Looking to find new and exciting reads during the cold winter months? Whether you're looking to expand your horizons or clear out your backlog, the 2021 Adult Winter Reading Challenge can help you find great reads to enjoy!

Register for the Reading Challenge on Beanstack or by visiting the Reference Department to receive a Reading Log and a list of categories. Read 8 books over the course of 8 weeks for a chance to win a prize!
Greetings to all our Newport friends and visitors!

"[2020] is not a year I will look back on with undiluted pleasure. In the words of one of my more sympathetic correspondents, it has turned out to be an annus horribilus. I sometimes wonder how future generations will judge the events of this tumultuous year."

Queen Elizabeth II, b. 1926

Indeed. What are we to make of this "tumultuous" year? The illness and sadness visited upon family and friends, the distancing that proved to be the safest way to blunt the transmission of the virus, but had implications that were completely unexpected. Having to close the Newport Public Library was an unprecedented decision and for the rest of my career I will regret having to do so. One of my greatest disappointments was having to postpone - then postpone again - the celebrations around the Library’s 150th anniversary. A small committee has been working on this event since October, 2017 and to see it pushed back to October and then to April, 2021 has been dispiriting but plans continue apace.

However, this is, as I have mentioned many times, a perfect time to reflect. We may have had to close the Library but the spirit of public service - to which your librarians are dedicated - shone through in many ways. The move to virtualization of our programs and services proved to be a boon for many patrons here in Newport and across the state. We rethought and refocused our finances to maximize digital materials so that those who were forced to quarantine could still gain access to the comprehensive collection available at your Library. The Adult Services department instituted a virtual reference question response squad so that assistance could be given throughout the day. The Children’s and Young Adult department rose to the occasion by providing story times, craft programs, and learning tools for our youngest patrons. The Circulation Services department began a curbside and then vestibule pickup system, and Newport was the second library in the state to provide this service. You should know, or be reminded, that our Property Management team has been faultlessly meticulous in maintaining a large space according to - and exceeding - all recommended disinfecting protocols articulated by state and federal guidance.

Through the generosity of the Friends of the Newport Library, we were able to purchase "Hazel," a machine that cleans all library items using ultraviolet light. This tool ensures that the materials borrowed can be cleaned by using safe and modern technology to ensure that we can get items back into circulation and off your account as quickly as possible. You can see Hazel in action behind the Circulation Services desk. I thank the Friends for the continued generosity in helping the Library operate to its fullest potential.

The Library was forced to close in December in an abundance of caution related to the current pandemic. It was deemed the safest and most prudent course to follow for the safety and continued good health of the staff and Library patrons. Let us hope we never have to make such an awful decision again.

A New Year’s letter usually consists of hopes for a health and happiness and this was never more fervently hoped for as we bid adieu to a year unlike any other. The Newport Public Library is always here for you, even when we have had to switch to a virtual presence.

It is true that for many, the year was not a succession of tragedies and misfires, but we must be aware that as one year passes another begins. And so, the staff of the Newport Public Library commits itself to ensuring that 2021 will see us with renewed vigor and a deepened commitment to public service.

As always, I invite you to stop by the Administration office and say hello. I send this with my
Children's Winter Reading Challenge

The Winter Reading Challenge, for children ages 0 - 12 years old, will take place from January 4th - February 27th. Children participate online through Beanstack and choose from a variety of activities to complete the challenge. Children only need to complete 5 of the 20 activities to complete the challenge.

Children who complete 5 activities will receive a small toy. Any child who completes all 20 activities will also receive a free book!

Participants may register now and begin the challenge on January 4th.

best wishes,

Joseph Logue
New! Wonderbooks and Vox Books!

The Children's Department is delighted to announce the addition of Wonderbooks and Vox Books to the collection!

Wonderbooks and Vox Books are print books with a ready-to-play audiobook inside.

Kids will press play to read along with their favorite books. There's no need for computers, tablets, or CDs.

Visit the Children's Department and check them out today!

Preschooler Take and Make Crafts

Prepackaged and available for pickup at the Children's Desk during regular Library hours, new crafts will be available every other Monday.

In the event of a Monday holiday, crafts will be available on the Tuesday of that week.

January 4th  
Cup Snowman
January 18th  
Snowy Owl
February 1st  
Dog Heart Magnet
February 15th  
Ninjas

BONUS Take and Make Craft (all ages)

Joining Hands Multi-Color Wreath
February 1st - 27th

Children will be invited to pick up a bonus Black History Month Take and Make craft during the month of February. Each hand in the joining hands multi-color wreath reminds us that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. joined hands with people of all colors when he marched for freedom.

The different colored hands also promote tolerance and peace by allowing children to recognize that various ethnic groups have different colored skin.

VIRTUAL Children's Storytimes
Children are invited to experience storytime in an all new format! Storytimes will be pre-recorded and posted online for limited time. All storytimes are virtual until further notice.

Learn More on the Storytimes and Activities page.

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**Preschool Storytime**

Mondays  
Jan. 1 - Feb. 15  
10:00am  
Ages 2-4 Years Old  
Videos available for 1 week.

**Baby Bookworms**

Every other Thursday,  
Jan. 14, Jan. 28, Feb. 11 & Feb. 25  
10:00am  
Ages 0-24 Months Old  
Videos available for 2 weeks.

**Special Storytime - Penguin Stories**

Wednesday, Jan. 20  
10:00am  
Ages 2-4 Years Old  
Video available for 1 month.

**Special Storytime - Tooth Stories**

Wednesday, Feb. 17  
10:00am  
Ages 2-4 Years Old  
Video available for 1 month.

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Click here for Family Programs

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**Teen News**

**Expanded Program Schedule!**

Due to popular demand, the Young Adult Department is excited to announce we are expanding our monthly programming! Beginning January 2021, YA will offer not one but TWO different and incredible take-home crafting projects for teens.

Grab & Go Good Time Kits are activity bags you pick up at the Library and do in the comfort of your home. Each kit includes supplies and detailed instructions on how to put the project together.

In order to accommodate our growing schedule, YA will also be switching up our monthly program lineup!

**Online Adventures**
1st Monday of the Month

The whole world may be stuck indoors, but that doesn't mean you can't go on an adventure. An Online Adventure, that is. The 1st Monday of every month we release a new virtual escape room or digital scavenger hunt that's all the fun of their IRL counterparts, but can be played from anywhere in the world.

Grab & Go Good Times
2nd & 4th Mondays of the Month

Grab & Go Good Times are activity kits you pick up at the Library and do in the comfort of your home. Each bag includes supplies and detailed instructions on how to put the project together. The kits are free, but in order to take one, teens are required to either check out a library book or do one of our alternative activities. New kits are available on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month and can be picked up in the YA Department anytime the Library is open.

Adulting 101
3rd Monday of the Month

Adulthood doesn't come with instructions; that's why we created Adulting 101. Adulting 101 is a monthly video series designed to teach teens practical skills that will help them succeed in college, career and life. Every episode is under 10 minutes and comes with tips, tricks and a ton of laughs. Adulting 101 will make you look forward to Mondays.

First Chapter Fridays
Every Friday

First Chapter Friday is exactly what it sounds like. Each week teen librarians, Ms. Becky and Miss Christina, give listeners a sneak-peek into a different young adult book by reading the first chapter to you!

While Miss Christina and Ms. Becky look forward to returning to in-house programming, they're hoping this new calendar of events will keep teens excited about the Library.

Visit our pages for the scoop on all things Teens!

Facebook       TikTok       Youtube       Instagram

Click here for Teen Programs
Virtual 3D Printing Workshop

Monday, Jan. 11
7:00 PM
Online

Join us for a live 3D Printing tutorial on Zoom! In this workshop, we'll show you the ins and outs of the online modeling tool Tinkercad. We'll also show you how to save and submit a file to us to print out at the Library.

Registration with a valid email address is required A Zoom link will be sent to your inbox upon registration. And a reminder email goes out the day before.

Writing Workshops

Wednesday, Jan. 27 & Feb. 24
7:00 PM
Online

Join Caroline Joy Adams on Zoom for this writing workshop. Each workshop in this series will include one or two brief writing exercises on the theme of the month, and then time to share, in a fun, supportive way.

January's Theme: Winter Reflections
February's Theme: Love

Registration with a valid email address is required for participation. The Zoom link will be delivered to your inbox upon registration and a reminder email will go out the day before the workshop. Please register for each session that you are interested in.

Register for January
Register for February

Virtual Start the New Year With Meditation

Tuesday, Jan. 12
7:00 PM
Online

Join us on Zoom for an introduction to meditation with Arvind Naik.

The New Year is a time to create a clean slate. Join Arvind Naik longtime meditator for this
powerful workshop. Arvind has been inspiring audiences on how to practice and learn this very simple technique which provides many benefits.

There will even be a little meditation sitting at the end. Bring joy, peace, positivity and relaxation into your daily life and begin the New Year with a fresh start.

**Registration with a valid email address is required** for this Zoom presentation. You will receive an email link to join the session.

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**Take-Home Craft Kits**

Try out some new projects from the comfort of your own home!

Each month, we'll feature a different kit to help you make a great new project! To participate, come visit us at the Reference Desk to pick up your kit at the Library during our regular Library Hours.

No registration required. Limit one bag per person, first come first serve, while supplies last. Available to patrons 18 and older.

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**January**

Marble Magnets

Available starting Jan. 4

**February**

Painted Rocks
Back by popular demand!

Available starting Feb. 1

We would love to see your makes! Take a picture of your creation and tag us on Instagram with #LibraryCrafts and #NewportLibRlCrafts and show us what you've made!
Virtual 1-on-1 Tech Appointments

Need help with email attachments? Not sure how to get started with your new smartphone or ebook reader? Book a 30-minute one-on-one session with a staff member who can help. We are now booking appointments on Zoom or by phone only.

If you are not sure how to use Zoom, book an appointment and we will be happy to walk you through it!

Call us at 401-847-8720 x208 or fill out our Appointment Request Form to schedule an appointment.

News From The Friends

Starting Monday, January 4 the bookstore will be open on Mondays from 12-4.
The bookstore's schedule will now be:

- **Monday**: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- **Tuesday**: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- **Wednesday**: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- **Thursday**: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- **Friday**: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- **Saturday**: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

We are continuing a book sale in the lower lobby during Library hours. When the store is not open, money can be deposited in the honor box. Fiction and non-fiction books on the tables are $1.00, children's books are 25 cents and books on the shelves are 50 cents.

**Donations**

We are accepting donations of gently used books of resale quality, as well as current magazines and textbooks, as well as audio books and DVDs. Please leave your bagged items on the loading dock outside, on the south side of the building.

**Make A Donation**

**Thank You!**