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Schuyler Mansion
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footnotes

March/April 2026

Kristen Roberts, editor/staff writer

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Director

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick

Library board

- Monday March 9 • 6pm
- Monday March 30 • 6pm
Borthwick property presentation
- Monday April 13 • 6pm

Friends board

- Monday April 20 • 6:30pm

Library hours

weekdays 9-9 • Saturdays 10-5
Sundays 12-5

Holiday hours

- April 5 CLOSED: *Easter*

Contact us

- 518-439-9314
- information@
bethlehempubliclibrary.org
- trustees@
bethlehempubliclibrary.org

Visit our website

bethlehempubliclibrary.org

The footnotes newsletter is published six times a year and mailed to all households in the Bethlehem Central School District.

All ages

Inclusive Gaming

Monday March 16 • 10am
Monday April 27 • 10am

This is an inclusive space for people, regardless of ability or age, to play games with or nearby others. The most important part of gaming is coming together and having fun.

Salt Painting

Tuesday March 17 • 3pm

All ages are invited to learn how to paint with salt using watercolors and glue. Make your very own scene, pattern or whatever your imagination can dream up.

Competitive Puzzling S

Saturday March 21 • 2:30pm

Work solo or in a group to see who can solve their 500-piece puzzle fastest to become the reigning library puzzle champion.

A Little Sunday Music: Hungrytown

Sunday March 22 • 2pm

The artistic collaboration of Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson blends traditional folk with rich harmonies and intricate instrumentation. Sponsored by the Friends of Bethlehem Public Library.

Competitive Puzzling: Bonus Edition S

Saturday April 25 • 2:30pm

We have some extra puzzles, and we don't want to let them go to waste. Join us for a special bonus round of competitive puzzling.

A Little Sunday Music: Jazz Up Spring

Sunday April 26 • 2pm

Enjoy a performance by the Jazz It Up Players, consisting of Eileen Egan Mack on vocals, Wayne Hawkins on piano, Ben Rau on drums and Pete Toigo on bass. Sponsored by the Friends of Bethlehem Public Library.

Adults

One-on-One Tech Help S

Monday March 2 • 5:30pm, 6:30pm OR 7:30pm
Tuesday March 10 • 10am OR 11am
Wednesday March 18 • 10am OR 11am
Tuesday March 24 • 10am OR 11am
Monday March 30 • 5:30pm, 6:30pm OR 7:30pm
Thursday April 9 • 2pm OR 3pm
Thursday April 16 • 10am OR 11am
Wednesday April 22 • 2pm OR 3pm
Tuesday April 28 • 10am OR 11am

Having tech trouble with your cell phone, computer, or tablet? We can provide one-on-one assistance to help work through your tech challenges.

Spanish Conversation Club

Wednesday March 4 • 3:30pm
Wednesday March 18 • 3:30pm
Wednesday April 1 • 3:30pm
Wednesday April 15 • 3:30pm

Join us to practice speaking Spanish. Whether you are just starting out or a fluent speaker, all are welcome.

continued

[sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com](https://bethlehem.librarycalendar.com) | **V**: program is virtual

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Adults *(continued)*

French Conversation Club

Thursday March 5 • 3:30pm

Thursday March 19 • 3:30pm

Thursday April 2 • 3:30pm

Thursday April 16 • 3:30pm

Whether French is your first language or you are an enthusiastic beginner, come practice speaking French at the library.

Listen and Learn: The Women of Schuyler Mansion

Friday March 6 • 1pm

Learn what it was like growing up as a Schuyler with an in-depth look at the history of the Schuyler sisters and the life of their mother, Catharine. This talk also explores the experiences of women enslaved by the Schuylers, as well as an inside peek at the process of uncovering their untold stories.

Spice Sharing: Caraway **S**

Monday March 9 • 7pm

Prior to the program, sign up to pick up a sample packet of the spice along with a few recipes that feature it. Then meet to discuss your experience and share recipes.

Tea 101 **S**

Thursday March 12 • 6pm

Representatives from Short & Stout Tea Company will discuss the difference between tea and tisanes, types of tea, brewing techniques and health benefits. A tasting of four major types of tea will be provided.

Needle Felting: Mini Flower Wreath **S**

Friday March 13 • 1pm

*Get ready for spring by making a 6-inch wreath adorned with needle-felted flowers. Felting is a beginner-friendly craft, but be mindful that needle felting involves sharp needles used to stab wool. **Teens 14 and older welcome!***

Mahjong **S**

Tuesday March 17 • 6pm

Monday April 13 • 2:30pm

Whether you are an experienced player looking for a group, or a beginner who wants to learn how to play — all are welcome!

Movie & Make: "The Grand Budapest Hotel"

Thursday March 19 • 6:30pm

Join us for a relaxing evening at the library as we watch Wes Anderson's whimsical film while doing crafts inspired by the vibrant colors and quirky style of the movie.

Listen and Learn: Spring into Spring

Friday March 20 • 1pm

Kevin Paulsen is bringing his expertise from Sunnyview Delmar to help with proper gardening tips, better ways to walk on uneven ground, good lifting techniques and getting back to outdoor activities.

James Selkirk and Wartime Community **S**

Tuesday March 24 • 7pm

*Learn about the close connections formed between James Selkirk and the officers and enlisted men with whom he served during the War of Independence. This is part of a series of historical talks presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. **All ages welcome!***

In Stitches

Wednesday March 25 • 6pm

Wednesday April 29 • 6pm

Knitters, crocheters and fiber artists of all experience levels are welcome.

Instruction will not be available but experienced crafters may be able to talk you through the process and recommend resources.

continued



Tea 101 **S**

March 12

Book Discussions

Day Books

Mondays at 1:30pm

March 2

Horse by Geraldine Brooks

April 6

Martyr! by Kaveh Akbar

The Short Stack Book Club

Thursday at 6:30pm

March 5

The Hounding by Xenobe Purvis

April 2

Automatic Noodle by Annalee Newitz

Dark Corners Book Group

Wednesdays at 7pm

March 18

Shutter by Ramona Emerson

April 15

Strange Pictures by Uketsu

New members welcome. Copies are available at the information desk. Audio, large print and downloadable copies may be available.

S sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com | **V**: program is virtual

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March/April 2026

Adults *(continued)*

Upcoming author talks

Get to know some of your favorite authors and enjoy Q&A opportunities through virtual author talks available exclusively to Bethlehem cardholders. Visit libraryc.org/bethlehempubliclibrary for more information, to register for upcoming talks or to view past discussions.

Coming up in March/April:

March 11 • 2pm: Michelle Carr, Sleep expert and author of "Nightmare Obscura"

March 12 • 7pm: Kate Quinn, Bestselling author of "The Alice Network" and "The Rose Code"

March 24 • 2pm: Shoshana Walter and Barbara Kingsolver, Bestselling authors discussing the opioid crisis

April 2 • 2pm: Valerie Neal, Curator emerita in the Department of Space History at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum

April 14 • 7pm: Brad Taylor, New York Times bestselling author of 18 thrillers

April 16 • 2pm: Alex Hutchinson, Science journalist and award-winning author of non-fiction



Backyard Beekeeping March 26

Backyard Beekeeping

Thursday March 26 • 6pm

Ever wondered what all the buzz is about? Cindy Elsenbeck from the Southern Adirondack Beekeepers Association will talk about what it takes to keep bees happy, the gear you'll need (and what it'll cost), and why your garden will thank you.

Embroidered Spring Pins and Brooches

Friday March 27 • 2:30pm

Enjoy a fun afternoon of creating beautiful hand-embroidered pins and brooches in spring motifs. New to embroidery? This craft is suitable for beginners.

Listen and Learn: Gardening Basics 101

Friday April 3 • 1pm

This basic gardening presentation is intended for beginners or for those who have encountered difficulties in their garden. Site selection, garden preferences, sunlight, terminology, soil, fertilizers, hardiness zones, and reading seed packets are among the topics introduced. Both flower and vegetable gardening will be addressed.

Adult Board Games

Tuesday April 7 • 5:30pm

Board games have come a long way from Candy Land and Chutes & Ladders. Come chat about games past and play new games with others. We will have several games to choose from or you may bring your own.

Tea in History

Thursday April 16 • 6pm

Tea is the second most popular beverage in the world (only second to water). Its origin dates back 5,000 years and encompasses the world. A representative from Short & Stout will discuss the history of tea. A tasting of three teas with historical context will be provided.

Listen and Learn: Duo Envol

Friday April 17 • 1pm

Melanie Chirignan on flute and Laura Melnicoff on cello will play classics like Bach and Mendelssohn, as well as new commissions, their own arrangements of fabulous duets and a roster of works by women.

Understanding File Structure on your Windows Computer

Monday April 20 • 7pm

Do you have trouble understanding where files go when you download them? Is it difficult to find files you saved to your computer? Join us for a course on the bare basics of file structure on your Windows computer.

A Short History of the Bicycle

Tuesday April 21 • 7pm

Trace the history of bicycles from 1815 to 1900, including the draisine, the velocipede, the boneshaker, the high wheel, and the safety bicycle. We'll discuss the social changes bicycles brought about for both men and women. This is part of a series of historical talks presented through a partnership with the Town of Bethlehem Historical Association. All ages welcome!

Indie Lens Pop Up: "The Librarians"

Wednesday April 22 • 6:30pm

Join us as we celebrate National Library Week with a special screening of the new PBS documentary "The Librarians," which spotlights librarians across the U.S. examining how book review policies are shaping their communities.

Beginning Genealogy at the Library

Thursday April 23 • 3pm

Come learn how to use resources at the library to begin your genealogy journey. Participants are welcome to bring phones, tablets or laptops to use during the program.

continued

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Adults *(continued)*

Native Plants in the Landscape

Thursday April 23 • 7pm

Join us for an engaging presentation with Cornell Cooperative Extension's Carole Henry and discover why native plants are important to our ecosystem and how to incorporate them into your home landscape.

Community Paint Night

Tuesday April 28 • 7pm

Join us for painting at the library. We will have painting supplies, video instructions and beverages. **Teens welcome!**

Book Bedazzling

Thursday April 30 • 6pm

Give your favorite read a sparkling makeover at a fun, creative session where you'll decorate book covers with tiny gems. Bring a favorite book to bedazzle (preferably small or paperback size).

Tweens and teens

Wednesday Night Whatsit

Wednesday March 4 • 6pm

Wednesday April 1 • 6pm

Whatsit? It's what you make it! We'll have the Nintendo Switch with games on the big screen, snacks and drinks, along with tables for games, chatting or hanging out with friends. **For ages 12-18.**

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Afternoon

Friday March 6 • 3:30pm

Friday March 20 • 3:30pm

Friday April 3 • 3:30pm

Friday April 17 • 2:30pm

Join your friends to play Super Smash Bros. Ultimate on the Nintendo Switch!

For grades 6-12.

Teen DIY: Crystal Rain Cloud Mobile

Friday March 13 • 3:30pm

Bring a sparkle to a rainy day with these crystal rain cloud mobiles. **For grades 6-12.**

Teen DIY: Tetris Magnets

Monday March 16 • 3pm

Create your own magnet homage to a video game classic, and when you're done you can stick around to play another classic: Mario Kart 8 Deluxe. **For grade 6-12.**

Teen Book Club: "Willowweep Manor"

Monday March 30 • 4pm

Read the graphic novel "The Dire Days of Willowweep Manor" by Shaenon Garrity and Christopher Baldwin (Free Read It Forward copies available at the Children's Place Desk while supplies last), then stop by for a group discussion. **For ages 12-18.**

3D Bubble Painting

Wednesday April 8 • 2pm

Use styrofoam domes to create designs on canvas, and then paint them. **For grades 6-12.**

Bubble Tea Workshop for Teens

Thursday April 9 • 6pm

Short and Stout Tea Company will be here to teach us all about bubble tea and how to prepare two types: milk tea and fresh tea. A tasting is included. **For ages 12-18.**



**Community
Paint Night** 
April 28



Crystal Rain Cloud 
March 13

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March/April 2026



MiSci Science Solutions March 10

Creation Station

Available 9:30am-8:30pm
in the Children's Place

March 2-8

April 6-12

All supplies provided!



Meteorite or Meteor-wrong April 10

Kids and families

Paws to Read

Monday March 9 • 4pm

Monday March 23 • 4pm

Monday April 6 • 4pm

Monday April 20 • 4pm

*Come to the library and practice reading skills with a registered therapy dog who will listen calmly and quietly. **For grades K-5.***

Chess Club

Monday March 9 • 5:30pm

Monday March 23 • 5:30pm

Monday April 13 • 5:30pm

Monday April 27 • 5:30pm

*Try your hand at chess with peers or teen volunteers. All experience levels welcome. **For grades K-5.***

Curiosity Club: MiSci Science Solutions

Tuesday March 10 • 4pm

*Did you know that Silly Putty was accidentally developed by a General Electric engineer? Bounce into the world of chemistry by developing a bouncy ball using different ratios of ingredients with educators from MiSci Museum. **For ages 6-11.***

Let Your Yoga Dance

Wednesday March 11 • 4:15pm

Wednesday April 8 • 11am

*Join us for a combination of yoga and free style dance led by Ania LaRose. All abilities welcome. Registration is recommended but not required. **For ages 6-11.***

Kids Page-to-Screen Book Club: "Matilda"

Monday April 6 • 2pm

*Read the book (copies at the library) come to the library to watch the movie and then join in the group discussion. **For ages 6-11.***

Be Internet Awesome: Digital Literacy and Safety for Kids

Tuesday April 7 • 10am

Friday April 10 • 2pm

*This event aims to empower kids to be safe, confident explorers of the online world through informative activities and resources, as well as giveaways and prizes. Sponsored by Highlights and Google. **For ages 6-11 with caregiver.***

Meet the Author of the American Girl Rebecca Rubin Series

Tuesday April 7 • 1pm

*Step back in time to 1914 New York City with Jacquelin Dembar Greene, the author of the Rebecca Rubin American Girl series. We will learn how this character was created and have snacks, as well as an opportunity to ask questions. **Recommended for grades 2 and up.***

Meteorite or Meteor-wrong

Friday April 10 • 11am

*Join Dr. Mindy Townsend as we learn all about meteorites and play a game called Meteorite or Meteor-wrong. **For ages 9 and up.***

Curiosity Club: Earth Day Paint and Plant

Tuesday April 14 • 4pm

*Celebrate Earth Day by painting a flower pot, then fill it with soil and seeds. Wondering what your plant will taste like? We have samples! **For ages 6-11.***

Library Backstage Pass

Saturday April 18 • 2pm

*Kick off Library Week by learning what library workers do "Behind the Scenes." You'll sort a book cart, choose a book for story time, find out what happens to books when you put them in "Bookie" and more. **For ages 6-11.***

 sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com |  program is virtual

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Story times and more

Tiny Tots

Tuesdays March 3-April 28 • 10am*

Stories, songs and fingerplays. **For children up to 35 months with caregiver.**

*except April 7

Music and Movement

Tuesdays March 3-April 28 • 11am*

Thursdays March 5-April 30 • 10am*

Songs, dancing, learning and fun. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** *except April 7 and 9

Family Play Time

Wednesdays March 4-April 29 • 11am*

Monday March 30 • 10am

Monday April 13 • 10am

Free play and socialization with a variety of toys. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.**

*except April 8

Family Story Time

Wednesdays March 4-April 29 • 10am*

Stories, songs and more. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** *except April 8

Preschool Story Time

Thursdays March 5-April 30 • 11am*

Join us for stories, learning and fun. **For ages 2-6 with caregiver.** *except April 9

Saturday Story Time

Saturdays March 7-April 25 • 11am*

Stories, songs and more. **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.** *except March 14

Story Time with Shannon the Irish Dancer

Friday March 13 • 10am

Join Shannon the Irish Dancer for stories, songs and fun! **For ages 0-6 with caregiver.**

Bethlehem Early Readers Club

Saturday March 14 • 11am

Listen to stories and songs, then snack and socialize while caregivers discuss books and reading habits. Children will get a book to keep. **For ages 0-6 and families.**

PJ Story Time

Monday March 16 • 6:30pm

Monday April 6 • 6:30pm

Come to an early evening story time in your pajamas! **For ages 0-6 and families.**

Sensory Story Time and Play

Friday March 20 • 10am

Friday April 17 • 10am

Traditional story time components blended with sensory elements for a gentler, more low-key story time. **For ages 2 and up with caregiver.**

Sensory Play Time

Monday March 23 • 10am

Friday April 24 • 10am

Stop by for open-ended play with our various sensory items including Play-Doh, squishy liquid tiles and more. **For ages 2 and up with caregiver.**

Family Spring Story Time and Craft

Friday March 27 • 10am

Come by for a springy, singy story time and craft. **For ages 0-5 with caregiver.**

"One Tiny Turtle" with Barbara Lukas

Thursday April 9 • 10am

Enjoy a story time and craft based on the book "One Tiny Turtle" by Nicola Davies, and bring home a goodie bag with a book to keep. **For ages 0-5 with caregiver.**

Library Play Time

Monday April 20 • 10am

Celebrate Library Week with play time at the library! **For ages 0-5 with caregiver.**



PJ Story Time
March 16 & April 6

Parents, please note:

All abilities are welcome. No signup is required unless noted, but space is limited and story times begin promptly. There may be a limited capacity for each session. When Bethlehem schools are closed or delayed, all story times are cancelled.



Library Play Time
April 20

 sign up: bethlehem.librarycalendar.com |  program is virtual

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What's new?



Get growing with our seed library!

Our seed library returns this spring with a selection of open-pollinated vegetables, herbs and some flowers. Seed packets can be selected in-person at the Information Desk while supplies last. Limit of 5 seed packs per household.

Seed libraries like ours support sustainability and food security by allowing the community free access to the means of growing their own food.

Instrument collection

Vanguard, a group of volunteer supporters of the Albany Symphony Orchestra, is seeking donations of instruments for low-income Capital District children who are unable to cover the rental or purchase fees. Bring items to the Library Green **Saturday April 11 from 11:30am-3pm**. Donated instruments should be gently used and in good condition.



Friends Book Sale

Save the date for the spring Friends of Bethlehem Public Library Book Sale Fundraiser **Saturday May 16**. For sale will be books and other materials that have been removed from the library collection and are in excellent condition. Many are duplicate copies of popular titles, and large print titles will be available.

Pricing is cash-only by suggested donation. Stay tuned for hours and additional details.



Trustee candidate info

Nominating petition forms and informational packets are available at the library or digitally by e-mailing information@bethpl.org for candidates interested in serving on the Bethlehem Public Library Board of Trustees. There is one seat on the 2026 ballot. This seat will be filled for a five-year term.

Petitions will need at least 70 signatures of voters residing in the Bethlehem Central School District. Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk, Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Ave., Delmar by **5pm on April 20**. The election will be held **Tuesday May 19**.

Meet the Candidates

Tuesday May 5 • 6pm
Candidates seeking the open seat on the library's Board of Trustees will introduce themselves and talk about why they are running.



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