



Issue 2024-08

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End of Summer

Hello!

August is a quiet time at the library. Our summer reading programs are over, and school has yet to begin. We are working on creating great programs for the upcoming months, so stay in touch to learn all about them.

To get ready for a new school year, the library is holding a Community Conversation on mental health, with an emphasis on our local youth. See details below and please plan to attend.

Enjoy August,

Laura

Laura Clerkin
Library Director
lclerkin@bethlehemlibrary.org

Library Newsletter Sign Up form

**Community Conversation:
Youth Mental Health -
How do we Help our Kids?**



Thursday, August 22nd
6pm
Community Room

After more than a decade of stability or improvement, the mental health of adolescents plunged in the early 2010s. Rates of depression, anxiety, self-harm, and suicide rose sharply, more than doubling on many measures. Why?

Join this important conversation, facilitated by Ben Woo, a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor at Crossroads Counseling in Franconia, and Laura Clerkin, Bethlehem Library Director. Both have recently read *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness* by Jonathan Haidt. They will summarize the key points of the book as a jumping off point to the discussion.

Adults and youth are encouraged to speak about what they are seeing, how they are feeling, and to share ideas for solutions for our community.

August Programs

Fridays 11:15am **Let's Talk**

A weekly topical discussion for adults. Join us for coffee and conversation.

August topics:

8/9 Favorite Songs from the Past

8/16 Tell a Joke (National Joke Day)

8/23 Your Own Flag

8/30 Immortality? (Frankenstein Day)

Thurs. August 15th Noon AND Sat. August 17th 9am

Readers' Cafe Book Discussion

1984 by George Orwell

Published in 1949, and still relevant today. *1984* was George Orwell's chilling prophecy about the future. And while 1984 has come and gone, his dystopian vision of a government that will do anything to control the narrative is timelier than ever...

Every other Wednesday 4pm **Books of Jewish Interest**

The library is happy to co-sponsor this annual program with Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

August 7th *Yes, I Can Say That* by Judy Gold

August 21st *All About Me!* by Mel Brooks

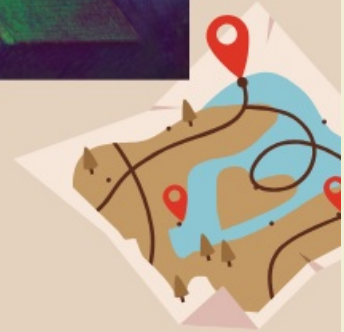
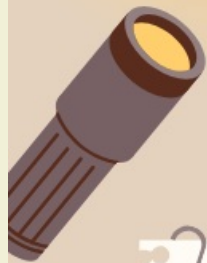
Thursday, August 29th 6pm **Trivia Night**

Monthly trivia night. Individuals or teams, all ages welcome.

Summer Reading Wrap-Up



SUMMER READING RESULTS



Bingo Players = 83

40 Adults
36 Kids
7 Teens



Programs = 17 in 6 Weeks

From author visits, to book discussions, Smokey the Bear, and a magical finale, we had programs for all ages



Program Attendees = 416

Average attendance = 24
Highest attendance = 71 (for Magic Fred finale)



Raffle Prizes Awarded = 57

Donations from local businesses included gift cards, a painting, baseball tickets, fudge, museum memberships, as well as books and games





Fun Times = A Gazillion Smiles

Thanks to everyone for an adventurous summer reading program!



Newsletter Sign Up

Don't miss out! Did someone forward this to you? You can sign up to receive our newsletters: this monthly general newsletter, and/or our new occasional newsletter with information geared toward ages 2-5.

[Click here to sign up!](#)



Bethlehem Public Library

2245 Main Street
Bethlehem, NH 03574
603-869-2409

Library Hours:

Mon/Wed/Thurs 1-7pm
Tues/Fri 10am-4pm
Sat 9am-1pm

CLOSED THURSDAY JULY 4TH

Email Us

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