FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary Elmore, acting Communications Officer
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March 2018 Events at the Blount County Public Library

MARYVILLE, TN (February 26, 2018)   Come and enjoy the wonderful things that are happening for the month of March. Some of the upcoming events are

- TNInventcon by the Tennessee Inventors Association,
- Seeking applicants for the second installment of the Foothills Voices Research and Writing Project,
- Blount County Friends of the Library Pre-Owned Book Sale,
- Voter Registration Information coordinated by the League of Women Voters,
- Appalachian Reads book discussion group of "Fair and Tender Ladies" by Lee Smith, facilitated by Sarah Pirkle,
- Learn about Vegetable Gardens and Organics,
- More of Southern Appalachian Studies Series about the Impacts of Non-Native Invasive Species,
- And Focus on Seniors: Falls Prevention.
- Children's Sensory Movie Fun with Gnomeo and Juliet.
- Ongoing Teen events and Children's events and much more

We look forward to seeing you at the library!

NEW EVENTS: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428   (See recurring events below the new events)

- **Through Monday, April 16, "*AARP Tax Preparation Assistance*"** is being offered by AARP Volunteers. To receive tax assistance, you must call for an appointment at 865-414-1031 or 865-206-9816, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Do Not Call the Library!
- **Fridays, March 2, 9, 16 & 23, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series.''*** Because Blount County Public Library has received a Library Technology Training Grant, this series of 40 Google Lunch and Learn classes is being offered to the public during

2018. [Online registration](#) **is required as is a $10 registration fee which includes a box lunch** from the library's Bookmark Café. Participants in the classes will learn how to access and enroll in [Lynda.com](#) classes as well as Google features such as email, Google documents, Internet searching and more. The classes will be held in the library's new Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor digital sign at the entrance drive. (See more detailed course descriptions in the Computer Classes section of this calendar.)

- **Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., "TNInventcon," by the Tennessee Inventors Association.** This inaugural festival, hosted by the library, is open to the public, but specifically for people who are inventors, who would like to be inventors, or for people who offer services or products to support inventors. There will be four featured speakers who will discuss services important to inventors. There will be at least 15 exhibitors with services or products relevant for inventors.
    - **10 a.m., "Product Development for Inventors," by Ben Nibali,** President of Aptus Design Works, Inc.**,** in the Sharon Lawson Room.
    - **11 a.m., "Protecting and Patenting Your Invention," by Tom Kulaga,** President, Kulaga Law office, PLLC., in the Sharon Lawson Room.
    - **12 noon, "Marketing for Inventors," by Cliff Caudill,** Chairman, Greater Knoxville, SCORE, in the Sharon Lawson Room.
    - **1 p.m., "Business for Inventors," by Bruce Hayes,** Director, Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) in the Sharon Lawson Room.
    - **10 a.m. to 2 p.m., "Exhibits and Exhibitors,**" in the Meeting Room Hallway.
- **Thursday, Friday and Saturday,   March 8, 9 & 10, *"Pre-Owned Book Sale."*** This fundraiser for the library offers more than 50,000 books available for sale—$1 for soft cover and $2 for hard cover, plus movies (DVD & VHS), audiobooks and specially priced rare books, collectibles and others—by the Friends of the Blount County Public Library (FOL):
    - **Thursday, March 8, 12 noon until 6 p.m., *"Members Only Sale"*** is an opportunity for FOL members to purchase books before other members of the public are admitted to the sale. FOL memberships are available at the elevator doors, before accessing the Library Lower Level.
    - **Friday and Saturday, March 9 & 10, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., *"Pre-Owned Book Sale – Open to the Public"*** in the Library Lower Level.
- **Thursday, March 8,   3 p.m. to 6 p.m., *"Voter Registration."* The League of Women Voters, coordinated by Glenda Eastridge,** will have voter registration forms available for anyone who would like to register to vote in upcoming elections. The LWV volunteers will have a table in the Entry Rotunda of the library.
- **Saturday, March 17, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (3rd Saturday of every other month) *"Appalachian Reads."*** The book group will read and discuss works of Southern Appalachian authors. Lee Smith's *Fair and Tender Ladies*, facilitated by musician and radio host Sarah Pirkle, will be the topic of this discussion. Sponsored by Blount County Friends of the Library, meetings will be held the third Saturday of every other month in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Monday, March 19, 7 p.m.to 8 p.m., *"Vegetable Gardens and Organics."*** Can your thumb get greener? University of Tennessee-Blount County Agricultural Extension Agent **John Wilson** coordinates this program of information and advice about growing veggies for a lush

harvest, using healthful organic techniques. Bring your questions and take plenty of inspiration. This event will be in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- **Friday, March 23, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.,** *"It's Your Career: Managing People and Personalities,"* will be a part of an ongoing series of Soft Skill workshops designed to take your career to the next level. No single management type works with every employee. Learn how to manage according to personality types and get the most from your team. Share strategies and gain resources that will help you to engage, inspire, and retain employees of every type. Class format features a short lecture on each topic, case studies discussion in small groups and resources for use in businesses and organizations. Bring your laptop or tablet, or one will be provided for your use. This class will be at the Blount County Public Library's new Learning Lab (outside the library in the former First Tennessee Bank branch building). Registration begins February 26. For class synopsis and registration information, go to www.blountchamber.com/community/soft-skills   Soft Skills are strengthened and developed over time and are necessary if you desire to climb the career ladder. The classes are a collaboration of Blount Partnership, Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and the Blount County Public Library.
- **Saturday, March 24,   10 a.m. to 2 p.m.,** *"Voter Registration."* **The League of Women Voters, coordinated by Glenda Eastridge,** will have voter registration forms available for anyone who would like to register to vote in upcoming elections. The LWV volunteers will have a table in the Entry Rotunda of the library.
- **Monday, March 26, 7 p.m.,** *"Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Are We Losing Our Native Forests? Impacts of Non-Native Invasive Species in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park,"* presented by **Kristine Johnson**, a supervisory forester at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Insects, diseases, exotic plants, and air quality all threaten the natural resources of our Southern Appalachian Mountains. An examination of past, present, and future infestations and preventative measures for the unique environment that we live in will be discussed.   Johnson is responsible for forest insect and disease management, exotic plant control and ecological restoration. This program will be in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Wednesday, March 28, 11 a.m.,** *"Focus on Seniors: Falls Prevention."* Learn how to prevent falls with Beth LaFontaine from the UT Medical Center Community Health Center and Terri Stewart, an instructor with S.A.I.L., a strength and balance fitness class for adults 65 years old and older. This presentation will help participants identify why they fall, learn fall safety techniques, and provide fitness activities designed to help prevent falls. This program will be in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Wednesday, March 28,** *"Deadline to apply for the second installment of Foothills Voices Research and Writing Project."* The 9-month course, taught by professional authors and librarians, takes amateur writers through the steps necessary to research, write, and publish a piece of creative non-fiction based on true stories of Southern Appalachia. Application and more information are online at https://www.facebook.com/BlountCountyPublicLibrary/ and at www.blountlibrary.org   The class meets 6-8 p.m. on eleven Thursday evenings between mid-April and mid-December. **Deadline to apply is March 28.** The course fee is $100, due upon acceptance. Further information is available at Information Services or call 865-982-0981 ext. 4.
- **Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 30, 31 and April 1, "***Library Closed for Spring Holiday."*

- **Thursday, April 5, 6 p.m.,** *"Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Bluegrass Music Club."* A Bluegrass Music Club for **all ages** and skills will meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. There is a one-time charge of $20 for a book of bluegrass music which will be used in the club. **Josephine Cappelletti**, the orchestra teacher at Coulter Grove Intermediate School, will be the director. Instrument donations will be welcome. Donated instruments may be dropped off at Information Services. The Music Club meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).
- **Fridays, April 6, 13, 20 & 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,** *"All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series."* Because Blount County Public Library has received a Library Technology Training Grant, this series of 40 Google Lunch and Learn classes is being offered to the public during 2018. Online registration **is required as is a $10 registration fee which includes a box lunch** from the library's Bookmark Café. Participants in the classes will learn how to access and enroll in Lynda.com classes as well as Google features such as email, Google documents, Internet searching and more. The classes will be held in the library's new Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor digital sign at the entrance drive. (See more detailed course descriptions in the Computer Classes section of this calendar.)
- **Saturday, April 7, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.,** *"Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Nurturing Nature - A Sustainable Landscape Workshop,"* presented by **Dr. Mike McKinney,** Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Science, UTK**; Meredith Clebsch,** Land Director of Foothills Land Conservancy **and Leah Gardner,** Landscape Architect and Ecological Landscape Consultant of the Blount County Soil Conservation District. Spend a morning learning how you can be the caretaker of your own piece of Tennessee's natural world. Experts will share information about the vital role your garden can play in protecting biodiversity, and give you tools and resources for transforming your property into a beautiful and valuable refuge for Tennessee's native plants, birds and pollinators. This program will be in the Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Monday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.,** *"Fiscal Fitness: Understanding Your Credit and Underwriting"* will be presented by **Sarah Hooks.** Knowing what your credit score is and what is used to develop that score is important in each person's credit history, especially if a person is trying to apply for a loan for a big-ticket item, like a house or car. Sarah Hooks, Family Services Director at Habitat for Humanity, will give this program which will be in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m.,** *"The 23rd Annual Adult Spelling Bee."* Sponsored by the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and the Blount County Public Library, the contest will be held in the Main Gallery of the library. Registration opens at 9:30 a.m. Spelling begins at 10 a.m. **For more information or to register as a sponsor or a speller, email** adultedfoundationbc@gmail.com **or contact Carol Ergenbright at (865) 661-8747 or Melinda Rust at (865) 724-8177.**

RECURRING EVENTS: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428

- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 pm.,** *"Dungeons & Dragons."* All ages (12 and up) and skill levels can join in the fun of this tabletop role-playing game by learning about D&D and sharing your love of fantasy gaming! D&D players, coordinated by **Randy Royse**, **Ashten Royse and Brandon Clackum**, meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the

Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).

- **Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.,** *"Tech Time."* Need help with technology and don't know where to start? Tech Time is designed to be a space to get your questions answered and set you on the path you need for technology success! Having trouble with **email?** Can't find what you need on the **internet?** Curious about **Facebook, Twitter** or **Pinterest?** Need help with **eBooks?** Bring your technology questions and get assistance from a Tech Time facilitator. Tech Time will be held in Study Room A in the Reference area of the library.
- **Thursday, March 15, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (3rd Thursday of each month), "***Adult Coloring.***"** Remember the carefree joy of picking up your favorite crayon or marker and adding color to a beautiful picture? Experience the same fun and relaxation even though you are now an adult! For this program, sponsored by the Blount County Friends of the Library, participants **(teens and older)** can bring their own coloring books and materials, or you can select from a variety of intricate adult coloring pages and utilize coloring supplies provided at the library. Just show up at the library at 7 p.m., on the third Thursday of every month, select a fun design and color away to your heart's content. This program will be in Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery.
- **Tuesday, March 20, 5:30 p.m. (3rd Tuesday of each month),** *"Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting,"* in the Board Room of the library.

Tennessee R.E.A.D.S. HELP!

If you have an e-reader, tablet or other device, you may check out e-books, audiobooks and streaming movies from Tennessee R.E.A.D.S., through the library website. You can seek personalized help by calling the Reference Desk at (865) 982-0981, ext. 302, or (865) 273-1428 to schedule a time for an appointment or attend a Tech Time session (check monthly calendar for day and time) for help. To set up access to download e-books, audiobooks and materials from the library, bring these items:

- **library card in <u>your name</u> and in good standing,**
- **your device (fully charged),**
- **email account user name and password,**
- **Kindles e-readers: Amazon sign-in and password**

You are ready to enjoy your Tennessee R.E.A.D.S. experience!

COMPUTER COURSES:

For more information, go to the Blount County Public Library Information Services (Reference Desk) or call (865) 273-1428 or (865) 982-0981, ext. 4.

Tech Time – in Study Room A/Reference Area:

Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., *"Tech Time."* Need help with technology and don't know where to start? Tech Time is designed to be space to get your questions answered and set you on the path you need for technology success! Having trouble with **email?** Can't find what you need on the **internet?** Curious about **Facebook, Twitter** or **Pinterest?** Need help with **eBooks?** Bring your technology questions and get assistance from a Tech Time facilitator. Tech Time will be held in Study Room A in the Reference area of the library.

<u>All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series – Online $10 Registration Required:</u>

Fridays, March 2, 9, 16 & 23, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *"All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series."* Because Blount County Public Library has received a Library Technology Training Grant, this series of 40 Google Lunch and Learn classes is being offered to the public during 2018. [Online registration](#) **is required as is a $10 registration fee which includes a box lunch** from the library's Bookmark Café. Lunch is not optional, and lunch order options are on the registration form. The classes will be held in the library's new Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign. Participants who have Gmail accounts should bring their email address and password. Participants who do not have a Gmail account will create one at their first class. Participants should bring their library card. In some classes, participants will also learn how to use [Lynda.com](#), a new leading online learning platform that helps anyone learn business, software, technology and creative skills to achieve their learning goals. A staff person will be at all classes to make sure that participants have an e-card to access Lynda.com for participants without library cards. Be sure to include email address on registration form. Each class is limited to 10 participants. Participants are invited to bring their personal laptops with wireless access to use in classes.

- o **March 2, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., "*Essentials of Google Drive*" –** in the Learning Lab. [Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included)
  Have you wondered how to seamlessly create, back-up and access your files from anywhere? Discover how to use Google Drive, a powerful cloud-based file storage and office suite software. In this hands-on workshop, participants will create a Google account, navigate the Google Drive interface, organize, sync, locate, and share Drive files, and backup files to the cloud. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops or devices with files that they wish to add to their personal Google Drive.
- o **March 9, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., "*Tips and Tools to Optimize Your Google Drive*"** [Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included) – in the Learning Lab
  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, Google Drive can be optimized 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.
- o **March 16, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., "*Getting Started with Gmail*"** – in the Learning Lab [Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included)
  Tired of wasting time in email and not having what you need at your fingertips? Join us in this workshop to master the basics of Gmail, including organizing and working with your inbox, searching, labeling, and filtering emails, and more. Discover how to manage the inbox so that you can be more productive in less time.
- o **March 23, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., "*Advanced Tips and Tricks for Gmail*"** [Online Registration](#) required ($10 – lunch included) - in the Learning Lab.
  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 email accounts with Gmail, muting conversations, undoing email sends, integrating Gmail with other Google platforms, and more.

Fridays, April 6, 13, 20 & 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., *"All Things Google Lunch and Learn Series."* **(Titles for each date TBA)** Because Blount County Public Library has received a Library Technology Training Grant, this series of 40 Google Lunch and Learn classes is being offered to the public during 2018. [Online registration](#) **is required as is a $10 registration fee**

which includes a box lunch from the library's Bookmark Café. Lunch is not optional, and lunch order options are on the registration form. The classes will be held in the library's new Learning Lab, a stand-alone building on Cusick Street, across from the library's outdoor sign. Participants who have Gmail accounts should bring their email address and password. Participants who do not have a Gmail account will create one at their first class. Participants should bring their library card. In some classes, participants will also learn how to use Lynda.com, a new leading online learning platform that helps anyone learn business, software, technology and creative skills to achieve their learning goals. A staff person will be at all classes to make sure that participants have an e-card to access Lynda.com for participants without library cards. Be sure to include email address on registration form. Each class is limited to 10 participants. Participants are invited to bring their personal laptops with wireless access to use in classes.

Microsoft Computer Courses: Registration Required

Free computer classes are offered in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint (2016), Email and Social Media. Receive an opportunity to gain a nationally recognized certificate from Northstar Digital Literacy. Seeking employment? Receive résumé help, online job searches, online applications, practice interview skills or create and update LinkedIn account. Course descriptions and schedules are listed below. The free classes meet in the Blount County Public Library's new Learning Lab (outside the library in the former First Tennessee Bank branch building) unless otherwise noted. Spaces are limited and registration is required. **To register, please visit the library's Information Services (Reference Desk) or call (865) 982-0981, ext. 4, or (865) 273-1428. Sign up no earlier than one month prior to a class.**   (If a person desires to enroll in the Microsoft courses but has had no computer experience, you will need to practice using a mouse before you may enroll. Listed are a few practice websites available: http://www.mouseprogram.com/ and http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/mousercise.htm)

The free computer courses are offered through a partnership between the Blount County Public Library and the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and made possible by generous funding from the ARCONIC Foundation.

Résumé Help Sessions – Résumé help sessions are designed to give one-on-one help to job seekers in need of a new or improved résumé, conduct online job searches, apply online and create or update a LinkedIn account. Instructors will be available to help individuals design or update a résumé using current formatting trends. A flash drive with various résumé templates will be provided to participants. Participants should bring job history, including employment addresses, phone numbers, dates of employment, list of responsibilities, and salary going back ten years. A reference list can also be completed during a session; please bring reference names and contact information, including address, phone number, and email address.

Sessions run from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays of the designated month in the Learning Lab. More than one session may be needed to complete a résumé and reference list.

Please register at the Reference Desk. For more information on the program, call 865-982-0981 ext. 4 or 865-273-1428.
Bring your job history with dates.

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Dates: *This is a single session.*

Session 3: Mondays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2018

Session 4: Mondays, April 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2018

Microsoft Word 2016 Essentials – This free class offers a general orientation to Word 2016, including topics such as toolbars/ribbons, shortcuts, save/save as, files/folders, selecting text, moving text, drag and drop, editing, formatting, spell check/thesaurus, page setup, line spacing, the ruler, navigating, changing margins, changing case, word count, bullets/numbering and attachments.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session 3: Monday, March 5 and Wednesday, March 7, 2018

Session 4: Monday, April 2 and Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Microsoft Excel 2016 Essentials – This free class is an introduction to Excel 2016. Topics include toolbars/ribbons; navigation; entering text and formulas; editing and viewing worksheets; introduction to formulas and functions; formatting the contents of cells; changing the appearance of worksheets; changing column width and row height; auto complete; fill series; selecting cell ranges; move and copy shortcuts; inserting/deleting columns and rows; inserting/deleting worksheets; renaming worksheets; and moving worksheets.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session 3: Monday, March 12 and Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Session 4: Monday, April 9 and Wednesday, April 11, 2018

Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Essentials – This free class will provide students with the skills needed to produce a professional-looking presentation. Topics include editing, outlining, drawing, graphing, images, and presentation management functions.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session 3: Monday, March 19 and Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Session 4: Monday, April 16 and Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Email How-to's - An Intro to Email class will discuss how to register for a new email account, create a username and secure password, send and reply to emails, etc. This class will also include instruction on attaching files, moving and deleting emails, email etiquette, as well as pitfalls to

avoid when using email, such as opening files with viruses. Online assessment will be given at the end of class.

Time: 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a single session class. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session 3: Monday, March 26, 2018

Session 4: Monday, April 23, 2018

Social Media for Job Seekers – An introduction to social media know-how for job seekers will explore how to best manage social media accounts for work. The class includes managing privacy settings, sharing and publishing content, distinguishing between public and private spaces online, and creating a social media account using LinkedIn, Facebook, or Twitter.

Time: 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Dates: *This is a single class session. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Session 2: Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Session 3: Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Session 4: Wednesday, April 25, 2018

<u>Paid Internship Program for Young Adults: Registration Required</u>

The ARCONIC Global Internship Program is made possible through a generous grant from the ARCONIC Foundation. It is provided by the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County, Blount Partnership, and the Blount County Public Library.

Paid Internship Program for Young Adults Interested in Manufacturing Careers:

Are you between the **ages of 18 – 26** and would you like to get paid to intern at a local manufacturer? **<u>Check back for future dates and times to be announced</u>** to gain training and real-world, hands-on manufacturing experience with the possibility of getting hired permanently. Spaces are limited and registration is required.

The program consists of three components:
1) **3 weeks of *Workforce Readiness Training***
   o *Training* will run for specific periods of time, with another session beginning soon, Monday through Friday. During this time participants will receive training in skills needed to obtain and maintain a job in the manufacturing field. Participants will receive a $300 stipend upon completion of this component.
2) **100 hours of hands-on manufacturing experience interning with a Blount County manufacturer**

- o **The *Internship*** will be at a local manufacturer where participants will be paid $10/hr. for 100 hours, get hands-on job experience, and potentially get certifications such as forklift operation.

3) **2 half-days of *Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation***
   - o **Participants then return** for *Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation*. Participants will receive a $40 stipend upon completion of this component.

Participants must complete all three components.

TEEN PROGRAMS – Phone (865) 273-1414:

Special Programs:

- **March 1 through 31,** *"ARC (Advanced Reader Copy)"* in the Young Adult Display Hutch in Teen Central area of the library. Teens, read & review books before they're published! Choose an advanced reader copy from the Young Adult display, take it home & read it, then write a review. Let the publishers and others know on Facebook what you think of the book.
- **Saturday, March 10, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. (2nd Saturday of each month),** *"Gaming @ Your Library."* Games of all kinds! Board games, Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros., MarioKart, or bring your own tabletop game or video game console and games to share. We'll use multiple screens to multiply the fun. Bring friends! Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, March 24, 1 p.m. until 2 p.m.,** *"Teen Advisory Board Meeting."* Do you want to help plan library programs and activities? Help pick out books, videos and magazines for the library's collection? Basically, do you want to make the library a better place for teens? Come hear more about what a Teen Advisory Board can do, enjoy snacks and give us your feedback. This meeting takes place in Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, March 24, 2 p.m. until 3 p.m.,** *"Video Game Trivia."* Teens test your wits and win gaming cred! The trivia master will challenge you with questions about all kinds of video games, across platforms. And remember what Chief says in Animal Crossing: "Don't wish it were easier; wish you were better." Video Game Trivia takes place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 30, 31 and April 1, "***Library Closed for Spring Holiday."*

Regular Teen Events:

- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.,** *"Play Chess at the Library."* **All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in the Teen Central area of the library.
- **Once per month:** *"Sanctioned Chess Tournament,"* is held at the library in the Teen Central Area.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.,** *"Play Chess at the Library."* **All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in the Teen Central Area of the library. On one Saturday of every month, there will be a rated tournament at the Blount County Public Library.
- **Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. until 4 p.m.,** *"Blount County Nerd Group."* Teens can learn the basic principles of computer programming, also known as coding. By participating in the Blount County Nerd Group, students seventh grade and up can learn coding skills, such as making

simple games, developing professional websites and creating mobile apps. Experienced web developers, **Kaleb Davenport and Garrett Smith** are students at local high schools who have worked very hard to learn about many different technologies and are excited to share their expertise with local teens. In the constantly changing job market, coding is a huge advantage for students and job seekers. Participating students are encouraged to bring their own devices, including a laptop. However, students who do not have adequate technology will be provided a laptop by the library. The Nerd Group meets in the Board Room.

- o **Please Note: On Saturday, March 3, the Nerd Group will meet later than usual (3:45 p.m. until 5 p.m.), to accommodate room usage by the TNInventCon held in the library that day.**

- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 pm.,** *"Dungeons & Dragons."* All ages (12 and up) and skill levels can join in the fun of this tabletop role-playing game by learning about D&D and sharing your love of fantasy gaming! D&D players, coordinated by **Randy Royse**, **Ashten Royse and Brandon Clackum**, meets in the Staff Lounge of the library, in the Administration Area (enter through the Bookmark Café).

- **Sundays, March 4 and March 18, 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. (Meets every other Sunday of each month),** *"Teen Writers Group."* Calling all writers! If you're looking for inspiration, motivation, feedback or camaraderie, this is your group. Teenagers are invited to join writing colleagues for discussion and inspiration. The Teen Writing Group, coordinated by **Hannah Spirko,** meets in the Boardroom. Follow the library on Facebook for dates for the Teen Writers Group.

- **Saturday, March 10, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. (2nd Saturday of each month),** *"Gaming @ Your Library."* Games of all kinds! Board games, Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros., MarioKart, or bring your own tabletop game or video game console and games to share. We'll use multiple screens to multiply the fun. Bring friends! Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS: Phone: (865) 273-1414

Special Programs for Children (Preschool through Tween)

- **Saturday, March 3, 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.,** *"LEGO Building Contest."* **Ages 6-11.** Bring your best creation to the Children's Library for judging throughout the day as you enjoy TNInventcon. You must **deliver entries before 10:30 a.m.** and pick them up by 4 p.m. Prizes will be awarded at 2 p.m., in categories including Fan Favorite, Funniest and Best in Show. **Entries must be on a base (LEGO, wood, cardboard, etc.) and no more than 24 inches by 24 inches in size**. Please do not bring in builds made from kits or packaged sets. **Get complete rules in the Children's Library or on** [Blount County Public Library website](#) Deliver entries – and vote on winners! – in the Children's Library.

- **Saturday, March 17, 10:30 a.m.,** *"Sensory Movie Fun: Gnomeo and Juliet."* If your little ones – or bigger ones! – struggle with the stillness and quiet expected at a movie theater, or if they find the darkened room or loud sound system of a commercial cinema overstimulating, this new family event is for you! Enjoy this fun and funny animated feature, but without the pressures of stillness and silence, and with a low, constant light level. LEGOs and a special craft will be set up in part of the room to add to the fun and give short attention spans an extra way to engage. Everyone is welcome! The movie will be shown in the Sharon Lawson Room.

- **Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 30, 31 and April 1, "*Library Closed for Spring Holiday.*"**

Elementary Age Activities:

- **Tuesdays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., *"LEGO Club,"* for Grades K-5**, will take place in the Children's Library. Kids will complete different-themed and timed LEGO Challenges, as well as have some time for free building. The library will provide the LEGOs, so all you have to bring is your imagination.
- **Fridays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., "STEAMkids," for Grades K-5**. Every week will be a different adventure, from hands-on science experiments to art projects and everything in between. Materials may be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. STEAMkids normally takes place in the Children's Library.
  - **Friday, March 2 and April 6, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., "STEAMkids with Keep Blount Beautiful."** Once a month, Keep Blount Beautiful brings a special "green" lesson using recycled craft materials and environmental themes.
- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., *"Play Chess at the Library."* All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in the Teen Central area of the library.
- **Once per month: *"Sanctioned Chess Tournament,"*** is held at the library in the Teen Central Area.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., *"Play Chess at the Library."* All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in the Teen Central Area of the library. On one Saturday of every month, there will be a rated tournament at the Blount County Public Library.

Growing Ready Readers -- Early Literacy Programs:

The Blount County Public Library is committed to growing ready readers and equipping caregivers with the tools they need to help their child be school-ready. Check the Blount County Public Library website (www.blountlibrary.org) or stop by the Children's Library for more information on supplemental literacy activities for caregivers and early literacy programming for our youngest patrons.

- **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., *"Little Learners,"* recommended for ages 3-5.** Interactive sessions focus on language acquisition and pre-literacy skills incorporating stories, music, motion, play, crafts and more in the Children's Library.
- **Wednesdays, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., *"Baby and Me,"* recommended for ages 2 and under.** These lapsit sessions for baby and caregiver feature short stories, action rhymes, music and pre-literacy tips and tricks for caregivers. It is also a great time for caregivers and babies to socialize! These sessions are in the Children's Library.
- **Tuesday, March 27, 6 p.m., *"Sensory Story Time."*** An interactive story time with stories, songs, movement and activities designed to increase early literacy skills and provide a safe and open space for children and families to learn and interact. Open to children of all abilities, but especially designed for kids with special needs between the developmental ages of 3-5. Sensory Storytime takes place in the Children's Library.

<u>Library Tours and Outreach</u>
Please call the Children's Library at (865) 273-1414 or email jspirko@blounttn.org to schedule tours for your group, class or organization. Also if you would like a librarian to come to your class, community event, or parent night and share about awesome library resources and services for patrons ages 0-18, please get in touch!

<u>EXHIBITS & COLLECTIONS:</u>

March 1 to 31:

- *"Alcoa High School Student Art"* **Exhibit,** coordinated by **Minda Cedeño,** will be on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café and on the Art Panels at the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery.
- *"Girl Scouts"* **Exhibit,** coordinated by **Dianne O'Neill,** will be in vertical display case in the nook of the wall at the end of the Circulation Check-In Desk of Main Gallery.
- *"Negro Baseball League Memorabilia: 1700s to 1900s"* **Exhibit,** by **Cato Clowney,** will be in two Mid-Gallery cases near the Magazine Shelves.
- *"Mary Blount Clary"* **Exhibit**, by **Annamaria Gundlach**, will be in the square pedestal display case in the Entry Rotunda of the library.
- *"Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild Member Art"* **Exhibit,** coordinated **by Jeanie Dockery**, will be on two easels in the sitting area of the Main Gallery.
- *"Invasive Species"* by **Linda Marcus** in the Genealogy display case at Temporary Books Shelves.
- *"ARC (Advanced Reader Copy)"* in the Young Adult Display Hutch in Teen Central area of the library. Teens, read & review books before they're published! Choose an advanced reader copy from the Young Adult display, take it home & read it, then write a review. Let the publishers and others know on Facebook what you think of the book.
- *"National Women's Month"* **Exhibit**, by **Patron Services**, in the Main Gallery between the two Circulation Desks.

<u>LIBRARY TOURS & COMMUNITY INFORMATION:</u>

- **Group Tours of the Main Library and Information Services (Reference Department)** may be scheduled by contacting Kathleen Christy, Information Services Manager, at (865) 273-1403 or (865) 982-0981, ext. 4.
- **Group Tours of the Children's Library** may be scheduled by contacting Jennifer Spirko, Youth Services Manager, at the Children's Check-out desk (865) 273-1414.
- **Outreach programs** can be presented by the Library Director, Public Relations Manager, Information Services Manager or Youth Services Manager for civic organizations, community events, school fairs and special events or parent organizations. Call (865) 273-1403 (for adult presentations) or (865) 273-1414 (for children's programs).
- 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 Information Services (Reference Department).

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," Pinterest and Instagram.

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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).