FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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May 2018 Events at the Blount County Public Library

MARYVILLE, TN (April 28, 2018)   Summer gets closer every day! Thankfully, the library has plenty of activities and programs to hold you over until the sunny season officially arrives. Although the official kick-off for the 2018 Summer Reading Program "Libraries ROCK!" is June 2 at Mini-Con, registration for the program begins May 25 for children and teens and June 1 for adults. For the rest of May, please come enjoy the soothing sounds of the Grace Notes Flute Choir, show off your Star Wars knowledge at May the Fourth be With You Trivia, dance the night away at the Library Prom for Teens, or come to the Job Fair happening with the American Job Center-Alcoa. We have plenty of fun things happening this month, like:

- The Cigar Factory: A Novel of Charleston with author Michele Moore,
- Smart Bicycling Skills for Adults (16+),
- Fiscal Fitness: Personal Banking Options,
- Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Life on Mt. LeConte,
- Online registration for All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series,
- Imagination Library Graduation Gala,
- And ongoing Teen events and Children's events and much more.

We look forward to seeing you at the library!

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

- **Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m.,** *"Grace Notes Flute Ensemble Concert,"* **directed by Dr. Sue Swilley**, will be performed at the library. The performance will be at the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.

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

- **Monday, April 30, 7 p.m., "*Adult College Opportunities.*"** Do you want to return to college? Or start going to college? Join **Barbara Little**, Educational Opportunity Center, University of Tennessee, and others from Pellissippi State Community College and TN Reconnect to learn how. TN Reconnect is a Tennessee initiative to help more of our state's adults enter higher education to gain new skills, advance in the workplace, and fulfill lifelong dreams of completing a degree or credential. In Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Tuesday, May 1, 7 p.m., "*The Cigar Factory: A Novel of Charleston.*"** Author **Michele Moore** tells the story of two entwined families, both devoutly Catholic—the white McGonegals and the African American Ravenels—in the storied port city of Charleston, South Carolina, during the world wars. Moore's novel follows the parallel lives of family matriarchs working on segregated floors of the massive Charleston cigar factory, where white and black workers remain divided and misinformed about the duties and treatment each group receives. Program will be held in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Thursday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., "*May the Fourth Be With You: Star Wars Trivia.*" All Ages** are invited to come (in costume if you like!) to match wits with fellow Star Wars fans in the library's annual Star Wars trivia contest and compete for team prizes. **All day**, the Bookmark Café will be serving up special Star Wars treats, and all month, check out some Star Wars and space displays in the Main Gallery. And May the Force be with you! This event is made possible through the support of the Blount County Friends of the Library. Trivia takes place in Dorothy Herron Room A
- **Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m., "*Grace Notes Flute Ensemble Concert,*" directed by Dr. Sue Swilley**, will be performed at the library. The performance will be at the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Saturday, May 12th 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., "*Smart Bicycling Skills for Adults (16+),*"** presented by **Donna Dixon,** with the Jeff Roth Cycling Foundation, using the League of American Bicyclists BikeEd Program. This course combines online instruction with parking lot and on-road practice of vehicular bicycling principles. **Preregistration is required: email:** donnasuedixon@hotmail.com **or call Smoky Mountain Wellness at** 865-803-8887**.** 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. **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 @ BCPL Parking Lot.
- **Monday, May 14, 6:30 p.m., "*Fiscal Fitness: Personal Banking Options*"** will be presented by **Aaron Killian,** Financial Relationship Consultant, Regions Bank. Ever wonder what the benefits of banking are and why you should open an account? What are the different types of accounts available to you and how do you set one up? Perhaps you're not sure what the differences are between a bank and a credit union. Are there fees involved? How is your money protected once you deposit it? This banking class will provide a basic overview of these things and more related to banking and is open to any interested community member. This program will be in the Board Room.
- **Tuesday, May 15, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. "*Job Fair.*"** This Job Fair, in partnership with the American Job Center-Alcoa, will feature 20-25 employers who are seeking workers. Bring

resume and dress for success. For more information call 865-379-5525 or 865-403-1606. This Job Fair will be in Sharon Lawson Room and Dorothy Herron Room A.

- **Saturday, May 19, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (3rd Saturday of every other month)** *"Appalachian Reads."* The book group will read and discuss works of Southern Appalachian authors. Silas House's *A Parchment of Leaves* is this month's title, facilitated by Maryville College faculty member and former Blount County Public Library staff member **Jan Taylor**. This novel is about a young Cherokee woman who marries a white man and moves away from her people into a mountain family with tangled loyalties. House's lyrical writing engages all of the senses in taking the reader into the world of early 1900s Appalachia. Sponsored by Friends of the Library, meetings will be held the third Saturday of every other month in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Monday, May 21, 7 p.m.,"** *Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Life on Mt. LeConte: Four Years as an Ambassador at the Top of Tennessee,"* **presented by Nathan Kirkham,** Adventurer and former assistant site manager of LeConte Lodge. Kirkham will discuss the history of LeConte Lodge, why that location was chosen, and how the famous lodge helped ensure the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. He will also talk about a variety of colorful characters that have graced Mt. LeConte over the decades. This program will be held in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Friday, May 25 through Monday, July 30:** *"2018 Summer Reading Program: Libraries ROCK!"* Throughout the summer, in addition to reading, there will be weekly events and activities for all ages, emphasizing the theme. Registration begins May 25 for children and teens and adults begin June 1. Dates for the three age groups are
    - **Children: Friday, May 25 through Saturday, July 30**
    - **Teens: Friday, May 25 through Saturday, July 30**
    - **Adult: Friday, June 1 through Monday, July 30**
    The 2018 Summer Reading Program is open to all ages, preschool through adult, with programs, prize drawings, story times, a music club and more. All programs are free of charge. Look for the brochure at the library with more publicity describing events and activities.
- **Monday, May 28, "*Library Closed for Memorial Day."***
- **Friday, June 1 through Monday, July 30,** *Tic-Tac-Toe* returns with an all new set of goals for this year's summer reading. 1) Pick up Tic-Tac-Toe card at the Patron Services Desk or Information Services Desk. You may enter multiple times. 2) Read, listen or watch three items per Tic-Tac-Toe card and fill in the card. 3) Validate the card at the Information Services Desk to enter weekly and Grand Prize drawings. 4) Weekly prizes will be awarded on Friday afternoons. The Grand Prize will be awarded before the Shakespeare play on Monday, July 30, at 6:15 p.m.
- **Saturday, June 2, All Day, *"Mini-Con,"*** the library's fourth-annual celebration of all things geeky, nerdy and fun. **All ages** are invited to dress in costume, play team trivia, watch a movie, do crafts, learn computer coding skills and play games. Special guests include "The Smoky Mountain Ghostbusters," Professor Greybeard of The Science Guys, The Spooky Ooos rock band, professional costumed characters, and many vendors of collectibles, art, books and games. Mini-Con takes place throughout the library, including the lawn and the Learning Lab.
- **Monday, June 4, 7 p.m. to 8: 30 p.m., *" Sergeant York Play"*** written by **Lisa Soland**, this one actor play chronicles the life of Sergeant Alvin York. Sergeant York was a Tennessee

native and one of the most decorated American soldiers of World War 1. This program will be in the Main Gallery of the library.

- **Thursday, Friday and Saturday,   June 7, 8 & 9, *"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 Friends of the Blount County Public Library (FOL):
  - **Thursday, June 7, 12 noon until 6 p.m., *"Members Only Sale"*** is an opportunity for FOL members to purchase books before other members of the public are admitted to the sale. FOL memberships are available at the elevator doors, before accessing the Library Lower Level.
  - **Friday and Saturday, June 8 & 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., *"Pre-Owned Book Sale – Open to the Public"*** in the Library Lower Level.
- **Thursday, June 7 and 21, 6 p.m., (1ˢᵗ and 3ʳᵈ Thursday of each month), *"Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Bluegrass Music Club."*** A Bluegrass Music Club for **all ages** and skills. There is a one-time charge of $20 for a book of bluegrass music which will be used in the club. **Josephine Cappelletti**, the orchestra teacher at Coulter Grove Intermediate School, is the director. Instrument donations will be welcome. Donated instruments may be dropped off at Information Services. The Music Club meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).
- **Monday, June 11, 6:30 p.m., *"Fiscal Fitness: Identity Theft & Credit Fraud"*** will be presented by **Aaron Killian,** Financial Relationship Consultant, Regions Bank. Identity theft, scams and fraud are serious issues. The Department of Justice reports there were 17.6 million victims of identity theft in 2014. How can you prevent identity theft and fraud? What protections do you have by law? This class includes the warning signs and how it happens. Finally, you should know how to deal with fraud and identity theft if it happens to you. This program will be in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Friday, July 13, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., *"It's Your Career: How to Run an Effective Meeting,"*** will be a part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. Time is valuable. $37 billion dollars of salary is lost annually unproductive meetings. Learn some tools to make the most of your meetings, stay on task and be productive! 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 laptop or tablet, or one will be provided for your use. This class will be at the Blount County Public Library's new Learning Lab (outside the library in the former First Tennessee Bank branch building). Registration begins April 30. For class synopsis and registration information, go to **www.blountchamber.com/community/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.

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

- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 pm., *"Dungeons & Dragons."*** 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! Players can connect via the BCPL Dungeons and

Dragons Facebook group between sessions. D&D players, coordinated by **Randy Royse**, **Ashten Royse and Brandon Clackum**, meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).

- **Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., *"Tech Time."*** Need help with technology and don't know where to start? Tech Time is designed to be a space to get your questions answered and set you on the path you need for technology success! Having trouble with **email?** Can't find what you need on the **internet?** Curious about **Facebook, Twitter** or **Pinterest?** Need help with **eBooks?** Bring your technology questions and get assistance from a Tech Time facilitator. Tech Time will be held in Study Room A in the Reference area of the library.
- **Thursday, May 3 and 17, 6 p.m., (1st and 3rd Thursday of each month), *"Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Bluegrass Music Club."*** A Bluegrass Music Club for **all ages** and skills. There is a one-time charge of $20 for a book of bluegrass music which will be used in the club. **Josephine Cappelletti**, the orchestra teacher at Coulter Grove Intermediate School, is the director. Instrument donations will be welcome. Donated instruments may be dropped off at Information Services. The Music Club meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).
- **Tuesday, May 15, 5:30 p.m. (3rd Tuesday of each month), *"Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting,"*** in the Board Room of the library.
- **Thursday, May 17, 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 Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery.

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 streaming movies from Tennessee R.E.A.D.S., through the library website. You can seek personalized help by calling the Reference Desk at (865) 982-0981, ext. 302, or (865) 273-1428 to schedule a time for an appointment or attend a Tech Time session (check monthly calendar for day and time) for help. 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,**
- **Kindles e-readers: Amazon sign-in and password**

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

COMPUTER COURSES:

For more information, go to the Blount County Public Library Information Services (Reference Desk) or call (865) 273-1428 or (865) 982-0981, ext. 4.

Tech Time – in Study Room A/Reference Area:

Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., *"Tech Time."* Need help with technology and don't know where to start? Tech Time is designed to be space to get your questions answered and set you on the path you need for technology success! Having trouble with **email?** Can't find what you need on the **internet?** Curious about **Facebook, Twitter** or **Pinterest?** Need help with **eBooks?** Bring your technology questions and get assistance from a Tech Time facilitator. Tech Time will be held in Study Room A in the Reference area of the library.

All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series – Online Registration Required:

Fridays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *"All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series."* Because Blount County Public Library has received a Library Technology Training Grant, this series of Google Lunch and Learn classes is being offered to the public during 2018. Online registration **is required** at no cost. For lunch options, you may bring a sack lunch or an optional $10 box lunch is available from the library's Bookmark Café. Lunch order options are on the registration form. The classes will be held in the library's new Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign. Participants who have Gmail accounts should bring their email address and password. Participants who do not have a Gmail account will create one at their first class. Participants should bring their library card. In some classes, participants will also learn how to use Lynda.com, a new leading online learning platform that helps anyone learn business, software, technology and creative skills to achieve their learning goals. A staff person will be at all classes to make sure that participants have an ecard to access Lynda.com for participants without library cards. Be sure to include email address on registration form. Each class is limited to 10 participants. Participants are invited to bring their personal laptops with wireless access to use in classes. See class title and synopsis below:

- **May 4, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *"Google Sheets Essentials"*** – in the Learning Lab. Online Registration required
  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.
- **May 11, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *"Advanced Google Sheets"*** – in the Learning Lab. Online Registration required
  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.
- **May 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *"Automating Tasks with Google Drive and IFTTT (If This Then That)"*** – in the Learning Lab. Online Registration required

What would happen if you could automate some tasks in your day-to-day living? Consider syncing Gmail orders and invoices to Google Sheets; tracking Fitbit activity; creating maps that update live as more people register for an event or donate to a cause; or automatically saving new email attachments to Google drive. The web-based tool IFTTT and Google Drive work together to help you do just that. Join us to explore how you can connect your favorite web services to automate

- **June 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,** *"Learning Online Surveys With Google Forms." –* in the Learning Lab.
  Online Registration required
  Use online surveys to collect the feedback you need to inform your work. Discover when surveys are useful and how they can help collect the input needed to drive key business decisions. Join us for an overview of some popular survey tools, and learn how to use Google Forms to meet your survey needs.
- **June 15,   11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,** *"Using Google Slides to Create Presentations."*
  – in the Learning Lab.
  Online Registration required
  Learn how to create a presentation using Google Slides. Practice sharing and collaborating when developing presentations, and see how to publish a presentation on the web. Discover tools and add-ons that will help you enhance the quality of your creations.
- **June 22, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,** *"Using Google Voice for Business." –* in the Learning Lab.
  Online Registration required
  Get the most from Google Voice, a powerful, free calling and voicemail platform. Google Voice gives you one phone number, linked to you, no matter how many phone lines or devices you have. Join us to sign up for a Google Voice number, and learn how to use its unique features and tools.
- **June 29,   11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,** *"Get Up and Running with Google My Business."*– in the Learning Lab.
  Online Registration required
  Discover how to connect your business directly to customers through Insights, Maps, Search, Google+, and Analytics. Create your Google My Business dashboard and business location, and learn how to manage your online presence through the dashboard's various channels.

Microsoft Computer Courses: Registration Required

Free computer classes are offered in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint (2016) and Gmail. Receive an opportunity to gain a nationally recognized certificate from Northstar Digital Literacy. Course descriptions and schedules are listed below. The free classes meet in the Blount County Public Library's new Learning Lab (outside the library in the former First Tennessee Bank branch building) unless otherwise *noted. Spaces are limited and registration is required. **To register, please visit the library's Information Services Desk or call (865) 982-0981, ext. 4, or (865) 273-1428. Sign up no earlier than one month prior to a class.** (If a person desires to enroll in the Microsoft courses but has had no 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

Microsoft Word 2016 Essentials – This free class offers 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, editing, formatting, spell check/thesaurus, page setup, line spacing, the ruler, navigating, changing margins, changing case, word count, bullets/numbering and attachments.
Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session: Wednesday, June 20 and Friday, June 22, 2018

Location: *Dorothy Herron Room B

Microsoft Excel 2016 Essentials – This free class is an introduction to Excel 2016. Topics include toolbars/ribbons; navigation; entering text and formulas; editing and viewing worksheets; introduction to formulas and functions; formatting the contents of cells; changing the appearance of worksheets; changing column width and row height; auto complete; fill series; selecting cell ranges; move and copy shortcuts; inserting/deleting columns and rows; inserting/deleting worksheets; renaming worksheets; and moving worksheets.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session: Wednesday, June 27 and Friday, June 29, 2018

Location: *Dorothy Herron Room B

Microsoft Word 2016 Essentials – This free class offers 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, editing, formatting, spell check/thesaurus, page setup, line spacing, the ruler, navigating, changing margins, changing case, word count, bullets/numbering and attachments.
Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session: Wednesday, August 8 and Friday, August 10, 2018
Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft Excel 2016 Essentials – This free class is an introduction to Excel 2016. Topics include toolbars/ribbons; navigation; entering text and formulas; editing and viewing worksheets; introduction to formulas and functions; formatting the contents of cells; changing the appearance of worksheets; changing column width and row height; auto complete; fill series; selecting cell ranges; move and copy shortcuts; inserting/deleting columns and rows; inserting/deleting worksheets; renaming worksheets; and moving worksheets.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session: Wednesday, August 15 and Friday, August 17, 2018

Location: Learning Lab

Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Essentials – This free class will provide students with the skills needed to produce a professional-looking presentation. Topics include editing, outlining, drawing, graphing, images, and presentation management functions.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session : Wednesday, August 22 and Friday, August 24, 2018

Location: Learning Lab

Gmail How-to's - An Intro to Gmail class will discuss how to register for a new email account, create a username and secure password, send and reply to emails, etc. This class will also include instruction on attaching files, moving and deleting emails, email etiquette, as well as pitfalls to avoid when using email, such as opening files with viruses. Online assessment will be given at the end of class.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session : Wednesday, August 29 and Friday August 31, 2018

Location: Learning Lab

Paid Internship Program for Young Adults: Registration Required

The ARCONIC Global Internship Program is made possible through a generous grant from the ARCONIC Foundation. It is provided by the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County, Blount Partnership, and the Blount County Public Library.

Paid Internship Program for Young Adults Interested in Manufacturing Careers:

Are you between the **ages of 18 – 26** and would you like to get paid to intern at a local manufacturer? Join us **July 9 – August 22** to gain training and real-world, hands-on manufacturing experience with the possibility of getting hired permanently. Spaces are limited and registration is required. **Contact Jackie Taylor-Tente with questions and to register, at 865-680-7668 or** jackie@jataylor.net
The program consists of three components:
    1) **July 9 – 27: 3 weeks of** *Workforce Readiness Training*

- o *Training* will run for specific periods of time, with another session beginning soon, Monday through Friday. During this time participants will receive training in skills needed to obtain and maintain a job in the manufacturing field. Participants will receive a $300 stipend upon completion of this component.
2) **July 30 – August 17: 100 hours of hands-on manufacturing experience interning with a Blount County manufacturer**
   - o **The *Internship*** will be at a local manufacturer where participants will be paid $10/hr. for 100 hours, get hands-on job experience, and potentially get certifications such as forklift operation.
3) **August 20 – 22: 3 half-days of *Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation***
   - o **Participants then return** for *Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation*. Participants will receive a $60 stipend upon completion of this component.

Participants must complete all three components.

TEEN PROGRAMS   –   Phone (865) 273-1414:

Special Programs:

- **Saturday, May 12, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. (2nd Saturday of each month), *"Gaming @ Your Library."*** Games of all kinds! Board games, Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros., MarioKart, or bring your own tabletop game or video game console and games to share. We'll use multiple screens to multiply the fun. Bring friends! Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, May 12, 7 p.m. until 9 p.m., *"Library Prom."*** Want to go to prom but lack the money, the date or the clothes? Feel too young for prom? Feel too weird or too nerdy for prom? Come to the Library Prom! **All teens** (ages 12-18) are invited to enjoy music, dancing, refreshments and games with their friends in a casual atmosphere. Wear your snazziest attire, or your favorite jeans, or old-school cosplay. We'll dress the library up with balloons, lights and decorations. Join the fun in the Main Gallery for this special after-hours event.
- **Friday, May 25:** *Summer Reading Challenge begins!* This summer's theme is "Libraries ROCK!" Youth (ages 12-18) can pick up their Summer Reading Challenge Journals in Information Services (near Teen Central), or print it off the library's website. Mark points for reading and other activities, and bring in your completed Journals for a chance at our Grand Prize. Get a new Journal and keep going, for more chances to win, all summer long, until July 30.
- **Monday, May 28, "*Library Closed for Memorial Day.*"**
- **Saturday, June 2, all day, *"Mini-Con,"*** the library's fourth-annual celebration of all things geeky, nerdy and fun. **All ages** are invited to dress in costume, play team trivia, watch a movie, do crafts, learn computer coding skills and play games. Special guests include "The Smoky Mountain Ghostbusters," Professor Greybeard of The Science Guys, The Spooky Ooos rock band, professional costumed characters, and many vendors of collectibles, art, books and games. Mini-Con takes place throughout the library, including the lawn and the Learning Lab.
- **All Month*, "Teen ARC (Advanced Reader Copy) Reviews."*** Check out the ongoing display of ARC (advanced reader copy) books, located just before you get to the Reference and Teen Central areas. These are books that have yet to go through their final edits and be published,

but we scored some just for you! Choose a book from the display to take home, read, and then write a review and post on the library's Facebook page for others to see.

Regular Teen Events:

- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.,** *"Play Chess at the Library."* **All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in the Teen Central area of the library.
- **Once per month:** *"Sanctioned Chess Tournament,"* is held at the library in the Teen Central Area.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.,** *"Play Chess at the Library."* **All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in the Teen Central Area of the library. On one Saturday of every month, there will be a rated tournament at the Blount County Public Library.
- **Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. until 4 p.m.,** *"Blount County Nerd Group."* Teens can learn the basic principles of computer programming, also known as coding. By participating in the Blount County Nerd Group, students seventh grade and up can learn coding skills, such as making simple games, developing professional websites and creating mobile apps. Experienced web developers, **Kaleb Davenport and Garrett Smith** are students at local high schools who have worked very hard to learn about many different technologies and are excited to share their expertise with local teens. In the constantly changing job market, coding is a huge advantage for students and job seekers. Participating students are encouraged to bring their own devices, including a laptop. However, students who do not have adequate technology will be provided a laptop by the library. The Nerd Group meets in the Board Room.
- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 pm.,** *"Dungeons & Dragons.***"** 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! Players can connect via the BCPL Dungeons and Dragons Facebook group between sessions. D&D players, coordinated by **Randy Royse**, **Ashten Royse and Brandon Clackum**, meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).
- **Saturday, May 12, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. (2ⁿᵈ Saturday of each month),** *"Gaming @ Your Library."* Games of all kinds! Board games, Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros., MarioKart, or bring your own tabletop game or video game console and games to share. We'll use multiple screens to multiply the fun. Bring friends! Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Sundays, May 13 and May 27, 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. (Meets every other Sunday of each month),** *"Teen Writers Group."* Calling all writers! If you're looking for inspiration, motivation, feedback or camaraderie, this is your group. Teenagers are invited to join writing colleagues for discussion and inspiration. The Teen Writing Group, coordinated by **Hannah Spirko,** meets in the Boardroom.
- **Saturday, May 26, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m.,** *"Teen Advisory Board."* Do you want to help plan library programs and activities? Help pick out books, videos and magazines for the library's collection? Basically, do you want to make the library a better place for teens? Come hear more about what a Teen Advisory Board can do, enjoy snacks and give us your feedback. To Sign Up go to http://Tinyurl.com/BlountTeens   Meeting will be in Dorothy Herron Room A.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS: Phone: (865) 273-1414

Special Programs for Children (Preschool through Tween)

- **Saturday, May 5, 10:30 a.m.,** *"Imagination Library Graduation Gala."* Celebrate Imagination Library and congratulate those youngsters who have "graduated" from the monthly book program. Graduates (who have had their sixth birthday from June 2017 through May 2018) and their families can enjoy refreshments and get graduation goody bags. Everyone will enjoy children's book readings by community leaders, with special crafts and LEGO fun for youngsters. Parents and guardians can sign up their children – and themselves! – for library cards. (To sign up for a card, bring photo ID and a piece of mail proving residence in Blount County within the past 30 days.) Imagination Library sponsor, Kiwanis Club of Maryville, is coordinating this event, which will take place in the Main Gallery and the Children's Library.
- **Friday, May 25,** *"Summer Reading Challenge Begins!"* This summer's theme is "Libraries ROCK!" Youngsters can pick up their Challenge Journals in the Children's Library (or print it off the library website). Keep track of reading and other activities tally points, and bring the Journals to the Children's Library to win a prize! (Then you can start all over again, and keep winning all summer long, until July 30.)
- **Monday, May 28, "***Library Closed for Memorial Day."*
- **Saturday, June 2, All Day,** *"Mini-Con,"* the library's fourth-annual celebration of all things geeky, nerdy and fun. **All ages** are invited to dress in costume, play team trivia, watch a movie, do crafts, learn computer coding skills and play games. Special guests include "The Smoky Mountain Ghostbusters," Professor Greybeard of The Science Guys, The Spooky Ooos rock band, professional costumed characters, and many vendors of collectibles, art, books and games. Mini-Con takes place throughout the library, including the lawn and the Learning Lab.

Elementary Age Activities:

- **Tuesdays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m.,** *"LEGO Club,"* **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).
- **Fridays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m.,** *"STEAMkids,"* **for Grades K-5**. Every week will be 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, May 4 and June 1, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., "STEAMkids with Keep Blount Beautiful."** Once a month, Keep Blount Beautiful brings a special "green" lesson using recycled craft materials and environmental themes.
    - **Fri., May 18, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., "STEAMkids with Wildlife Biologist Josh Mathenia**." Learn all about the critters that live alongside us, and what happens when their habitats are also our human habitats! Josh will help us understand these wild neighbors, and teach us how to stay safe.

- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.,** *"Play Chess at the Library."* **All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in the Teen Central area of the library.
- **Once per month:** *"Sanctioned Chess Tournament,"* is held at the library in the Teen Central Area.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.,** *"Play Chess at the Library."* **All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in the Teen Central Area of the library. On one Saturday of every month, there will be a rated tournament at the Blount County Public Library.

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.

- **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 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).
  - **Tuesday, May 29, 10:30 a.m.,** *"The Land of the Great Turtles"* **special storytime with author Bradley Wagnon.** Little Learners welcomes a special guest, Cherokee author Bradley Wagnon, visiting from Oklahoma; he will bring us his new book, "The Land of the Great Turtles." Bradley's Little Learners storytime will take place in the Main Gallery, just outside the Children's Library.
- **Wednesdays, 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).
- **Saturday, May 26, 10:30 a.m.:** *"Family Storytime: Relax!"* Bring the whole family out for stories, songs, movement and activities that are fun for all ages. This month, we'll focus on fun ways to help you relax, for a summer of self-care, not stress. The fun also helps encourage important early literacy skills! This event takes place throughout the Children's Library.
- **Tuesday, May 29, 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).

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:

May 1 to 31:

- *"Tennessee Artists Association Show"* **Exhibit,** coordinated by **Elden Elmer** and **Sharon Gillenwater,** located in the Reading Rotunda end of Main Gallery. (Showing May 1-24)
- *"Photography"* **Exhibit,** by **Gavin Morris, age 12,** will be on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café.
- *"Water Quality Month"* **Exhibit,** coordinated by **John Lamb,** will be in the square pedestal display case in the Entry Rotunda of the library.
- *"Immunizations: Blount County Health Department"* **Exhibit,** coordinated by **Will Gates,** will be located in vertical display case in the nook of the wall at the end of the Circulation Check-In Desk.
- *"Star Wars"* **Exhibit,** by **A. J. Rowe** and **Jennifer Spirko,** will be in one Mid-Gallery case near the Magazine Shelves in the Main Gallery of the library.
- *"National Space Day"* **Exhibit,** by **Mary Elmore,** will be in one Mid-Gallery case near the Magazine Shelves in the Main Gallery of the library.
- *"Summer Reading: Libraries ROCK!"* **Exhibit,** will be in one square pedestal case near the Audio Visual (AV) area of the Main Gallery.
- *"Mini-Con"* **Exhibit,** by **Youth Services,** in one vertical display case near the Audio Visual (AV) area.
- *"Life on Mt. LeConte"* **Exhibit**, by **Linda Marcus** in the Genealogy display case at Temporary Books Shelves.
- *"Gardening For Wildlife"* **Exhibit**, by **Sheila Pennycuff** located in the display hutch in Information Services in the Reference Area.
- *"Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild Member Art"* **Exhibit,** coordinated **by Jeanie Dockery**, will be on two easels in the sitting area of the Main Gallery.
- *"Teen ARC (Advanced Reader Copy) Reviews."* Check out the new display of ARC (advanced reader copy) books, located just before you get to the Reference and Teen Central areas. These are books that have yet to go through their final edits and be published, but we scored some just for you! Choose a book from the display to take home, read, and then write a review and post on the library's Facebook page for others to see.
- *"Intrigued By the First Line"* **Exhibit**, by **Patron Services**, in the Main Gallery between the two Circulation Desks.

LIBRARY TOURS & COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

- Group Tours of the Main Library and Reference Department may be scheduled by contacting Kathleen Christy at (865) 273-1403 or (865) 982-0981, ext. 4.
- Group Tours of the Children's Library 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 the 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).