A New Year

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a safe and happy end to 2020 and is looking forward to 2021. With a new year, there is always the feeling of a fresh start with resolutions, goals, and ideas for the future. Our staff is looking towards the months ahead to prepare programs helpful to our patrons. After the last year, we’re all too happy to look ahead instead of behind but let’s take a moment to reflect on the good that happened in 2020 at the library.

After an initial shutdown in March, Bookmobile staff got right to work producing virtual programs from their own homes. When the libraries began to open again in June, staff were quick to begin curbside and walk up services, which is also when the Bookmobile’s drop-off/pick-up program began. Now, our Library on Wheels has an assortment of virtual programs that include virtual art lessons and a social media presence, as well as in-person operations for answering questions and delivering library material. Whatever 2021 brings, we will be working hard to meet our community’s needs!

Throughout the past year, many of us took to reading as a form of comfort, whether new releases or familiar favorites. We’ll be sharing some 2020 books that won awards in this newsletter issue, as well as some of our most anticipated upcoming releases. We would love to hear about your favorite books that you read this year and if there are any you are looking forward to in 2021.

In the upcoming months, the Bookmobile will continue to operate as a drop-off/pick-up service for our patrons so please continue to call, email, or write to us with requests. We look forward to seeing you in the new year!
Valentine’s Day
Book Recommendation

Evvie Drake Starts Over by Linda Holmes is a witty and heartfelt book that would be perfect for Valentine’s Day. It tells the story of Evvie Drake, a recent widow who is looking to start moving forward. Dean Tenney is a Major League baseball pitcher looking for some time off to refocus. Through a mutual friend, Evvie and Dean become neighbors and as they learn to confront their own pasts, they find themselves becoming more than friends. This book is funny, romantic, and just the right amount of cozy to make it through the cold month of February.

Programs
Bookmobile Bath

One of the ways that the Library on Wheels is unique is that it requires special care, including a regular washing! Bookmobile staff is responsible for washing the exterior and cleaning the interior of the Bookmobile. During the cold, snowy months of winter, the bus needs to be washed frequently to protect it from rust and keep its colors bright. Here, you can see our Senior Page Heather reaching the top of the Bookmobile to make sure the whole thing gets thoroughly cleaned.
### February Events

**Note:** Schedules are subject to change. Please check the library website for an up-to-date calendar.

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<td>3 pm Stonegate Drop-off/ Pick-Up</td>
<td>11:30 Brant Town Hall 2 pm Bethel Estates Drop-Off/Pick-Up</td>
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<td>8:30 am Asbury Pointe Drop-off/ Pick-Up</td>
<td>9 am Blessed Mary Angela Drop-Off/ Pick-Up</td>
<td>1-3 pm Boys and Girls Club of Holland</td>
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<td>9 am Blessed Mary Angela Drop-Off/ Pick-Up</td>
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**Virtual Book A Technology Trainer Appointments**

Get free, one-on-one technology help from the library via Zoom

*The TechKnow Lab is now scheduling virtual technology training sessions.*

Get help via Zoom from home on your own computer/device or at our Zoom Book a Technology Trainer Station located at the Central Library.

For more information and to schedule an appointment visit [bit.ly/tklbatt](http://bit.ly/tklbatt) or call 716-858-8900
All Ages!

B is for Book
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
Winter Reading Challenge

Enter to win great prizes here:
http://becpl.ny08.readsquared.com/

Friday, Jan. 1 - Friday, March 5, 2021
Throughout the next few months, many organizations will be announcing their “Best Book” awards. Here are some of the books that have been awarded in 2020.

**American Dirt**  
by Jeannine Cummins  
B&ECPL Most Requested Book of 2020

**The Vanishing Half**  
by Brit Bennett  
B&ECPL People’s Choice Winner

**The Dutch House**  
by Ann Patchett  
Library Employees’ Choice - best book

**Interior Chinatown**  
by Charles Yu  
National Book Awards Fiction Winner

**The Guest List** by Lucy Foley  
Goodreads Mystery & Thriller Winner

**The Undefeated**  
by Kwame Alexander. Illustrated by Kadir Nelson  
Every Child a Reader 3rd – 4th Grade Children’s Choice Book Award Winner

**A Memory Called Empire**  
by Arkady Martine  
Hugo Science Fiction Award for Best Novel Winner

**The Dead Are Arising: The Life of Malcolm X**  
by Les Payne and Tamara Payne  
National Book Awards Nonfiction Winner

**Hamnet** by Maggie O’Farrell  
Women’s Prize for Fiction Winner
Highly Anticipated 2021 Books

Here are some of the most highly anticipated 2021 releases. Are there some upcoming books that you are excited to start reading? We’d love to hear what you’ve got on your list!

The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

Later by Stephen King

Wings of Ebony by J. Elle

Last Call: A True Story of Love, Lust, and Murder in Queer New York by Elon Green

Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict

Concrete Rose by Angie Thomas

Eyes That Kiss in the Corners by Joanna Ho, illustrated by Dung Ho

Beloved Beasts: Fighting for Life in an Age of Extinction by Michelle Nijhuis
Upcoming Movie Releases

In 2021, some film studios have decided to forgo the movie theater as a safety precaution and will be going straight to DVD and/or streaming. Here is a look at some of the films being released this year.

- **Raya and the Last Dragon**
  - Expected Release Date: March 12, 2021
  - Family/Fantasy

- **No Time to Die**
  - Expected Release Date: April 2, 2021
  - Action/Drama

- **Black Widow**
  - Expected Release Date: May 7, 2021
  - Action/Superhero

- **Free Guy**
  - Expected Release Date: May 21, 2021
  - Comedy

- **Ghostbusters: Afterlife**
  - Expected Release Date: June 11, 2021
  - Action/Adventure

- **Minions: The Rise of Gru**
  - Expected Release Date: July 2, 2021
  - Family/Comedy

- **Candyman**
  - Expected Release Date: August 27, 2021
  - Horror

- **In the Heights**
  - Expected Release Date: June 18, 2021
  - Musical

- **Dune**
  - Expected Release Date: October 1, 2021
  - Science Fiction
Community Art Show

We would love to show your own original work! Have you been painting or writing in quarantine? Sharpening your photography skills? However you’ve been expressing yourself creatively, we’d like to see it.

Send a scan or photos of your work to bookmobile@buffalolib.org or mail us at:
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
Bookmobile Department
1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY 14203

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Nonfiction Highlight: True Crime

The dark, quiet days of winter are a popular time for true crime readers to bunker down at home with a new book or documentary series. Careless People: Murder, Mayhem, and the Invention of the Great Gatsby by Sarah Bartlett Churchwell is a perfect read for fans of true crime and history alike. Set against the background of New York City in the 1920s, and using archived material, Churchwell takes the reader into the world of high society, prohibition, and a double murder that shook the city and helped shape F. Scott Fitzgerald’s classic novel The Great Gatsby.
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Find the words in the grid. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.

By Evelyn Johnson - www.qets.com

Baby
Calendar
Champagne
Cheer
Clock
Confetti
Dance

Family
Fireworks
First
Football
Happy
Hat
January

Kiss
Midnight
Music
Parade
Party
Resolution
Year
VALENTINE’S DAY

ACROSS
1 Talk back
5 France & Germany river
9 Colors
13 Efficiently
14 Leaf
15 Cola company
16 Churn
17 Brief letter
18 Intense light beam
19 One who observes another person with pleasure and approval
21 Letter opening
23 __ you! (attention getter)
24 Possess
25 Ceremony
26 Used to attract attention
29 Greeting
32 BB association
33 Aleutian
36 Company symbols
37 Bow
38 Hoop
39 Napper
40 Tender and passionate affection
41 Color that resembles the color of blood
42 Flowers of love
43 Computer screen dot
44 Grow older
45 Poetic “evening”
46 Bind
47 Tranquillize
48 Drink slowly
50 Morse code dash
53 Press with lips as sign of love
55 Written communication of information
57 Cavalry sword
60 Chicken house
62 Mature
63 Arise
64 Opposed
65 Chinese chime
66 Deprive of mother’s milk
67 Was
68 Wager

DOWN
1 Biblical woman
2 Home
3 Slippery
4 Monetary unit
5 Fibrous
6 Beautify
7 Alternative (abbr.)
8 Woodwind instrument’s need
9 Root of one’s emotions
10 United Parcel Service
11 Compass point
12 Title of respect
13 Scottish fabrics
20 Underground part of plants
22 Inaccuracy
26 Unpack
27 Afloat
28 Mark
29 Love squeeze
30 Cheat
31 Gets older
33 Tapestry
34 Feudal superior
35 Finished
36 Fail to keep
39 Small pigeonlike birds
40 Tell a tall tale
41 Kneed again
42 Small fruit seeds
43 Men’s jewelry
44 City in Ohio
45 Struck
46 Chief ancient Philistine god
47 Represervative
48 Fence of small trees
49 Replace a striker
50 Heroic tale
51 South southwest
52 Dined
53 Less than two
54 5, 5, 5
55 6, 6
56 6, 6
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61 6, 6
62 6, 6
63 6, 6
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66 6, 6

By Evelyn Johnson - www.qets.com
Valentine’s Day

Solution:

1. SASS
2. SAAR
3. SAAR
4. SAAR
5. HUES
6. PEPSI
7. IDLE
8. IDLE
9. IDLE
10. ROIL
11. ROIL
12. ROIL
13. ABLY
14. ABLY
15. ABLY
16. NOTE
17. NOTE
18. NOTE
19. DEAR
20. DEAR
21. DEAR
22. DEAR
23. HEY
24. HEY
25. HEY
26. RITUAL
27. RITUAL
28. RITUAL
29. HOY
30. CARD
31. CARD
32. CARD
33. ALEUT
34. ALEUT
35. ALEUT
36. LOGOS
37. LOGOS
38. RING
39. RING
40. RING
41. ROSES
42. ROSES
43. ROSES
44. AGE
45. EVEN
46. TIE
47. SEDATE
48. SEDATE
49. SIP
50. SIP
51. DAH
52. DAH
53. KISS
54. KISS
55. MESS
56. MESS
57. SABRE
58. SABRE
59. SABRE
60. COOP
61. COOP
62. COOP
63. STOOD
64. STOOD
65. GONG
66. ANTI
67. ANTI
68. ANTI