MAYVILLE, TN (January 30, 2018)  The month of February brings events related to love ("Love and Jane Austen" and the annual Valentine’s Harp Ensemble Concert), taxes, community unity, an author, new computer classes (Google Lunch and Learn) and more. Janet Beard will speak about her new novel, “The Atomic Girls.” As always, there are many events, services and programs as options for you to join with others in the community related to a topic of interest to you.

In addition, I want to express my appreciation to you for your interest in the library and support of library events, classes and programs. Due to multiple family members with illnesses, I am retiring from work at the library, so this is my final calendar effort for you. Multiple department managers will continue to arrange programs, and Angela Self, Mary Elmore and others will continue to let you know of the many fantastic events happening at the library. So I want to say a special thanks to them for their work … and to you for your support of the library!

~ Joan VanSickle Sloan, Public Relations Director

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

Saturday, February 10, 2 p.m., “Valentine’s Harp Ensemble Concert” at the library, conducted by Mr. William Lovelace. Unusual anywhere in the world, this concert will have multiple harps and multiple harpists, some of whom are among the nation’s top artists. In addition to students from the Maryville area, this ensemble also includes Lovelace’s students from Knox Music Studios, in Knoxville, and from his other teaching locations as well. Mr. Lovelace is past president of the American Harp Society. The concert will be in 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)

- **Thursday, February 1 through Monday, April 16, “AARP Tax Preparation Assistance”** by AARP Volunteers. To receive tax assistance, you must call for an appointment at 865-414-1031 or 865-206-9816, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Do Not Call the Library!

- **Fridays, March 2, 9, 16 & 23, 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 40 Google Lunch and Learn classes is being offered to the public during 2018. Online registration is required as is a $10 registration fee which includes a box lunch from the library’s Bookmark Café. Participants in the classes will learn how to access and enroll in Lynda.com classes as well as Google features such as email, Google documents, Internet searching and more. 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 digital sign at the entrance drive. (See more detailed course descriptions in the Computer Classes section of this calendar.)

- **Through February 28, “Coats for the Community.”** The Blount County Public Library and Blount County Fire Department invite you to donate new or gently used winter coats, sweaters, hats, gloves and scarves. Two donation barrels are located inside the library’s main gallery front doors, near the circulation check-in desk. Thank you for participating in this needed program. For further information, check the website http://www.blountfire.org/coats-for-our-community.html

- **Saturday, February 3, 10 a.m. to 5 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.

- **Thursday, February 8, Meet and Greet: 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Program: 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., “Blount County United Covenant: Bringing Our Community Together.”** Witness the signing of an historic multi-agency agreement to prevent and eradicate bias, prejudice and hate. Blount County United will jointly sign a covenant with the Blount County, Maryville City and Alcoa City governments to condemn hate crimes, strengthen enforcement and prosecute offenders, support victims, report hate crimes and advance police/community relations. For more information, contact Sharon Hannum at 865-789-9624 or syhannum@aol.com This event will be in the Main Gallery of the Library.

- **Saturday, February 10, 2 p.m., “Valentine’s Harp Ensemble Concert” at the library, conducted by Mr. William Lovelace.** Unusual anywhere in the world, the Lovelace Valentine’s Harp Ensemble Concert at the library will have multiple harps and multiple harpists, some of whom are among the nation’s top artists. In addition to students from the Maryville area, this ensemble also includes Lovelace’s students from Knox Music Studios, in
Knoxville, and from his other teaching locations as well. William Lovelace is past president of the American Harp Society. The concert will be in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.

- **Monday, February 12, 6:30 p.m., “Fiscal Fitness: Selling Your Home,” presented by LeConte Realty, LLC.** The process of selling a home can seem overwhelming or even scary, but it doesn’t have to be! This class will focus on the basic steps if you wish to sell your home. For instance, who are the team members if you choose to use professional realtors? How do you know what you owe on your mortgage? How do you set your sales price? What are your responsibilities if you have had issues in the home? Are there special rules you must follow that are part of your deed? How do you prepare your home for a potential buyer to see it? Get practical guidance and advice about how to sell your home. This program will be in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- **Saturday, February 17, 11 a.m., “The Atomic City Girls,” presented by author Janet Beard.** A graduate of Maryville High School, Beard has written a page-turning and enlightening historical fiction account of four people whose lives intertwine while working in Oak Ridge, the “secret city,” during the Manhattan Project. Published by William Morrow, the book will be available for sale at the program by Southland Books and Blount County Friends of the Library. The e-book by Harper Collins is also available. Refreshments will be served. This program will be in the Main Gallery of the Library.

- **Monday, February 19, “Library Closed in Honor of Presidents’ Day.”**

- **Tuesday February 20, 7 p.m., “Landscaping with Perennials” by John Wilson, UT-Blount County Agricultural Extension Agent.** In order to keep from having to re-plant all flowerbeds every year, it makes sense to utilize perennials in the landscape so that they remain a constant around which you can develop the rest of your lawnscape. This event will be in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- **Thursday, February 22, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., “Step-by-Step Guide to Build Your Own Marketing Plan,” presented by Victory Harbin and coordinated by Bruce Hayes, TSBDC Director.** Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-marketing-workshop-step-by-step-guide-to-build-your-own-marketing-plan-tickets-42433648184 The workshop will help you draft your own marketing plan for 2018 and beyond. It will help identify target customers and what sets you apart from other competition. Experienced professionals will guide you through drafting a plan to strategically market your business, plan to retain your customers and reach your goals for growth. This workshop will be held in The Learning Lab (a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign).

- **Friday, February 23, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., “It’s Your Career: Building a Team,” will be a part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. Build better teams by being able to identify personalities and communication styles, understanding the causes of dysfunction, and building teams of individuals whose strengths complement each other. 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 (in the former First Tennessee Bank branch building, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library’s outdoor sign). Registration begins January 29. 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
collaboration of Blount Partnership, Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and the Blount County Public Library

**Saturday, February 24, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. “Love and Jane Austen.”** Jane Austen’s humorous romances have thrilled readers for more than 200 years. Celebrate courtship and love in Austen’s works with Lark in the Morn English Country Dancers and Dr. Hilary Havens from UTK. 17th and 18th century English Country dances will be demonstrated and all audience members will be invited to participate as Karan Dotson narrates and teaches one or two dances. Scones & tea will be served. Costumes related to the Jane Austen era are encouraged. This program is sponsored by the Blount County Friends of the Library and is free, in the Main Gallery & Reading Rotunda. The schedule for the day will be

- “Class, Conduct and Courtship in ‘Pride and Prejudice’ ” presented by Dr. Hilary Havens, Asst. Professor of English at UTK.
- “17th and 18th century English Country Dances” (demonstrations and teaching) with the Lark in the Morn English Country Dancers and music by The Lark in the Morn Consort, with narration by Karan Dotson.

**Monday, February 26, 7 p.m., “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: More than the Cherokee Trail of Tears: The Long Removal Era,” presented by Julie L. Reed, Ph.D.** Associate Professor of history at UTK. Reed will discuss the longer process of Cherokee removal that arguably began before Andrew Jackson was elected President in 1828 and lasted beyond 1840 when the last detachments of Cherokee people arrived in the west. She will consider the decades long struggle that Cherokee people faced and the multiple choices made by elite and everyday Cherokee men and women to confront the conditions created by the removal era and consider how these diverse actions both aided and complicated Cherokee reconciliation in Indian Territory, what is today Oklahoma. A citizen of the Cherokee Nation, Reed will consider the decades-long struggle the Cherokee people faced. This program will be in the Sharon Lawson Room

**Wednesday, February 28, 11 a.m., “Elder Care Legal Issues: Power of Attorney, Healthcare Decisions, Planning Medicaid, Nursing Homes.”** Matt Haralson, Attorney with Kizer & Black, will offer information on legal issues encountered in later life. While not covering wills and trusts in this presentation (He did that in September, 2017), he will discuss how to make other decisions such as powers of attorney, healthcare decision-making, planning for Medicaid and planning for nursing homes. The presentation will be in the Sharon Lawson Meeting Room of the library.

**Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., “TNInventcon,” by the Tennessee Inventors Association.** This inaugural festival, hosted by the library, is open to the public, but specifically for people who are inventors, who would like to be inventors, or for people who offer services or products to support inventors. There will be four featured speakers who will discuss services important to inventors. There will be at least 15 exhibitors with services or products relevant for inventors.

- 11 a.m., “Protecting and Patenting Your Invention,” by Tom Kulaga, President, Kulaga Law office, PLLC., in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- 12 noon, “Marketing for Inventors,” by Cliff Caudill, Chairman, Greater Knoxville, SCORE, in the Sharon Lawson Room.
1 p.m., “Business for Inventors,” by Bruce Hayes, Director, Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) in the Sharon Lawson Room

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., “Exhibits and Exhibitors,” in the Meeting Room Hallway.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 8, 9 & 10, “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, March 8, 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, March 9 & 10, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., “Pre-Owned Book Sale – Open to the Public” in the Library Lower Level.

Thursday, March 8, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., “Voter Registration.” The League of Women Voters, coordinated by Glenda Eastridge, will have voter registration forms available for anyone who would like to register to vote in upcoming elections. The LWV volunteers will have a table in the Entry Rotunda of the library.

Saturday, March 17, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (3rd Saturday of every other month) “Appalachian Reads.” This book group, open to anyone, reads and discusses works of Southern Appalachian authors. Lee Smith’s Fair and Tender Ladies will be the topic of this meeting, facilitated by Sarah Pirkle. Sponsored by Blount County Friends of the Library, meetings will be held the third Saturday of every other month in Dorothy Herron Room A.

RECURRING EVENTS:

- 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! D&D players, coordinated by Randy Royse, 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, February 15, 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.
• Tuesday, February 20, 5:30 p.m. (3rd Tuesday of each month), “Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting,” in the Board Room of the library.

Tennessee R.E.A.D.S. HELP!
If you have an e-reader, tablet or other device, you may check out e-books, audiobooks and 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 $10 Registration Required:
Fridays, March 2, 9, 16 & 23, 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 40 Google Lunch and Learn classes is being offered to the public during 2018. Online registration is required as is a $10 registration fee which includes a box lunch from the library’s Bookmark Café. Lunch is not optional, and 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.
- **March 2, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., “Essentials of Google Drive”** – in the Learning Lab. [Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included)

Have you wondered how to seamlessly create, back-up and access your files from anywhere? Discover how to use Google Drive, a powerful cloud-based file storage and office suite software. In this hands-on workshop, participants will create a Google account, navigate the Google Drive interface, organize, sync, locate, and share Drive files, and backup files to the cloud. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices with files that they wish to add to their personal Google Drive.

- **March 9, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., “Tips and Tools to Optimize Your Google Drive”**

[Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included) – in the Learning Lab

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, Google Drive can be optimized 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.

- **March 16, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., “Getting Started with Gmail”**

[Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included) – in the Learning Lab

Tired of wasting time in email and not having what you need at your fingertips? Join us in this workshop to master the basics of Gmail, including organizing and working with your inbox, searching, labeling, and filtering emails, and more. Discover how to manage the inbox so that you can be more productive in less time.

- **March 23, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., “Advanced Tips and Tricks for Gmail”**

[Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included) - in the Learning Lab.

Build on your knowledge of Gmail to get even more out of Google’s popular email platform. Discover advanced features that allow you to maximize your productivity, such as checking different email accounts with Gmail, muting conversations, undoing email sends, integrating Gmail with other Google platforms, and more.

**Microsoft Computer Courses: Registration Required**

Free computer classes are offered in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint (2016), Email and Social Media. Receive an opportunity to gain a nationally recognized certificate from Northstar Digital Literacy. Seeking employment? Receive résumé help, online job searches, online applications, practice interview skills or create and update LinkedIn account. 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 (Reference 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: 

*The free computer courses are offered through a partnership between the Blount County Public Library and the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and made possible by generous funding from the ARCONIC Foundation.*

**Résumé Help Sessions** – Résumé help sessions are designed to give one-on-one help to job seekers in need of a new or improved résumé, conduct online job searches, apply online and create or update a LinkedIn account. Instructors will be available to help individuals design or update a résumé using current formatting trends. A flash drive with various résumé templates will be provided to participants. Participants should bring job history, including employment addresses, phone numbers, dates of employment, list of responsibilities, and salary going back ten years. A reference list can also be completed during a session; please bring reference names and contact information, including address, phone number, and email address.

Sessions run from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays of the designated month in the Learning Lab (*with the exception* of Wednesday, February 21 the location will be in Dorothy Herron Room B). More than one session may be needed to complete a résumé and reference list. Please register at the Reference Desk. For more information on the program, call 865-982-0981 ext. 4 or 865-273-1428.

*Bring your job history with dates.*

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Dates:** *This is a single session.*

**Session 2:** Mondays, February 5, 12 & 26, 2018

*Wednesday, February 21, 2018

**Session 3:** Mondays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2018

**Session 4:** Mondays, April 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2018

**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 2:** Monday, February 5 and Wednesday, February 7, 2018

**Session 3:** Monday, March 5 and Wednesday, March 7, 2018

**Session 4:** Monday, April 2 and Wednesday, April 4, 2018

**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 2:** Monday, February 12 and Wednesday, February 14, 2018

**Session 3:** Monday, March 12 and Wednesday, March 14, 2018

**Session 4:** Monday, April 9 and Wednesday, April 11, 2018

**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 2:** Wednesday, February 21 and Friday, February 23, 2018

**Session 3:** Monday, March 19 and Wednesday, March 21, 2018

**Session 4:** Monday, April 16 and Wednesday, April 18, 2018

**Email How-to’s** - An Intro to Email 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 single session class. Please bring a USB Drive.

**Session 2:** Monday, February 26, 2018

**Session 3:** Monday, March 26, 2018

**Session 4:** Monday, April 23, 2018

**Social Media for Job Seekers** – An introduction to social media know-how for job seekers will explore how to best manage social media accounts for work. The class includes managing privacy settings, sharing and publishing content, distinguishing between public and private spaces online, and creating a social media account using LinkedIn, Facebook, or Twitter.

**Time:** 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.

**Dates:** This is a single class session. Please bring a USB Drive.

**Session 2:** Wednesday, February 28, 2018

**Session 3:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018

**Session 4:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018
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? Check back for future dates and times to be announced to gain training and real-world, hands-on manufacturing experience with the possibility of getting hired permanently. Spaces are limited and registration is required.

The program consists of three components:

1) 3 weeks of Workforce Readiness Training
   - 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) 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) 2 half-days of Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation
   - Participants then return for Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation. Participants will receive a $40 stipend upon completion of this component.

Participants must complete all three components.

TEEN PROGRAMS – Phone (865) 273-1414:

Special Programs:

- Saturday, February 3 and February 24, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Teen Advisory Board Interest Meeting.” 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. This meeting takes place in Dorothy Herron Room A.

- Saturday, February 10, 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.

- **Monday, February 19,** “Library Closed in Honor of Presidents’ Day.”

**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.
- **Sundays, February 4 and February 18, 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. Follow the library on Facebook for dates for the Teen Writers Group.
- **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 p.m., “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! D&D players, coordinated by Randy Royse, meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).
- **Saturday, February 10, 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.

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS:** Phone: (865) 273-1414

**Special Programs for Children (Preschool through Tween)**

- **Monday, February 19,** “Library Closed in Honor of Presidents’ Day.”
- **Saturday, March 3, 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m., “LEGO Building Contest.”** Ages 6-11. Bring
your best creation to the Children’s Library for judging throughout the day as you enjoy TNInventcon. You must deliver entries before 10:30 a.m. and pick them up by 4 p.m. Prizes will be awarded at 2 p.m., in categories including Fan Favorite, Funniest and Best in Show. Entries must be on a base (LEGO, wood, cardboard, etc.) and no more than 24 inches by 24 inches in size. Please do not bring in builds made from kits or packaged sets. See complete rules in the Children’s Library after Feb. 5. Deliver entries – and vote on winners! – in the Children’s Library.

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.

- 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 Library.
  - Friday, February 2 and March 2, 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.

- 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 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 Library.

- Saturday, February 24, 10:30 a.m., “Family Storytime: Music.” Bring the whole family out for stories, songs, movement and activities that are fun for all ages, with a musical twist. The fun also helps encourage important early literacy skills! This event takes place in the
Children’s Library.

- **Tuesday, February 27, 6 p.m., “Sensory Story Time: Music.”** 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 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:**

February 1 to 28:
- **“Knoxville Watercolor Society” Art Exhibit**, coordinated by Emilia Pickett, will be on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café and in two Mid-Gallery display cases near the Magazine Shelves in the Main Gallery of the library
- **“NAACP, Alcoa and Blount County Branch” Exhibit by Robert McClelland**, in one vertical display case in the nook of the wall at the end of the Circulation Check-In Desk of Main Gallery.
- **“Heritage High School Student Art” Exhibit**, coordinated by Rebecca Shiflett Parker, on the Art Panels at the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery.
- **“Love and Jane Austen” Exhibit** by Sheila Pennycuff and Lisa McDaniel-Tipton on the Magazine Counters in the Main Gallery.
- **“Jane Austen and Tea” Exhibit** by Sheila Pennycuff and Lisa McDaniel-Tipton in one vertical display case near the Audio Visual (AV) area in the Main Gallery.
- **“TNInventcon” Exhibit** by the Tennessee Inventors Association in the square pedestal display case in the Entry Rotunda of the library.
- **“Summer Camps at Great Smoky Mountain Institute at Tremont” Exhibit**, coordinated by Allison Kutcher, in the square pedestal display case near the Audio Visual (AV) area in the Main Gallery.
- **“Cherokee Trail of Tears”** by Linda Marcus in the Genealogy display case at Temporary Books Shelves.
- **“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.
- **“Winter Birds”** Exhibit, by Information Services, located in the Reference Area of the library.
- **“Young Adult Display, Check it Out!”** by Information Services, in the Teen Central area of the library.
- **“Blind Date with a Book”** 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.
- Community Information about Nonprofit Services or Fine Arts Events (flyers and brochures) is available for the public on the Community Information wall at the Reference area of the library. If interested in displaying materials, contact Kathleen Christy at the Reference Department or make an appointment to see her at the library.

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,” Pinterest 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).