Public Library’s Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign. Registration is required. **For class synopsis and registration information, go to <https://www.blountchamber.com/community/festivals-events/soft-skills/>** Soft Skills are strengthened and developed over time and are necessary if you desire to climb the career ladder. The classes are a collaboration of Blount Partnership, Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and the Blount County Public Library. For more information go to bcpl.populr.me/itsyourcareer
- **Monday, September 30, 7 p.m., “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Maryville College: Noble, Grand and True for 200 Years.”** Maryville College is celebrating its Bicentennial in 2019 so join us and learn more about the people who have shaped the rich history of the college, including founder Reverend Isaac Anderson, whose personal mission was “Do good on the largest possible scale.” We celebrate this exciting milestone with stories of Maryville College’s heritage. This event will be in the Main Gallery.

RECURRING EVENTS: Phone 865-982-0981 or 865-273-1428

- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m., “Dungeons & Dragons.” Now operating via Signups Only!** If you are interested in joining, email bcpldnd@gmail.com to reserve your spot. **All ages (12 and up) and skill levels** can join in the fun of this tabletop role-playing game by learning about D&D and sharing your love of fantasy gaming! The group meets in the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m., “Thursday Night Gaming.” All ages welcome!** If you’re into any sort of analogue gaming, the Main Gallery of the Library is where you want to be! Interested in the Pokémon Card Game? Bring a deck and meet-up with local players, or learn to play with one of our decks. Like board games? Choose from our selection of tabletop favorites. Join the game in the Main Gallery.
- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library: Every Thursday.” All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in Adult Services in the Reference area of the library. Grandmaster Simon Williams said, “The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be.” What will chess be for you? You are welcome to come join or just enjoy watching the game.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library: Every Saturday.” All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in Adult Services in the Reference area of the library. Grandmaster Simon Williams said, “The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be.” What will chess be for you? You are welcome to come join or just enjoy watching the game.
 - **NOTE: Saturday, August 24,** will be a special back-to-school open house party and tournament. Instead of the usual chess venue, join the fun in the Sharon Lawson Room for refreshments and socializing, in addition to chess!
- **Saturday, August 3 and Saturday, September 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (1st Saturday of each month), “Open Lab.” All ages** come play with all the cool tech in the Learning Lab! Lab equipment includes 3D printers, a vinyl cutter, a heat press, and other small electronics. Learn more about materials costs, equipment certification, and lab policies by emailing abaker@blounttn.org Open Lab will be in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.
 - **During Open Lab, Saturday, August 3, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Robots.”** Curious about robots? Meet Edison (<https://meettedison.com/>), a Lego compatible robot that is fun and easy to program. In this workshop everyone will have the opportunity to learn about robots, play with Edison and program it to avoid obstacles or follow a line or make silly sounds. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages.
 - **During Open Lab, Saturday, September 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “You Can Code.”** Think coding is hard? Everyone can code. Join us at the workshop to get started. We use Blockly, a drag and drop language to instruct the computer. We will be trying a

number of puzzles, mazes and games to explore sequential events, selection and repetition. After, students will be able to access the web pages at home to continue their learning. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science.

Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages.

- **Tuesday, August 6 and August 20, and Tuesday, September 3 and September 17, 6 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month), “*Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Bluegrass Music Club.*”** Enjoy listening to or participate in playing regional music. The Bluegrass Music Club is open to **all ages and skill levels**. There is no charge, just lots of fun. The Music Club meets in the Administration Reception Area (enter through the double doors past the Bookmark Café.)
- **Thursday, August 1 and August 15, and Thursday, September 5 and September 19, 10 a.m.-11 a.m. (1st and 3rd Thursday of each month), “*Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Quiltin’ Bee.*”** A Quilting Bee for **all ages** and skills. **Linda Marcus**, a Reference Librarian and longtime quilter, will be the instructor for this adventure in hand quilting. It will meet in Sharon Lawson Room. “If Grandma and a feed sack in a backwoods cabin can make a quilt, so can you.”
- **(New)Thursdays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., Starting on September 5: “*Micronational Club.*” Recommended for ages 8 to 18.** Have you ever dreamed of ruling over your own country? Here’s your chance! What will the laws, customs, and history be? You decide. What will the flag, coins, and postage stamps look like? You will create them. With a different project each week, you’ll build an empire! This club usually meets in the Main Gallery.
- **Thursday, August 15 and Thursday, September 19, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (3rd Thursday of each month), “*Adult Coloring.*”** Remember the carefree joy of picking up your favorite crayon or marker and adding color to a beautiful picture? Experience the same fun and relaxation even though you are now an adult! For this program, sponsored by the Blount County Friends of the Library, participants (**teens and older**) can bring their own coloring books and materials, or you can select from a variety of intricate adult coloring pages and utilize coloring supplies provided at the library. Just show up at the library at 7 p.m., on the third Thursday of every month, select a fun design and color away to your heart’s content. This program will be in the Adult Services Reference Area of the library.
- **Tuesday, August 20 and Tuesday, September 17, 5:30 p.m. (3rd Tuesday of each month), “*Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting,*”** in the Kathy Pagles Board Room of the library.

Tennessee R.E.A.D.S. HELP!

If you have an e-reader, tablet or other device, you may check out e-books, audiobooks and stream movies from Tennessee R.E.A.D.S., through the library website. You can seek personalized help by calling Adult Services (Reference Desk) at 865-982-0981, ext. 1450, or

865- 273-1428 to schedule a time for an appointment. To set up access to download e-books, audiobooks and materials from the library, bring these items:

- **library card in your name and in good standing,**
- **your device (fully charged),**
- **email account user name and password,**
- **Kindle e-readers: Amazon sign-in and password**

You are ready to enjoy your Tennessee R.E.A.D.S. experience!

TECHNOLOGY CLASSES, INTERNSHIPS AND RESOURCES:

For more information, go to the Blount County Public Library Adult Services (Reference Desk) or call 865-273-1428 or 865-982-0981, ext.1450.

Social Media for Business Classes – Registration Required

Nearly 7 out of every 10 Americans are on social media. You want your marketing to be where your customer base is, yet not every social media platform is a good fit for every business. Join us for this eight-part, stand-alone series on *Using Social Media for Business*. Discover which tools are the best fit for your business, gain strategies to engage new and existing customers, create highly optimized, high quality ads, capture leads, drive brand awareness, and monetize the social platform.

***These are single-session, stand-alone classes.** This eight-week series covers:

1. Managing Your Social Media Across Platforms
2. Search Engine Optimization and Advertising with Google
3. Facebook for Business
4. Instagram for Business
5. Pinterest for Business
6. Maximizing Your Visual Impact on Social Media
7. LinkedIn for Business
8. Twitter for Business

Course descriptions and schedules are listed below. The free classes meet in the Blount County Public Library's Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign. Spaces are limited and registration is required. **To register online, go to the library's website or [click here](#) or for assistance with the online registration please visit the library's Adult Services (Reference Desk) or call (865) 982-0981, ext. 1450, or (865) 273-1428.** Feel free to bring your own device or a laptop will be provided for you.

Managing Your Social Media Across Platforms

You're thinking of using more than one social media platform—how do you know which ones are most worth your time? Join us to create a social media strategy for your business. Explore tools to help you plan and schedule your social content in advance, and manage your accounts from

one place. Get tips and templates that will help you streamline your efforts and market with intent. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Date: Friday, August 2, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

Search Engine Optimization and Advertising with Google

By leveraging the foundations of SEO, you can ensure that your business pops up in consumers' online searches, whether on laptops, smartphones, tablets, or more. Join us to learn how to make improvements that boost your website's visibility on search engines, attracting the right kind of traffic to the right pages on your site. Learn proven, step-by-step strategies to achieve higher positions with major search engines. Discover how to implement foundational optimization strategies and techniques, like:

- Conducting keyword research
- Interpreting and observing trends
- Best structuring SEO and pay-per-click plans around the insights you capture from keyword research
- Building internal and external links
- Optimizing your pages and content for maximum searchability
- Developing an informed long-term SEO strategy

– And discovering how to apply keyword insights to Google AdWords campaigns and measuring the results of your SEO and AdWords efforts. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Date: Friday, August 16, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

Facebook for Business

With 2.23 billion monthly users, Facebook remains the leading social media platform in the U.S. Learn how to create or refine a Facebook page for your business, stay abreast of key changes to Facebook, create and manage successful ad campaigns, create and advertise events, do giveaways and contests, use Facebook Live to engage with your market, and more. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Date: Friday, August 23, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

Instagram for Business

Instagram is a growing photo (and video) sharing platform, with 500 million people using it daily. Join us to create an Instagram business account, explore Instagram Stories and Story

Highlights, use live videos, advertise, engage with your audience, and leverage analytics to track your effectiveness over time.

Class Requirement: You must have a Facebook page for your business in order to register for this class. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Date: Friday, September 6, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

Pinterest for Business

More than 87 percent of users have bought a product because of Pinterest. In this class, you will create a Pinterest business account, boards where you save and share creative, inspiring, and actionable pins. Find trending topics, key words, and insights that will influence what you pin. Explore strategies for fun, unique, and engaging content. Advertise and analyze the effectiveness of your marketing on Pinterest. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Date: Friday, September 13, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

Maximizing Your Visual Impact on Social Media

Learn how to sharpen your visual online presence for a consistent, professional delivery of your brand or image. Explore tools and platforms for easy-to-create designs and beautiful graphics that you optimize for a variety of media, turn designs into animations, and more. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Date: Friday, September 20, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

LinkedIn for Business

With 260 million monthly users, LinkedIn is a great platform for finding top talent, painting yourself as an industry leader, and promoting your business. Join us to create a company page, create and/or engage in industry-related groups, and establish yourself as a thought leader and industry expert. Get tips to grow your following. Use Company Page analytics to track and analyze your effectiveness. Use Showcase Pages to publish highly relevant messaging to subsets of your target audience. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Date: Friday, October 4, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

Twitter for Business

Twitter is one of the top websites in the world, ranked 8th in the U.S. and 13th internationally. Use Twitter to post headlines about your business, retweet related content, and broadcast live

events – all of which build a following. Join us to create a twitter account for business, learn strategies to gain followers, interact with customers and influencers, and analyze your efforts.

[Click here to register!](#)

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Date: Friday, October 11, 2019

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft and Google Apps Computer Courses: Registration Required

Free computer classes are offered in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (2016), and Gmail. Receive an opportunity to gain a nationally recognized certificate from Northstar Digital Literacy. Is your workplace moving over to Google-based products? Sign up for free classes in Google Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Calendar. Course descriptions and schedules are listed below. The free classes meet in the Blount County Public Library's Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign. Spaces are limited and registration is required. **To register online, go to the library's website or [click here](#) or for assistance with the online registration please visit the library's Adult Services (Reference Desk) or call (865) 982-0981, ext. 1450, or (865) 273-1428.** (If you desire to enroll in computer courses but do not have computer experience, you will need to practice using a mouse before you may enroll. Listed are a few practice websites available: www.mouseprogram.com and www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/mousercise.htm)

Classes for August – September cover:

- Google Drive Essentials
- Tips and Tools to Optimize Your Google Drive
- Google Docs Basics
- Google Docs Advanced Tips and Tricks
- Google Sheets Essentials
- Google Sheets Advanced Tips and Tricks
- Google Calendar Essential Training
- Google Calendar Advanced Tips and Tricks
- Microsoft Word 2016 Essentials
- Microsoft Word 2016 Advanced Tips and Tricks
- Microsoft Excel 2016 Essentials
- Microsoft Excel 2016 Advanced Tips and Tricks
- Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Essentials
- Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Advanced Tips and Tricks
- Gmail Basics
- Gmail Advanced Tips and Tricks

Essentials of Google Drive – Have you wondered how to seamlessly create, back-up and access your files from anywhere? Discover how to use Google Drive, a powerful cloud-based file storage and office suite software. In this hands-on workshop, participants will create a Google account, navigate the Google Drive interface, organize, sync, locate, and share Drive files, and back up files to the cloud.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices with files that they wish to add to their personal Google Drive. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: This is a single-session class.

Session: Tuesday, August 13, 2019

Bring: Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices with files that they wish to add to their personal Google Drive.

Location: Learning Lab

Tips and Tools to Optimize Your Google Drive – Google Drive is a go-to online office suite and storage service for many. Yet there is more to Google Drive than meets the eye. With the right tools, you can optimize your Google Drive to save time and increase productivity. Join us to discover tips, tricks, plug-ins and browser extensions that will help you shift your Google drive into overdrive. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: This is a single-session class.

Session: Thursday, August 15, 2019

Bring: Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices with files that they wish to add to their personal Google Drive.

Location: Learning Lab

Basics of Google Docs – Take a closer look at how to use Google Docs to share and collaborate, store, translate, and publish documents on the web. Discover how to get around in Google Docs and create professional-looking files you can access and edit anywhere you have Internet.

[Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: This is a single-session class.

Session: Tuesday, August 20, 2019

Bring: Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices. Those without a device will be provided a laptop for use.

Location: Learning Lab

Advanced Google Docs – Dive deeper into Google Docs features that help boost productivity. Use templates, create flowcharts, tag colleagues, convert Google Docs to MS Word, integrate Google Docs with other Google applications, and more. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5p.m.

Dates: Thursday, August 22, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices. Those without a device will be provided a laptop for use.

Location: Learning Lab

Google Sheets Essentials – Discover how to get the most from Google Sheets. Learn how to navigate the interface, use basic formulas and functions, convert file formats like Excel to Google Sheets, and make your data work for you. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5p.m.

Dates: Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices. Those without a device will be provided a laptop for use.

Location: Learning Lab

Advanced Google Sheets – Learn practical applications for Google Sheets, such as calculating investments and loan payments, the effects of interest and inflation, using Sheets to determine dates and times for project deliverables, and more. Explore how to maximize your productivity by using conditional formatting, creating charts, and expanding Google Sheets capabilities using Add Ons. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5p.m.

Dates: Thursday, August 29, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices. Those without a device will be provided a laptop for use.

Location: Learning Lab

Google Calendar Essential Training – Manage your personal and professional calendars more effectively with Google Calendar. From scheduling events and tracking to-dos, to sharing calendars and creating invites, get the basics of Google Calendar to help make your day run more smoothly. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5p.m.

Dates: Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices. Those without a device will be provided a laptop for use.

Location: Learning Lab

Google Calendar Advanced Tips and Tricks – Build on your knowledge of Google Calendar to become a Google Calendar guru. Join us to discover advanced features of Google Calendar, such as creating events with a video option for meetings, making available appointment slots so that

others can schedule time with you, use Agenda view, add Labs to give yourself new calendar features, and more. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5p.m.

Dates: Friday, September 6, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices. Those without a device will be provided a laptop for use.

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft Word 2016 Essentials – This free class is a general orientation to Word 2016, including topics such as toolbars/ribbons, shortcuts, save/save as, files/folders, selecting text, moving text, drag and drop, cut, copy, paste, editing, formatting, spell check/thesaurus, page setup, line spacing, the ruler, navigating, changing margins, changing case, word count, and bullets and numbering. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5p.m.

Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Bring: These are single session classes. Please bring a USB Drive and earbuds.

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft Word 2016 Advanced Tips and Tricks – Building off prior knowledge of MS Word, we will explore ways to create a high quality, professional-looking document. The free class will cover skills such as inserting pictures and captions, charts, hyperlinks, headers, footers, page numbers, table of contents, and cover pages. Participants will learn the ins and outs of design features, customizing the spell check dictionary, locking documents to restrict editing, and more. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5p.m.

Dates: Thursday, September 12, 2019

Bring: This is a single session class. Please bring a USB Drive and earbuds. Participants may also bring a current project they are developing, such as a resume or other work/volunteer-related project.

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft Excel 2016 Essentials – Join us for a free introduction to Excel 2016. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- Navigating the Excel interface
- Entering text and formulas
- Editing and viewing worksheets
- Working with formulas and functions
- Formatting cells
- Changing the appearance of worksheets
- Changing column width and row height

- Using auto fill
- Selecting cell ranges
- Using move and copy shortcuts
- Inserting/deleting columns, rows, and worksheets
- Renaming and moving worksheets

[Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Bring: This is a single session class. Please bring a USB Drive and earbuds.

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft Excel 2016 Advanced Tips and Tricks – Building off prior knowledge, participants will explore ways to make spreadsheet information readable and understandable using advanced formatting techniques. For instance, participants will learn how to:

- Use fill color and patterns for cell backgrounds
- Leverage alignment tools for readability
- Accentuate dynamic data with conditional formatting
- Work with tables, styles, and themes for consistent formatting
- Display data as an outline; summarize data using pivot tables, charts and more.

[Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Thursday, September 19, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Please bring a USB Drive and earbuds. Participants may also bring a current project they are developing, such as a budget, project management chart, or other work/volunteer-related project.

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Essentials – Participants will gain skills needed to produce a simple, professional-looking presentation. Topics include navigating the interface; applying or changing a theme; inserting and adjusting pictures, clip art, screenshots, video, tables and charts; using screen toolbar features to play and markup a presentation; create handouts and print, and more. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Please bring a USB Drive and earbuds.

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Advanced Tips and Tricks – In this free class, learn how to make presentations more compelling by:

- Customizing the theme and animating text and graphics

- Engaging the audience with audio and video
- Creating information rich, visually compelling presentations driven by Excel data
- Applying time-saving shortcuts that will help you create more engaging presentations quickly

– Discover strategies to keep your audience engaged, and explore tools to make your presentation look more professional, polished and accessible. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Thursday, September 26, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Please bring a USB Drive and earbuds.

Location: Learning Lab

Gmail Basics – Tired of wasting time in email and not having what you need at your fingertips?

Join this free class to master the basics of Gmail, including how to:

- Register (or retrieve your password) for a Gmail account
- Send and receive emails with and without attachments
- Organize and work with your inbox
- Search, filter, and label emails for efficiency
- Avoid pitfalls when using email, such as getting computer viruses

— And more. Discover how to manage the inbox so that you can be more productive in less time. [Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Please bring earbuds.

Location: Learning Lab

Gmail Advanced Tips and Tricks – Build on your knowledge of Gmail to get even more out of Google’s popular email platform. Discover advanced features that allow you to maximize your productivity, such as:

- Checking different POP3 email accounts with Gmail so you get all of your emails in one place
- Mastering labels, stars, and filters
- Using aliases to determine referrals
- Muting conversations
- Undoing email sends
- Integrating Gmail with Outlook and Google apps like Google Calendar

[Click here to register!](#)

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Wednesday, October 2, 2019

Bring: This is a single-session class. Please bring earbuds.

Location: Learning Lab

It's Your Career Soft Skills Training Sessions

Once a month on Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., “It’s Your Career,” will be a part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. Class format features a short lecture on each topic, case studies discussion in small groups and resources for use in businesses and organizations. **Bring your mobile device, tablet, or laptop, or one will be provided for your use.** All participants will earn .5 CEUs (Continuing Education Unit) for participating. **Registration is required.** This class will be at the Blount County Public Library’s Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign. **For Class Synopsis and Registration Information**

Go to www.blountchamber.com/community/festivals-events/soft-skills/ Soft Skills are strengthened and developed over time and are necessary if you desire to climb the career ladder. The classes are a collaboration of Blount Partnership, Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and the Blount County Public Library. For more information go to bcpl.populr.me/itsyourcareer

Open Lab – All Ages Welcome!

Saturday, August 3 and Saturday, September 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (1st Saturday of each month), “Open Lab.” All ages come play with all the cool tech in the Learning Lab! Lab equipment includes 3D printers, a vinyl cutter, a heat press, and other small electronics. Learn more about materials costs, equipment certification, and lab policies by emailing abaker@blounttn.org Open Lab will be in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.

- **During Open Lab, Saturday, August 3, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Robots.”** Curious about robots? Meet Edison (<https://meet Edison.com/>), a Lego compatible robot that is fun and easy to program. In this workshop everyone will have the opportunity to learn about robots, play with Edison and program it to avoid obstacles or follow a line or make silly sounds. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages.
- **During Open Lab, Saturday, September 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “You Can Code.”** Think coding is hard? Everyone can code. Join us at the workshop to get started. We use Blockly, a drag and drop language to instruct the computer. We will be trying a number of puzzles, mazes and games to explore sequential events, selection and repetition. After, students will be able to access the web pages at home to continue their learning. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages.

Book-A-Librarian

Need help with **technology** and don’t know where to start? Have a tough research **question**? Need a new **resume**? Having trouble with **R.E.A.D.S.**? Go to <https://goo.gl/forms/35a9eT5qArPctgmU2> to complete a registration form to schedule assistance

from a professional library staff member, and get help setting up your own personal learning plan using library resources.

TEEN PROGRAMS – Phone 865-273-1414:

Special Programs:

- **Through Thursday, October 31, “Seed Library @ BCPL,”** will be available during library hours and for **all ages**. There will be seeds available and located in the Reference Area of Adult Services and a location for kids in Youth Services end of the main desk. To check out seeds you must have a valid Blount County Public Library card. Please go to the library website or [click here](#) for further information.
- **Through Thursday, October 31, “Ugly Vegetable Contest.” For All Ages!** The Seed Library @BCPL announces our first ever "Ugly Vegetable Contest!" As lots of veggies are producing, even though they're tasty and healthy for us, let's face it, some are prettier than others. So, we want to celebrate even the ugly ones, because they're just as delicious. **If you've got a tomato that's not perfect, or a cucumber that's not comely, send a photo to spennycuff@blounttn.org, and include your name and the name of the variety if you know it. Please send a selfie photo, in addition to the ugly vegetable close-up, with you and your veggie. We'll award a winner on Thursday, October 31, for the prize of a \$100.00 gift card to our local garden center, "Out Of Eden."** So, if your pumpkin is puckered, or your gourd isn't gorgeous, be sure to share it with us. Watch the library's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for some spotlights on your entries, throughout the season!
- **Saturday, August 3, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “During Open Lab: Robots.”** Curious about robots? Meet Edison (<https://meet Edison.com/>), a Lego compatible robot that is fun and easy to program. In this workshop everyone will have the opportunity to learn about robots, play with Edison and program it to avoid obstacles or follow a line or make silly sounds. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages. Learn more about materials costs, equipment certification, and lab policies by emailing abaker@blounttn.org Open Lab (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) will be in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign.
- **Monday, August 5 and Monday, September 9, 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., “Are You Smarter than a Librarian? BCPL ‘80s and ‘90s Trivia Challenge.” All Ages Are Welcome!** While on the job, librarians learn new things every day. So it's safe to say that we're pretty smart. But now you have a chance to test your knowledge against one of us! If you beat one of our librarian's scores, you could walk away with an extra prize! The library's monthly trivia challenge covers a variety of topics, from geography and history to pop culture and sports. For August and September, we're focusing ENTIRELY on the **1980s (August)** and **1990s (September)**, so brush up on your Cold War history and dust off that boy bands playlist. Bring your teammates and compete for a prize! On August 5, trivia will be in Dorothy

Herron Room A and in the Sharon Lawson Room on September 9.

- **Friday, August 9, Noon until 2 p.m., “NASA In-Flight Downlink.” All Ages Welcome!** Let’s listen in on a conversation between NASA astronauts aboard the International Space Station and Slover Library (Norfolk, Virginia). **Christina H. Koch and Dr. Drew Morgan** will be answering kids’ questions about their work and life in space. Bring your lunch if you like and join the livestream in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, August 10, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Teen Gaming with Special Event: Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tournament IV.”** Our usual slate of Wii and board games will continue, but this month, teens can test their skill in the next round of our smash-hit Smash Tournament. **To get on the bracket, sign up at the Children’s Desk, or email ckriese@blounttn.org or call 865-273-1414, starting August 3.** As always, you’re also invited to bring your own tabletop game or video game console and games to share. Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, August 17, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Meet the Anime.”** Celebrate the fandom. Vote for your favorite anime series. Then we’ll watch it. The fun hits screens in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, August 24, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., “Back-To-School Chess Party and Tournament.”** Want to see what one of the world’s most enduring strategy games is all about? Want to test your skills -- or learn the basics? **All ages and levels are welcome!** Grandmaster Simon Williams said, “The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be.” What will chess be for you? While you answer that question, we’ll serve up snacks and drinks -- and, of course, an informal competitive chess tournament, with experienced players on hand to advise, teach or compete. Join or watch the games in the Sharon Lawson Room; come at any time during the festivities.
- **Saturday, Sunday and Monday, August 31, September 1 and 2, “Library Closed in Honor of Labor Day.”**
- **(New)Thursdays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., Starting on September 5: “Micronational Club.” Recommended for ages 8 to 18.** Have you ever dreamed of ruling over your own country? Here’s your chance! What will the laws, customs, and history be? You decide. What will the flag, coins, and postage stamps look like? You will create them. With a different project each week, you’ll build an empire! This club usually meets in the Main Gallery.
- **Saturday, September 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “During Open Lab: You Can Code.”** Think coding is hard? Everyone can code. Join us at the workshop to get started. We use Blockly, a drag and drop language to instruct the computer. We will be trying a number of puzzles, mazes and games to explore sequential events, selection and repetition. After, students will be able to access the web pages at home to continue their learning. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages. Learn more about materials costs, equipment certification, and lab policies by emailing abaker@blounttn.org Open Lab (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) will be in the Learning Lab, a

stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign.

- **Saturday, September 14, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Teen Gaming with Special Event: Mario Kart 8 Deluxe.”** Our usual slate of Wii and board games are joined by a new test of skill and nerve: Our first Mario Kart competition! Practice your own Death Stare and hone your virtual driving chops. **Sign up at the Children’s Desk (or email ckriese@blounttn.org or call 865-273-1414), starting September 7.** As always, you’re also invited to bring your own tabletop game or video game console and games to share. Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, September 14, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., “Return To Downton Abbey Tea.”** Join us as we celebrate and get ready for the new Downton Abbey movie release! We will enjoy tea, scones, cake, and finger sandwiches. There will be an epic Downton Abbey trivia contest. Wear your best Downton Abbey attire, including hats, for a hat and fascinator contest (adult and youth) with prizes! This program is for Downton Abbey lovers of **all ages**. We extend our deepest gratitude to the Blount County Friends of the Library for providing this program, as well as the Foothills AMC Theatre for some of our prizes. This will be located in the Main Gallery.
- **Saturday, September 28, 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., “Banned Books Week: Harry Potter Life-Size Clue Game.”** Celebrate your freedom to read with one of the most-often challenged (and most-beloved) book series! Search the library for clues to a magical mystery; for this game of “Clue,” the whole building is the board. (This event is coordinated by the Laser TAB, Teen Advisory Board.) Pick up your game cards and gather prizes in the Sharon Lawson Room.

Regular Teen Events:

- **Saturday, August 3 and Saturday, September 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (1st Saturday of each month), “Open Lab.”** All ages come play with all the cool tech in the Learning Lab! Lab equipment includes 3D printers, a vinyl cutter, a heat press, and other small electronics. Learn more about materials costs, equipment certification, and lab policies by emailing abaker@blounttn.org Open Lab will be in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign.
 - **During Open Lab, Saturday, August 3, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Robots.”** Curious about robots? Meet Edison (<https://meet Edison.com/>), a Lego compatible robot that is fun and easy to program. In this workshop everyone will have the opportunity to learn about robots, play with Edison and program it to avoid obstacles or follow a line or make silly sounds. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science. Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages.
 - **During Open Lab, Saturday, September 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “You Can Code.”** Think coding is hard? Everyone can code. Join us at the workshop to get started. We use Blockly, a drag and drop language to instruct the computer. We will be trying a number of puzzles, mazes and games to explore sequential events, selection and

repetition. After, students will be able to access the web pages at home to continue their learning. This workshop is **led by Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls**, a nonprofit, to inspire girls in the Oak Ridge area to explore technology, coding and science.

Workshop targeted towards teens but open to all ages.

- **Tuesday, August 6 and August 20, and Tuesday, September 3 and September 17, 6 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month), “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Bluegrass Music Club.”** Enjoy listening to or participate in playing regional music. The Bluegrass Music Club is open to **all ages and skill levels**. There is no charge, just lots of fun. The Music Club meets in the Administration Reception Area (enter through the double doors past the Bookmark Café.)
- **Thursday, August 1 and August 15, and Thursday, September 5 and September 19, 10 a.m.-11 a.m. (1st and 3rd Thursday of each month), “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Quiltin’ Bee.”** A Quilting Bee for **all ages** and skills. **Linda Marcus**, a Reference Librarian and longtime quilter, will be the instructor for this adventure in hand quilting. It will meet in Sharon Lawson Room. “If Grandma and a feed sack in a backwoods cabin can make a quilt, so can you
- **Saturday, August 24 and Saturday, September 21, 3 p.m. until 4 p.m., “YA Café.”** All teens are invited to engage in discussions about favorite books and media, with coffee and cookies. YA Café meets in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Saturday, August 24 and Saturday, September 21, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., “Laser TAB: Teen Advisory Board.”** Help plan library programs and activities. Recommend books and videos for the library’s collection. Basically, you can help make the library a better space for teens. If you’re in the 6th through 12th grade, you can join! Laser TAB meets monthly in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8 pm., “Dungeons & Dragons.” Now operating via Signups Only!** If you are interested in joining, email bcpldnd@gmail.com to reserve your spot. **All ages (12 and up) and skill levels** can join in the fun of this tabletop role-playing game by learning about D&D and sharing your love of fantasy gaming! The group meets in the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m., “Thursday Night Gaming.” All ages welcome!** If you’re into any sort of analogue gaming, the Main Gallery of the Library is where you want to be! Interested in the Pokémon Card Game? Bring a deck and meet-up with local players, or learn to play with one of our decks. Like board games? Choose from our selection of tabletop favorites. Join the game in the Main Gallery.
- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library: Every Thursday.” All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in Adult Services in the Reference area of the library. Grandmaster Simon Williams said, “The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be.” What will chess be for you? You are welcome to come join or just enjoy watching the game.

- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library: Every Saturday.” All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in Adult Services in the Reference area of the library. Grandmaster Simon Williams said, “The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be.” What will chess be for you? You are welcome to come join or just enjoy watching the game.
 - **NOTE: Saturday, August 24,** will be a special back-to-school open house party and tournament. Instead of the usual chess venue, join the fun in the Sharon Lawson Room for refreshments and socializing, in addition to chess!

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: Phone: 865-273-1414

Special Programs for Children (Preschool through Tween)

- **Through Thursday, October 31, “Seed Library @ BCPL,”** will be available during library hours and for **all ages**. There will be seeds available and located in the Reference Area of Adult Services and a location for kids in Youth Services end of the main desk. To check out seeds you must have a valid Blount County Public Library card. Please go to the library website or [click here](#) for further information.
- **Through Thursday, October 31, “Ugly Vegetable Contest.” For All Ages!** The Seed Library @BCPL announces our first ever "Ugly Vegetable Contest!" As lots of veggies are producing, even though they're tasty and healthy for us, let's face it, some are prettier than others. So, we want to celebrate even the ugly ones, because they're just as delicious. **If you've got a tomato that's not perfect, or a cucumber that's not comely, send a photo to spennycuff@blounttn.org, and include your name and the name of the variety if you know it. Please send a selfie photo, in addition to the ugly vegetable close-up, with you and your veggie. We'll award a winner on Thursday, October 31, for the prize of a \$100.00 gift card to our local garden center, "Out Of Eden."** So, if your pumpkin is puckered, or your gourd isn't gorgeous, be sure to share it with us. Watch the library’s [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages for some spotlights on your entries, throughout the season!
- **Monday, August 5 and Monday, September 9, 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., “Are You Smarter than a Librarian? BCPL ‘80s and ‘90s Trivia Challenge.” All Ages Are Welcome!** While on the job, librarians learn new things every day. So it's safe to say that we're pretty smart. But now you have a chance to test your knowledge against one of us! If you beat one of our librarian’s scores, you could walk away with an extra prize! The library’s monthly trivia challenge covers a variety of topics, from geography and history to pop culture and sports. For August and September, we’re focusing ENTIRELY on the **1980s (August)** and **1990s (September)**, so brush up on your Cold War history and dust off that boy bands playlist. Bring your teammates and compete for a prize! On August 5, trivia will be in Dorothy Herron Room A and in the Sharon Lawson Room on September 9.
- **Friday, August 9, Noon until 2 p.m., “NASA In-Flight Downlink.” All Ages Welcome!** Let’s listen in on a conversation between NASA astronauts aboard the International Space

Station and Slover Library (Norfolk, Virginia). **Christina H. Koch and Dr. Drew Morgan** will be answering kids' questions about their work and life in space. Bring your lunch if you like and join the livestream in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- **Tuesday, August 13, 7 p.m., “Garden Series: Stop, Look, and Listen (Your yard is full of wonders!)”** This one hour of information for **children and adults** is **presented by Elin Johnson**. It will cover trees, flowers, bugs, pets, birds and animals like bunnies and squirrels. There are so many things to see and hear if you just slow down and pay attention! Sponsored by Blount County Master Gardeners and Blount County Extension Office. This will be located in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, August 24, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., “Back-To-School Chess Party and Tournament.”** Want to see what one of the world’s most enduring strategy games is all about? Want to test your skills -- or learn the basics? **All ages and levels are welcome!** Grandmaster Simon Williams said, “The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be.” What will chess be for you? While you answer that question, we’ll serve up snacks and drinks -- and, of course, an informal competitive chess tournament, with experienced players on hand to advise, teach or compete. Join or watch the games in the Sharon Lawson Room; come at any time during the festivities.
- **Saturday, Sunday and Monday, August 31, September 1 and 2, “Library Closed in Honor of Labor Day.”**
- **Saturday, September 14, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., “Return To Downton Abbey Tea.”** Join us as we celebrate and get ready for the new Downton Abbey movie release! We will enjoy tea, scones, cake, and finger sandwiches. There will be an epic Downton Abbey trivia contest. Wear your best Downton Abbey attire, including hats, for a hat and fascinator contest (adult and youth) with prizes! This program is for Downton Abbey lovers of **all ages**. We extend our deepest gratitude to the Blount County Friends of the Library for providing this program, as well as the Foothills AMC Theatre for some of our prizes. This will be located in the Main Gallery.
- **Saturday, September 21, 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., “Sensory Movie Fun: How To Train Your Dragon 3: The Hidden World.”** The newest adventure in the land of Vikings and dragons takes Hiccup, Toothless and their friends into a new realm of danger and promise, as they try to save the dragons, and the land of Berk itself, from a danger that threatens them all. This hit animated feature is **rated PG and is suitable for all ages**, with some scenes of suspense and peril and bloodless fantasy violence. Our “Sensory Movie Fun” approach welcomes little ones (and bigger ones!) with sensory and attention issues, providing moderate lighting and a low-stress environment, plus LEGOs and crafts for busy hands. The film screens in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, September 28, 10:30 a.m. until noon, “Family Storytime: Freedom to Read.”** To wrap up Banned Books Week and celebrate the First Amendment, we’ll feature some of our favorite frequently-challenged books by Maurice Sendak, Shel Silverstein and more! Family Storytime includes crafts, stories and songs and helps encourage important early

literacy skills. This event takes place throughout the Children's Library.

Regular Activities Elementary Age-Kids:

- **NOTE:** During the month of **August** there will be **NO regular** Elementary Aged Programming **with exception** of Chess Club, Bluegrass Club and Quiltin' Bee and Thursday Night Gaming. Elementary Aged Programming (this includes Art with Amanda, LEGOs in the Library, Family Storytime and Learning and Loving Books with Mr. Gary) **will resume in September.**
- **Tuesday, August 6 and August 20, and Tuesday, September 3 and September 17, 6 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month), "Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Bluegrass Music Club."** Enjoy listening to or participate in playing regional music. The Bluegrass Music Club is open to **all ages and skill levels**. There is no charge, just lots of fun. The Music Club meets in the Administration Reception Area (enter through the double doors past the Bookmark Café.)
- **Thursday, August 1 and August 15, and Thursday, September 5 and September 19, 10 a.m.-11 a.m. (1st and 3rd Thursday of each month), "Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Quiltin' Bee."** A Quilting Bee for **all ages** and skills. **Linda Marcus**, a Reference Librarian and longtime quilter, will be the instructor for this adventure in hand quilting. It will meet in Sharon Lawson Room. "If Grandma and a feed sack in a backwoods cabin can make a quilt, so can you
- **Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m., "Thursday Night Gaming." All ages welcome!** If you're into any sort of analogue gaming, the Main Gallery of the Library is where you want to be! Interested in the Pokémon Card Game? Bring a deck and meet-up with local players, or learn to play with one of our decks. Like board games? Choose from our selection of tabletop favorites. Join the game in the Main Gallery.
- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., "Play Chess at the Library: Every Thursday." All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in Adult Services in the Reference area of the library. Grandmaster Simon Williams said, "The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be." What will chess be for you? You are welcome to come join or just enjoy watching the game.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., "Play Chess at the Library: Every Saturday." All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in Adult Services in the Reference area of the library. Grandmaster Simon Williams said, "The beauty of chess is it can be whatever you want it to be." What will chess be for you? You are welcome to come join or just enjoy watching the game.
 - **NOTE: Saturday, August 24,** will be a special back-to-school open house party and tournament. Instead of the usual chess venue, join the fun in the Sharon Lawson Room for refreshments and socializing, in addition to chess!
- **(New)Thursdays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., starting on September 5: "Micronational Club."** **Recommended for ages 8 to 18.** Have you ever dreamed of ruling over your own country?

Here's your chance! What will the laws, customs, and history be? You decide. What will the flag, coins, and postage stamps look like? You will create them. With a different project each week, you'll build an empire! This club usually meets in the Main Gallery.

- **Saturdays, September 7, 14, 21 and 28, 1 p.m. until 2 p.m., “Art with Amanda: Craft Lessons for Kids.”** Join artist-instructor **Amanda Wasinger** for a weekly creativity adventure. **Kids ages 5-12** are invited to have fun learning new skills, creating treasures to take home. **(Younger children are welcome with parental help.)** We provide the materials; you bring the creativity! Crafting happens in the Children's Library Discovery Corner each Saturday.
- **Tuesdays, September 3, 10, 17, and 24, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., “LEGOs in the Library,” for Grades K-5,** will take place in the Children's Library. Kids will complete different-themed and timed LEGO Challenges, as well as have some time for free building. The library will provide the LEGOs, so all you have to bring is your imagination! Get your build on in the Children's Story Area (in the Children's Library).
- **Tuesday, September 10 and 17, 5 p.m., “Learning and Loving Books with Mr. Gary.”** School-age children (Grades 5 and under) are invited to explore books and the lessons they have for us with educator and youth leader **Gary Southers**. This storytime takes place in the Children's Story Area (in the Children's Library).
- **Fridays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., September 6, 13, 20 and 27, “STEAMkids,” for Grades K-5.** Every week brings a different adventure, from hands-on science experiments to art projects and everything in between. Materials may be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. STEAMkids normally takes place in the Children's Discovery Corner (in the Children's Library).
 - **Friday, September 6, “Keep Blount Beautiful.”** will be here with a craft made from recycled materials.

Growing Ready Readers -- Early Literacy Programs:

The Blount County Public Library is committed to growing ready readers and equipping caregivers with the tools they need to help their child be school-ready. Check the Blount County Public Library website (www.blountlibrary.org) or stop by the Children's Library for more information on supplemental literacy activities for caregivers and early literacy programming for our youngest patrons.

- **NOTE:** During the month of **August** there will be **NO regular** Growing Ready Readers Early Literacy Programs. Storytimes and weekly Elementary Aged Programming **will resume in September.**
- **Tuesdays, September 3, 10, 17 and 24 and Thursdays, September 5, 12, 19 and 26, 10:30 a.m., “Little Learners”, recommended for ages 3-5.** Interactive sessions focus on language acquisition and pre-literacy skills incorporating stories, music, motion, play, crafts and more in the Children's Story Area (in the Children's Library).
- **Wednesdays, September 4, 11, 18 and 25, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., “Baby and Me,”**

recommended for ages 2 and under. These lapsit sessions for baby and caregiver feature short stories, action rhymes, music and pre-literacy tips and tricks for caregivers. It is also a great time for caregivers and babies to socialize! These sessions are in the Children’s Story Area (in the Children’s Library).

- **Tuesday, September 24, 6 p.m., “Sensory Story Time.”** An interactive story time with stories, songs, movement and activities designed to increase early literacy skills and provide a safe and open space for children and families to learn and interact. Open to children of all abilities, but especially designed for kids with special needs between the developmental ages of 3-5. Sensory Storytime takes place in the Children’s Story Area (in the Children’s Library).
- **Tuesday, September 10 and 17, 5 p.m., “Learning and Loving Books with Mr. Gary.”** School-age children (Grades 5 and under) are invited to explore books and the lessons they have for us with educator and youth leader **Gary Southers**. This storytime takes place in the Children’s Story Area (in the Children’s Library).

Library Tours and Outreach

Please call the Children’s Library at 865-273-1414 or email jspirko@blounttn.org to schedule tours for your group, class or organization. Also if you would like a librarian to come to your class, community event, or parent night and share about awesome library resources and services for patrons ages 0-18, please get in touch!

EXHIBITS & COLLECTIONS:

August 1 to 31:

- **“Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild Member Art” Exhibit, coordinated by Sandy Miller,** will be on easels in the sitting area of the Main Gallery, on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café, in two Mid-Gallery cases in the Main Gallery and in the vertical case near Audio Visual (AV) area.
- **“YES! Studio Art” Exhibit, by coordinated Cindy McDannel,** will be on the Art Panels at the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery and in square pedestal case near the Audio Visual (AV) area of the Main Gallery.
- **“Juneteenth Display” Exhibit, coordinated by Robert McClelland,** will be in vertical case at the nook of the wall at the end of the Patron Services Circulation Check-in Desk.
- **“Moonshine” Exhibit, by Linda Marcus,** will be in the Genealogy display case at Temporary Books Shelves.
- **“Back to School” Exhibit, by Patron Services,** will be located in the Main Gallery between the two Patron Services Circulation Desks.
- **“Decades: Celebrate Recipes Through the Years” Exhibit, by the Bookmark Café,** in the display case located in the Bookmark Café.

September 1 to 30:

- **“Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild Member Art” Exhibit, coordinated by Sandy Miller**, will be on easels in the sitting area of the Main Gallery and on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café.
- **“Blount County Photo Club” Exhibit**, coordinated by **Carol Rothschild**, on the Art Panels at the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery and in square pedestal case in Adult Services in the Reference Area of the library.
- **“National Volkssport Month: East Tennessee Wanderers” Exhibit**, coordinated by **David Bonewitz**, will be in two Mid-Gallery cases in the Main Gallery of the library.
- **“Foothills Quilters” Exhibit**, coordinated by **Carol Henricksen**, will be in vertical case at the nook of the wall at the end of the Patron Services Circulation Check-in Desk.
- **“Pottery” Exhibit**, by **Emily Burgess**, will be in square pedestal case near the Audio Visual (AV) area of the Main Gallery.
- **“Maryville College” Exhibit**, by **Linda Marcus**, located in the Genealogy display case at Temporary Books Shelves.
- **“Native Americans in the Appalachians” Exhibit**, by **Patron Services**, in the Main Gallery between the two Circulation Desks.
- **“Decades: Celebrate Recipes Through the Years” Exhibit**, by **the Bookmark Café**, in the display case located in the Bookmark Café.

LIBRARY TOURS & COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

- Group Tours of the Main Library and Adult Services (Reference Department) may be scheduled by contacting Kathleen Christy at 865-273-1403 or 865-982-0981, ext. 1450.
- Group Tours of the Children’s Library or other visits by children and teens may be scheduled by contacting Jennifer Spirko at the Children’s Check-out desk 865-273-1414.
- If interested in displaying community information about nonprofit services or fine arts events (flyers and brochures) contact Kathleen Christy, Sheila Pennycuff or Brennan LeQuire at Adult Services (Reference Department).

Open to the public, these programs are hosted by the Blount County Public Library, located at 508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville, where services are an example of your tax dollars at work for you.

For further information about library programs or services, call the library at 865-982-0981 or visit the Web site at www.blountlibrary.org . To sign up to receive a monthly calendar by email, go to the library’s Home Page and go to What’s Happening? on the Menu Bar. Then under News and Events click on Join Calendar Email List. Also check out Facebook at “Blount County Public Library,” Twitter at “Blount_Library,” and Instagram.   

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Blount County does not discriminate based on race, color or national origin in federal or state sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d)