Library Re-Opening Phases

We know everyone is excited to return to the library, and we’re excited to see everyone, too! To provide a healthy and safe experience for the community, the library will institute a phased re-opening procedure per guidelines adopted by the Bastrop City Council. We anticipate the following phases, but it is subject to change.

We are currently in phase 1, which includes providing curbside delivery of circulating materials, reference assistance via the phone, and virtual programs. All returned items are quarantined for 72 hours.

In phase 2, 30-minute appointments for individual use of computers are available. You can call (512) 332-8894 to make your appointment. Curbside service and virtual programming continues.

Phase 3 opens the library to the public with occupancy and limited service guidelines determined by the Governor’s Office. Patrons are asked to limit their time in the library to allow us to serve as many people as possible. Masks are recommended, and social distancing guidelines should be observed. Hand-sanitizing stations will be available throughout the building. There will be limited computer stations and seating available for the public. Curbside service and virtual programming will continue.

Phase Out (per the city-wide plan) opens the library to normal operations with increased safety guidelines including social distancing and frequent disinfection of library spaces. Keep an eye on our website and social media for more information about these guidelines to protect the welfare of our patrons, volunteers, and staff.

We are eager to see everyone and provide our community with in-person service. Please bear with us as we navigate this evolving situation. We miss all of you and look forward to seeing you at the library soon!
Keep Reading!

Summer Reading 2020 is in full swing, so keep reading and logging your minutes so that you can earn awesome prizes!

If you haven’t signed up yet, there’s still time! Log your minutes in Beanstack (via BastropLibrary.Beanstack.org or the Beanstack app). Frequently asked questions, information about virtual programs, and more is available at BastropLibrary.org, just click on the Summer Reading tab in the column on the left-hand side (it’s all the way at the bottom!).

We’ve got lots of great prizes including books for youth, gift cards to local restaurants and businesses, LEGO kits, and even a Kindle Fire, so make sure you get your name entered!

Additionally, the Community Challenge begins Monday, June 29th. This is activities that the family can do together! Gameboards and details are available in the Summer Reading tab at BastropLibrary.org.

Computer Use by Appointment

Beginning Monday, June 22, the library started offering 30-minute computer appointments. These self-service appointments are available every hour on the hour for individuals during our curbside hours:

- M-W-F: 11:00-4:00
- T-Th: 2:00-6:00
- Sat: 11:00-2:00

To make an appointment, please call (512) 332-8894. Individuals can schedule one appointment per day to allow for maximum computer usage.

Printing is available at $0.10/page on a cash basis. Please bring correct change.

Tech Tutor

Need help navigating social media, Zoom, or your new ereader? Want to create an email account, build a resume, or learn Microsoft Word, or any other software? Let a librarian help you with these and many other technology quandaries!

We can provide 20 minutes of uninterrupted assistance to help you learn what you need to know! Call the library at (512) 332-8894 and request a Tech Tutor or fill out the form online at BastropLibrary.org under the Services tab beginning July 9th.

New Titles

- The Cold Vanish: Seeking the Missing in North America’s Wildlands by Jon Billman
- Memoirs and Misinformation by Jim Carrey
- Outsider by Linda Castillo
- What You Wish For by Katherine Center
- Trump and the American Future by Newt Gingrich
- Boyfriend Material by Alexis Hall
- The House That Love Built: Why I Opened My Door to Immigrants and How We Found Hope Beyond a Broken System by Sarah Jackson and Scott Sawyer
- Sex and Vanity by Kevin Kwan (author of Crazy, Rich Asians!)
- Butch Cassidy: The True Story of an American Outlaw by Charles Leerhsen
- Essential Herbs: Treat Yourself Naturally with Herbs and Homemade Remedies by Neal’s Yard Remedies
- Survivor Song by Paul Tremblay
- Her Last Flight by Beatriz Williams
- The Lost and Found Bookshop by Susan Wiggs
- And more!

Library Closings

- Friday and Saturday, July 3-4 for Independence Day
We’re expanding who is writing newsletter reviews so that we can get a variety of genre suggestions for all types of readers! If you’ve read a book and want to write a positive review for the newsletter, please email Bethany at bdietrich@bastroplibrary.org.

Becky Bennett, Library Board member: The Starless Sea by Erin Morgenstern
Morgenstern combines fantasy, fable, magic, and realism in this paean to books and stories. Grad student Zachary Rawlins discovers a book that contains a story from his own childhood—not just a story he was told—a story about him. Bewildered and intrigued, he sets out to learn more about this strange book, with no author or publishing details. What he finds is a lost world of books and those who live for them. Although the book is a bit long, I was delighted by all the references to the stories I’ve loved and by the sweet, earnest characters.
Find it: SFF Mor + Libby ebooks

Brenda Smith, volunteer: Imaginary Friend by Stephen Chbosky
Don’t think that this novel is anything like Chbosky’s, The Perks of Being A Wallflower. It is definitely not, but in a very good way. Christopher is a 7-year-old, new to town. He disappears for 6 days and returns safely with an imaginary Friend who asks him to build a treehouse in the woods or everyone in his small town will be destroyed. The “friend” is not as he first appears. Christopher develops powers to challenge this devil. It is truly an age-old tale of good versus evil, but this time perhaps in the original garden of Eden. Despite the book’s length, I was disappointed when I finished this haunting thriller. Richly drawn characters add to both the length and tension in this wonderfully crafted novel. Read it!
Find it: SFF Chb + Libby ebooks

Mary McCormick, patron: Before and Again by Barbara Delinksy
Mackenzie’s life is upended when she takes her eyes off the road for a brief moment and causes an accident, killing her 5-year-old daughter and the driver of the other vehicle. Her family deserts her, she is divorced, and she’s on parole. All alone, she reinvents herself in a small town in Vermont, where she cultivates a peaceful new life where no one knows her past. After four years of silence, her ex and brother move to town, and she is faced anew with memories and heartaches. Concurrently, her best friend’s teen son is accused of computer hacking; she wants to help, but it would violate her parole and would reveal her past. But how can she not help?! This wonderful book on relationships, survival, courage, and becoming new will touch your heart and life.
Find it: NOV Del + Libby ebooks

Bonnie Pierson, staff: The Boy, the Boat, and the Beast by Samantha M. Clark
A boy wakes up on a mysterious, uninhabited beach all alone. Who is he? How did he get there? The boy can’t remember. When he sees a light shining beyond the dense wall of trees lining the beach, he decides to follow it. He believes the light will bring him home, a home he doesn’t remember but very much wants to find. The boy’s struggle for survival, and the search for his memory, will force him to face his greatest fears in order to find the way back to his family.
Find it: JF Cla