

# Bentley Happenings

May 2025



Welcome  
to the Library



## Why a Library?

“When I got my library card, that was when my life began.”

- **Rita Mae Brown**

[Visit our Website](#)



## Bentley Memorial Library

206 Bolton Center Road  
Bolton, CT  
860-646-7349 [bentley@biblio.org](mailto:bentley@biblio.org)

### Hours

Mon. - Thurs., 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Sat., 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The library will be closed on Saturday, May 24th & Monday, May 26th for the holiday.

May is designated as **National Military Appreciation Month** in the United States to honor and recognize the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

## Bentley Goes Fine-Free

As of Thursday, May 1st the Bentley Memorial Library is now a fine-free library. The library joins over 130 other CT libraries in this initiative. The Bolton Board of Selectmen, at an April meeting, voted to have the library go fine free. All patrons must continue to honor due dates to ensure that fellow patrons will have equal access to our collection. Previous fines for late fees will be forgiven and no new late fees will accrue. Patrons will still be responsible for replacing any lost or damaged materials. Thanks go to the Library Board of Trustees for initiating this change.



MUSEUM  
PASSES  
AT THE LIBRARY



## Museum Key Coming Soon!

### Bentley's new online Museum Pass Registration System

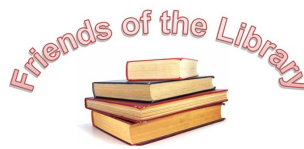
Our new online museum pass reservation system will be launched later this month. The system will work much the same as our previous system, Museum Tix. This will allow patrons to sign out a museum pass from their mobile, tablet, laptop or desktop. Stay tuned for an announcement with the launch date and directions for use.

# A Touch of Abstract

Created by Dorothy L. Hall



A turkey is a turkey but with a colorful abstract display. It is almost noisy.  
A self-portrait doesn't look like Dorothy Hall, but has a resemblance of her personality.  
See for yourself; her art speaks for itself...clearly.



Bentley Memorial Library

## Friends of the Library

In May we'll be offering a variety of music CDs, DVDs & Audio Books for sale on our revolving front lobby kiosk. The music CDs are 50 cents each and the DVDs & Audio Books are \$1.00 each. Come check them out for something new to listen to during your summer vacation road trips. The Friends will also be selling book bags in a variety of colors for \$3.00 apiece. All proceeds from these sales help support library programs and our Coffee Bar located near the Program Desk.

If you love books and are interested in a volunteer position that only requires a few hours a month, please come to our next meeting on May 14th at 6:30.

## Bike Walk Bolton

### Bike and Walk Safely on Bolton's Roads

During the month of May, Bike Walk Bolton has an interactive display at the Bentley Memorial Library about how we can be safer when walking and biking on Bolton Roads. The display will include ideas for reflective clothing, bike and walking lights/reflectors, bike helmets and how to fit them properly. Safety tips for walkers and cyclists will be included such as how to signal intent when riding a bike. The **Complete Streets Plans** will be introduced. This is an approach that a town can adopt to move towards safer streets for ALL road users.



The committee would also like to learn about the places you like to go in Bolton such as parks, playgrounds, trails, schools, tennis courts, restaurants, other businesses and of course the library! A survey is available to fill out and return to better understand possible areas for improvement for safer streets in Bolton. Fill out the survey and take a reflective vest (as supplies last) to wear whenever you walk or run on town streets. Be Safe – Be Seen!

## Program Registration

Program attendance at Bentley has been increasing steadily. With the size of our program area, future indoor registrations will be limited. We encourage registrations to be done through the online link that is provided in monthly newsletters and on all email event reminders. If a patron experiences any problem with registering, please contact the library and any staff member will assist them with the process. Your understanding is appreciated as we strive to offer the safest and most comfortable environment for upcoming programs.



## Acorn Library Catalog App



Bentley Memorial Library, along with Bibliomation, offers a free mobile app which allows you to quickly & easily access Bentley Memorial Library's catalog! Simply go to the Apple App Store or to the Google Play Store, search for the Acorn app and download the app. If you already have Acorn on your smart device, please check to insure your app has been updated to the February 7th version. Using the Acorn app will simplify text communications between Bibliomation and the patron.

The **Acorn Library Catalog mobile app** is streamlined & efficient, making it easy to:

- View & request holds
- View & renew items checked out

**Acorn Library Catalog** also...

- Puts Bentley Memorial Library's contact info right in the palm of your hand
- Includes a digital barcode version of your library card
- Allows patron to create their own personal title lists (e.g. "To Be Read" or "Books My Friends Recommend")

**Push Notifications for Acorn**

- Get notified when holds are ready or when items are due.
- Go to settings and select notifications. Scroll down to find Acorn Catalog. Click on Acorn and select 'Allow Notifications'.
- Push notifications are becoming essential as cell providers are not supporting text messaging from library consortiums (Bibliomation et al) and notifications using text messaging will not go through

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## Bolton Greater Together Community Fund Awards Celebration



The Bolton Community is invited to attend the Bolton Greater Together Community Fund's Spring Award Presentation on Thursday, May 15th, from 6-8 PM at Bentley Memorial Library. This celebration highlights the enhancements provided to numerous Bolton organizations and its residents, including the Bentley Memorial Library. We will be celebrating Bolton's eleven current grant recipients. Weather permitting, most of the ceremony will be held on the library patio which was funded by this grant program. Light refreshments will be served and Bolton's own Keith Carini will provide entertainment. Plan to join us on May 15th to celebrate the enhancements this grant program has brought to our community.

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## Seed Library

### Seed Library Returns

The free seed library has returned. Bentley Memorial Library has received hundreds of new seeds from the Master Gardener Program, a UConn Extension. Stop by the library and browse our selection of seeds. Small envelopes are provided for your seed selections. Now is the time to start planning your garden!

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## Tech Assistance for the Spring

Bentley will be providing technical support for our patrons throughout the Spring. If you need assistance with email, Hoopla, Libby, Facebook, your online account, or other tech related issues – we're here to help. To schedule your in-library session, please call Bentley at 860-646-7349 or email us at [bmlprograms@biblio.org](mailto:bmlprograms@biblio.org) to select your date and **30 minute time slot**. Advance registration is essential to ensure that we are prepared to offer you the most useful assistance possible.

# Upcoming Programs!

Register online, by phone at 860-646-7349, or by email at [bmlprograms@biblio.org](mailto:bmlprograms@biblio.org).



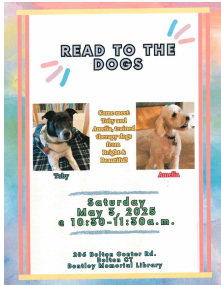
## Storytime at the Library

Join us for Storytime in May! Come and enjoy stories and a simple craft . Feel free to bring your own snack or lunch. Registration is not required.

**Traditional Storytime**, Wednesday, May 7th & 21st from 11:45-12:15

**Storytime with the Montessori School**, morning of Wednesday, May 14th

**Special Storytime with Bike Walk Bolton**, Wednesday, May 28th from 11:45 - 12:15. Registration for is required for the special Storytime with Bike Walk Bolton. [Register here for Storytime & Bike Safety Demonstration](#)



## Read to the Dogs

With Toby


**Saturday, May 3rd from 10:30 to 11:30**

Come to Bentley and meet Toby, a certified therapy dog. Share the joy of reading with this wonderful canine guest! Feel free to drop in, registration is not required.

## Understanding Blood Pressure

**Presented by Eastern Highlands Health District**

EHHD will present a 4-part program on self-monitoring your blood pressure. These sessions are intended for people with uncontrolled hypertension or have two or more risk factors for hypertension. This program will stretch over 4 sessions; two in-person and two remote. The in-person sessions will take place at Bentley Memorial Library on May 5th and May 19th at 6:00. The remote sessions will take place on May 7th and 14th, also at 6:00. The remote sessions may be done at your home or you may choose to come to Bentley for a group viewing. **A free home blood pressure monitor will be offered to those who complete all 4 sessions. Registration is required** and may be done through Eastern Highland Health District (EHHD) by phone:


**HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE?** 

Eastern Highlands Health District  
is offering  
**FREE SELF-MONITORING BLOOD PRESSURE EDUCATION CLASSES**

EHHD works with uncontrolled hypertension or who have two or more risk factors for hypertension such as poor control of diabetes, kidney or weight problems, or a family history of hypertension, or an inactive lifestyle (at least). Residents of other towns are welcome to space permits.

**Upcoming classes**  
Dates: May 5th, May 7th (remote), May 14th (remote) and May 19th from 6:00pm - 7:30 pm.  
Location: Bentley Memorial Library, 206 Bolton Center Rd, Bolton, CT

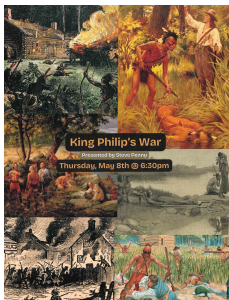
Classes are:  
• A series of 4 separate classes to be held across the month (March through 2018).  
• Will be a mix of in-person and remote learning depending on the session.  
• Includes a FREE home blood pressure monitor\* when completing all four classes (persons on Medicaid will request a monitor from their doctor).  
\*while supplies last

or visit the QR code 

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**  
For questions or sign up for a class call:  
860-576-1571 or 860-429-3361  
To find out upcoming schedule go to the link:  
[Topics link at EHHD.org](#)

EHHD Eastern Highlands Health District

860-576-1571 or 860-429-3361



## King Philip's War

**Part 3 of a 3 part series on Native Americans**

**Presented by Steve Penny**

**Thursday, May 8th at 6:30**

Steve will lead us through the events of King Philip's War and explore the devastating consequences it had for the tribes of Southern New



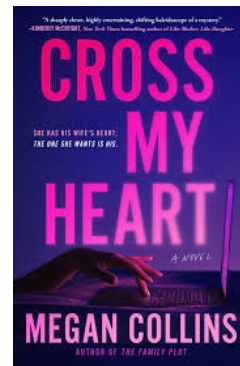
[Preregister here](#)

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## Author Talk with Megan Collins newest novel - Cross My Heart

**Thursday, May 22nd at 6:30**

Bentley Memorial Library is thrilled to welcome Megan Collins for an evening of exploration and insight into her works. Megan grew up in Bolton and still lives in Connecticut. She is the author of The Winter Sister, Behind the Red Door, The Family Plot, Thicker Than Water and most recently Cross My Heart. We look forward to this evening with a Simon and Schuster published author and are happy to announce that books will be available for purchase and signing.



[Preregister here](#)

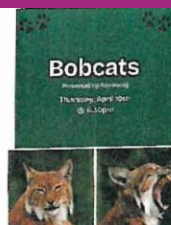
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## Xen's Critters Comes to Bentley Saturday, May 31st at 11:00

Xen's Critters will bring a corral filled with animal farm friends. Goats, sheep, bunnies, chickens, ducks, geese and guinea pigs are some of the critters coming to Bolton. Make sure to register for this fun and engaging event!

[Preregister here](#)



## April Program Wrap-up

April was a full and busy month at the Library. Bentley hosted its regular **storytime** for our younger patrons who also enjoyed exploring the Library with a two new **scavenger hunts**. Ray Hardy explored the **history and behavior of our local bobcat population**. Steve Penny transported us back in time as we **learned about the years between the Pequot and King Philip's War**. The final **Book Discussion** in our three-part series - 'Books That Inspired Movies', **The 39 Steps by John Buchan**, was our featured novel which took us back to the fear-filled time just before the outbreak of WWI.

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## Future Programs!

Register online, by phone at 860-646-7349, or by email

## Book Discussion

### Catch Me If You Can by Frank Abagnale

Led by Mark Nystrom

Wednesday, June 18th at noon

Catch Me If You Can is a semi-autobiographical book about criminal exploits allegedly engaged in by Frank Abagnale Jr., an American onetime con artist.



[Preregister here](#)



## Storytime in June

Wednesday, June 4th, 11th & 18th from 11:45 - 12:15



## Show Your Interest: Main Display Case

Do you have a craft you'd like to share with our community? Have you been to exotic or fascinating places? Do you belong to a group that makes a positive contribution to our area? If you answer **yes** to any of these questions, we'd love to feature you in our Main Display Case! July, August and December are still available for the 2025 calendar year. Contact the library and find a month that works for you.

## Featured Displays

### Main Display Case

During the month of May the Main Display Case will feature **BIKE WALK BOLTON**.

### On Display Throughout the library

**Adult Fiction:** Celebrating Nurses

**Adult Nonfiction:** Honoring Veterans

**ER & E:** Mother's Day

**J:** Military

## UPCOMING EVENTS



May

Wed. 7th & 21st  
Storytime  
11:45 - 12:15

Sat. 3rd  
Read to Toby the Dog  
10:30 - 11:30

Thurs. 8th  
King Philip's War  
part 3 of a 3 part series  
presented by  
Steve Penny  
6:30  
Preregistration required

Wed. 14th  
Montessori School Visit



**Bentley has discount coupons for the Connecticut Science Center. These coupons will take 20% off the admission price for up to four people.**

**storytime**  
**11:45 - 12:15**

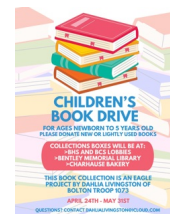
**Thurs. 22nd**  
**Author Talk**  
**Megan Collins**  
 author of  
**Cross My Heart & so**  
**many more**  
**6:30**  
 Preregistration required

**Wed. 28th**  
 storytime & bike safety with  
**Bike Walk Bolton**  
**11:45 - 12:15**

**Sat. 31st**  
**Xen's Critters**  
 corral of farm animals  
**11:00**  
 Preregistration required

## **Children's Book Drive Bolton Troop 1073 Eagle Project**

Drop off new or lightly used books to assist a local Eagle Project as it aims to promote literacy in children newborn to 5 years old.



## **Knitting and Handcraft Tuesdays** **Tuesday, 6:30-7:45 p.m.**

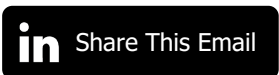
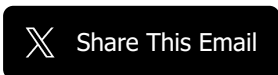
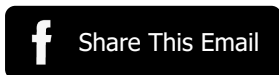
Drop in any Tuesday to join this friendly and experienced group. All skill levels are welcome! Join the group anytime. Registration is not required.

## **Facebook**

Remember to follow us at Bentley Memorial Library.



**Thank you Friends of the Library for providing refreshments and supplies for our programs throughout the year.**



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