

Blaisdell Memorial Library

Hours:

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10am - 5pm

Wednesday: 10am - 8pm

Thursday: 10am - 8pm

Friday: 10am - 2pm

Saturday: 10am - 2pm

We are closed for some holiday weekends.

April Showers Bring...

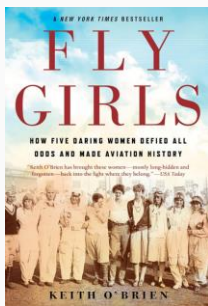
Big things are blooming at Blaisdell Memorial Library

We're midway through May and are now only six weeks out from 2024's Summer Reading Program. Though things are quiet on the event front, the library is focusing on spring cleaning, changing things up, and filling our shelves with brand new books in preparation for June.

Please note that the library will be closed on Wednesday, June 19th.

The full monthly calendar for May is now available online and in the library.

Book Groups



Afternoon Book Group: *Thursday, June 6th -- 1:30pm*

Fly Girls by Keith O'Brien

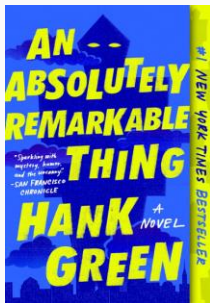


Cookbook Group: *Thursday, June 13th -- 6pm*

Special Presentation: How to Maximize Your Garden with

Linh Aven of Dandelion Forest Farm

Icon made by [Good Ware](https://www.flaticon.com) from www.flaticon.com



Evening Book Group: *Wednesday, May 22nd -- 6:30pm*

An Absolutely Remarkable Thing by Hank Green

Children's Programs

Our current children's programming session began on April 30th, and will continue until June 8th. This is the final regular session of spring, and after it ends there will be a three week gap before BML's Summer Reading Program begins! Learn more about Summer Reading 2024 below!

Story hours are drop-in and open to all ages: Lap-sit and pre-school age children are both welcome. Sign-ups are required for STEAM and Lego + Club.

Due to high interest and limited space, sign-ups for Lego + and STEAM Club use a lottery system. Priority is first given to participants on the waiting list from the last session.

- **Story Hour with Miss Julie and Miss Robin:** *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays -- 10am*
- **STEAM Club (Grades 3 - 6):** *Tuesdays -- 3pm*
- **LEGO+ Club (Grades K - 2):** *Thursdays -- 3pm*
- **Weekend Story Hour:** *Every 2nd Saturday, June 8th -- 10am*

Youth Programs

The BYG (*Blaisdell Youth Group*) is a club for kids of middle school age to get together, make friends, discuss books, and participate in fun activities, including gaming, book clubs, crafts, and more! New members are always welcome and no registration is required--you can drop in at any time or even bring a friend.

- **BYG Tabletop Games:** *Saturday, June 1st -- 10am*
- **BYG Meeting:** *Wednesday, June 12th -- 6pm*

Starting at the end of June, the BYG tabletop group will be exploring new options for games and worlds! New members welcome!

Regular Adult Programming

- **Game n' Gab:** *Tuesday, June 4th -- 1pm*

Join us for games, chat, snacks, and friendly competition while relaxing in the library.

- **Community Coffee Hour:** *Every Wednesday -- 10am*

Join us every Wednesday morning for bite-sized discussions with free coffee and snacks. Each week comes with a short presentation by members of the community, the town, or the library that can explore local perspectives, have some fun, and keep you up to date on the latest Nottingham events. Interested in holding your own presentation? Reach out to the library staff about setting a topic and scheduling a date!

Upcoming Coffee Hour Topics:

- **May 22:** Poison Ivy Removal with Helaine Hughes of Poison Ivy Removal Company
- **May 29:** How Adaptations Reflect the Times with Alex Conroy
- **June 5:** A Birding Trip to the Galapagos with Kathryn Frieden
- **June 12:** Rocky Cove Cottages with Peter White

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- **Mahjong Club:** Every Wednesday -- 11:30am

Mahjong is a Chinese game of collecting tiles and gaining points played with four people, similar to the card game Rummy! Whether you're a beginner interested in learning the rules or an intermediate player looking for new friends, all are welcome to BML's weekly Mahjong club gathering.

Library Events

- **Cookbook Club: How to Maximize Your Garden:** *Thursday, June 13th -- 6pm*

Gardening at home is a wonderful way to get outside, connect with nature and grow your own food. In this program, learn techniques and tips to help you get the most out of your personal garden! This program is hosted by Linh Aven of [Dandelion Forest Farm](#).

Upcoming at the Library

Summer Reading is coming to Blaisdell Memorial Library!

BML's annual summer reading program begins on the final week of June! This year's theme is "Adventure Begins at Your Library" and we've got a ton of adventures and excitement for everyone from kids to seniors in store.

Kids and families can look forward to our regular summer story hours, as well as Miss Julie's popular *Lunch Bunch* for children grades K through 2 and *Summer STEAM* for children grades 3+. Meanwhile, kids of all ages, including teens, can get ready to flex their decorating skills in this year's *Cupcake Design Challenge*. Teens and pre-teens are invited to come check out the *Blaisdell Youth Group* and see what's it all about, and in particular come by for the *Future of Tabletop Games at BML* if they want to get into roleplaying games!

Adults aren't left out of the fun with a full stock of Community Coffee Hour topics to get your brain buzzing with new activities and adventures to embark upon. We've got visits from the NH Department of Fish and Game, NH Humanities To-Go, and activities in partnership with Nottingham Parks and Rec and the Nottingham Historical Society!

Of course, everyone of all ages is invited to our kick-off event, a visit from *Wildlife Encounters* on Thursday, June 27th... and a week of outdoors excitement with *Disc Golf at Marston Field* starting from June 24th!

All that, plus a chance to patrons of all age to explore new books and earn some prizes... and BML is ramping up for our biggest summer adventure to date! More information including a complete schedule and calendars will be available in the June newsletter.

A Library of Things

If you've visited the library in the past few weeks, you've noticed some big

changes going on. We've shifted our reference books to be near the NH Local collection, consolidated DVDs and audiobooks and moved the magazines--you can find them around the corner from the lift, near the side door of the library. This dramatic move has freed up a lot of space for BML to expand on a project we have been working on for several years now: our **Library of Things**. We've mentioned the concept in the past without going into detail and with summer approaching, this is the perfect time to elaborate!

A **Library of Things (LOT)** is a collection of everyday objects that can be checked out by patrons, similar to books and other media. It's a natural evolution of the role of libraries, giving patrons access to things they might want to use but not necessarily *purchase* for one reason or another. These collections can include anything from soil testers to GPS systems to ukuleles, all depending on the size of the library and needs of its patrons!

At BML, our LOT includes currently includes the Telescope and the Board Game Collection... but we've also got a CD player, a Nook tablet and a quilting kit full of tools, with more items in the pipeline. That might be a surprise, though, as up until now we haven't had the space to display most of it! Not having room on the shelves meant storing bulky items in the back, limiting the size of the collection and making it hard for patrons to know what was available.

Thus, the reorganization! If you come in today, there's no longer a need to dig through cards to find board games: they're all on the shelf, ready to check out. We've got plenty more free space, too, meaning we can begin to get our Library of Things out of the back and up front and center!

It's an exciting milestone, and one we've been working towards for a long time. We want to keep expanding our collection and offer more things to use, both in everyday life and special occasions. And if you'd like to see something in the library of things, don't hesitate to reach out. The library exists for our patrons, so we want you to be excited too... and with the effort it took to empty those shelves, we have *got* to make the most of them!

Jordan Reed

Circulation and Tech Services
