

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.

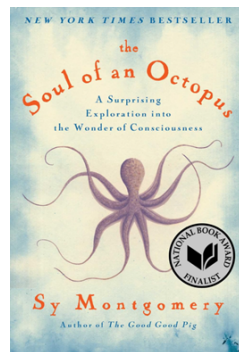
Autumn Means New Beginnings

Goodbye to summer and hello to a slate of new programs sure to keep you excited!

After the rousing success of this year's Summer Reading Program, we're excited to be launching several new regular programs for adults (and children!) to try, starting September. We hope that these will offer new chances to explore and enjoy what the library can do for you!

Calendars for September are now available online and in the library.

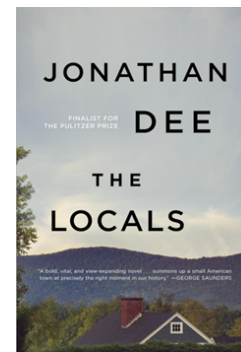
Book Groups



Afternoon Book Group:

Thursday, October 2nd -- 1:30pm

The Soul of an Octopus
by Sy Montgomery



Evening Book Group:

Wed, September 24th -- 6:30pm

The Locals
by Jonathan Dee

Children's Programs

The first fall session of programming will have a staggered start. Our story hours and other morning programs began **September 2nd**. Our afterschool programs begin **September 9th**. Both will run for six weeks until **October 17th**.

Story hours & Backyard Bookworms are drop-in and open to all ages. Sign-ups are required for STEAM and Lego + Club.

The Backyard Bookworms is a new addition to our weekly programs, a combined story and playtime focused on getting outside and learning in the library's backyard! This activity will be held rain or shine, so be sure to dress appropriately for the days weather.

- **Story Hour with Miss Julie and Miss Robin:** *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays -- 10am*
 - **NEW! Backyard Bookworms:** *Tuesdays & every 2nd Saturday-- 1pm*
 - **LEGO+ Club (Grades K - 2):** *Tuesdays -- 2:45pm*
 - **STEAM Club (Grades 3 - 6):** *Thursdays -- 2:45pm*
 - **Weekend Story Hour:** *Every 2nd Saturday, Saturday 13th -- 10am*
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- **Homeschool Meetup:** *Wednesday, September 17th -- 1pm*

Calling all homeschool families! Join us at BML to socialize, discuss, and learn at the library! All ages are welcome. This month, families will be burying **Time Capsules**. Bring your favorite small trinkets and keepsakes to send to the future!

Youth Programs

- **BYG:** *Saturday, 9/20 at 10am & Wednesday, October 1st at 6pm*

The BYG (*Blaisdell Youth Group*) is a club for teens in middle and early high school to get together and participate in fun activities, including gaming, book clubs, crafts, and more! New members are always welcome!

Meetings alternate between regular sessions and tabletop game sessions.

*Please note that there will be no **Middle School Club** for the 9/2 - 10/17 programming session. It will return in the following session.*

Regular Adult Programming

- **Game n' Gab:** *Tuesday, October 7th -- 1pm*

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

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

Join us every Wednesday morning for bite-sized activities and discussions with free coffee and snacks. Each week has something new! Want to present? Reach out to the library staff about a subject and date!

- **September 10:** Mah-Jongg Special with Julie K
 - **September 17:** BML at Parks and Rec - Two Factor Authentication
 - **September 24:** Literary Discussion Topic with Alex Conroy
 - **October 1:** Folding Origami with Jordan Reed
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- **Mah-jongg Club:** *Every Wednesday -- 11:30am*

Mah-jongg is a Chinese game of collecting tiles and gaining points played with four people. Whether you're a beginner or an intermediate player, all are welcome to BML's weekly Mah-jongg club gathering!

- **NEW! 11 O' Craft:** *Every 2nd Wednesday, September 10th -- 11am*

Celebrating the enthusiasm from our summer activities, 11 O' Craft is a new opportunity for adult crafters of all ages! Join in to try unique activities brought to you by library staff! The first craft will be **exploring botanical art**.

- **NEW! Casual Critics:** *Every 2nd Thursday, September 11th -- 5pm*

Are you a film buff? Join the Casual Critics! Each month, a new movie is chosen. Stream it at home or pick up a copy from the library, watch, and join the meetings to discuss! This month's movie is [*Apollo 13 \(rated PG\)*](#).

- **NEW! Homesteaders' Hub:** *Every 3rd Thursday, September 25th -- 4:30pm*

Homesteaders and those interested in building their skills are invited to join the Hub! Share your knowledge, trade tips, and learn about traditional skills, self-sufficiency, and sustainable living.

Upcoming at the Library

Mark your calendars for holiday fun... **Blaisdell's Halloween Festival** will be returning in the final week of October! We're looking to step things up with more fun on the trails, more special activities, and entertainment for the whole family, so look forward to more information in the next newsletter!

The **Friends of the Library book sale** is coming up in early October, and donations will be opening at the end of September. More information will be sent out over the coming weeks, but we'd ask that all patrons hold off on donations until that point.

BML still has many patron mini-canvases from Arts and Music Week. If you brought in a painting, we encourage you to pick it up on your next visit.

With the return of our regular programs, the library is currently looking for donations of some craft supplies for our children's activities. If any patrons have white watercolor paper that they would be interested in donating, please contact the library.

Finally, though summer vacation is over, there's still plenty of opportunity for fun with the library museum passes! If you're interested in an outing, please note that **September** is the final full month of operation for [Bedrock Gardens](#), which will be closing for the season in mid-October.

What a Season!

Phew! July is always the busiest month here at the library, but normally we see things wind down through August. Much to our delight, though, we've continued to see strong numbers with plenty of visitors all month long!

Last month, I thanked our patrons for making our summer great... this month, I wanted to share some numbers to really emphasize how incredible this July has been.

Starting with **circulation**: just between the start of July and our finale on August 1st, our patrons checked out **2,366 books** (plus another **98 audiobooks!**) You also checked out a total of **166 DVDs and Blu-rays** and **15 board games and adventure backpacks!**

Program-wise, we had **58 programs** in five weeks, **34** for kids and families, **24** for adults (a new record!) In those programs, we saw a whopping **874 participants for our children's programs** and a stunning **246 for adult ones!**

As thanks for turning up, we held a total of **30 free raffles**.

Finally, the **Dragon Trading Cards**. As excited as I was to try them out, I wasn't sure if kids would like them. Well, I needn't have worried; we had **90 kids participating**, with more than **25 collecting them all!** With such an enthusiastic response, rest assured that the Reading Dragons will return in 2026 with all new cards to collect.

I knew this summer *felt* special, but looking at the numbers really cemented it for me. It was busy, but it was worth it all. With that said, it's nice to be returning to normal, at least for a little while. We'll kick back into gear in October and December, but for this month?

We've *still* got a lot going on, actually. I daresay, life's more fun this way. Even outside of our bombastic specials, we hope you'll come on by and join us!

Jordan Reed
Library Circulation Supervisor



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