FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Janna Federer, Public Events Coordinator
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Date: January 17, 2020
Release Date: Immediately –

February and March 2020 Events and Programs at the Blount County Public Library

THE BOOKMARK CAFÉ: (865) 273-1439 (See BCFOL below The Bookmark Café)

The Bookmark Café will offer the following Seasonal Items for February/March:

- **King Cake** will be for sale by the slice $3, or whole cakes for $12.
  
  **Order forms**, for whole King Cakes, are available at The Bookmark Café; the deadline to place orders is **Friday, March 13**.

- **Box of Chocolate Latte** (a variety of flavors of your choice)

- **Chocolate Dipped Strawberry Smoothie**

- **Egg Salad Sandwich**

For more information go to the library’s website or [click here](https://www.blountlibrary.org).

THE BLOUNT COUNTY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY (See Library 411 below the Friends of the Library)

- **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 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, March 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, March 6 and 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., “Pre-Owned Book Sale – Open to the Public” in the Library Lower Level.**

**LIBRARY 411: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428** (See Music Event below Library 411)

- **Monday through Friday, February 12 through February 25, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., “Early Voting at the Library.”** Avoid the crowds and usual long lines by participating in early voting in the Sharon Lawson Room at the library. For more information and other locations go to [https://www.blounttn.org/447/Election-Commission](https://www.blounttn.org/447/Election-Commission)

- **Monday, February 17, “Library Closed Presidents’ Day.”**

- **Tuesday, February 25 and Tuesday, March 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.**

- **Through Wednesday, March 25, “Foothills Voices: Amateur Writers Wanted - Deadline to apply for the third installment of Foothills Voices Research and Writing Project.”** The library is seeking amateur writers. The 9-month course, taught by professional authors and librarians, takes amateur writers through the steps necessary to research, write, and publish a piece of creative non-fiction based on true stories of Southern Appalachia. The class will meet 6-8 p.m. on eleven Thursday evenings, April 9 through December 17, 2020. [Online application](https://www.blounttn.org/) will be taken through March 25, 2020 on the library’s website and Facebook page. The course fee is $100, due upon acceptance. Further information is available in Adult Services in the Reference area or you may call at (865) 273-1428.

- **Friday, March 1 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. To check out seeds you must have a valid Blount County Public Library card. Please go to the library website or [click here](https://www.blounttn.org/) for further information.

- **Wednesday, March 4 through Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., “Painting Workshop with Steve Ross and Dana Jester.”** Steve Ross and Dana Jester will be offering classes each day, March 4-7. To register for the class email steverosssdanajester@gmail.com If you would like to order a lunch from The Bookmark Café [click here](https://www.blounttn.org/) to place your order. In addition to classes Mr. Ross and Ms. Jester will be speaking and painting on **Thursday, March 5, 6 p.m.,** in the Main Gallery of the library. This event is sponsored by the Blount County Friends of the Library.
MUSIC EVENT: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428 (See Adult Events below the Music Event)

- Saturday, February 8, 2 p.m., “Harp Ensemble Concert.” Enjoy the unique and beautiful music of harps for the 15th year. Directed by William Lovelace. The concert will be in the Main Gallery of the library.

ADULT EVENTS: Phone 865-982-0981 or 865-273-1428 (See All Ages Events below the Adult Events)

- POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE - Saturday, February 1 through Wednesday, April 15, “AARP Tax Preparation Assistance” is being offered by AARP Volunteers. To receive tax assistance, you must call for an appointment at 865-209-2408, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 4, 7 p.m., “Walk Across Tennessee.” Milestone birthday and heart blockage – how would you celebrate? Speaker David Dudley chose a unique way to honor his 60th birthday, walking across Tennessee, north to south. He will share pictures and stories from his trek. This event will be held in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- Tuesday, February 11, 7 p.m., “Master Seed Savers Special Seed Preview and Seed Starting.” Join Daniel Hughes and Rachel McCroskey for this special seed preview program JUST for Master Seed Savers! If you’ve filled out your Master Seed Saver application and donated your 10 packs of seeds by Friday, January 31, which should be turned in at the Reference Desk in Adult Services area, you are invited to come to this special preview for the Seed Library. You’ll be able to check out seeds before the official opening of the Seed Library on March 1. To get the Master Seed Saver application go to the library’s website. This program will be held in The Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.
- Thursday, February 20 and Thursday, March 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.
- Monday, February 24, 7 p.m., “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: “Almost Heaven: Religion in Appalachia,” presented by Charles W. Maynard, Associate Pastor of Cokesbury United Methodist Church, Author, and Storyteller. Religion and faith are an important element in the life and history of Appalachia and have been a major force in shaping its character. Rev. Maynard will draw on his experience serving churches in the
mountains of Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia. This program will be held in the Main Gallery.

- **Wednesday, February 26, “Focus on Seniors: Caregiving Online Video,”** available on the Blount County Public Library website at www.blountlibrary.org. Because it is often difficult for caregivers to leave those who are in their care, the library will bring this program to you through an online video. Blount County Office on Aging director, Joani Shaver, and Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Edward Harper, will discuss issues and resources related to caregiving. The program will be available on the library’s website on February 26, 2020, and thereafter. For help in accessing it, please call the Adult Services desk at (865) 273-1428.

- **Saturday, February 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., “Smart Bicycling Traffic Skills 101,”** 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. Registration ends Tuesday, February 25. 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. (Inclement weather date, March 1, 2020, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.)

- **Sunday March 1 through Wednesday, March 20, “Deadline to apply for the third installment of Foothills Voices Research and Writing Project.”** The library is seeking amateur writers. The 9-month course, taught by professional authors and librarians, takes amateur writers through the steps necessary to research, write, and publish a piece of creative non-fiction based on true stories of Southern Appalachia. The class will meet 6-8 p.m. on eleven Thursday evenings, April 9 through December 17, 2020. Online applications will be taken March 1 through March 20, 2020. The online application will be available on the library’s website beginning March 1. The course fee is $100, due upon acceptance. Further information is available in Adult Services in the Reference area or you may call at (865) 273-1428.

- **Wednesday, March 4 through Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., “Painting Workshop with Steve Ross and Dana Jester.”** Steve Ross and Dana Jester will be facilitating four separate workshops each day March 4-7. The workshops will be $125 per day and each day will be an individual painting class from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a lunch break. Participants must provide their own supplies and there in an age limit of age 16 and older. Dana Jester will be teaching the Wednesday and Friday class and Steve Ross will be teaching the Thursday and Saturday class. Seats are limited and filling quickly. To register for the class
email steverossdanajester@gmail.com  Signs ups can only be done through this email. In addition to workshops(March 4-7), on Thursday, March 5, 6:30 p.m., “An Evening with Steve Ross and Dana Jester,” in the Main Gallery of the library, Mr. Ross and Mr. Jester will be giving a seated lecture, free and open to the public. Mr. Ross will hold a painting demo while he speaks about his life. He will, also take questions from the audience. Please be prepared for a crowded evening and plan accordingly. This event is sponsored by the Blount County Friends of the Library.

- CANCELLED - Tuesday, March 10 through Tuesday April 14, 2020, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. “Powerful Tools for Caregivers,” This class help caregivers take better care of themselves while supporting a friend or relative. In six weekly courses, caregivers learn self-care tools to:
  - Reduce stress and negative emotions
  - Improve communication
  - Manage time
  - Solve problems
  - Make challenging decisions
  - Locate community resources
  - Build self-confidence
Powerful Tools for Caregivers is not a support group. It is a proven education program offering tools and training to help you take control of the caregiving journey and develop skills that will ease stress and burdens so that you can continue providing quality care. Contact Connie Taylor at 865-306-1690 to reserve your seat by Thursday, March 5. Participants are strongly encouraged to attend all 6 classes. This program will be held in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- CANCELLED - Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m., “Garden Series: Lawns and Their Care,” presented by Bob Hollman. Spring is the time to weed and feed your turf grass. Invest one and a half hours to learn about turf grass types and their needs, how to determine what kind of turf grass you have and how to care for the different types of turf grasses. Learn how to care for your lawn the rest of the season! This program will be in the Sharon Lawson Room

- CANCELLED - Saturday, March 21, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (3rd Saturday of every other month), “Appalachian Reads Book Club: Country Dark” by Kentucky native Chris Offutt. This novel described by the New York Times as "dark, but deeply humane....an achievement of spellbinding momentum and steadfast heart." The story's setting is rural Kentucky in the years following the main character's service in the Korean War. Discussion will be led by A.J. Coulter. The book group will meet in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- CANCELLED - Monday, March 23, 7 p.m., “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Beneficial Insects in the Southern Appalachians,” presented by Becky Nichols, Entomologist, Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Though the word “insect” has a bad connotation for most people, Nichols will enlighten us on the beneficial insects in our mountains and the roles they play in the natural environment. This program will be in Main
CANCELLED - Tuesday, March 24, 7 p.m., “Finding Schifrah: The Journey of a Dutch Holocaust Child Survivor.” Sonja DuBois was born in the Netherlands during World War II. Two years after the Nazi troops invaded the country her parents were deported to a concentration camp and became victims of the Holocaust. They and the extended family were killed at the infamous death camp Auschwitz. In 1942, at the age of 2, she became an orphan and lost her identity. The author will talk about her powerful journey of self-discovery. Books will be available for purchase. This program will be in the Sharon Lawson Room.

CANCELLED - Wednesday, March 25, 11 a.m. “Focus on Seniors: Wills, Trusts and Powers of Attorney.” Speaker Matt Haralson draws on his extensive experience as an Elder Law Attorney to present a program on legal issues of special concern to older adults. Among his topics, he will include trusts, wills, and powers of attorney. This program will be in the Sharon Lawson Room.

Friday, March 27, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., “It’s Your Career: Improving Communication at Work,” 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. 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

Wednesday, April 8, 11 a.m. until 12 p.m., “Free Credit and Money Management Workshop.” Operation Hope will lead a workshop on establishing or increasing your credit score, creating a budget, how to read a credit report and what can be done to correct errors that may negatively Call Jodi Self Office (865) 518-0322; Cell (865) 268-9838 or email: jodi.self@operationhope.org to register or for more information.

ALL AGES EVENTS: Phone 865-982-0981 or 865-273-1428 (See Technology Classes and Other Resources Classes below All Ages Events)

Tuesday, February 4 and February 18, and Tuesday, March 3 and March 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, February 6 and February 20, and Thursday, March 5 and March 19,** 10 a.m. to 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 Kathy Pagles Board Room. “If Grandma and a feed sack in a backwoods cabin can make a quilt, so can you.”

- **Friday, February 7 and Friday, March 13,** noon until 2 p.m., “Second Friday Science Lunch.” We’ll screen NASA downlinks and broadcasts and other up-to-the-moment science and tech shows, with additional interactive activities for all ages. Bring your lunch if you like and join the conversation in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- **Friday, February 21,** 6:30 p.m., “Beyond the Shelves Live Podcast” at The Bird & The Book. All Ages Welcome! Don’t miss a spectacular live edition of the library’s humorous and offbeat podcast that takes listeners behind the scenes and beyond the shelves. Meet special guests, enjoy live music and laugh with us! This off-site event takes place at The Bird & The Book, a family-friendly pub located at 1509 E. Broadway Ave. (behind Southland Books). No cost to attend (food and drinks available to buy).

- **Sunday, March 1 through Saturday, 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. 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.

- CANCELLED - **Saturday, March 28,** 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “SpringQuest.” Journey with your friends through the land of Flowergaiden in this Dungeons & Dragons-based roleplay. Choose your role, travel through the library, solve riddles, and battle foes. SpringQuest is a challenge that all ages can enjoy. The adventure begins in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- CANCELLED - **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 Game Room located back near the Oversize Area 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 Game Room.

- CANCELLED - **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. 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. This will be held The Game Room near the Oversize Area of the library.
CANCELLED - 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.

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. This will be held The Game Room near the Oversize Area of the library.

TECHNOLOGY CLASSES AND OTHER RESOURCE CLASSES: (See All Teen Events below the Tech Classes and Other Resource Classes)

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.

**Microsoft Computer Classes: Online Registration Required**

Free computer classes are offered in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (2016). 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 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](http://www.mouseprogram.com) and [www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/mousercise.htm](http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/mousercise.htm)

**Microsoft Word Part I: Working with Basic Text and Paragraphs** – Learn how to create and edit a document with Microsoft Word 2016. You’ll learn basic formatting, how to select and cut, copy, or paste text; spell check, adjust line spacing and change the page alignment.

[Click to Register]

**Time:** 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**Date:** Monday, March 2, 2020

**Bring:** Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).

**Location:** Learning Lab

**Microsoft Word Part II: Long Documents** – Microsoft Word 2016 has many tools that make working on long documents a snap. Learn about styles, headers, footers, page numbers and inserting objects like pictures, video, and tables. **Basic Word skills required.**

[Click to Register]

**Time:** 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 4, 2020

**Bring:** Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).

**Location:** Learning Lab
'Microsoft Word Part III: Mail Merge, References, and Collaborating with Word' – Learn how to use the Mail Merge Wizard to personalize letters and envelopes. Find out how to create bibliographies and other references with different style guides. You’ll also learn how to insert charts and proofread like a pro with the Track Changes feature. Intermediate Word skills required.

Click to Register

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Friday, March 6, 2020

Bring: Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).

Note: At the end of class, take the Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment for MS Word. Score 85% or higher and earn a nationally recognized certificate you can use for work or job seeking. Earbuds required (for the assessment).

Location: Learning Lab

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'Excel Part I: Basics, Formulas and Functions' – Excel 2016 spreadsheets allow you to easily store, organize and modify data. Learn the basics of Excel (such as inserting text, basic formulas, AutoFill and more) by creating a personal budget. Also learn how to make Excel do the work for you by using common formulas and functions.

Click to Register

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Monday, March 9, 2020

Bring: Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).

Location: Learning Lab

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'Excel Part II: Conditional Formatting, Sort and Filter' – Expand your Excel 2016 knowledge and learn about conditional formatting, freezing rows, and using tables. Use the sort and filter features in Excel to organize your data so you can find the information you are looking for easily. Basic Excel skills required.

Click to Register

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Bring: Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).

Location: Learning Lab

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'Excel Part III: Graphs, Pivot Tables, Macros and More' – Make your Excel 2016 workbook pop by using graphs and pivot tables to represent your data visually. Learn how to automate repetitive tasks by recording and running simple macros in Excel. Basic Excel skills required.

Click to Register

Time: 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Dates: Friday, March 13, 2020

Bring: Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).
Note: At the end of class, take the Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment for Excel. Score 85% or higher and earn a nationally recognized certificate you can use for work or job seeking. Earbuds required (for the assessment).
Location: Learning Lab

**PowerPoint I: Working with the Basics** – Learn how to make a basic PowerPoint. Use the various slide layouts and interchange them. Insert photos, screen shots, text boxes, video and more. Practice working “under the hood” in PowerPoint and view your slideshow creation.

[Click to Register]

**Time:** 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.
**Dates:** Monday, March 16, 2020
**Bring:** Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).
**Location:** Kathy Pagles Board Room

**PowerPoint II: Power Up Your Presentation with Transitions, Animations, and Slide Masters** – Take your PowerPoint to the next level by learning how and when to add transitions and animations. Learn best practices for designing PowerPoint as a visual aide, and practice creating your own template design using Slide Masters. **Basic PowerPoint skills are required.**

[Click to Register]

**Time:** 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.
**Dates:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020
**Bring:** Bring a USB drive (or buy one in class) and earbuds (required for the assessment).
**Note:** At the end of class, take the Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment for Excel. Score 85% or higher and earn a nationally recognized certificate you can use for work or job seeking. Earbuds required (for the assessment).
**Location:** Kathy Pagles Board Room

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**Social Media and Google Apps Classes – Online Registration Required**

**Course descriptions and schedules are listed below.** The free classes will be offered online synchronously via Zoom. Your instructor will contact you by email on how to access your class. Spaces are limited and online registration is required. **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 call the library’s Adult Services (Reference Desk) at (865) 982-0981, ext. 1450, or (865) 273-1428.

**Facebook** – Learn the ins and outs of your Facebook account, Newsfeed, and Stories. Tweak your Newsfeed Preferences and Privacy settings. Explore how to leverage groups, create and join events, sell on Marketplace, and raise funds for a good cause.

[Click to Register]
Work Online with Google Drive – Learn how to create documents, save your files online and collaborate with others on Google Drive. Email address required.
Click to Register

Google Drive Advanced Tips and Tricks – 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 to Register

Learning Instagram – Get up and running quickly with Instagram. Discover how to follow other users and hashtags. Post, shoot, and process your images using Instagram filters, and add captions and hashtags to your posts. Gain tips for building your network, communicating with others. Learn how to build Instagram stories—photos and videos that expire after a day—and discover why stories have become so popular. Smartphone or device required.
Click to Register

Google Docs Essentials – 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 to Register
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. Online 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 Online 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

ARCONIC Foundation Global Internship Program for Young Adults (18-26): Registration Required

The ARCONIC Foundation Global Internship Program is made possible through a generous grant from the ARCONIC Foundation. It is provided by the Institute of International Education, Blount Partnership, Blount County Public Library and Blount County Friends of the 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 January 27 through March 5, 2020 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 For more information go to bcpl.populr.me/arconic-internship-program Deadline to Apply: Wednesday, January 22, 2020

The program consists of three components:
1) January 27 – February 11: 3 weeks of Workforce Readiness Training (60 hours)
   o Training will run 12-5 p.m., 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) **February 12 – 28: 100 hours of hands-on manufacturing experience interning with a Blount County manufacturer**
   - *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) **March 2 and 5: 3 half-days of Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation**
   - 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.

**Tech Classes for Tweens and Teens – Ages 10 and Up!**
Tech classes for tweens and teens are led by science educator Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls and are open to boys and girls of all ages interested in fun, hands-on learning experiences with STEM topics! Located in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.

**Internet of Things** – From color changing lights to garage door openers to smart refrigerators, more and more devices are connected via the Internet. So how does it work? Learn all about the Internet of Things and what it takes to control a light emitting diode (LED) through the Internet. You will build a circuit, program firmware and create a webpage to control the LED. Sounds hard? Join the workshop and you will be an Internet of Things expert in no time. Open to all ages 10 and up.
- **Time:** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Session:** Saturday, February 1, 2020
- **Location:** Learning Lab

**Photo Editing** – Learn how to create awesome pictures and cool art projects using photo editing software. Curious about what you can do with colors, layers, contrast, saturation, smart selection tools and much more to create that perfect picture. Unleash your creativity, we cannot wait to see what you create. Open to all ages 10 and up.
- **Time:** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Session:** Saturday, March 7, 2020
- **Location:** Learning Lab

**CANCELLED - Smart Robot Camp with ORCSGirls**
This three day camp is limited to 20 girls in Grades 7th to 10th. Online Application
- **Deadline:** February 17.
- **Camp Directors are** science educator Thomas Proffen (ORNL), Katharine Schuman (ORNL), Dasha Hermannova (ORNL) and Sarah Jo Miller (Heritage
Located in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.

What is it?
- From self-driving cars to devices we can talk to, machine learning and artificial intelligence are revolutionizing our daily lives. In this three day camp, we will cover machine learning, coding in Python and programming our smart JetBot robot, and teach it to avoid obstacles and follow objects or roads. The camp is limited to 20 girls and work with the JetBot in teams of two allowing for maximum hands-on experience.

Who is it for?
- This camp is for girls in grades 7-10 who want to explore the world of smart robots in an all-girls environment and explore coding, technology, artificial intelligence and robots. Some experience with coding is helpful but not strictly required.

How to apply?
- The online application deadline is February 17 and we will inform everyone if they made it into the camp by February 24. Click here to apply.

Time: 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Session: Monday, March 16, Tuesday, March 17 and Wednesday, March 18, 2020
Location: Learning Lab

OTHER CLASSES AT BCPL
- Saturday, February 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., “Smart Bicycling Traffic Skills 101,” 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. Registration ends Tuesday, February 25. 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. (Inclement weather date, March 1, 2020, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.)

- CANCELLED - Tuesday, March 10 through Tuesday April 14, 2020, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. “Powerful Tools for Caregivers,” This class help caregivers take better care of themselves while supporting a friend or relative. In six weekly courses, caregivers learn self-care tools to:
- Reduce stress and negative emotions
- Improve communication
- Manage time
- Solve problems
- Make challenging decisions
- Locate community resources
- Build self-confidence

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is not a support group. It is a proven education program offering tools and training to help you take control of the caregiving journey and develop skills that will ease stress and burdens so that you can continue providing quality care.

**Contact Connie Taylor at 865-306-1690 to reserve your seat by Thursday, March 5. Participants are strongly encouraged to attend all 6 classes.** This program will be held in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- **Wednesday, April 8, 11 a.m. until 12 p.m., “Free Credit and Money Management Workshop.”** Operation Hope will lead a workshop on establishing or increasing your credit score, creating a budget, how to read a credit report and what can be done to correct errors that may negatively affect your credit. Call Jodi Self Office (865) 518-0322; Cell (865) 268-9838 or email: jodi.self@operationhope.org to register or for more information.

**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 EVENTS – Phone 865-273-1414:** (See Children Events below the Teen Events)

- **Saturday, February 1, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Internet of Things.”** From color changing lights to garage door openers to smart refrigerators, more and more devices are connected via the Internet. So how does it work? Learn all about the Internet of Things and what it takes to control a light emitting diode (LED) through the Internet. You will build a circuit, program firmware and create a webpage to control the LED. Sounds hard? Join the workshop and you will be an Internet of Things expert in no time. **Open to all ages 10 and up. Tech classes for tweens and teens are led by science educator Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls and are open to boys and girls of all ages interested in fun, hands-on learning experiences with STEM topics! Located in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.**

- **Saturday, February 8, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Just Dance 2020 Tournament.”** Dance your way to fame and glory in our first musical video gaming contest. Advanced sign-ups are not
required, but to participate, you must be ready to dance at the tournament’s start. 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, February 15, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Chocolate Party.”** What better way to celebrate “Single Awareness Day” than with a variety of candy-themed games and crafts? Join the sweet fun in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- **Saturday, February 22, 3:00-4:00 p.m., ”YA Cafe.”** All teens are invited to engage in discussions about their favorite books and media with coffee and cookies. Join the conversation in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- **Saturday, February 22, 4:00-5:00 p.m., ”Laser TAB (Teen Advisory Board).”** Help plan library programs and activities. Pick out books and games for the collection. Make the library a better space for teens. If you're into the 6th through 12th grade, you can join and be heard! Meets in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- **Saturday, March 7, 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., “LEGO Contest.”** Ages 18 and under come by pick up the complete rules in the Children’s Library for our semi-annual competition of creativity and engineering — now with a teen category (up to age 18). Even if you don’t enter, be sure to come by during the contest to view the fabulous entries and vote for “Fan Favorite”! You must deliver entries by 10:30 a.m. and pick them up by 4 p.m. Voting closes at 1 p.m., and winners will be announced soon after. Entries must be your own creation and sizes must follow official rules. See full official rules and categories. The LEGO Contest takes place throughout the Children’s Library.

- **Saturday, March 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Photo Editing.”** Learn how to create awesome pictures and cool art projects using photo editing software. Curious about what you can do with colors, layers, contrast, saturation, smart selection tools and much more to create that perfect picture. Unleash your creativity, we cannot wait to see what you create. Open to all ages 10 and up. Tech classes for tweens and teens are led by science educator Thomas Proffen of ORCSSGirls and are open to boys and girls of all ages interested in fun, hands-on learning experiences with STEM topics! Located in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.

- **CANCELLED - Saturday, March 14, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “E-Sports & Gaming: Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tournament.”** Test your skill in the next round of our smash-hit Smash Tournament. To get in the bracket, sign up at the Children’s Desk (or email ckriese@blounttn.org), starting March 7. 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.

- **CANCELLED -Monday, March 16 through Wednesday, March 18, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., “Smart Robot Camp with ORCSSGirls.”** This three day camp is limited to 20 girls in Grades 7th to 10th. Online Application Deadline: February 17. Camp Directors are science educator Thomas Proffen (ORNL), Katharine Schuman (ORNL), Dasha
Hermannova (ORNL) and Sarah Jo Miller (Heritage High School). Located in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.

What is it?
- From self-driving cars to devices we can talk to, machine learning and artificial intelligence are revolutionizing our daily lives. In this three day camp, we will cover machine learning, coding in Python and programming our smart JetBot robot, and teach it to avoid obstacles and follow objects or roads. The camp is limited to 20 girls and work with the JetBot in teams of two allowing for maximum hands-on experience.

Who is it for?
- This camp is for girls in grades 7-10 who want to explore the world of smart robots in an all-girls environment and explore coding, technology, artificial intelligence and robots. Some experience with coding is helpful but not strictly required.

How to apply?
- The online application deadline is February 17 and we will inform everyone if they made it into the camp by February 24. Click here to apply.

- **CANCELLED** - 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. Ages 12 and up and all 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 usually meets in the Main Gallery of the library.

- **CANCELLED** - (New) Fridays, 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., “Beginning Woodcarving.” This class will be open to students ages 13-18 interested in learning the art of woodcarving. Learn to create from your imagination in a safe environment! Tools and wood supplies will be provided and parental permission forms are required the first day of class. Class will be taught by woodcarver Denny Carlisle of the Smoky Mountain Woodcarvers Association. Class is limited to 10. The first day of class, Friday, February 7, meet in the Main Gallery of the library. Mr. Carlisle will be speaking briefly about woodworking. Then the first 10 kids will sign up. Thereafter, join the workshop in The Game Room near the Oversize Area of the library.

CHILDREN’S EVENTS: Phone: 865-273-1414 (See Exhibits and Collections below Children Events)

Special Programs for Children (Preschool through Tween)
- Saturday, February 1, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Internet of Things.” From color changing lights to garage door openers to smart refrigerators, more and more devices are connected via the
Internet. So how does it work? Learn all about the Internet of Things and what it takes to control a light emitting diode (LED) through the Internet. You will build a circuit, program firmware and create a webpage to control the LED. Sounds hard? Join the workshop and you will be an Internet of Things expert in no time. **Open to all ages 10 and up.** Tech classes for tweens and teens are led by science educator Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls and are open to boys and girls of all ages interested in fun, hands-on learning experiences with STEM topics! Located in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.

- **Saturday, February 8, 10:30-12:30 p.m., “Sensory Movie Fun: ‘Microcosmos.’”** Take an epic journey through your backyard with this close-up nature adventure. Rated G. Our “Sensory Movie Fun” approach provides moderate lighting and a low-stress environment, plus LEGO®s and crafts for busy hands. Sensory Movies are welcoming for but not limited to those with sensory or attention issues. The movie will be in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- **Saturday, February 29, 10:30 a.m., “Leap Day!”** Celebrate our extra day this year while also capping off the fun reading adventure of the “One Book Blitz” with a wide game that takes kids and families throughout the library with crafts and puzzles. Funded by the Blount County Friends of the Library. Leap into fun starting in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- **Saturday, March 7, 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., “LEGO Contest.”** Ages 18 and under come by pick up the complete rules in the Children’s Library for our semi-annual competition of creativity and engineering — now with a teen category (up to age 18). Even if you don’t enter, be sure to come by during the contest to view the fabulous entries and vote for “Fan Favorite”! You must deliver entries by 10:30 a.m. and pick them up by 4 p.m. Voting closes at 1 p.m., and winners will be announced soon after. Entries must be your own creation and sizes must follow official rules. See full official rules and categories. The LEGO contest takes place throughout the Children’s Library.

- **Saturday, March 7, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Photo Editing.”** Learn how to create awesome pictures and cool art projects using photo editing software. Curious about what you can do with colors, layers, contrast, saturation, smart selection tools and much more to create that perfect picture. Unleash your creativity, we cannot wait to see what you create. **Open to all ages 10 and up.** Tech classes for tweens and teens are led by science educator Thomas Proffen of ORCSGirls and are open to boys and girls of all ages interested in fun, hands-on learning experiences with STEM topics! Located in the Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign.

- **Saturday, March 14, 10:30-12:30 p.m., “Sensory Movie Fun: ‘Megamind.’”** What’s a supervillain to do when his do-gooder rival falls? This comic adventure flips the superhero movie, and fun adventure results. Rated PG. Our “Sensory Movie Fun” approach provides moderate lighting and a low-stress environment, plus LEGO®s and crafts for busy hands. Sensory Movies are welcoming for but not limited to those with sensory or attention issues. Sharon Lawson Room.
• CANCELLED - Saturday, March 28, 10:30 a.m., “Family Storytime: Dinosaurs.” Go back in time! Youngsters and their families can share dino-themed stories, crafts and games to have fun and encourage important early literacy skills. This event takes place throughout the Children’s Library.

• CANCELLED - Tuesdays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., “LEGos in the Library,” for Grades K-5. 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).

• CANCELLED - Tuesdays, 5 p.m., “Learning and Loving Books with Mr. Gary.” (1st 3 Tuesday of Each Month) (Grades 5 and under) Join educator Gary Southers for a fun and educational journey into the world of books and how they can help connect us with each other and the world through kindness and communication. Mr. Gary reads in the Children’s Story Area (in the Children’s Library) following LEGOs.

• CANCELLED - Fridays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., “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).
  o Friday, February 7 and Friday, March 6, “Eco-STEAMkids with Keep Blount Beautiful.” On the first Friday of each month, kids will get to make an earth-friendly craft project and learn how to keep our community, and our world, cleaner and healthier with a fun project led by Keep Blount Beautiful.
  o Fridays in February, “STEAMkids One Book Blitz Edition.” Each Friday in February, STEAMkids will have a special lesson coordinated with the One Book Blitz book. Don’t miss this chance to engage in a hands-on way with your special all-county read!

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.

• CANCELLED - 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).

• CANCELLED - 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).

- **CANCELLED - Thursdays, February 13 and March 12, 4 p.m., “Sensory Story Time.”** An interactive story time with stories, songs, movement and activities designed to 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 jsprko@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:**

**February 1 to 29:**

- **“Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild Member Art” Exhibit, coordinated by Sandy Miller,** will be on easels in the Main Gallery and in two Mid-Gallery cases in the Main Gallery of the library.
- **“Maryville Art District” Exhibit,** coordinated by Sadie Dukes, on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café and in the vertical case near Audio Visual (AV) area.
- **“Woodworking Group” Exhibit, coordinated by Denny Carlisle,** will be in vertical case at the nook of the wall at the end of the Patron Services Circulation Check-in Desk.
- **“Hummingbird” Exhibit, by Adult Services Reference Department,** located in the display case near the Temporary Books Shelves. Uncover the secrets of the Reference Collection.
- **“Almost Heaven: Religion in Appalachia” Exhibit, by Adult Services Reference Department,** located in the wooden Genealogy display case in the Main Gallery near the Audio Visual (AV) area.
- **“Roses are Red, Violets are Blue, We’ve Got the Perfect Book for You” Exhibit, by Patron Services,** will be located in the Main Gallery between the two Patron Services Circulation Desks.
- **“World War I: Lessons and Legacies” Exhibit,** organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the National Museum of American History, with funding from The United States World War I Centennial Commission and the Smithsonian Women’s Committee; will be located in the Reading Rotunda.

**March 1 to 31:**
- “Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild Member Art” Exhibit, coordinated by Sandy Miller, will be on easels in the Main Gallery and in vertical case at the nook of the wall at the end of the Patron Services Circulation Check-in Desk.
- “Knoxville Watercolor Society” Art Exhibit, coordinated by Emilia Pickett on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café.
- “Patrick Hicks Art” Exhibit, by artist Patrick Hicks, will be in two Mid-Gallery cases in the Main Gallery of the library.
- “Painted Eggs” Exhibit, will be in the vertical case near Audio Visual (AV) area.
- “Hummingbird” Exhibit, by Adult Services Reference Department, located in the display case near the Temporary Books Shelves. Uncover the secrets of the Reference Collection.
- “Beneficial Insects” Exhibit, by Linda Marcus, located in the wooden Genealogy display case in the Main Gallery near the Audio Visual (AV) area.
- “You Don’t Need the Luck of the Irish to Find a Good Book Here” Exhibit, by Patron Services, will be located in the Main Gallery between the two Patron Services Circulation Desks.
- “World War I: Lessons and Legacies” Exhibit, organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the National Museum of American History, with funding from The United States World War I Centennial Commission and the Smithsonian Women’s Committee; will be located in the Reading Rotunda.

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)