

**BELLEVILLE AREA
DISTRICT LIBRARY**

SERVING BELLEVILLE, SUMPTER AND VAN BUREN

Progressions

FALL 2026

Belleville Area District Library

167 Fourth Street

734-699-3291

www.belleville.lib.mi.us

Library Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 am-9 pm

Fri. & Sat. 9:30 am-6 pm

Sun. 1 pm-5 pm



Sumpter Media Center

23465 Sumpter Road

Belleville, MI 48111

Hours:

Mon., Wed., & Sat. 10 am-3 pm

Tue. & Thurs. 3 pm-8 pm

Library Board

Joy Cichewicz

Dan Fleming

John Juriga

Sharon C. Peters

Linda Priest

Maria Jackson-Smith

Tanya Stoudemire

The library board meets

on the second Tuesday

of the month at 7:30 pm.

The library will be

closed on the following days:

Monday, Sept. 7 – Labor Day

Wednesday, Nov. 11 – Veterans Day

Thursday, Nov. 26 &

Friday, Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday, Dec. 24 – Saturday,

Dec. 26 – Christmas Holiday

Thursday, Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve

Friday, Jan. 1 – New Year's Day

For all of our programming and

to register for events, visit

<https://bit.ly/BADLevents> or scan



Special Programs for Everyone!

Community Resource Day: Vital Documents & Voter Services

Friday, September 4, 11 am-3 pm

Need help finding important records? Join us for a one-stop event designed to make essential civic documentation easier to access. Voter education and registration on-site.

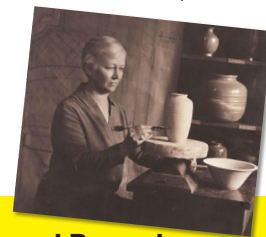
Sustainable Fashion: How to Transform Old Clothes into New Treasures

Monday, September 14, 6 pm

Join Denise Watson of Sewd Fashion and Embroidery Studio for a hands-on workshop transforming old clothes into new fashion.

Pewabic: Detroit's Pottery Thursday, September 17, 6:30 pm

Learn about the 123-year legacy of Detroit's renowned Pewabic Pottery, one of the nation's oldest continuously operating pottery studios.



How to Hunt Ghosts: Paranormal Investigation for Beginners and Beyond

Wednesday, October 7, 6 pm

Join Ryan Eberhart of the Westland Historical Society to explore the world of paranormal investigation. Learn about the history of ghost hunting, essential equipment, and how to conduct your own investigation.

Weirder than Fiction Wednesday, October 14, 6:30 pm

Drawing on decades of investigating the unexplained, paranormal researcher and author John E.L. Tenney shares thought-provoking insights into mysteries that defy easy explanation.

Telescope Night at the Library Thursday, October 22, 6:30 pm

Sumpter Media Center

Survey the night sky at the Sumpter Media Center! Members of the Warren Astronomical Society will share insights about space and set up telescopes for hands-on, educational stargazing.



Witches of The Wheel with Lindsay Merbaum Wednesday, October 28, 6 pm

Welcome back local author and Romantasy writer Lindsay Merbaum, for an evening of magic and literature exploring her new book, *Witches of the Wheel*. Plus, themed mocktails and witchy trivia. This program is intended for adult audiences. *Please register.*

Detroit Movie City: A Century of Film in the Motor City

Thursday, November 12, 6:30 pm

The Detroit Historical Society presents a fascinating review of cinema in the Motor City. Explore a century of movies and the iconic Detroit locations that helped bring them to life.



Jazz Night at the Library - Erinn Alexis Trio

Wednesday, November 18, 7 pm

Join the Erinn Alexis Trio for an evening of soulful music featuring an uplifting blend of contemporary jazz and original compositions from Erinn Alexis's latest project, *The Huron Collective*.



Storytimes

September 14 – October 22

November 9 – December 17

All children are invited to join us for in-person songs and stories with our children's librarians. Scan, or visit <https://www.belleville.lib.mi.us/storytimes/> to register.

Family Storytime (All ages) Mondays, 6:30 pm

Toddler Time Storytime (Ages 2-4) Tuesdays, 11 am

Baby Storytime (Ages birth-2)

Thursdays, 10 am & 11 am

Saturday Storytime (All ages)

Saturdays, 11 am

September 26, October 25, November 28



Programs for Children & Teens

Dog Man

Saturday, November 21, 3-4:30 pm

Let's have a paw-some time celebrating Dog Man with games, activities, and giveaways.

Comic Book Club

 (Grades 4-6)

Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

September 15, October 25, and November 17

Let's have some fun reading, discussing, and creating comics.

Teen Craft Club

 (Ages 12-18)

Last Tuesday of the month, 4 pm

September 29, October 27, and November 24

Crafts, snacks, friends, and fun! Crafts TBD. *Please register.*

Teen/Tween Comic Book Club

 (Grades 7-12)

Third Monday of the month 6:30-7:30 pm

Love to draw comics? Read comics? Talk about comics? Join our Teen Comic Book Club! Kam, our local comic book artist will help you put your story and ideas together. *Registration required.*

Family Movie Night

Saturday, September 26, 2-4 pm (All ages welcome)

Join us at the Belleville Area District Library for a family movie - TBD



Opportunities to Help!

BADL Adult Literacy and ESL Programs

We are in need of volunteer tutors for our Adult Literacy and ESL tutoring programs. Training provided at the library with the Washtenaw Literacy Council.

- Thursday, September 3, 10 am-1pm
- Saturday, September 5, 11am-1 pm
- Thursday, September 10, 10 am-12 pm
- Saturday, September 12 11am-2 pm

Tutors must attend all training sessions.

Please contact Jennifer Richardson, Outreach Librarian, at 734-699-3291 or jrichardson@belleville.lib.mi.us for more information or to register.

Gardening

Garden Round Table

Saturdays 11 am

September 19 – Harvesting and Preserving

November 21 – Indoor Gardening

Connect with local gardeners, share tips, and get practical advice to grow or start your own garden.



Seed Saving for Beginners with MSU Extension

Saturday, September 26, 11 am

Learn to identify hybrids and open-pollinated plants for successful seed saving. Get tips on seed maturity, harvesting, storage, and reducing cross-pollination. Prepare for next year's garden now!

Preparing your Garden for Winter with MSU extension

Saturday, October 24, 11 am

Learn key tips for winterizing your garden and supporting native pollinators. Get advice on watering, soil care, and leaving plants for wildlife to reduce winter stress and boost your garden's ecosystem.

Health & Wellness

Somatic Practice Series

Wednesdays, 6 pm

August 19, September 2, September 16, September 30

Participate in a four-part series designed to bring mind and body into alignment. Each one-hour session employs a range of somatic practices, including yoga, meditation, reiki, and breathwork.

Chair Yoga

Thursdays, 12-1 pm

September 10, October 15, November 12

Melanie Herron of Every1Yoga, will lead us in slow, mindful movements to create length and space in both the mind and body. Experience the benefits of Chair Yoga, including enhanced flexibility, improved mobility, and greater awareness of breath.



Genealogy Series – With Megan Heyl

Vital Records and Where to Find Them

Saturday, September 19, 2 pm

There is more to Vital Records than Birth, Marriage and Death records. Come learn about numerous resources that go beyond just the basics.

Hopping Through History: Making Sense of The Census

Saturday, November 7, 2 pm

Learn how to search the U.S. Census so you can uncover so much more about your ancestors and their times. Finding Extra Census Forms and reading between the lines often leads to success.

Obituaries – The Final Word

Saturday, December 5, 2 pm

Covers what to look for and how to understand what you are reading. See examples of how reading and interpreting the words written in obituaries and death notices can lead you to a wealth of information contained in these often under-appreciated resources.

Game on at Your Library

Saturday, October 24 and Friday, November 20, 2-5 pm

Socialize and strategize! Roll the dice on learning a new board game from our collection. All ages welcome, though most games ages 8 and up. *Please register.* Refreshments provided.



Small Business Savvy Programs

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm Virtual

Registration is required to join these virtual classes on Zoom.

September 16

Starting a Business in the AI age

October 7

Business Plans in the AI age

November 4

Small Business Marketing Refresher

November 18

Accounting for Small Business

December 2 and 16

TBD

Book Groups

New members welcome! Books available at the library. Visit belleville.lib.mi.us/book-groups or scan QR code for titles, exact dates, and additional information.



Quiet Reading Book Club

First and Third Mondays, 7 pm

The Evening Book Group

First Thursday of the month, 7 pm

The Witching Hour Book Group

Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 pm

The Other Book Group

Third Thursday of the month, 6 pm,
at local restaurants

African American Literature Book Club

Last Thursday of the month, 7 pm

"Cook the Book" Book Club

Come celebrate the club's 5 Year Anniversary.
Registration is required

Monday, August 31, 6 pm

U.S. Road Trip

Monday, October 26, 6 pm

Latin America

Monday, December 14, 6 pm

Backpacking Europe

The Write Stuff Writers' Group

Last Saturday of every month, 1-2 pm.

No December meeting

Enjoy the camaraderie and support of other area writers and hone your skills with fun writing exercises and prompts!

New members welcome!

Weekly Programs

English Conversation Practice for ESL Learners Tuesdays, 1-2:30 pm

Practice speaking English in an informal setting with Literacy Council volunteers.

The conversation group meets every Tuesday that the library is open.

EXCEPT – November 24, December 22 and 29.

Mahjong Meetup Fridays, 11 am-1 pm

Drop in for a casual session of Mahjong with fellow game enthusiasts. All skill levels welcome and game sets provided!



Monthly Programs

Adult Beginner's Art Workshop First Wednesday of the month, 11 am

Local artist Kathryn Wood will assist, guide, and encourage you in developing your own style by helping you understand the fundamentals of art. Bring your own supplies and a project you are working on, and learn while creating your own masterpiece!

Classic Movie Nights Thursdays, 6 pm, September 10, October 8, December 10

Watch and discuss classic films in this series presented by former *Detroit Free Press* film critic John Monaghan! Brought to you by the Friends of the BADL and the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

Memory Café Third Wednesday of the month, 11 am

September's Cafe will be on the 23rd

Crafts, conversation, snacks, and fun! Our themed monthly gathering for those with memory issues and their caregivers and loved ones is not to be missed!

Tech Tutoring

Held at the Main Library

Are you struggling to learn a piece of technology? Make a **FREE** appointment with a librarian for a 45-minute private lesson. Call the library or go to our events calendar to sign up!

Chat from the Chair

For many, this is the time of year for new beginnings. Whether it's the start of the school year for students and teachers of all ages or just the beginning of shorter, cooler days, we can all look forward to something different. At the Belleville Area District Library, we're firing up a new program year and putting forth some first-time offerings to meet community needs.

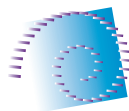


I would especially like to call your attention to the lead item in this newsletter, the Community Resource Day: Vital Documents and Voter Services. This is a first time offering for our library, and it couldn't be more timely. Our country's current civic environment is creating pressure for documentation of individuals at an unprecedented level. Recognizing the increase in the number of people seeking to access vital records, the Michigan Secretary of State and the Michigan League for Women Voters have collaborated to develop a one-stop information source to address this public need. Our library is pleased to offer this program in early September, and we hope you will help us spread the word about this valuable community resource during this important election year.

Along that same line, in mid-September our Genealogy Series is offering a deeper dive into record searches that would be especially useful to people exploring family histories. This newsletter also includes information on the two additional programs in the series this fall, one focusing on census records, and the other on utilizing obituaries to assist historical and genealogical research.

This fall, as always, our library is packed with wide-ranging programming covering entertainment, health and wellness, literature, gardening, small business support, and more. I invite you to review the pages of this newsletter and mark your calendars for items of particular interest to you. Also spread the word among your friends and neighbors. Meet up at the library! You'll be glad you did.

Sharon Claytor Peters, Chair,
Belleville Area District Library Board



BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

SERVING BELLEVILLE, SUMPTER AND VAN BUREN

167 Fourth St. | Belleville, MI 48111

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Belleville, MI
Permit No. 103



JOIN THE FRIENDS!

Join the Friends of the Library and help support the Belleville Area District Library in its mission to Engage, Empower, and Enrich the Belleville area community! Our Friends help make the Summer Reading Program possible, help at library events, and run the popular Used Book Sale at the library. For more information on this active group, go to <https://www.belleville.lib.mi.us/friends-of-the-library/>.

Used Book Sale

Saturday, November 7
11 am-Noon

Early access for Friends members

Noon-3 pm

General Public

Buy One Get One Free All Day!

Sunday, November 8
1 pm-3 pm

Bag Sale! \$5/bag, Sunday only

Computers and Devices

Classes are held at the Sumpter Media Center, 23465 Sumpter Road.

Call the library or visit our online calendar to register.

Computer Basics (Beginners)

Thursdays, 10 am

September 3 – Introduction to Computers

September 10 – Navigating Microsoft Windows

September 17 – Getting Started Online

September 24 – Email Basics



Microsoft Excel Introduction Series (Intermediate)

Saturdays, 3:15 pm

October 3 – Microsoft Excel: Part 1

October 10 – Microsoft Excel: Part 2

Microsoft Word Introduction Series (Intermediate)

Mondays, 6:30 pm

November 2 – Microsoft Word: Part 1

November 9 – Microsoft Word: Part 2

Fall into Fun at Our Annual Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 10, 11 am-3 pm

Join the community for a festive day packed with activities. There is something for everyone, including creative crafts for both kids and adults, fun games, interactive play areas for the little ones, and live music. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for a memorable autumn afternoon!

