

**Oconee County Library Board Meeting**  
**Minutes for October 9, 2023**  
**4:30 p.m.**  
**Bogart Library**

Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The following members of the Board were present: Chairman Mark Campbell, Vice-Chairperson Rubielen Norris, Secretary Fred Lutz, Angela Moss-Hill, Deann Craft, Daphne Norton and Laura Moore.

Oconee County Library and Athens Regional Library System members were also present including James Mitchell, Donna Butler, Valarie Bell and Toby Mayfield.

The meeting was video recorded by Dr. Penny Mills of the community. Chairman Campbell welcomed the community members that were present. Four Oconee County residents were given the opportunity to address the board for three minutes each based on their order of sign-up.

Upon a motion by Ms. Norris seconded by Ms. Moss-Hill, the minutes of the July 10, 2023 meeting were approved.

The Branch Manager's report was provided by Mr. Mitchell. The written report is attached. Mr. Mitchell also reviewed the planned programming for Oconee libraries for the next quarter. Chairman Campbell commented that the programming report format is much improved, and that providing it as read ahead for board members in advance of the meeting was appreciated.

Regional Director Bell expanded on the mandated change to employee health benefits discussed at the July meeting. The Regional Strategic Plan has been completed and will be presented to the Regional Board for approval at the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Director Bell's written report is attached. In closing, Director Bell indicated that the Oconee Board needs to approve a date for closing the Watkinsville Branch Library to support an orderly move to the new Wire Park location. November 24<sup>th</sup> was suggested as the date for closure.

The regional services report was provided by Ms. Mayfield. The written report is attached.

Friends of the Library activities reported included cancelation of the planned Bogart Friends September 30<sup>th</sup> book sale and the completion of a successful book sale at the Oconee Community Center. Mr. Mitchell provided the Oconee library friends a behind the scenes tour of the Wire Park library facility.

### Old Business

Chairman Campbell reported that construction of the new Oconee County library at Wire Park is going very well. The next meeting of the Library Advisory Board is scheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup> in the new library. A motion offered by Ms. Norris and seconded by Ms. Norton that the Watkinsville Branch close November 24<sup>th</sup> to support orderly transition to Wire Park was unanimously approved. Director Bell noted that the book drop containers would remain open in Watkinsville for several weeks after branch closing.

### New Business


Chairman Campbell indicated that five books had been reviewed by the library staff as well as the intellectual freedom committee of the library board based on requests for reconsideration submitted by Oconee County residents. Five recommendations were provided to the Oconee Advisory Board for formal consideration at the meeting. Decisions were documented on a newly developed Book Action Decision Form, Discussion ensued.

1. Based on a motion by Mr. Lutz, seconded by Ms. Craft, the book, *Beyond Magenta*, was reclassified from young adult to the adult section. Ms. Moss-Hill dissented.
2. Based on a motion by Ms. Norris, seconded by Ms. Moore, the book, *If You're a Kid Like Gavin*, was unanimously designated juvenile nonfiction rather than picture book and retained in the current juvenile section.
3. Based on a motion by Mr. Lutz, seconded by Ms. Norton, the book, *Welcome to Consent*, was reclassified from juvenile to the young adult section.
4. Based on a motion by Ms. Norris, seconded by Ms. Moore, the book, *Welcome to St. Hell*, was unanimously reclassified from young adult to the adult section.
5. Based on a motion by Ms. Norton, seconded by Ms. Moss-Hill, the book, *The ABC's of LGBTQ+*, was unanimously retained in its current young adult classification.

Director Bell and Mr. Mitchell addressed the topic of art for the new library. After discussion, Chairman Campbell stated that he would appoint a committee to consider art, art locations, funding and potential providers. He requested that board members interested serving on the art committee contact him outside of the meeting. Director Bell also noted that the dedication plaques attached to the Watkinsville Branch Library might need to be removed for possible display at the Wire Park location. After discussion, Chairman Campbell indicated that handling of the dedication plaques would be added to the charter of the art committee.

There being no further business, upon the motion by Mr. Lutz and seconded by Ms. Moss-Hill, the board adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on Monday, January 8, 2024 at the new Ocone County Library in Wire Park.

  
Mark Campbell, Chairman

  
Fred Lutz, Secretary

Athens Regional Library System  
Engaging Communities, Exceeding Expectations  
Branch Manager Report for Library Board of Trustees  
Oconee County Library, James Mitchell  
Date: 10/09/2023  
**October 2023 Librarian's Report to Library Board**

**Bogart Library**

**Children Services:**

- ★ Oh, my! Our summer and fall programs have continued to bloom, along with our Tween volunteer program this summer. Donna had over 40 young volunteers, ages 9 - 14, who assisted at programs, prepped crafts and kept our library full of energy and life. 43 "top readers" and the tween volunteers attended an after hours pizza and movie night on July 28th. Library staff served over 4 gallons of lemonade, 140 pieces of pizza, 40 popsicles and popped 18 bags of popcorn. Several parents stayed and were amazed! Several commented on how much they appreciated our dedication to their children. "Helping out at the library really gave my daughter a purpose. That's not easy for 11 year olds. They're too young to have jobs, but are too old for the little kids' stuff."
- ★ Our fall programs continue to be a success. Donna has waiting lists for both Busy Bee Toddler Times, with over 20 showing up for the first 10 am program! Meet and Play on Fridays has been a great opportunity for parents to meet each other. Read to Rover has resumed and draws LOTS of kids on the third Thursday of each month.

★

**Passive Learning Programs:**

Puppet theater, Coloring, Blocks, Legos, Puzzles. (We received the donation of a puppet theater from another branch. The kids LOVE it and we enjoy hearing the impromptu puppet voices coming from the children's section.

★ **Teens:**

Dungeons & Dragons has resumed for Tweens/Teens and has been very successful, thanks to Kathryn and volunteers Angela and Larry Moss-Hill. Paul's Arty Evening and Tween Trivia programs were extremely successful this summer. Our Teen Escape the Record Store escape room was also a great success. Blaine is planning an Escape the Library program during Winter Break or shortly after. (She is also presenting a program on Escape Rooms at Staff Development Day.) Kathryn hosted "Art & A Movie!" this summer. There were requests for more movies, so she's added Frigh-Day Frights to our schedule, for both teens and adults.

★ **Family Events:**

We held several very successful Family Events this summer, including Big Family Read: Mr. Limoncello's Library, puppet shows and a Pollinator Party. We've also added Family Game Saturdays to our monthly schedule. The first on September 21st was very successful. At this writing, we are looking forward to STEAM Saturday: Solar Edition with Dr. Maurice Snook. Families will make solar viewers and learn about the annular solar eclipse. We're looking forward to Hogwart's Halloween and Boo, Ya'll! in October. We'll have Family Movies, Gingerfest and Booking it With Santa in December and are

planning a puppetry workshop and "Calming Bag Creations" workshop in January and February. Both will be led (with Donna's assistance) by two of our tween and teen volunteers.

**Tweens:**

Tween Trivia Nights, Tween Escape Room (Escape the Record Store), Star Wars Trivia, Choose Your Own Adventure and our Pizza Party were very well attended. Paul has a knack for Tween programming.

**Outreach:**

Donna presented at the Northeast Georgia RESA School Library and Media Specialist Conference. She did storytelling for Sandy Creek Nature Center and Bear Hollow Zoo, in exchange for programming at Bogart. She also hosted Cleveland Road Elementary 2nd grade and visited Cleveland Road Elementary Kindergarten. Several Bogart staff attended and provided passive programming (including face painting) at the Bogart Fall Festival.

**Adult Services:**

- ★ Bogart: Help! I Yarned with Kathryn is growing well. Penny Mills continues to shine with two book clubs and our monthly memoir group. This summer, we hosted programming on The Constitution and The Military White Table Ceremony.

## **Watkinsville Library**

**Children Services:**

- ★ Children's Librarian Carley Stewart has left for a new Outreach job in North Carolina. We have hired Jeralee Mornhinweg as the new Children's Librarian
- ★ The programming rooms are currently not available as there was mold detected in the rooms. We have transitioned to using the Ivy Room for the next two months

**Children Services Special Events Since July 10 Board Meeting:**

- ★ Toddler art in July and September
- ★ Kids writing group and Creative writing workshop
- ★ Where the Wild Things Are meet and greet and storytime
- ★ We Move Together Storytime
- ★ Infant Storytime
- ★ Rapunzel meet and greet
- ★ Saturday Storytime
- ★ Lego Club Saturday
- ★ Book Binding Workshop
- ★ Ice Cream Party with Rebecca Sunshine
- ★ Harry Potter Birthday Party
- ★ Brown Bag Family Movie



- ★ Grandparents' Day Brunch
- ★ Rosh Hashanah Storytime
- ★ Spanish Storytime
- ★ Read Around the World Book Club

**Children's Services continued to do the following weekly events:**

- ★ Storytime (Tuesdays)
- ★ Read to Rover (monthly)
- ★ Open Play (Thursdays)
- ★ Lego Club (Thursdays)
- ★ Builder Club (through July)
- ★ Coding Club (through July)
- ★ Anime Club (through July)

**Passive Programs:** Crafternoon (Tuesdays)

**Teen Services Recurring Events:**

- ★ Dungeons and Dragons (August and September)
- ★ Prism Club
- ★ Anime Club
- ★ Teen Book Club

**Teen Services Special Events:**

- ★ Teen Maker's Market- Very well attended event in mid July where teens sold their handmade products to the public at the library.
- ★ Magical Cake competition
- ★ Three Broomsticks- Teach teen how to cook meat and pumpkin hand pies.
- ★ Back-to-school ice cream social
- ★ End of summer reading awards and Harry Potter's birthday
- ★ Hamilton Sing a Long
- ★ Teen Art Show and Reception-very well-attended evening to celebrate the nine teen artists who showed their art in the auditorium all of August.
- ★ Homeschool Expo Info session- ran during the swap and provided a place for homeschoolers to interface with businesses that offer homeschool specific services (example: Athens Technical College Dual enrollment )
- ★ Homeschool Expo swap- Very well-attended event that ran for a weekend in August and provided local families with hundreds of books and supplies that were donated by the community.

- ★ Beta Club Open House- an event where the OCHS Beta club was invited to come learn all about autumn volunteering at the library.

### **Teen passive programs:**

The teen department started a new monthly passive program called "Teen Book Worm Bags". Each bag has a book, a book mark, a decorative pin, stickers and several pieces of candy.

Teen Services gave out 20 back to school origami crafts.

### **Adult Services:**

#### **Adult Services Recurring Events:**

- ★ 3rd Monday Book Club
- ★ Dungeons & Dragons for Adults
- ★ Pen Pals Writing Group
- ★ Across the Board Book Club
- ★ History Lecture Series
- ★ Vietnamese Class
- ★ Bookish Trailblazers
- ★ Bingo

#### **Adult Services Special Events:**

- ★ Artisan Expo
- ★ Genealogy After Dark
- ★ Paint & Sip
- ★ Celebrate Faith: Sacred Texts
- ★ Constellation Cross-Stitch
- ★ Charity Crafters
- ★ Hobbit Day
- ★ Voter Registration
- ★ Local History Expo
- ★ Adult Services worked with local artisans to provide patrons the opportunity to watch demonstrations and learn how to do different crafts such as pottery, weaving, spinning yarn, and embroidery. This event had over 80 participants who all got to learn about hands-on crafts and arts.
- ★ Adult Services worked with the Clarke Oconee Genealogical Society and the Heritage Room at the Athens Clarke County Library to have an after hours program called

Genealogy After Dark. Thanks to our Friends of the Library, we were able to provide each participant with dinner.

- ★ We are working with the Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscripts UGA Sports Memorabilia Collection, the Watkinsville Historical Society, and the Heritage Room at the Athens Clarke County Library to provide the Local History Expo.
- ★ Ash is working on a Community Art Exhibit where patrons of all ages can submit their art to be our first Artists displayed at the new space at Wire Park.
- ★ Adult Services celebrated the works of JRR Tolkien with a Hobbit Day event open to all ages. We had an escape room designed by Ash and each time slot had at least ten people signed up. We also had four different crafts for patrons to choose from and over 50 patrons attended over the three hour period.
- ★ Ash organized 2 Charity Crafters events that helped the Athens Area Homeless Shelter by allowing patrons to knit or crochet dishcloths. Patrons created over 25 dishcloths for the Athens Area Homeless Shelter to use in their “going home kits”.
- ★ Adult Services added a second book club on the Last Thursday of every month to accommodate patrons who asked for a daytime book club. Ash will pick books for this book club based on the cultural heritage month of that month. Example: Women’s Equality Day (August), Hispanic Heritage Month (September), Filipino American History Month (October), and Native American Heritage Month (November).
- ★ Passive Programs in Adults:
  - Never Be Bored Board
  - Library Card Sign-up Month Raffle

### **Patron Comments:**

#### **Bogart:**

“ I tell everyone that the library is the best value around. Ya’ll are so kind and do such a great job helping me find books. My only complaint is that you don’t charge me enough when I bring books back late!” *Never heard that before. DOB*

A letter from a patron, which included some of her favorite quotes about libraries: “All these years later, I’ve had the pleasure to be a conduit between these sublime authors and friends, neighbors, educators of my children, family members and even our priest! Now, I’m connecting my librarian and her staff to the great Celeste Ng. Thank you for being an even better conduit of glorious words and stories to those of us who need them; for many of us, our local library is a sacred place. Warmly and with gratitude,” Gina ....



"Thank you so much for helping these kids understand how important it is to have a purpose and to help others."

"A patron dropped by to pick up a hold and came to the front desk. She said 'I'm so glad you are here. I wanted to tell you how much it meant to me to see your encouraging face at the last Board meeting. You and this library are so special to me and my family. You all give off an aura of kindness and I know that everyone who walks in your door knows that this is a safe place. You go out of your way to be kind to everyone who comes in and it's noted and appreciated. Thank you for helping our community.'" DOB

#### **Watkinsville:**

"Hi there, wanted to send along praise for adult programs with Ash at Oconee County Library! I have loved getting to do painting and other activities. She does an amazing job creating and facilitating wonderful, engaging events and is so kind. Also have been loving the additions of Father's Day and grandparents' day parties.... Jessica were awesome as usual. Thank you for these wonderful programs!"

#### **Regarding the Teen Art Show and Reception:**

Thanks so much for organizing this. We had a great time.-- parent of teen artist

This was a wonderful experience for our daughter! Thank you for the opportunity to showcase her talent in a public setting and having a reception our whole family could attend! – Parent of a teen artist

#### **Regarding the Homeschool Swap:**

Thank you for this! I am on a budget and this helped us find some of the resources we needed to homeschool. – Homeschool parent who attended the August Swap.

#### **Regarding the Teen Makers Market:**

We had a wonderful day and sold out! Thanks!-- parent of a teen at the market

**Regarding Prism Club:**

"I am so glad that Prism is safe and that so many people rooted for us" – Prism Club teen in response to the July 10, 2023 board meeting.

" ..... We drove past the library and saw all of the cars at the board meeting and I got so scared.... I am so happy everything is ok. I heard we could keep Prism Club and I started crying. I am so happy we can keep Prism. Prism is literally what helped me be more comfortable with myself."- Teen in response to the July 10, 2023 library board meeting.

"I am glad Prism will keep going!! Thank you for always advocating for us and for creating and maintaining a safe and welcoming space."- Prism Club teen in response to the Library board meeting of July 10, 2023.

"Thank you so much for hosting these kids at Prism Club. My child has nowhere else to go where they feel accepted. We drive almost an hour to be here." – Father of a Prism Club Teen.

## Oconee Library Program Plans

**Blue Weekly**

**Red Monthly**

**Green One Time**

**Pink Series**

### Watkinsville

#### Children's Department

Storytime (Tuesday through November with exception of 11/21)

10/10 Duck and Goose Find a Pumpkin (Todd Mills)

10/17 Dinosaur Roar (Paul Strickland)

10/24 No Such Thing (Ella Bailey)

10/31 Trick or Treat Bugs to Eat (Tracey C Gold)

11/7 Old Bear (Kevin Henkes)

11/14 You're my Little Pumpkin Pie (Nicola Edwards)

11/28 Walter's Wonderful Web (Tim Hopgood)

Spanish Storytime (October 20th @ 5pm and Nov 17th @ 5pm)

Vamos a bailar y cantar y leer! Come listen and practice fun Spanish songs and stories! You don't have to speak Spanish- come have fun and learn! All ages.

Crafternoon (Tuesdays through November with exception of 11/21)

Drop in for a craft or two! All materials supplied. All ages welcome.

Lego Club (Thursdays through November- 3:30-5:30 pm with exception of 11/23). Ages 5-12.

Drop in and build your own LEGO creations! All materials provided.

Tween Builder's Stem Club ( Saturday 10/14 and 11/11)

Love to build? Are you a creator of gadgets? Drop in and build your own creations with STEM toys like Brain Flakes, Bristle Blocks, K'nex Physics, Straws and Connectors and Marble Runs. Ages 8-12.

**Read to Rover** (Thursday 10/12 and 11/ at 2:30)

Bring your favorite book or pick out one in the library to read to or friend, Grady the dog!

**Open Play** (Thursdays through November at 11 am with exception of 11/23)

Drop in for play to help build your child's brain and encourage early literacy. Birth -5.

**Pumpkin Painting with Cinderella** (Sunday, October 8)

Come decorate a pumpkin with Cinderella! All supplies provided. Registration required. Pumpkins will be voted on the following week and the winning pumpkin will receive a prize!

**Turkey in Disguise Contest** (Saturday, Nov. 4)

Drop in from 10-12 to Disguise a turkey! These turkeys do not wish to be eaten on Thanksgiving, so disguise them so they won't be found. All supplies will be provided. Registration is required. Turkeys will be displayed and voted on the following week. Winning turkey will receive a prize.

**Celebrate Faith Series: Christmas Storytime** (Saturday, Nov. 11)

We continue our Celebrate Faith Series highlighting important religious holidays. This month we learn about Christmas through stories, songs and crafts.

\*No programs in December or January\*

### **Young Adult Programs:**

#### **Prism Club-** (Wednesday, October 4 and November 1) 6-7pm

(Zombie Escape Room-October) and (Random crafts using YA closet art supplies (Free-for-all)-November)

Prism Club is a safe space without judgment for teens who share a common vision of equality to gather and build community. Come hang out with us in the library as we play games, do crafts, talk about our lives and build community! **Teens Grades 6-8.**

#### **Teen Anime Club-**(Wednesday, October 11) 6-7pm

Teens Grades 6-12

(No Anime november-january)

Meet with other fans of anime and manga to discover books, shows, movies, snacks, art and Japanese culture. Join us as we play games, eat snacks and watch anime.

#### **Teen Book Club-** (Monday, October 30 and November 27) 6-7pm

Teens grades 6-12

Join us as we discuss October's and November's Book (TBD)

Read and bring your own copy or stop by the front desk at the library and ask about the teen book club book. We have copies available for check out!

Teen D&D Club- (Monday, October 16 and November 20) 6-8pm

Grades 6-12

Join us for an interactive game of Dungeons and Dragons. All skill levels are welcome and DM's are encouraged. If you need help creating a character, shoot us an email and we would be happy to help. For right now, we are playing one-shots so don't worry about coming into an existing game with no idea of what is going on. We've got you covered. Prize drawing at the end of the evening. Grades 6-12

Teen STEAM Club- (Tuesday, October 10) 3-4pm

Grades 6-12

STEAM TOPIC: The Earth's Crust

- Teens will explore and identify rocks and minerals using scientific processes that geologists use in the field and the lab.
- Teens will assemble a model of the Earth's crust.
- Teens will look at and identify fossils.

Teens may work on one or all of these projects.

This program was made possible in collaboration with Cornell Center for Materials Research.

Teen STEAM Club- (Monday, November 6) 7-8pm

Grades 6-12

STEAM TOPIC: teen Skywatchers night

JOIN US TO TEST OUR NEW TELESCOPES

Is astronomy something you've always been interested in? Let's learn together! Clear Skies Required.

Check our social media prior to coming to be sure we have proper conditions for viewing



**Spooky Crafts-** (Wednesday, October 18) 6-8pm

Grades 6-12

Join us for a horror filled night as we make Jack-O'-Lantern Jars and paint Haunted Doll Heads!

**Murder Mystery Night-** (Wednesday, October 25) 6-8pm

Multi-Generational

"YOUR JOB IS TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY OF WHAT HAPPENED TO LOCAL TEEN JAMIE BANKS ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 20TH, 1992 USING THE INVESTIGATOR'S ORIGINAL CASE FILE. ARE YOU UP TO THE CHALLENGE? DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO SOLVE A COLD CASE?"

**Gaming Night-** (Wednesday, November 15) 6-8pm

Teens Grades 6-12

Round up your friends, grab your favorite handheld gaming device (whether a phone, tablet, Switch, etc.) and head on down to the library for a night of gaming fun!

We will have some gaming devices to share.

\*No programs in December or January\*

**Adult Programs:**

**Bookish Trailblazers** (Tuesdays, October 3 & November 7)

Come join us at Harris Shoals Park for a walk and a chance to talk (about books or anything!) with other members of the community. We will meet at

the Harris Shoals Park pavilion with the picnic tables and then take the walking trail.

### Jack-o-Lantern Carving (Monday, October 9)

Join us to carve your own pumpkin! Each participant gets a pumpkin and supplies to carve a design of your choice! Please sign up on our website to secure your spot. This event is strictly for ages 18+ due to sharp carving tools.

### Vietnamese Class (Mondays, October 9 & November 13)

Instructor Martine Thy Nguyen will lead a class for adults on the basics of Vietnamese. The program is free and open to all levels.

### Dungeons & Dragons for Adults (Saturdays, October 14 & November 18)

Join a D&D campaign run by library staff. No previous experience is needed. Registration is required.

### 3rd Monday Book Club (Mondays, October 16, November 20, & December 18)

Meets every month to discuss books chosen by patrons. October's book is Amor Towles' The Lincoln Highway.

### Paint & Sip (Monday, October 23)

We will paint a picture of a pumpkin patch perfect for your fall decorations. We will offer dessert and sparkling grape juice as patrons paint.

**Murder Mystery Night- (Wednesday, October 25) 6-8pm**

Multi-Generational

Join us for a Murder Mystery Party where you will be using the investigators' case files to solve the mystery of what happened to local teen Jamie Banks on the morning of November 20th, 1992.

**Across the Board Book Club (Thursdays, October 26 & November 30)**

Join us for a new book club on the last Thursday morning of every month! This month we will read Arsenic and Adobo by Mia P. Manansala. Limited copies are available at the front desk.

**Pen Pals Writing Group (Mondays, October 30 & November 27)**

Writing group where patrons can share their work and get feedback and edits from other writers.

**All ages Programs:**

**Harvest in the Park (Saturday, October 28)**

We are partnering with Wire Park to host an all ages Fall Festival from 10-2 at Wire Park. We will have games, costume competition, pumpkin decorating contest, special Halloween Magician, bake sale with items made by Beta Club Members, and a pie eating contest.

**Walking in the Watkinsville Christmas Parade (Sunday, December 3)**

The theme of parade is "A Story Book Christmas." Various staff members will be dressing up as different Dr. Seuss characters, decorating a book cart

and walking in the parade. We will be passing out candy to the children as we walk.

### Christmas at Wire Park (date tbd)

We will have a table at the Christmas at Wire Park event. We will provide holiday crafts and color sheets for people who come.

## **Bogart Library Program Plans**

**Oct - Jan 2023**

### **Age Group: Early-Literacy (children ages birth-6 with caregivers)**

**Monday Funday Preschool Story Time:** Oct 16- Dec 11. (Resumes January 8th) (10:30 - 11:30 am)

Preschoolers and their caregivers are invited to join Ms. Donna for a lively program of early literacy fun. We use puppets, songs, books and storytelling to build language and literacy skills. Stay afterwards for STEAM driven activities and play with friends. Highly interactive. The first Monday of each month is Maker Monday, while the last Monday is Musical Monday.

**Busy Bee Toddler Time:** Wednesdays, 10 & 11 am, September 13-Dec 4 (11 am is a repeat of the 10 am program) (Resumes January 10th)

Toddlers ages 12 months to 3 years and their caregivers are invited to join Ms. Donna for songs, rhymes, movement and story fun, using puppets, instruments and other manipulatives to build social skills, language and literacy. Highly interactive. **Registration requested.**

**Meet & Play** Fridays, 10:30 am - noon (ongoing)

Parents and little ones are invited to enjoy open play and make friends.

### **School Age & Tween Programming:**

**Lego Builders' Club (all ages, but best for ages 5 - 12)**

Wednesdays. (Ongoing Sept 13 - Dec 13th) 3:30-5 pm

Drop in to build with our LEGOs, Duplos, Mega Blocks, and various paper and wooden manipulatives for imagination and logic building fun.

**Read to Rover (ongoing)**

Third Thursdays of each month, 4-5 pm. Ages 4 & up are invited to read to one of our visiting TDI dogs.

**Chapter Chat Book Club (twens ages 8-11) 4th Thursdays 4:30-5:30 pm**

Fourth Thursday of each month, 4:30-5:30 pm September - November and January - April, twens ages 8-11 are invited to join Mr. Paul or Ms. Donna for discussions, crafts and snacks based on a middle grade novel.

Oct: *The Egypt Game* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder

Nov: *The Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum (\* Tuesday, Nov 21st) includes showing of the classic movie.

**Teen/Tween Programming**

**Dungeons & Dragons for Twens/Teens**

1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month, ongoing 6-8 pm

**Gingerfest: Nailed It!**

**Wednesday, December 20th**

Teens and Twens, join Ms. Blaine & Ms. Donna for fast-paced fun, creating a gingerbread house, NAILED IT! Style. We'll make no-bake gingerbread houses using graham crackers, icing and candies.

Twens: 2-3 pm

Teens: 4-5 pm

**Adult Programming:**

**Bogart Bookies Afternoon Book Club**, First Tuesdays of each month @ 1 pm

**Memoir Writers' Group**: 2nd Tuesdays @ 5:30 pm

**Help I Yarned! Fiber Arts Group**: Tuesdays, October 17th & November, 21st @ 6 pm and Fridays, October 20th, November 17th and December 15th @ 1pm

**Sewing Circle:** First Wednesday of each month, 11 am - 1 pm

**KnitLits:** Every Thursday, 6-8 pm

**Mystery Book Club,** October 24th, November 28th and December 19th @ 5:30 pm

**Art for Adults: Pumpkin Glass Painting, Tuesday, October 17th 6 pm**

### **Family Events (Teen/Adult)**

#### **Frigh-day Frights! Movie Series**

**4:30 - 6 pm**

Adults, tweens and teens are invited to a discussion and showing of classic horror films every Friday in October. Popcorn, lemonade and art supplies provided.

October 7: Frankenstein (1931. Rated TV-PG)

October 14: The Mummy (1932. Rated TV-14)

October 21: Little Shop of Horrors (1960. TV-14)

October 28: Dracula (1931. TV-14)

#### **Science Night: Eclipse Edition Tuesday, October 10 @ 6:30**

An annular eclipse is coming! All ages are invited to join Dr. Maurice Snook for information about this amazing event. Learn about safe viewing and how to make your own visual tools. Free solar glasses available to attendees. Families welcome.

#### **Chilling Tales: Thursday, October 26th 7-8**

Join Storyteller Donna Butler for chilling folktales from southern Appalachian and Celtic traditions. **Ages 11 and up only.**



**The Amazing Story of William & Ellen Craft Saturday, Nov 11 @ 11 am**

Join Master Storyteller Jeannette Waddell to hear the amazing true story of William and Ellen Craft, the enslaved Georgia couple whose daring and ingenious escape to freedom is still celebrated today.

**Family Fun!**

**Board Games (All ages four to senior adult)**

Saturdays, October 18th and November 25th, 2 - 4 pm

**Hogwarts' Halloween, October 28th 2-4 pm**

Family fun for Harry Potter fans. Crafts, games and photo opportunities.

**Boo, Ya'!!!: Halloween Games and Crafts**

Passive program, Tuesday, Oct 31, 12:30-7:30

Join us for Halloween fun, then visit the City of Bogart's Trunk or Treat from 6 - 8 pm. All ages, but best for ages 3-9

**Booking It with Santa**

Saturday, December 9, 11 am - 1 pm

Join us for Holiday STEAM fun, snacks & a visit with Santa! Free book giveaways, while supplies last. All ages welcome, but best for ages 2 & up.

**Family Movie Night: The Muppet Christmas Carol (G) Tuesday, December 19, 6 pm**

Hey, Families! Dress in jammies, bring blankies and settle in for a fun-filled frolic of sing-along holiday fun. Hot chocolate, cookies and popcorn will be served. All ages!

**Gingerfest! Wednesday, December 20, 10:30 - noon**

It's back! Families with little ones, join us for creative, tasty crafts and fine motor activities. Loads of fun and a sweet good time will be had by all!

**Family Movie Afternoon: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe (PG)** 3 pm, Thursday, December 28. Join us for the movie version of the classic tale. Tweens, join Mr. Paul for a discussion and activities about the book for our January Chapter Chat on Thursday, January 22nd.

**New Year's Eve Eve, Saturday, December 30th**

Two family events to celebrate 2024! Families with younger children are invited for crafts, crafts, crafts and photo opportunities from 11 am - noon. Families with children ages 4 & up are invited to drop in 2 - 5:30 pm for **Board Game Fun!** Bring your own favorites or play ours.

## **Toby Mayfield, Assistant Director for Regional Services - July 2023**

- The branch managers and I all continue to meet each Wednesday to discuss important matters and attend training sessions. We often have guests (usually Resource Team Members) to discuss projects or collaborations. On May 24th & 30th, Anna Tench -Technical Assistant and Trainer, spoke with the team on circulation procedures for the chromebooks and launchpads. On June 21st, Darcy Downie -ARLS Public Information Officer, met with our team for the first time. Our next in person meeting will be August 2nd at the Bogart Library.
- Attended all library board meetings: Winterville, Madison, Franklin, Oconee, Athens-Clarke, Oglethorpe, and ARLS from April 6-21.
- Interviewed candidates for the Oglethorpe County Library branch manager with Executive Director, Valerie Bell, and Board of Trustees Chair, Mike Garner. **-Hired Katherine Ratcliffe**
- Interviewed candidates for the Madison County Library library assistant position with Branch Manager, Aleta Mendenhall-Turner. **-Hired Megan Dudley**
- Attended the Marigold Festival where our very own, Deirdre Murry, Branch Manager of Winterville Library, Co-Marshalled the parade with State Librarian Julie Walker! Regional Children's Librarian, Rebecca Ballard, performed with her Rebecca Sunshine Band on the stage at the Front Porch Bookstore. Winterville Library Assistant, Sam Watson, performed a lovely storytime for the children in the audience.
- Attended the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting on June 5th.
- Attended the Oconee County Board of Commissioners meeting on June 6th.
- Continued work in the Wire Park -Watkinsville project, the GEER grant team, and the East Side User Group as well as the regional strategic planning process -created activity plans for Watkinsville, Bogart, Madison, Oglethorpe, Aaron Heard, Lay Park, and Winterville. All remaining branches will be completed by the end of July.
- Completed or reviewed annual reviews for all branch managers and branch staff.