

Bentley Happenings

October 2026



Why a Library?

A library is a place where you can live a thousand lives. So why are you waiting when you could be living? Visit your library today.

— Stephen King

Bentley Memorial Library

206 Bolton Center Road
Bolton, CT
860-646-7349 bentley@biblio.org

Hours

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

The Library will be **closed** on
Monday, October 12 in observance of
the Federal Holiday

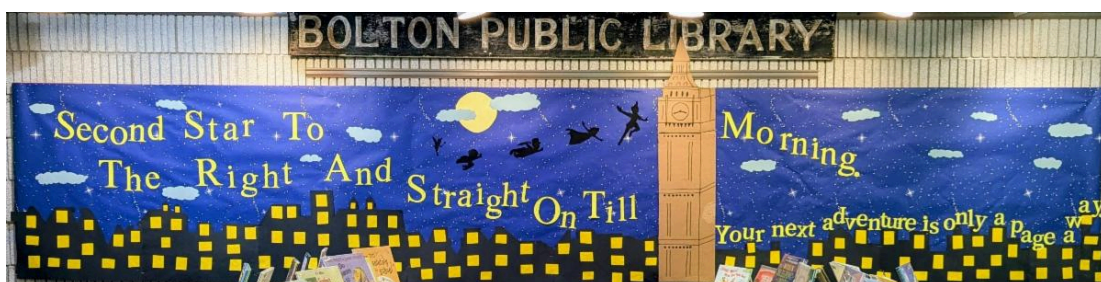
Visit us online at:

town.boltonct.org/library
facebook.com/Bentleylib



Did You Know.....

- Bentley Memorial Library is **fine free** since 2025!
- The items you borrow from Bentley **auto-renew** after one loan period, unless another patron puts a hold on that item. If you wish to renew it a second time you must contact the library.
- The **study room** at Bentley is open for use by our patrons. The room must be reserved and patrons must check in at the circulation desk upon arrival. The room can comfortably fit up to 5 people. The library has two other tables in the main reading room that can be reserved as well.



Our new bulletin board display in the Children's room, created by librarian Amber Mosely.

HOOPLA UPDATE

The Bentley Memorial Library offers a very successful program called HOOPLA. With a valid Bolton library card, patrons can download material such as e-books, audiovisual items such as movies, music, and audio books to their devices. Each transaction is paid for out of the library budget. During the summer of 2026 (June, July and August) patrons downloaded 1565 items with a cost to library of \$3,677.61. During the past fiscal year, 6021 items were downloaded to the cost of \$14,165.59! Due to the financial burden to the library budget, the number of downloadable transactions has been changed from 6 to 4 per library card per month. If you haven't used HOOPLA yet, contact the library for tech assistance.

DEEP's Laptop ConneCT Program

The CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has provided laptops for libraries all over the state of Connecticut. Bolton has received 18 laptops for distribution and we have partnered with Bolton Social Services to help make sure these laptops can do the most amount of good in our community.

More information is incoming, but for now you can sign up for further updates on this exciting opportunity.

The program is funded by the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund. It is approximately a \$7 million initiative that loans laptops and related accessories. The Library will begin distribution in November to eligible Bolton residents with a library card.

Tech Assistance in the Fall

Bentley will be providing technical support for our patrons throughout the Fall. 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 to select your date and time slot. Advance registration is essential to ensure that we are prepared to offer you the most useful assistance possible

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program

This program is open to any child from birth until they enter kindergarten. Register at the library circulation desk and receive a welcome bag with program information, a log sheet, and a dot marker to track your progress. When you complete each milestone sheet, bring it to the library and pick up your next sheet. The library will provide a sticker for each milestone and a small prize for 500 and 1,000 books.

What counts toward the 1,000 books? Books you read to your child, books they hear in storytime, audio and video books, as well as favorite books that you read over and over all count!

Reading to a child develops literacy and language skills and builds their vocabulary. Stories engage the imagination and help set them up for success in school and life.



Wowbrary!

Wowbrary is a nonprofit service that provides free weekly emails about your local library's most recent acquisitions including new books, DVDs, and CDs. By showcasing the latest arrivals and allowing patrons to click through directly to the library website, Wowbrary makes it easy to scan quickly what's new at Bentley Memorial Library.



Signing up to receive weekly Wowbrary emails

Go to <https://www.wowbrary.org> and type your ZIP code in the upper left box. Then hit the Go button. Wowbrary will display Bentley Memorial Library and other area libraries. Check Bentley, enter your email address and then click submit. You will start receiving updates, on Wednesdays, within a week of the library's latest purchases.



Bentley Memorial Library

Friends of the Library

Celebrate National Friends of the Library Week, October 18-24

The Friends of the Library had their bi-monthly meeting on August 27. They reviewed the year and discussed future book sales, the coffee bar, and program and refreshment support.

The **Library book sale** features **Cook Books** for the months of September and October. In addition to book sales, the Friends are selling cloth Book Bags to help keep your library selections together. Please stop by Bentley to help support our sales. All proceeds will be used to support future activities at the library.

Thanks to the Friends of the Library for providing refreshments and supplies for our programs throughout the year and for the complimentary coffee bar.

If you'd like to learn more about the Friends of the Library, please ask a librarian how you can attend the **next meeting**, which will be held on Thursday, **October 29** at 5:00.

eGO The Palace Project

Download the app for free books!

The Connecticut State Library now has over 54,000 titles in its collection of free online books for library users. These books include mysteries, thrillers, and backlist bestsellers.



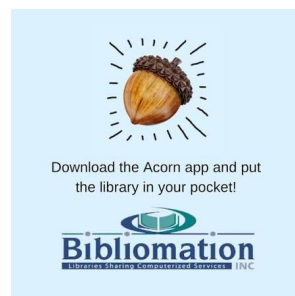
To access the eGO Palace Project, download the "Palace Project" app on your mobile device from the App Store or Google Play, then log in using your library card number and PIN to browse and borrow ebooks and audiobooks from the Connecticut State Library's eGO collection; you can access both your local library's collection and the statewide eGO collection through this app.

The [All CT Reads](#) program is in full swing for 2026! To support participation in this amazing program, the Palace Project has purchased all available copies of this year's titles. The Palace Project has also created an All CT Reads 2026 lane on every library's interface for improved discoverability. [eGO CT's](#) Palace Project has a great collection of biographies and memoirs for you. Step into someone else's life and time!

Download the Acorn App Today!

The Acorn catalog app is available for Android and Apple devices! Get your library catalog in your pocket.

- Access your account.
- Place holds on items.
- Search for library materials.
- Keep track of your reading lists.
- And more!



Coming in October!



The Search Begins

New Scavenger Hunt in October

The October Scavenger Hunt - celebrating spooky season will be unveiled on Thursday, October 1st.

Toddler Playtime

Thursdays in October

10:00-11:00

Come and join our parent-led toddler group which is designed for children from birth to age 3. A trained parent will lead age appropriate play and interactions. Toys will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Parents and care-givers are all welcome!



Storytime at the Library

Thursdays

October 8 & 22

11:00 to 11:30

Storytime will be held on the following **Thursdays** in October; 8th & 22nd. Feel free to bring your own snack or lunch. Watch for separate notices of weekly theme.

Registration is required.

Preparing Your Garden for Winter & pH testing!

Thursday, October 8 at 6:30 pm

Led by Jean Laughman, Bolton Master Gardener and Master Wildlife Conservationist

Jean Laughman will bring her typical warmth and humor to teach how to properly prepare your gardens for the winter, including raised beds, lawns, vegetable gardens, and ornamental beds.

Jean will also be offering pH soil testing.

To have you pH tested by Jean, bring a baggie of your soil to the library by October 7th. Be sure to label it with your name and phone number. Only a cup of soil is needed.

Registration required

Stories at Indian Notch

Saturday, October 18th from 4:30 - 6:00 pm

60 Tolland Road, Bolton. CT

Co-sponsored by the Bolton Recreation Department & Bentley Memorial Library

A great evening of stories, games, S'mores and a firepit by the lake! Come and join members of the Recreation Department and the Library staff as we enjoy the season.

Halloween Storytime

Thursday, October 29 at 6:30 pm

Bentley will help you get in the spooky spirit of the season with a themed Family Halloween storytime. Put on your costume and join us for a spooky story and a treat!

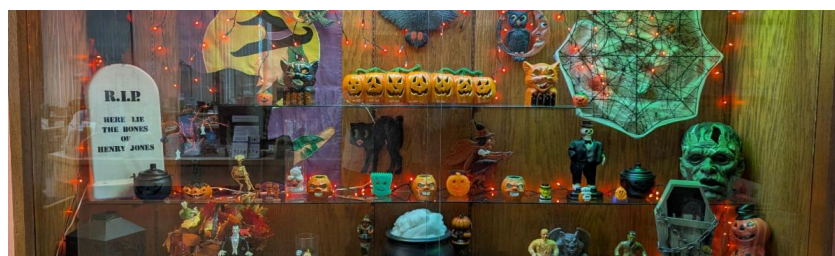
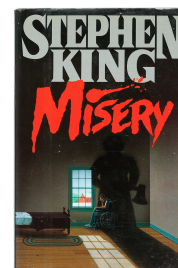
October Book Discussion at Bentley

Wednesday, October 21

Noon

Join us for a lively book discussion about Stephen King's chilling novel Misery. Copies are available now!

[Preregister here](#)



On Display in October

Our **Adult Fiction** display will feature a collection of thrillers and our **Adult DVD's** will be themed around horror movies. Fall books are on display in the **Children's Room**.

The **Main Display Case** will feature a spooky display by Mark Nystrom and Sam Bahre of Halloween decorations from throughout the 20th century.

Visit the **Sumner Sisters' Display Case** to view a display of beautiful vintage autumn themed Pyrex, presented by Bolton resident Daniel Bergin.



The Display Case at Bentley "We want you!"

Would you like to share your craft, art, travel or event with our fellow library patrons? Consider signing up to display your work in the main display case at Bentley Memorial Library. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your talent! NOVEMBER is coming and we have slots available for you. Library patrons always enjoy admiring the display case presentations.

The Art Walls in Adult and Children's sections at Bentley is available for all local artists who would like to display their art. Please contact the library at 860-646-7349 or bmlprograms@biblio.org
Animals of Bolton - Bolton Land Trust
by Dorothy Hall



The **Tuesday Night Knitters** are looking for new members. All are welcome! Every Tuesday at 6pm. Bring your own project and join for some crafts and some laughs.

Coming in November!

An Intimate Discussion with Ray Hardy: Bobcats

Thursday, November 12 at 6:30 pm - LIMITED SEATING

Led by Ray Hardy

Ray will teach us about the illusive Bobcat and its connection with our region.

This will be a small gathering with a limit of ten people. **Preregistration is absolutely required** and a waiting list will be developed.

November Book Discussion

Wednesday, November 18 at noon

Join us for a fascinating discussion on JD Salinger's "Franny and Zooey."

Home Blood Pressure Monitors Available to Borrow

Eastern Highland Health District member town libraries (such as Bentley Library) received a home blood pressure monitor for LOAN! FREE! Check. It. Out. Find more info on this and other FREE blood pressure resources in Hot Topics at **EHHD.org** and be sure to check out the library's books on heart health.





Try email marketing for free today!