

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS PUBLIC LIBRARY LIBRARY NEWS



Join Jen for Bedtime Story Time on Facebook Live, Wednesdays at 7pm

BMPL is Here for You

The Blue Mountains Public Library staff are working to provide you with alternative services, such as online programming and our Virtual Branch, which is always open! We will continue to keep our community reading, listening, learning, and researching while still practicing COVID-19 physical distancing.

You can access our extensive digital collection through our [Virtual Branch](#). Develop new skills. Learn a new language. Visit an online exhibit. Explore local history. Flip through online magazines. Stream movies. There's always lots to do at the library! All you need is the internet and your library card!

Like and follow **The Blue Mountains Public Library** and **The Craighleith Depot** on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to join in our NEW online programming! On top of sharing free and authoritative resources, fun activities, articles, and reading suggestions, BMPL is also offering programs in a digital format.

Need help with your computer, smartphone, or tablet? Ashley can help! Join her on [Facebook](#) for Wired Wednesdays, every Wednesday at 1pm. Ashley will be recording tech tips and answering your tech questions. Learn something new.

Enjoy **Virtual Story Times** with Jen from the comfort of your own home. Gather the family together and join her on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#), Fridays at 11am or snuggle up with **Bedtime Story Time** every Wednesday nights at 7pm. We have a new **Digital Book Club** for adults, taking place on [Facebook](#) every Thursday at 1pm. Drop by our page and post comments to take part! Talk about what you're reading, make recommendations, and share all things books. We will also have a **Family Craft Time**, every Saturday at 11 am on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), featuring a fun, family activity that you can do at home.

Visit the Museum's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to catch up with Museum staff. **Museum Mondays** with Monica airs on [Facebook](#) Mondays at 3pm: this month features Fossils. **Cluesday Tuesday** with Alessia posts themed heritage photo activities to [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Start Thursday mornings with Andrea as she shares historical poetry by local authors starting April 8 at 9:30am on [Facebook](#). On Fridays, join Allison for **Museum Show, Tell and Sketch** on [Facebook](#) at 1pm.

We will be adding more online programming as time goes on, so make sure to keep checking our [Event Calendar](#) for our new online programs.

160 Years of Public Libraries in Blue Mountains

In honour of Archives Awareness Week, the Craigleith Heritage Depot launches a new online exhibit about local architect Leonard E. Shore – the namesake for BMPL's main branch L.E. Shore Memorial Library. Shore's contributions to regional architecture were significant, including designing Meaford General Hospital, Meaford Elementary School, Georgian Bay Secondary School, Collingwood District Collegiate, and Stayner District Collegiate Institute. Learn about L.E. Shore's local roots and his contributions at library.biblioboard.com (search using Leonard E. Shore).

The creation of L.E. Shore Memorial Library united communities and saved public access to educational resources at a time when funds were low and library facilities needed upgrading. Built in 1995, the current library was designed by Leonard's architectural firm and was constructed after his death with a \$1.5 million donation from the Shore Foundation.



Leonard Eldon Shore



Collingwood Township Library, Phyliss Brown Librarian

Municipal public library services in the Blue Mountains have been valued since 1860 when our community was called the Township of Collingwood. Books were kept in the homes of ten librarians who were also postmasters, tailors, and farmers. The Town of Thornbury separated from Collingwood Township in 1887 and the Thornbury Public Library Board was formed. By the 1970s Thornbury and Collingwood Township shared resources as space and conditions at both libraries became limited, and a joint community library was considered. In 1995 the L.E. Shore Union Library officially opened which soon became the L.E. Shore Memorial Library after TBM was amalgamated. This year the Blue Mountains Public Library celebrates 25 years of providing library services. Check out more library history on the 25th of each month in 2020 @CraigleithDepot on Facebook & Twitter.

Female Poets from the Blue Mountains

In the 19th and 20th centuries, female poets from the Blue Mountains were publishing their poetry and receiving recognition for their work. These poets ranged in age from the young Gladys C. Currie, with her 1928 poem published in [Creative Young Canada](#) to Marion Fields Wyllie who wrote throughout her life from age 13 to 106. This is our list of poets so far, if you know of others who published during the 19th and 20th centuries, please let us know.

Ethel Stilwell Allan, [To You](#), 1926

Florence Bistretzan, [Mountain Memories](#)

Mary Buchanan, [Country Breezes from Breezy Brae](#) (1910)

Gladys C. Currie, [Creative Young Canada: Collection of Verse, Drawings and Musical Compositions by Young Canadians from Seven to Twenty Years of Age](#), 1928, Contributor

Christina Isobel Fields, [Collingwood](#)

Grace Alma McKinlay, [Pleasant Valley Portraits](#), 1971, [Fairview Fancies](#), 1977, [Facts and Fancies from Fairview Farm](#), 1984, [Glimpse Into Infinity](#), 1980

Marion Fields Wyllie, [Pebbles on the Beach](#), 1974, [The Smawls of Shoobawks](#), 1985, [Spring Onions](#), 1987

To discover more about these writers and their work check out Biblioboard for our online exhibit Literary Women of the Blue Mountains. (library.biblioboard.com) Female writers of all genres from our community are featured on this site. Discover the depth of local writers from our community. This online exhibit will grow as more materials are uploaded.



Mrs. Mary Buchanan

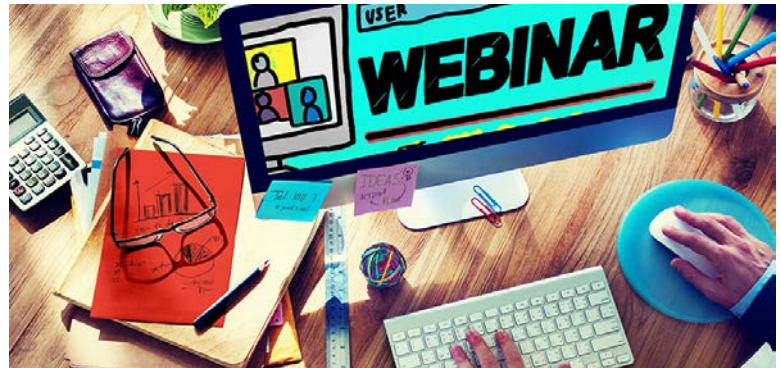
Come stand on top of the world with me!
Come reach into Infinity!
Together pluck a new-blown thought,
Fresh from the garden of the God!

Poems by
ETHEL STILWELL [ALLAN] 1926
(Copyrighted)

Creator Space Digital Arts Lab Offering Free Online Classes

The Blue Mountains Creator Space Digital Arts Lab has moved all workshops to an online format, and is now offering free online learning to residents of South Georgian Bay including the Blue Mountains, Clearview, Collingwood, Meaford, and Wasaga Beach. The Creator Space is a not-for-profit digital arts lab and learning hub, in partnership with the Blue Mountains Public Library, and supported by the Canada Council for the Arts.

Online workshops feature a video conference format that offers online participation by the students in small class sizes. These workshops teach and explore fundamental digital arts skills in the areas of digital video, digital design, digital sound and digital photography. An artist profile webinar series called Digi-Talk is also available where local digital artists will discuss their artistic background and demonstrate their craft. The April 7th Digi-Talk will feature animator and illustrator Jeff Wilson, and April 21st will feature musical group Shipyard Kitchen Party.



The Creator Space's Digital Art Exhibition, titled **This is Your Brain on Digital Art**, will also move to an online format, originally scheduled for April 2020 in the Blue Mountains Public Library Gallery. Digital Art works by local digital artists will be exhibited online to include photography, design, illustration, sound, music and video works. Submissions will be accepted until March 31, 2020. For more information visit www.tbmcreatorspace.com/art-exhibition-2020. To be notified about the exhibition's online release, sign up for the Creator Space's newsletter: <https://tbmcreatorspace.com/newsletter>, or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tbmcreatorspace>.

The Blue Mountains Creator Space offers free membership and members can access the free workshops, webinars and online resources. Residents can visit www.tbmcreatorspace.com for more information about the Blue Mountains Creator Space, to sign up for free membership and to register for workshops and events.



Our Virtual Branch is always open.

thebluemountainslibrary.ca/virtual-branch.cfm

Book Tech Help
eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines
Online Learning including Lynda.com and Mango Languages
Streaming Movies and TV
Local History
Homework Help and Early Literacy



Library Board Corner

The BMPL Board met on March 19th, where we passed a Pandemic Response policy and provided authority for the CEO to work within the draft Pandemic Plan. All Board and committee meetings are occurring as scheduled. Following notification from the MHSTCI, these meetings will occur virtually using teleconferencing software in order to keep our Board members safe at home.

On March 13th our CEO sent an e-blast to members and provided the link to our [Service Updates & COVID-19](#) page. We have since put out six updates to this page, and encourage the community to check this page regularly for updates on how our staff are continuing to provide services.

Our CEO and staff are continuing to work, mostly out of the buildings, without any need for layoff. The staff have switched their service model from providing excellent service face to face, to providing the same high quality service in alternate ways over the BMPL website and Facebook, and through our [Virtual Branch](#).

To support staff safety, the CHD book return has been closed and only the LES bookdrop is available. This is being checked regularly for those who are interested and able to return their materials. As soon as the the province says it is safe to reopen for material circulation, our staff will reinstate these services.

Both locations are continuing to provide Wi-Fi in our parking lots. Additionally, for those who require a computer to complete an EI application, the CEO will be taking appointments for computer access for EI applications only. Those that have laptops or tablets should use the Wi-Fi and not request appointments. This is for those without a computer at home who, now that Service Canada is closed to appointments, have no way to apply for the new EI programs online. For EI appointments or other comments, the CEO can be reached at LibraryCEO@TheBlueMountains.ca.



L.E. Shore Library

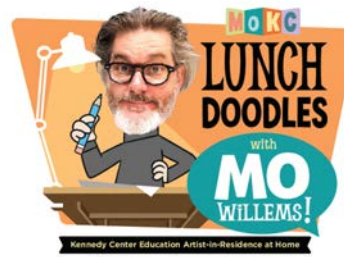
173 Bruce Street South
Thornbury, Ontario
519-599-3681 ext 140
libraryinfo@thebluemountains.ca

Craigeleith Heritage Depot

113 Lakeshore Road East
The Blue Mountains, Ontario
519-599-3681 ext 370
depot@thebluemountains.ca

Make Learning at Home Fun

We can help you to find educational and fun activities for your kids while they're at home. Click to visit the link.



Mo Willems invites kids and families into his studio every day for [Lunch Doodles](#). Learn how to draw, doodle and explore new ways of writing. Grab some paper and pencils, pens, or crayons and explore your creativity.

[NASA Kids' Club](#) Who wants to go to Outer Space? Explore NASA's online activities, eBooks, and learning content.

[TEDEd TED Talks for youth!](#) Featuring animated videos, talks from educators around the world, and interactive lessons, [TEDEd](#) is helping curious students learn about the world around them.

[Scholastic Learn at Home](#) When the schools are closed, you can keep the learning going with the help of Scholastic. Every day includes different learning experiences, for different age groups, built around a story or video. Kids can do them on their own or with their families. Just find your grade level and let the learning begin.

[Curio.ca](#) This online streaming teacher resource is available for free at this time. The best in video and audio from CBC targeting educators. Find content to by subject or provincial curricula.

[TumbleBooks Library](#) Animated, talking picture books, plus videos, read-alongs, puzzles and games. TumbleBooks is a great way to enhance family literacy and at-home reading.

Explore museum and art gallery collections from around the world on [Google Arts & Culture](#). Step aboard the International Space Station, go inside Anne Frank's hiding place or take a virtual tour from the Eiffel Tower.

We have a new page on our website, [Things To Do At Home](#). This page features links to activities and educational resources to support our families and caregivers of children during the BMPL COVID-19 shutdown. Check back often! We continue to add content regularly, as we discover it or develop it.