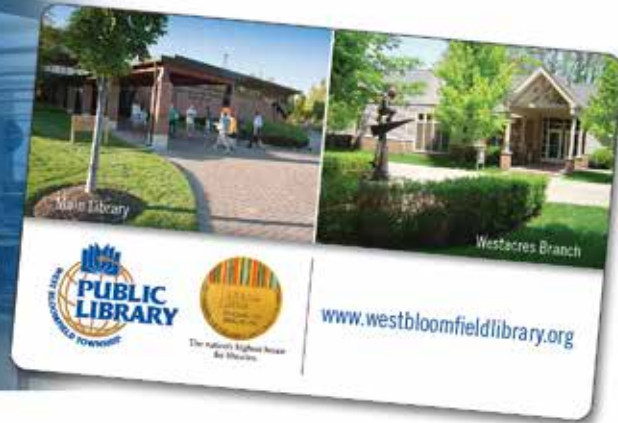


A COMMUNITY OF READERS



A Summer Library Adventure

Establish positive reading habits, earn fun rewards, and engage with others through the Library's Summer Reading program from June 12 - September 3.

All ages are welcome to join this year's Tails and Tales Summer Reading program. Registration begins Saturday, June 12 at www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org/summer.

Residents of West Bloomfield, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake or Sylvan Lake who have a West Bloomfield Township Public Library card are encouraged to register. Residents can renew or request a library card on the Library's website. Registration is also open to non-resident students with a student library card and their families.

Establish Positive Reading Habits

Summer reading programs encourage kids and families to establish lifelong reading habits. In the face of summer reading loss, 93% of parents and caregivers enrolled in the Library's 2018 Summer Reading program reported that their child maintained or increased reading skills during the program.

Earn Fun Rewards

This year's Summer Reading has two main components: reading hours and activities.

For each reading milestone youth & teen participants reach, they'll earn a new book from the book fair, which is now open all summer. Adult participants earn a reward after completing ten hours of reading.

Participants can earn points for activities in two ways: "Read, Learn, Create" and "Get Involved." These activities encourage broader summer learning and library connections. All points can be redeemed for tiered rewards like small toys, earbuds, and phone grips.

Engage through Events

This summer, the Library will provide activities for families and friends to do outside or at home in addition to offering online events.

Summer Reading fun begins with a virtual performance of "Jack and the Gentle Giant" by Madcap Puppets on Saturday, June 12 at 10:30 AM. The fun continues with "Tune in Tuesdays," a series of ten family-favorite entertainers hosted by the Library on



Allison Laz holds rewards earned from the book fair for completing 2020 Summer Reading milestones.

Tuesdays at 10:30 AM via Zoom. Registration opens two weeks before each event date.

Families can take summer library fun offline with weekly youth and biweekly young adult project kits. Each kit will contain a craft or hands-on project to encourage kids to explore, learn, and create with friends and family. Kits will come with all materials provided, as well as an instructional guide and video. Registration is required.

For more event details or to register for an event, visit www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org, select "Services," then select "Virtual Programs." Additional Summer Reading information can be found on the Library's website as well as in eNewsletters and on social media. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Bookmark this...

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Library Services Still Going Strong

A year into the pandemic, the Library reflects on changes and the future.



Jennifer Zohoury and her youngest, Max, pose in the library lobby after returning library materials.

When the West Bloomfield Township Public Library joined other libraries across the country in closing their doors last March, few could guess how the next year would look.

Now, over a year later, the Library has expanded digital collections to meet the growing demand, adapted new pandemic policies and procedures, and hosted virtual events for all ages.

Orchard Lake resident Jennifer Zohoury has three kids—a 5-year-old, a 4-year-old, and a 2-year-old—who attend two or three virtual library programs each week. The family also regularly uses the Library's parking lot pick-up service.

"My kids love Miss Emily and Miss Julie," Zohoury said. "They missed being able to see them in person, so we love that the staff has gone above and beyond to continue providing services online."

Library staff have hosted 570 programs for all ages online in the last year, drawing over 21,000 attendees.

"The virtual events have helped my kids to feel a little more involved and have offered a sense of normalcy during these crazy times," Zohoury said.

The Library will continue to offer online events throughout the summer. The Library will also focus on providing activities for community members to do outside or at home, ranging from developing hobbies with the Library's physical and digital resources to sparking adventures with a Michigan Activity Pass or Book Club Kit.

"It's been such a blessing to be able to still get books and take part in virtual programs during this rough time, and the librarians are the ones that make that possible," community member Kacie Orlando said.

The Library's phased reopening plan has allowed library services to gradually resume while prioritizing the safety of staff and community members. More information about pandemic policies can be found on the Library's website at www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org.

Both the Main Library and Westacres Branch have recently been inspected by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) and received commendation from the organization for compliance with COVID-19 safety protocols.

The Library is continuing to evaluate and meet community needs. Librarians, for example, have been offering assistance to those seeking to register for the COVID-19 vaccine.

"I'm so grateful for our library staff," Orlando said. "They've always been exceptional, but this last year really showed how helpful, caring, and creative they are."

Though the past year has posed challenges for public libraries across the country, the staff of the West Bloomfield Township Public Library have worked to ensure the Library is where community members can find support.

"The Library has been a source of consistency, learning and fun in a year that has been very unpredictable," Zohoury said.

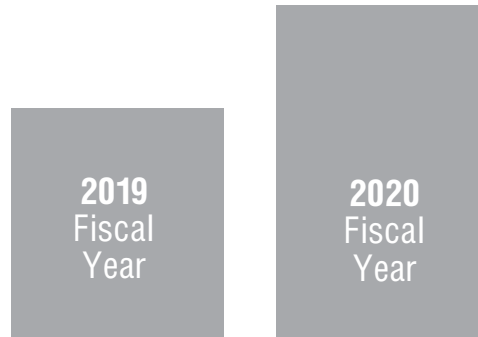


Early Childhood Specialist Emily Vickers hosts a Zoom storytime, one of the Library's many virtual events.

eLibrary Use Since April 2020

How do the Library's print and digital collections stack up?

From April 2020 to April 2021, eLibrary use has increased, but physical collections remain popular even during the pandemic.



Increase in eLibrary circulation of **43%**



81% of circulated materials were physical

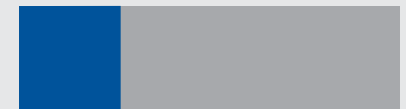
19% of circulated materials were digital

Physical and Digital Circulation by Collection

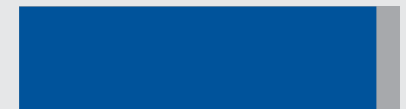
Books



Audiobooks



Videos



■ Physical ■ Digital

Two New Members Appointed to Library Board

The West Bloomfield Township Public Library Board of Trustees has appointed two community members to vacant positions on the board, effective through November 2024. Michael Dorfman will act as secretary while Raman Singh will serve as trustee.

Dorfman, an attorney and avid reader, has used the Library for 43 years.

"I've wanted to become a part of the place that has held such a continuously important place in my heart since the 1970s and brought me so much joy," said Dorfman of his decision to join the board.

Singh, an educator, has checked out library materials and attended library programs since moving to West Bloomfield 32 years ago.

"I've always had an interest in the Library," Singh said. "I think it's a real community gem. I want to do what I can to help support it."

Singh comes into the trustee position with prior local leadership experience, serving as president of the Interfaith Leadership Council of Metro Detroit since 2016 and previously serving on the West Bloomfield School District Board for five years.

"I look forward to getting to know more about my community and not just the Library but the people who run the Library," Singh said.

Dorfman is excited about the opportunity to give back to the community.

"I look forward to working hard with my fellow trustees to bring joy and important services to our community for years to come," Dorfman said. "To me, this is not a job but an honor."



Michael Dorfman, Library Board Secretary



Raman Singh, Library Board Trustee

eLibrary News

Your library card is your key to quick, convenient access to books, movies, and music, as well as instructional tools and resources on a wide range of subjects. Visit www.westbloomfield.org/eLibrary for more information. For video tutorials about accessing online resources, visit my.nicheacademy.com/wbllib.

RBdigital Moves to OverDrive

OverDrive announced in 2020 that it acquired RBdigital's eLibrary services, and the transfer of RBdigital materials to OverDrive is now complete. West Bloomfield Township Public Library cardholders can access magazines along with other digital content from www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org/eLibrary or on the Libby app.



Popular magazines available through OverDrive include *Us Weekly*, *The Economist*, *The New Yorker*, *Good Housekeeping*, *National Geographic*, *Family Handyman*, *Highlights for Children*, and over 3,300 other titles.

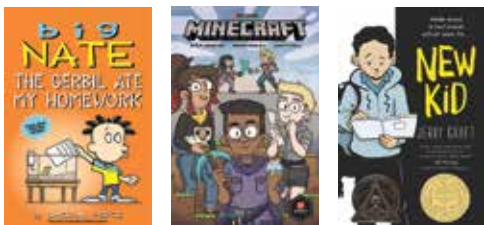
Access to Acorn TV through RBdigital has ceased, and the content will be unavailable on the OverDrive and Libby platforms. The Library does offer other streaming video services, and a small selection of Acorn TV content can be found on hoopla.

Introducing Udemy

Udemy, the Library's newest online learning tool, offers on-demand video-based classes for some of the most in-demand job skills.

Udemy offers over 6,000 up-to-date video courses across more than 75 different categories. From marketing to management and programming to office productivity, Udemy's courses apply to a variety of careers. The database includes an international collection of courses taught by native language speakers.

Engage Young Readers with



Comics and graphic novels can build reluctant readers' confidence, improve reading comprehension skills, and teach new concepts. Hoopla's collection of digital comics and graphic novels for all ages is convenient and easy to read.

5 eLIBRARY TIPS & TRICKS

Learn how the Library's digital collections can meet your needs with these tips and tricks from library staff.

1 **For books, search cloudLibrary first.** CloudLibrary is the Library's primary digital collection, with nearly 19,000 eBooks and eAudiobooks available to the Library's cardholders. Copies are limited, so users may need to wait for some materials.

2 **For no-wait books and more, try hoopla.** Hoopla allows immediate checkout of all materials. West Bloomfield Library cardholders can currently borrow up to 20 titles per card per month.

3 **Decrease your paper clutter with digital magazines and newspapers.** Take advantage of free on-demand access to your favorite periodicals through OverDrive and PressReader. Both collections include popular publications from around the world.

4 **Cut the cord with the help of the Library's video streaming services.** Enjoy movies and TV shows from hoopla & Kanopy and performances from the National Theatre Collection without disruptive ads or charges.

5 **Download the app.** Most eLibrary collections are available as an app on smartphones and tablets. Hoopla and Kanopy are also available as apps on some smart TV systems.

Youth Resource:



Studies have shown that kids lose math skills each summer, but regular summer engagement with math can prevent that slide. Incorporate math into your family reading with TumbleMath, a digital collection of math picture books now available through the Library.

Youth & Young Adult Events

Everyone is welcome to read, learn, and create at these virtual events. All programs listed will take place on Zoom. Registration is required. More programs and registration details can be found at www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org; select "Services," then select "Virtual Programs."

Youth Virtual Events

Virtual Cameron Zvara Magic Tuesday, July 20 at 10:30 AM

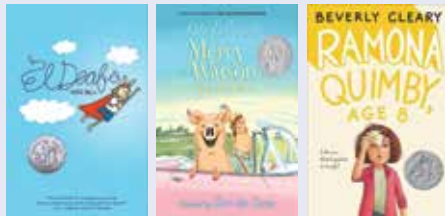
Be amazed as magician Cameron Zvara amuses kids and grown-ups alike in an awe-inspiring show filled with magic, comedy, juggling, stunts, and music. Recommended for all ages. Registration begins on July 6.



Virtual Mad Science: Tails and Tales of Science Tuesday, August 24 at 10:30 AM

Learn about amazing features of animals and explore how they move, see, and evade predators in this fun-filled event about our animal friends and foes. Recommended for all ages. Registration begins on August 10.

Junior Book Kits to Go



Reading and discussing books together has benefits for children and adults, from building critical thinking skills to strengthening relationships.

The Library has over 25 junior book kits available to support K-5 family, friend, and neighborhood book clubs. Each kit includes six copies of a book, as well as related discussion questions, reviews, and biographical information.

Search the library catalog or contact Youth Services for more information.

Young Adult Virtual Events

Virtual D&D: Animal Adventures

Monday, June 28 and Monday, July 12 at 7 PM

Grab adventure by the tail in this animal-themed role-playing game! Animal Adventures is a rules-lite version of Dungeons and Dragons where characters are fantastical cats and dogs. Characters will be provided. Registration begins one month before program date.

Virtual Tinkercad and 3D Printing

3D Stackimals: Thursday, June 17 at 4 PM and Thursday, August 19 at 10 AM

MicroLinks Mini Golf: Thursday, July 8 at 4 PM and Thursday, July 22 at 10 AM

Tinkercad is a free, online, entry-level tool to learn 3D design. Completed designs will be created on the Library's 3D printer and can be picked up at a later date. Design a multicolored animal in a 3D Stackimals session, or create a tabletop miniature golf course in a MicroLinks Mini Golf session. Registration begins one month before program date.

Virtual YA Book Club

Check out one of these fairytale-themed books and discuss them with other young adults. Registration begins one month before program date.

A Tale Dark and Grimm

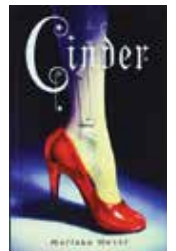
by Adam Gidwitz
(Recommended for middle school readers.)

Wednesday, July 21 at 7 PM

Cinder

by Marissa Meyer
(Recommended for high school readers.)

Wednesday, July 21 at 8 PM



Michigan Activity Pass

Check out Michigan this summer with free and discounted tickets to statewide attractions. Visit bit.ly/wbllib_passes to search among over 400 destinations.

Destinations include museums, nature centers, parks, theaters, campgrounds, children's activity centers, and more. New sites are added regularly, such as the 13 Huron-Clinton Metroparks that joined in May.

Have your library card number ready to reserve tickets, and be sure to check the destination's website for the latest information.

Adult Virtual Events

All programs listed will take place on Zoom. Registration is required. More programs and registration details can be found at www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org; select "Services," then select "Virtual Programs."

Put Your Best Brain Forward

Tuesday, June 29 at 10 AM

Join Lynn Breuer, LMSW, CHC, CDP, and Joely Lyons, LLSW, for an interactive presentation on the aging brain's health and wellness, including a discussion of lifestyle factors that impact brain health and recent non-pharmacological interventions. You'll also have the opportunity to learn about and try evidence-informed cognitive training exercises. Presented by Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit. Registration begins June 1.

African Wildlife

Monday, July 26 at 7 PM

Discover the different wildlife, landscapes, and conservation methods that vary across Africa's unique savannah ecosystem through a photo presentation led by Naturalist Andrew Nowicki. Registration begins June 26.



Backyard Birds and Beyond

Wednesday, August 18 at 7 PM

Greg Bodker's beautiful photography will help you learn more about birds as he demonstrates the joys of birding both in your backyard and in our area. Novice and



aspiring birders will especially benefit from the program. Registration begins July 18.

Community Events

FOOD TRUCK TUESDAYS

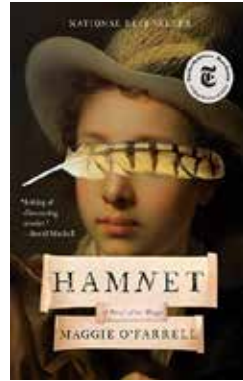


**Tuesdays, June 15 and 29, July 13, September 14 and 28
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Join us for lunch in the Civic Center Complex! Food trucks will be located on the south end of the Recreation Activities Center parking lot. Organized by the Township, Library, Police, and Parks Departments. Visit wbparcs.org/foodtrucktuesdays for updates.

BOOKED for the Evening Discussions

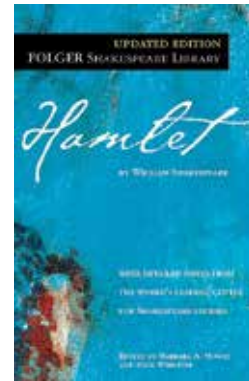
Dr. Tara Hayes will facilitate stimulating discussions on award-winning books throughout the summer. Registration is limited to West Bloomfield Library cardholders and begins one month before the program date. The number of participants is limited to allow questions and interaction.



Hamnet

by Maggie O'Farrell

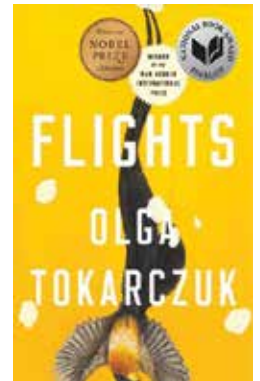
**Monday, June 21
at 7 PM**



Hamlet

by William Shakespeare

**Monday, July 19
at 7 PM**



Flights

by Olga Tokarczuk

**Monday, August 16
at 7 PM**

Film Discussion Series

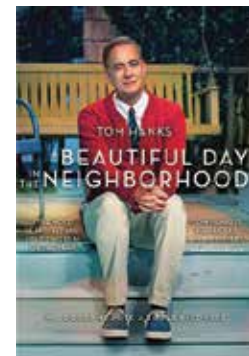
Watch these thought-provoking new films, then join Dr. Tara Hayes and others for a discussion. Registration is limited to West Bloomfield Library cardholders and begins one month before the program date. The number of participants is limited to allow questions and interaction.



Little Women

Directed by Greta Gerwig

**Monday, June 14
at 7 PM**



A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Directed by Marielle Heller

**Monday, July 12
at 7 PM**



Hustlers

Directed by Lorene Scafaria

**Monday, August 9
at 7 PM**

News & Programs from Your Friends

Friends of the Library Donations Support the Library's Pandemic Efforts

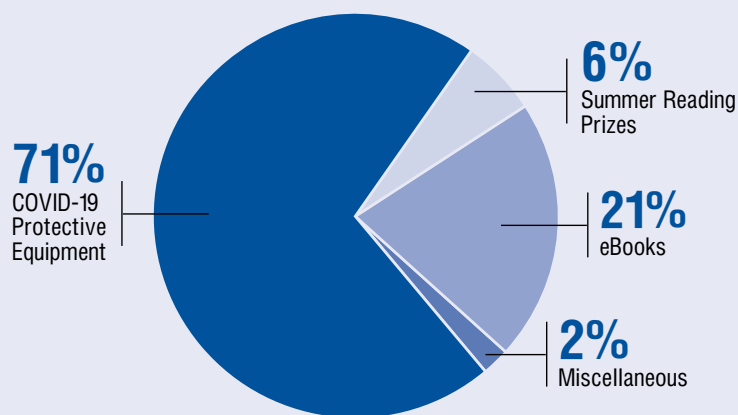
Over the last year, the Friends of the West Bloomfield Township Public Library nonprofit has contributed funding to strengthen library services during the pandemic.

Funds generated by Friends memberships, book sales, and the Friendship were put towards several high-priority causes since April 2020, including support for safety measures needed due to COVID-19 and the acquisition of eBooks.

The Friends group also directly funds several library programs, including virtual BOOKTalks during the pandemic.

Community members interested in donating time or funding to the organization can learn more at www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org/friends.

Friends Contributions from April 2020 – April 2021



BOOK Talks



Hamnet

by Maggie O'Farrell
Diane Henderson, Discussion Leader
Thursday, September 9 at 7 PM
OR Friday September 10 at 10 AM

BOOKTalks are presented via Zoom. Registration is required, is open to anyone with a library card in our system, and begins one month before the program date. Visit www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org, select "Services," then select "Virtual Programs." BOOKTalks are organized and funded by the Friends of the Library.

Library Volunteers Honored at Michigan Week



Library volunteers Aaron Wiseman and his job coach Nicole Faulkner were among the volunteers honored at Michigan Week.

Three library volunteers were recognized for their community service work on Wednesday, May 19 at the Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Week Community Awards Celebration.

Aaron Wiseman was nominated by the Library alongside his job coach Nicole Faulkner.

"Aaron works diligently to ensure that the materials are properly and promptly shelved for community members to browse and enjoy," Main Library Branch Manager Jeff Crocker said. "Library staff appreciate that they can count on the assistance of such a friendly and helpful volunteer nearly every afternoon."

Wiseman is a circulation services volunteer who, with Faulkner's help, keeps the Library's movie shelves well-stocked.

"These shelves are among the Library's most popular and need frequent refilling," Crocker said.

Volunteer Wendy Osthaus was nominated by the Friends of the Library.

Osthaus has served the Library and Friends for over 20 years, organizing book sales and leading from the library and friends boards. In addition to these achievements, for the last five years, Osthaus has led the Friendship.

"Wendy brings to these tasks boundless energy and enthusiasm and cheerful friendliness to all who work with her," Friends President Trudi Hill said.



Friends of the Library volunteer Wendy Osthaus was recognized for over 20 years of service to the Library and Friends.



The nation's highest honor for libraries.

4600 Walnut Lake Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48323

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Southfield MI



Learn How Print & Digital Collections Compare

Details on page 3



DIRECTOR'S LETTER

I have had the pleasure of being your library director for six months, and I can't thank you enough for the warm welcome I have received. The Library Board and staff have gone out of their way to bring me up to speed, and it has been a real pleasure to meet so many community members as well. It's not easy to change jobs, especially in the midst of a pandemic, but you have made it such a positive experience.

I am also looking forward to summer and getting outside again. The Library's Summer Reading program offers opportunities for independent and family reading and activities. Due to COVID-19, our focus this summer is on reading, creative pursuits, and independent learning activities.

If you need things to do and places to go, check out a Michigan Activity Pass with your library card to explore state parks, metroparks, historic sites, cultural attractions, and campgrounds. If you're traveling, take the Library with you!

Digital materials like eBooks and eAudiobooks are easy to transport on your device. Check out the latest offerings in cloudLibrary, hoopla, and more.

Throughout the pandemic, WBTPL has been able to remain open because the safety protocols we've put in place have succeeded in keeping staff and community members safe. Please be assured that we will continue to monitor case numbers and follow all guidelines put in place by the CDC, MDHHS, and MIOSHA. Changes in service levels are guided by the Library's Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan; any changes to existing service levels will be announced via the Library's website and social media, so please stay tuned.

With best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer,

Cathy Russ

MAIN LIBRARY

4600 Walnut Lake Road
(248) 682-2120 FAX (248) 232-2291
TTD (248) 232-2292
Email: wbrief@wblib.org
Text: (248) 648-3368

WESTACRES BRANCH

7321 Commerce Road
(248) 363-4022 FAX (248) 363-7243
Email: wacrref@wblib.org

PHASE 3 HOURS OF SERVICE

Mon. – Thurs.: 10 AM – 7 PM
Fri. & Sat.: 10 AM – 5 PM
Sunday: Noon – 5 PM

ONLINE LIBRARY

Open 24 hours every day
www.westbloomfieldlibrary.org



The Library will be closed:

Saturday, July 3 to Sunday, July 4
INDEPENDENCE DAY

Saturday, September 4 to
Monday, September 6
LABOR DAY

Cathleen Russ, Library Director

Board of Trustees

Carol A. Kravetz, President
Judith A. Holtz, Vice-President
Ken Macon, Treasurer
Michael Dorfman, Secretary
Kari Eickemeyer, Deputy Secretary/Treasurer
Raman Singh, Trustee



From the Director's Shelf

