FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Beth Hall, Public Events Coordinator
                 Phone: 865-982-0981, ext. 1408; Email: bcpl.pr@blounttn.org
Date: December 18, 2020
Release Date: Immediately –

January, February and March 2021 Online Events, Programs and Information at the Blount County Public Library

As we start the new year during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic still with us. Please look at all the library has to offer. **Technology computer classes** are still available with teachings of Google, Microsoft Office and other Social Media classes that will be available through February. All of these classes **will be offered by online registration and via Zoom**. All our **programs and events** will be **held virtually**. We will be having a **monthly Let's Play Dungeons and Dragons(online)** for all ages that you can register for. There will be a **LEGO's Contest in March** for ages 16 and under that will be online and you will be voting. These are just a few of the programs to choose from. The **Seed Library is closed until March 1 but accepts donations all year long** and to learn more about it go here on how to donate seeds. We are still offering **Curbside Pickup Service, Computers by Appointment, Self-Serve Computers**. Meeting Rooms are available just go to the Library's Website for more information.
Our E-Newsletter has now gone Quarterly. Remember to watch the Library's Website Calendar and view the Full Details List of programs that is found under What's Happening and choose Monthly Calendar. Also, watch the Library Facebook page and the Library's YouTube Channel.

THE BOOKMARK CAFÉ: (865) 273-1439   (See BCFOL below The Bookmark Café)

The Bookmark Cafe is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

Go to the library's website to see more about The Bookmark Café!

THE BLOUNT COUNTY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY (See Library 411 below BCFOL)

Want to learn more about what the BCFOL do? Check out the BCFOL Facebook Page or website: www.bcfol.org

- **For Volunteer Info:** Call 865-982-0981 ext. 1451 or email friendsbcpl@hotmail.com Volunteers are needed! To Apply go to https://www.bcfol.org/portfolio/volunteer-application/ or you can pick up an application at the Library's Self-Checkout Desk.
- **The BCFOL will be accepting book donations:** Bring books to the back of the library parking lot and place in designated book drops.
- **BCFOL Book Sale on Ebay Store: Go to** https://www.ebay.com/str/bcfriendsoflibrary to see the many items for sale.
- **Friends Bookstore:** Located in the Blount County Friends of the Library's office near the elevator. Open to anyone as long as the door is open and books are available. If it is unmanned, the prices of the books are either a set price that is listed or marked on the book if it is a special price. Signs are in the bookstore directing you with instructions on how the Friends Bookstore is handled.
- **Book Sale (cancelled):** Everyone is welcome! The sale is held monthly on the **Second Saturday of Each Month** (when the library is open), **BUT due to the numbers rising with COVID-19, Saturday, January 9 and Saturday, February 13 HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.**
  - Check the **Friends of the Library's website and Social Media to see if there will be a Book Sale in March.**
  - **Members Only** (can join at the door or online) from **??**
  - **Open to Public** from **??**
  - No appointment required. **Check in at the Friends of the Library's office** near the elevator and you will be directed to the Library's Lower Level one family at a time.
  - **Masks are required** for your safety and our volunteers.

  We have books, puzzles, DVDs, CDs, and much more! If you would like to become a member of Blount County Friends of the Library, you may join at the Friends' office in the Library or visit our membership form on the BCFOL website. **For more information** go to BCFOL's website.
- **BCFOL Community Market(closed):** This community-based market features local farms and produce, crafters, artisanal bakers and food crafters, plants, and many local vendors. The market will be held on the lawn near the entrance of the Library. **The market is CLOSED** for now but **will return around April or May 2021.** Follow the market on Facebook at BCFOL Community Market.

<u>LIBRARY 411:   Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428 (See Adult Information below Library 411)</u>

- **Library and Phone/Reference Service Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, Closed
- **Meeting Room Scheduled Hours:** Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **To reserve a Meeting Room, go to** https://www.blounttn.org/205/Meeting-Rooms
- **Curbside Pickup Service: To reserve materials for Curbside Pickup,** go to this link https://blountcpltn.booksys.net/opac/blountcpltn/index.html and **click on "Account"** in the top right corner. **Log in with** your BCPL **library card number and PIN**, then search for the materials you want and **click on the "Holdings" tab** to reserve it. **If you do not know your PIN,** you can **call the library at 865-982-0981, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**, to reset your PIN and/or we can help you reserve your items **(limit 5 reserves).** If the materials are out, you can still reserve them; they will become available after they are returned. Curbside Pickup days are **ONLY on Tuesdays** from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. **and Saturdays** from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. When your items are ready you will be called to let you know which day that you can pick up. **a) Tuesday Pickups:** Reserves placed after 3 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and until 3 p.m. on Mondays. **b) Saturday Pickups:** Reserves placed after 3 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays before 3 p.m. When you **arrive on the Curbside Pickup day designated to you call 865-273-1402 (number is only answered on Tuesday and Saturday Pickup Days)** to **notify Patron Services** staff you have arrived at the library. Please provide your name, color and model of your car to assist staff in identifying you. The pickup point is located at the Main entrance of the library. Please remain in your car. A Patron Services staff member will deliver your order to you.
- **Resources for Home Learners:** If your family is homeschooling or doing virtual / online school, we want to help! In addition to our traditional collection of "Teacher Resource" reference books (located in the Children's Library and available for checkout or curbside service), what other resources can we provide? We're thinking of databases, curated online sites, and the like, but also things like making available a virtual meeting space, such as Zoom or Discord. Reach out and let us know how you'd like for your library to support your home learning! Email Jennifer jspirko@blounttn.org.
- **Monday, January 18, *"Library Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day."***
- **Tuesday, January 19, Tuesday, February 16 and Tuesday, March 16, 5:30 p.m. (3rd Tuesday of each month), *"Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting."*** In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order No. 16 regarding limiting gathering to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 and allowing public meetings to be conducted by electronic meetings. The meetings will be conducted with Library Board of Trustees Members and Library Staff participating electronically via Zoom and can be viewed by members of the public at https://zoom.us/join. Check back on the Library's website to get the meeting ID number closer to time of the meeting.

- **(ANNOUNCEMENT: ALL Appointments Are FILLED) They are NO longer taking calls. For More Locations: AARP Tax Help and IRS.gov Tax Help Tuesday, February 16 Through Thursday, April 15,** *"AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Tax Preparation Assistance"* is being offered by AARP Volunteers. **NO Walk-Ins Please! Appointments Only! Click Here For What to Bring** to Your Tax Appointment! **MUST Wear Mask! Days and Hours of Operation:**
  - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

  To Receive Tax Assistance:
  - **Appointment by Phone: (ANNOUNCEMENT: ALL Appointments Are FILLED)**
    - o **Phone # NO longer available.** Waiting List FULL.
    - o Leave a message and best time to call you back. NO multiple messages please;
    - o Someone will return your call within 72 hours, between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to setup an appointment.
  - **Appointment Booking Online: (ANNOUNCEMENT: ALL Appointments Are FILLED)**
    - o Go to https://tinyurl.com/blounttaxes
    - o Website above **NO longer** taking appointments,
    - o But you can check on online appointments that have been accepted.
    - o You will receive email reminders and a list of items to bring with you.

  What to Expect When You Arrive for Your Appointment:
  - o You will NOT meet in person with tax preparers;
  - o Documents will be scanned and you will participate in a brief interview with a tax counselor;
  - o You will keep your original documents; scanned documents are used by volunteers working remotely to create and quality review tax returns.

  What to Expect When You Return One Week Later:
  - o You will return to sign and pick up tax returns;
  - o When signed, returns will then be e-filed by the on-site tax counselor.
- **Monday, February 15,** *"Library Closed Presidents' Day."*
- **All Year Long,** *"Accepting Seed Donations".* The Seed Library @ BCPL is CLOSED for now until March 1, 2021. They are accepting seeds year around. If you are interested in donating seeds for The Seed Library look on the Library's Website under Seed Donations as to the type of seeds that will be accepted and fill out the Seed Return Form and bring your seeds to Adult Services in the Reference area.
- **Reopens Monday, March 1, 2021 through Sunday, October 31, 2021,** *"The Seed Library @ BCPL"* is **CLOSED for now** but will reopen Monday, March 1, 2021 and is available for **all ages**.

  How to Checkout Seeds:

- o You must have a **valid Blount County Public Library card.**
- o **Limit 5 packs** of seed **once per month; per card holder**.
- o **Check availability of seeds** on the Library's [website](#) under [Seed Catalog List](#). (There are 3 separate tabs for herbs, flowers, and vegetables.)
- o **To request,** fill out the [Online Seed Request Form](#) OR call 865-982-0981, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (We will be glad to assist, if needed, in filling out online request form.)
- o You will be **called when the requests are ready.** Please allow 2-4 business days for orders to be filled during high demand time periods.
- o **Pickup** will be **available** through the [Curbside Pickup Service](#); Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. OR **at the Self-Checkout Desk** during the Library's operating hours.
- o Seed requests made before the Seed Library is open will not be ready for pickup before March 1st.

- *BCPL New Mobile App Launched***:** Download the new Blount County Public Library Mobile App on [Google Play](#) and [Apple App Store](#). If you need help with installing the BCPL App on your phone, watch the [BCPL App Install & Account Setup](#) tutorial. You can see many tutorials and BCPL programs on the [Library's YouTube Channel](#).

- *Mobile Printing:* The library is offering Mobile Printing. Send your documents to BCPL from anywhere on any internet enabled device. To print an email message or attachment, simply forward your email to [bcpl-print-bw@printspots.com](#) (.25 cents per page) OR [bcpl-print-color@printspots.com](#) (.55 cents per page). Make sure to **include a subject line** to ensure that the print job goes through! You will be sent a release code for the email message and each attachment. You will then go to Adult Services at the Reference Desk and let them know and you will then pay and be able to pick up your prints. To access [handout with instructions.](#)

ADULT ONLINE PROGRAMS, WORKSHOP OR INFORMATION: Phone 865-982-0981 or 865-273-1428 (See All Ages Online Programs and Information below Adult Online Programs and Information)

- *Storytime for Grown-ups (Virtual):* We love connecting with our youngest library users through our online storytimes, but why should only the kids have fun? Welcome to BCPL's virtual Storytime for Grown-ups! Sit down and relax for a few minutes as your friends on the staff read from their favorite short stories, poems, and books. Please check the [Library's Facebook Page](#) for future postings. We also invite you to visit the [Library's YouTube Channel](#) for a full playlist of past Storytime for Grown-up recordings.

- *5 for 5 Book Recommendations:* Need a new book to read, but don't know where to start? Let us help you. Our book recommendation service is called *"5 for 5,"* and we are here to get you started on some great new reads! Give it a try! Tell us five titles or authors you like, and

we will tell you five different books we think you'll like.   Use this form to give us a little bit of information, and we'll send some reading suggestions your way. Go to https://www.blounttn.org/1743/5-FOR-5-Book-Recommendations

- *Maryville 1920: From Pistol Creek to the Palace Theater,* by Reference Librarian Brennan LeQuire, is the newest book to be published by Blount County Friends of the Library. This glimpse of Maryville as it was 100 years ago, complete with pictures and maps of the day, is edited by Jim Stovall, the Library's Writer-In-Residence. It is the seventh book in the Southern Appalachian Editions series of books, which tell local stories in local voices. The book is available for purchase at The Bookmark Cafe, The Friend's Bookstore and on Amazon!

- **Friday January 29, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.,** *"It's Your Career: Networking Strategically"* is part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. Build a network that is beneficial and strategic. Learn how to avoid networking traps and break out of the mold in order to advance project and professional goals. **Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this class will be held via the Zoom platform. For class synopsis and registration information, go to** https://www.blountchamber.com/community/festivals-events/soft-skills/.

- **Thursday, February 4, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,** *"Medic Blood Drive."* Come and help save a life. Donors **MUST wear a face mask**. MEDIC has a limited supply for donors o site. Appointments are preferred. Donors are encouraged **to make an appointment at tndonor.org or by calling 865-524-3074. Walk-ins are welcome! Priority is given to those with appointments.** All donors will receive a free MEDIC gift and a coupon for a free appetizer at Texas Roadhouse!

- **Once a Month, Tuesday,** *"Canning Clinic Series,"* **7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** All Programs are presented by the UT/TSU Extension. The Canning Clinic is designed for individuals with little or no experience canning or anyone that would like to brush up on their skills is welcome. Each class will be held Online Live Via Zoom.
  Please register at https://forms.gle/fT9CaGXHBLSafFRJ6
  - **Session 1: Pressure Canning Basics** – Tuesday, **March 9**
  - **Session 2: Best Practices: Jams/Jellies** – Tuesday, **April 6** (Class for beginners)
  - **Session 3: Tomatoes** – Tuesday, **May 4**
  - **Session 4: Pickles** – Tuesday, **June 15**
For More Information or help with signing up for the programs, contact UT/TSU Extension FCS Agents Mary Beth Lima, MLima@utk.edu or Linda Hyder, LHyder@utk.edu   The recordings will also be available on the Library's YouTube Channel.

- **Friday March 26, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.,** *"It's Your Career: Mindfulness at Work: Reducing Stress and Regaining Balance"* is part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. Employing mindfulness at work can help increase effectiveness, decrease mistakes, and even enhance creativity. Learn mindfulness tools that help you destress, tune in and get the job done. **Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic,**

this class will be held via the Zoom platform. For class synopsis and registration information, go to https://www.blountchamber.com/community/festivals-events/soft-skills/.

<u>**ALL AGES ONLINE PROGRAM EVENTS AND INFORMATION: Phone 865-982-0981 or 865-273-1428   (See Technology Classes and Other Resources Classes below All Ages Events and Information)**</u>

- **All Year Long, *"Accepting Seed Donations".*** The Seed Library @ BCPL is CLOSED for now until March 1, 2021. They are accepting seeds year around. If you are interested in donating seeds for The Seed Library look on the Library's Website under Seed Donations as to the type of seeds that will be accepted and fill out the Seed Return Form and bring your seeds to Adult Services in the Reference area.
- **Reopens Monday, March 1, 2021 through Sunday, October 31, 2021, *"The Seed Library @ BCPL"*** is **CLOSED for now** but will reopen Monday, March 1, 2021 and is available for **<u>all ages</u>**.
  How to Checkout Seeds:
  o You must have a **valid Blount County Public Library card.**
  o **Limit 5 packs** of seed **once per month; per card holder**.
  o **Check availability of seeds** on the Library's website under Seed Catalog List. (There are 3 separate tabs for herbs, flowers, and vegetables.)
  o **To request,** fill out the Online Seed Request Form OR call 865-982-0981, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (We will be glad to assist, if needed, in filling out online request form.)
  o You will be **called when the requests are ready.** Please allow 2-4 business days for orders to be filled during high demand time periods.
  o **Pickup** will be **available** through the Curbside Pickup Service; Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. OR **at the Self-Checkout Desk** during the Library's operating hours.
  o Seed requests made before the Seed Library is open will not be ready for pickup before March 1st.
- **Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., *"Smart Cycling Traffic Skills Course."* Course is free.** This course combines online instruction with parking lot and on-road practice of vehicular bicycling principles. **Pre-registration is required** online **or call Donna Dixon at 865-803-8887, or email:** donnasuedixon@hotmail.com **Registration ends Monday, March 15**. 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. Go to** www.bikeed.org **Online course must be completed prior to course date**. **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 Parking Lot. **(Inclement weather date,** March 21, 2021, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.)

TECHNOLOGY AND JOB SKILLS CLASSES ONLINE: (See All Tech Classes for Nonprofit Professionals below the Technology and Job Skills Classes)

Free technology classes are offered in a variety of topics such as MS Office products, Google Apps, Social Media and more. Receive an opportunity to gain a nationally recognized certificate from Northstar Digital Literacy in certain topics as indicated. Course descriptions and schedules are listed below. **All computer classes will be held virtually on the Zoom platform until further notice, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.** Your instructor will contact you on how to access your class. **To register online,** click here **or for questions or assistance please call the (865) 982-0981, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Excel Part I: Basics, Formulas and Functions — Excel 2016 spreadsheets allow you to easily store, organize and modify data. Learn the basics of Excel (such as inserting text, basic formulas, AutoFill and more) by creating a personal budget. Also learn how to make Excel do the work for you by using common formulas and functions.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 4, 2021

Microsoft Word Part III: Mail Merge, References, and Collaborating with Word — Learn how to use the Mail Merge Wizard to personalize letters and envelopes. Find out how to create bibliographies and other references with different style guides. You'll also learn how to insert charts and proofread like a pro with the Track Changes feature. Intermediate Word skills required. At the end of class, take the Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment for MS Word. Score 85% or higher and earn a nationally recognized certificate you can use for work or job seeking.
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 4, 2021

YouTube Basics — YouTube is the most popular online video streaming service in the world. Come learn about channels, subscriptions, playlists, and uploading your own videos to YouTube.
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Excel Part II: Conditional Formatting, Sort and Filter — Expand your Excel 201 knowledge and learn about conditional formatting, freezing rows, and using tables. Use the sort and filter features in Excel to organize your data so you can find the information you are looking for easily. Basic Excel skills required.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Online Tools for Gardening Part I: Using the Kitchen Gardening Planner — Design or refine your garden layout now using a free online kitchen gardening planning tool. This simple tool helps you not only lay out the space, but also guides you in planning what could be a bumper crop!
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Thursday, January 7, 2021

Excel Part III: Graphs, Pivot Tables, Macros and More— Make your Excel 2016 workbook pop by using graphs and pivot tables to represent your data visually. Learn how to automate repetitive tasks by recording and running simple macros in Excel. Basic Excel skills required. At the end of class, take the Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment for Excel. Score 85% or higher and earn a nationally recognized certificate you can use for work or job seeking.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Date: Friday, January 8, 2021

PowerPoint I: Working with the Basics — Learn how to make a basic PowerPoint. Use the various slide layouts and interchange them. Insert photos, screen shots, text boxes, video and more. Practice working "under the hood" in PowerPoint and view your slideshow creation.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 11, 2021

New Year's Resolution Tracking? No Problem — Make sure your New Year's Resolution sticks by using online productivity tools and apps to help you track your progress towards your goals.
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 11, 2021

YouTube Part II: Edit YouTube Videos Like a Pro — Learn how to edit videos using YouTube's video editor. Explore additional options for making your video look as professional as possible.
[Click to Register](#)
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2021

PowerPoint II: Power Up Your Presentation with Transitions, Animations, and Slide Masters — Take your PowerPoint to the next level by learning how and when to add transitions and animations. Learn best practices for designing PowerPoint as a visual aide, and practice creating your own template design using Slide Masters. Basic PowerPoint skills are required.
At the end of class, take the Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment for PowerPoint. Score 85% or higher and earn a nationally recognized certificate you can use for work or job seeking.
[Click to Register](#)
Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Facebook — Learn the ins and outs of your Facebook account, Newsfeed, and Stories. Tweak your Newsfeed Preferences and Privacy settings. Explore how to leverage groups, create and join events, sell on Marketplace, and raise funds for a good cause.
[Click to Register](#)
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021

Work Online with Google Drive — Learn how to create documents, save your files online and collaborate with others on Google Drive. Email address required.
[Click to Register](#)
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021

Tips and Tools for Working from Home — Explore online collaboration tools and apps for business that will make work from home more efficient and productive.
[Click to Register](#)
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021

Monetizing with YouTube — How do people make money off of YouTube? Learn about YouTube's Partner Program and how creators can generate more traffic to qualify.
[Click to Register](#)
Time: 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Google Drive Advanced Tips and Tricks — 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, you can optimize your Google Drive 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.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Online Tools for Gardening Part II: Using Online Software to Manage Your Garden — Unleash the power of Excel and other apps to enter, track, and be alerted to what you need to accomplish in your garden and by when.
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021

Learning Instagram — Get up and running quickly with Instagram. Discover how to follow other users and hashtags. Post, shoot, and process your images using Instagram filters, and add captions and hashtags to your posts. Gain tips for building your network, communicating with others. Learn how to build Instagram stories—photos and videos that expire after a day—and discover why stories have become so popular. Smartphone or device required.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021

Google Docs Essentials — Take a closer look at how to use Google Docs to share and collaborate, store, translate, and publish documents on the web. Discover how to get around in Google docs and create professional-looking files you can access and edit anywhere you have Internet.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Monday, January 25, 2021

Using Virtual Platforms Effectively — Learn how to properly and effectively use virtual platforms for work, from selecting the best tools to meeting online with teams while staying within budget.
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Google Docs Advanced Tips and Tricks — Dive deeper into Google Docs features that help boost productivity. Use templates, create flowcharts, tag colleagues, convert Google Docs to MS Word, integrate Google Docs with other Google applications, and more.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Using Animoto to Make Video for Projects and Presentations — Produce video from photos, video clips, and music into video slideshows and customized web-based presentations.
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Thursday, January 28, 2021

Social Media Marketing — Social media is a powerful communication tool these days. In this class, we will learn how to get started with Facebook, Twitter, blogs, and personal websites. No existing accounts required.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Friday, January 29, 2021

Gmail Basics — Tired of wasting time in email and not having what you need at your fingertips? Join this free class to master the basics of Gmail, including how to:
- register (or retrieve your password) for a Gmail account
- send and receive emails with and without attachments
- organize and work with your inbox
- search, filter, and label emails for efficiency
- avoid pitfalls when using email, such as getting computer viruses

— and more. Discover how to manage the inbox so that you can be more productive in less time.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Date: Monday, February 1, 2021

Gmail Advanced Tips and Tricks — 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 POP3 email accounts with Gmail so you get all of your emails in one place
- Mastering labels, stars, and filters

- Using aliases to determine referrals
- Muting conversations
- Undoing email sends
- Integrating Gmail with Outlook and Google apps like Google Calendar.

Click to Register

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Google Calendar — Manage your personal and professional calendars more effectively with Google Calendar. From scheduling events and tracking to-dos, to sharing calendars and creating invites, get the basics of Google Calendar to help make your day run more smoothly.
Click to Register

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Friday, February 5, 2021

Clean Up and Speed Up Your Computer — Learn how to remove programs, manage the space on your computer, speed up your browsing and more.
Click to Register

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Monday, February 8, 2021

Viruses & Malware Basics — Learn about malware threats, how to tell if a computer is infected, and how to install and use a high-quality free antivirus program.
Click to Register

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Job Skills I - Make a Resume — Begin the process of developing a stellar, targeted resume to show your best side.
Click to Register

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Friday, February 12, 2020

Protecting Your Privacy Online — Increase your awareness about how your online behavior is tracked and used. You'll learn tips on how to limit what's shared about you online.
Click to Register

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Monday, February 15, 2021

Social Media for Seniors ― Do you want to stay in touch with family and friends through social media? Join us for an interactive session to learn some of the popular social media platforms and how to use them.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Job Skills II - Resume Polishing ― Continue working on your resume and add polish with clean formatting and making the words earn their spot.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Friday, February 19, 2021

Smartphone and Tablet Basics ― Learn how to navigate commonly used features on your Windows, Android, or Apple smartphone or tablet. Afterwards, there will be time for answering your questions. Please bring your own device.
Click to Register
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Date: Monday, February 22, 2021

Online Tools for Gardening Part I: Using the Kitchen Gardening Planner ― Design or refine your garden layout now using a free online kitchen gardening planning tool. This simple tool helps you not only lay out the space, but also guides you in planning what could be a bumper crop!
Click to Register
Time: 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2021

OTHER CLASSES (It's Your Career: Soft Skills and Smart Cycling Course) AT BCPL (See All Teen Programs and Information below the Other Classes at BCPL)

- **Friday January 29, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.,** *"It's Your Career: Networking Strategically"* is part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. Build a network that is beneficial and strategic. Learn how to avoid networking traps and break out of the mold in order to advance project and professional goals. **Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this class will be held via the Zoom platform. For class synopsis and registration information, go to** https://www.blountchamber.com/community/festivals-events/soft-skills/.

- **Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.,** *"Smart Cycling Traffic Skills Course."* **Course is free.** This course combines online instruction with parking lot and on-road practice of vehicular bicycling principles. **Pre-registration is required** [online](#) **or call Donna Dixon at 865-803-8887, or email:** donnasuedixon@hotmail.com **Registration ends Monday, March 15**. 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. Go to** www.bikeed.org   **Online course must be completed prior to course date**. **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 Parking Lot. (**Inclement weather date,** March 21, 2021, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.)
- **Friday March 26, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.,** *"It's Your Career: Mindfulness at Work: Reducing Stress and Regaining Balance"* is part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. Employing mindfulness at work can help increase effectiveness, decrease mistakes, and even enhance creativity. Learn mindfulness tools that help you destress, tune in and get the job done. **Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this class will be held via the Zoom platform. For class synopsis and registration information, go to** https://www.blountchamber.com/community/festivals-events/soft-skills/.

TEEN ONLINE PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION: Phone 865-273-1414:   (See Children Events below the Teen Online Program and Information)

- **ALL DATES CANCELLED: Saturday, January 2, 16 and 30; Saturday, February 13 and 27; Saturday, March 13 and 27), 5 p.m., *"Teen Writers Group."* (Every Other Saturday Via Zoom)** Young writers are invited to join in a biweekly discussion of their writing projects to share ideas and tips and to get feedback from their peers in a friendly online setting. **Email** Jennifer jspirko@blounttn.org **for a link** and get inspired!
- **Saturday, January 16, Saturday, February 13, and Saturday, March 13, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., "*Laser TAB (Teen Advisory Board)."* (Via Zoom)** Help plan library programs and activities. Pick out books and games for the collection. Make the library a better space for teens. If you're going into the 6th through 12th grade, you can join and be heard! **Email Jennifer** (jspirko@blounttn.org) for a link to the zoom meeting or to get on our teen interest mailing list.
- **Saturday, February 20 and March 20, 2:30 p.m. (3rd Saturday of each month),** *"YA Café."* A virtual hangout. Join for casual conversation and share your favorite songs, anime, videos, etc. **Sign up in advance and get a " Café Crate,"** complete with some treats, an activity and other goodies, courtesy of your librarians. **Café Crates can be picked up via the Library's Curbside Pickup Service or at the Children's Library Desk** inside the

building during open hours. **Sign-Up by Friday at Noon** by emailing cgodfrey@blounttn.org. You will then be sent a Zoom link.

- **Saturday, February 27 and March 27, 2:30 p.m. (4th Saturday of each month),** *"Trivia Challenge."* Questions both silly and serious (not very), with bonus challenges like closet scavenger hunts. Teen can win a prize! **Sign-Up by Friday at Noon by emailing** cgodfrey@blounttn.org. You will then be sent a Zoom link.

- *"LEGO Contest Online."* **(Ages 16 and under)** Our semi-annual LEGO contest is now online! **Make your best creation and send in two pictures of it (showing different angles including at least one detail shot of large projects)** between March 1 and March 7, then **view the entries online** between March 13 and March 19. We'll **announce the winners on March 26!** Prizes will be awarded in five age categories with special prizes for Funniest and Fan Favorites a special theme. Entries must be your own creation and must follow official rules (No early entries please). See the Library's Website for complete rules (available February 1) **or email** Jennifer jspirko@blounttn.org.
    - o **Entries Due Via Email:** Monday, March 1 through Sunday, March 7. (Entries must be received by 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 7.)
    - o **Online Entries Display Open for Voting:** Saturday, March 13 through Friday, March 19. Vote only one entry per category.
    - o **Prizes Announced:** Friday, March 26.

- **Saturday, March 6, 2:30 p.m. (1st Saturday of each month),** *"Dungeons & Dragons: One-Shot Adventure ONLINE on Roll20."* A single-session campaign with a new story and characters each time! Great for newbies as well as experienced players. **Sign-Up by Friday at Noon by emailing** cgodfrey@blounttn.org. You will then be playing **online via the easy-to-access Roll20 platform.**

CHILDREN'S ONLINE PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION: Phone: 865-273-1414

- **Every Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.,** *"Facebook Online Storytime."* *(Recommended for ages 0-5.)* Interactive sessions focus on language acquisition and pre-literacy skills incorporating stories, music, motion and play. Join librarians our librarians live for interactive shoutouts! Library's Facebook Page (live videos are available afterward as recordings)

- **Saturday, January 23, Saturday, February 20 and Saturday, March 20 (Saturday before the Last Saturday of each Month), 7 p.m., "***Facebook Bedtime Storytime Online."*** *(Recommended for ages 3-5.)* Let Ms. Chelsea read the littles to sleep with her unique blend of picture books and music. Library's Facebook Page (live videos are available afterward as recordings).

- **Saturday, January 30, Saturday, February 27 and Saturday, March 27 (Last Saturday of each Month), 10: 30 a.m., "***Facebook Family Storytime Online."*** *(Recommended for ages 3-6 and their families.)* Celebrate reading as a family, along with Ms. Chelsea, with a special storytime each month, featuring colorful books, music, craft ideas and other early-

literacy fun. Now, families can **pick up a customized craft kit** that goes with each storytime! Just come to the Children's Library to get your craft kit OR request one from the Curbside service librarians. Craft kits are available in the week preceding Family Storytime. [Library's Facebook Page](#) (live videos are available afterward as recordings).

- ***"LEGO Contest Online."*** **(Ages 16 and under)** Our semi-annual LEGO contest is now online! **Make your best creation and send in two pictures of it (showing different angles including at least one detail shot of large projects)** between March 1 and March 7, then **view the entries online** between March 13 and March 19. We'll **announce the winners on March 26!** Prizes will be awarded in five age categories with special prizes for Funniest and Fan Favorites a special theme. Entries must be your own creation and must follow official rules (No early entries please). See the [Library's Website](#) for complete rules (available February 1) **or email** Jennifer jspirko@blounttn.org.
  - o **Entries Due Via Email:** Monday, March 1 through Sunday, March 7. (Entries must be received by 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 7.)
  - o **Online Entries Display Open for Voting:** Saturday, March 13 through Friday, March 19. Vote only one entry per category.
  - o **Prizes Announced:** Friday, March 26.
- **Resources for Home Learners:** If your family is homeschooling or doing virtual / online school, we want to help! In addition to our traditional collection of "Teacher Resource" reference books (located in the Children's Library and available for checkout or curbside service), what other resources can we provide? We're thinking of databases, curated online sites, and the like, but also things like making available a virtual meeting space, such as Zoom or Discord. Reach out and let us know how you'd like for your library to support your home learning! **Email Jennifer** jspirko@blounttn.org

LIBRARY TOURS & COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

* Due to COVID-19 the Group Tours are on hold. Feel free to call, as things change with the pandemic, for more information.

- Group Tours of the Main Library and Adult Services (Reference Department) may be scheduled by contacting Kathleen Christy at 865-273-1403 or 865-982-0981, ext. 1450.
- Group Tours of the Children's Library or other visits by children and teens may be scheduled by contacting Jennifer Spirko at the Children's Check-out desk 865-273-1414.
- If interested in displaying community information about nonprofit services or fine arts events (flyers and brochures) contact Kathleen Christy, Sheila Pennycuff or Brennan LeQuire at Adult Services (Reference Department); 865-982-0981, ext. 1450.

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," Instagram at "BCPLibrary" and YouTube at "Blount County Public Library."

--END—

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)