**Tech Tips**

**Five Great Santa Sites for Christmas**

Just like most of us, Santa Claus likes to keep up with the latest technology, so it shouldn't be much of a surprise to discover that he has an online presence. If you're simply looking for information on Santa, want to email him your holiday gift list or show your kids the path of his Christmas Eve journey, these are the sites to check out.

**Portable North Pole** ([https://www.portablenorthpole.com/en/home](https://www.portablenorthpole.com/en/home)): This site asks you a few questions about your child and then produces an adorable video where Santa personally welcomes your child, congratulates him/her for being well behaved and hints at what special treat might be under the tree Christmas morning. It's a personalized Santa Claus letter for the digital generation. Portable North Pole also has apps from the Apple App Store and the Google Play store if you want to go mobile with the idea.

**NORAD Tracks Santa** ([https://www.noradsanta.org/](https://www.noradsanta.org/)): If you remember lying awake on Christmas Eve listening for the arrival of Santa Claus and his reindeer, the NORAD Tracks Santa site should recall those fond memories. Using Google Earth in 3D, follow Santa’s journey across the globe in anticipation of his arrival in your neighborhood. Starting on December 1, there will be activities posted each day to help with the wait. The big event starts at 2 am MTN (4 am EST) on Christmas Eve morning. Don’t forget to download Google Earth before it all begins!

**St. Nicholas Center** ([https://www.stnicholascenter.org/](https://www.stnicholascenter.org/)): Do you wonder where Santa Claus comes from? Are you looking for traditional ethnic Christmas activities? The St. Nicholas Center site is a gem offering stories, crafts, games, and lots of cultures. You can even find St. Nicholas traditions from more than 30 different countries.

**Northpole.com** ([northpole.com](http://northpole.com)): This is a simple, fun Christmas site. Take a quiz to find out if you were naughty or nice, find recipes for cookies and other treats, teach Santa how to dance and play holiday games.

**Santa Claus Office** ([https://santaclausoffice.com/](https://santaclausoffice.com/)): The focus of this site is a vacation destination where you can meet Santa Claus in person. The nearest town and transport hub to Santa Claus Office, should you care to make the actual trip, is Rovaniemi, situated in Finnish Lapland.

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**CUMBERLAND/LINCOLN LIONS DISPLAY POSTER CONTEST SUBMISSIONS IN HAYDEN ART GALLERY**

Posters submitted by students from McCourt & North Cumberland Middle Schools and the Boys & Girls Club of Cumberland-Lincoln are on display at the Cumberland Public Library’s Hayden Art Gallery for the month of December. The exhibit is the result of the 33rd Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest sponsored by the Cumberland/Lincoln Lions Club. “Journey of Peace” is the theme of this year’s contest. The artwork is available to be viewed any time during the library’s regular business hours.

The posters on display were among approximate 600,000 entries submitted worldwide in the contest, which emphasizes the importance of world peace to young people everywhere. “The winning posters will advance through the district, multiple district and international levels of competition become the international grand prize winner is declared,” Aaron Coutu, the organizer of the Cumberland Lions poster contest said. “It is always amazing to see the pieces, which reflect the participants’ views on the theme of the contest and, more broadly peace. Our club, which covers both Cumberland and Lincoln, is cheering for our local poster winners to advance in the competition, and we hope that their vision will ultimately be shared with others around the world.”

Founded in 1951, the Cumberland Lions Club is a group of good hearted men and women who like to volunteer their services to help those less fortunate in the community and around the world, providing them with food, clothing, eye glasses, hearing aids, seeing-eye dogs, disaster relief assistance, and much more.

For more information about the exhibit or the contest, please contact Aaron Coutu at 333-2552 x128 or acoutu@cumberlandlibrary.org. Area artists interested in booking a future exhibit may also contact Coutu.

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**Looking for the new book lists? New CDs? New videogames? You’ll find all the new stuff right here...**

cumberlandlibrary.org/new-stuff
Bird Kings and Christmas Demons: The Wonderful and Weird Global Traditions of the Yuletide Season
Saturday, December 7th at 1:00pm

There is no more popular time of year in the USA than the Christmas seasons. But have you ever wondered where the flying reindeer came from? Why do we set up a tree inside the living room? The more you think about these customs, the odder they seem. Look outside the USA and you'll find even more fascinating Yuletide traditions. Come and find out about how weird the season of joy is. (This lecture is suggested for 15+ due to content. Also be advised we will be talking about some of the origins of our friend in the red suit, so little ones may not be ready for all Santa's secrets.)

Lions Community Symposium: All about the Rhode Island Free Clinic
Saturday, December 7th at 2:00pm

The Library is teaming up with the Cumberland Lincoln's Lion Club to provide monthly presentations on issues that affect our community. Join us as Matt Giebert, Event, Marketing, & Donor Relations Coordinator, introduces attendees to the opportunities found through the Rhode Island Free Clinic, which is made up of volunteers, community partners, and supporters throughout Rhode Island who share our belief that health care should be available for all, regardless of income. Unlike a walk-in clinic, emergency room, or urgent care setting, the Clinic provides a medical home that includes coordinated health services comprising of primary care, labs and diagnostics, specialty care, prescription medications, follow-up visits, counseling and wellness programs that help uninsured adults get and stay healthy.

Craft evening: No Sew Snowmen
Tuesday, December 10th at 6:00pm

This holiday season we will be making No Sew Sock Snowmen. Due to the busy nature of the holiday season there will only be one crafting session this month. As always, we will provide the materials and you provide the creativity! Space is limited. Registration is required. Ages 17+

Clef Singer Holiday Concert
Thursday, December 19th at 7:30pm

Join us on Thursday, December 19th for a great evening of song and entertainment by the Cumberland High Clef Singers Chorus. This concert tradition has spanned many years and always brings a big crowd. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Cumberland Public Library. Tickets go fast! They will be available for $1 each at the library circulation desk. Proceeds are given to the chorus.
Photography Club
Wed. 12/4 and 12/18, 4-5:30 PM.
Work on your photography skills with a pro! Bring a camera! REGISTRATION ENcouraged. Rooms vary, see online calendar.

Stop Motion Animation II
Tues 12/10 from 6-7:30 PM in the Seminar Room.
The tech experts at the RI Computer Museum will introduce you to programs used for digital stop motion animation. Registration required!

Anime Club
MONDAY 12/23 from 5:30—7 PM, Teen Center.
Watch anime and enjoy occasional snacks and activities. No registration required!

 tween Time—ages 9-12
Wed. 12/11 from 6—7 PM in the Community Room. Our monthly event for tweens. This month: create small handmade gifts for loved ones. Registration required!

December Movie Time
Tues. 12/17 at 5 PM in the Teen Center.
Make a unicorn hot chocolate and enjoy a showing of Love, Simon. No registration required!

Paws to De-Stress
Wed. 12/11 from at 3:30 PM in the Teen Center.
Service dogs are back at the Teen Center to ease away some of your stress! Annie and her teammate Leslie will be here for a visit on this day. No registration required!

Volunteer Drop-In/Orientation
Sat. 12/14 from 2 — 4PM
Mon 12/16 from 6 PM — 7:30 PM
Earn community service hours doing a good deed. “Drop-in” means you do not need to sign up ahead of time—just show up if you are available!

Middle School Book Talk
Sat. 12/28 from 2:30—4 PM in the Seminar Room. Youth in grades 6-8 are invited to our book club for the RI Middle School Book Award! Pick one or more to read ahead! Books will be at the front desk for checkout.

New in the Teen Center:
Starting in December, we’ll have a weekly craft available for teens to make in the Teen Center. This month we’ll make DIY whiteboards, scrunchies, and round braid bracelets. Perfect to gift to a friend or yourself! Also, ask about our ukulele and trail kits to borrow!
In the Children’s Room

Special Programs

**Kindness Elves**
Sunday, December 1—Saturday, December 21
Ring in the holiday season by participating in a weekly *Kindness Elves* scavenger hunt. You and your families are invited to join the fun as we learn about our library and learn about spreading kindness throughout the year! There will be different clues and treats each week. The *Scavenger Hunt* will run weekly (Sunday – Saturday) from Sunday, December 1 through Saturday, December 21. We hope many families will join the Children’s Room in this fun alternative to Elf on the Shelf.

**Sensory Storytime**
Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m.  Drop In
Are you looking for an interactive storytime program that can be enjoyed by children of all abilities with their favorite adult? This is a sensory-based storytime for all children ages 3-12 but especially welcoming to those who have a hard time in large groups or are on the spectrum. The storytime will include picture schedules, sensory activities, and stories. **No registration is required.**

**Dance with Me**
Tuesdays, December 3, 10, & 17 from 10:30-11:15 a.m.  **Register Online**
Children ages 4 months - 4 years old, along with a participating adult, are invited to come sing, dance, and play with dance instructor, Shana. Each class has a separate registration. Registration opens the week before each class at 10 a.m.

**Sew Simple**
Saturday, December 14 from 1-3 p.m.  **Register Online**
Children ages 8-12 are invited to come sew with us as we learn hand-sewing basics. This learn-how-to-sew program is a great way for “beginning sewists” to gain some confidence as they start their sewing adventure.

**Hanukkah Storytime**
Monday, December 16 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.  **Register Online**
Are you interested in learning more about Hanukkah? We will listen to a special story, make a craft, learn to play Dreidel, eat latkes, and see a beautiful lighted Menorah! This program is for children ages 3-12 and their families. Registration is online starting December 2 at 10 a.m. Please register each child individually at [www.cumberlandlibrary.org](http://www.cumberlandlibrary.org). Registration is required, space is limited.

**Everything Rudolph Party**
Tuesday, December 17 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.  **Register Online**
Join the holiday fun! We will make a craft, watch a movie, and prepare an edible treat. This party is for children ages 5-10 and their families. Registration is online starting December 2 at 10 a.m. Please register each child individually at [www.cumberlandlibrary.org](http://www.cumberlandlibrary.org). Registration is required, space is limited.

**Model Train Demonstration**
Wednesday, December 18 from 1:30 to 4 p.m.  Drop In
All ages are welcome to stop by the Children’s Program Room to see an amazing display of model trains. Two train enthusiasts will be available to answer questions about their extensive collections.

**A Music, Bubble & Comedy Show**
Saturday, December 28 at 2 p.m.  **Ticket Required**
Do you like to sing, dance and play instruments? This show by Turtle Dance Music is a “turtle-rific” musical experience that is designed to engage children through song, movement, stories, and interactive music technology! The show is crafted to be inclusive for all children, including children on the Autism Spectrum. **Pick up tickets in the Children’s Room starting Saturday, December 14.** There is a nominal fee of 50 cents per ticket.

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Presented by the Cumberland Public Library Children’s Room
Call 333-2552 ext. 3 or go to [www.cumberlandlibrary.org](http://www.cumberlandlibrary.org) for more information!
In the Children’s Room

Ongoing Programs

Krafty Kids Wednesdays, December 4, 11, & 18 from noon - 5:00 p.m. Drop In
Children in Grades 5 and under are invited to drop in and make a craft.

Block Party/Library Style Saturdays from 10 a.m.-noon Drop In
Come join the fun playing with building toys such as Magna-Tiles, Magz Bricks, KAPLA blocks, or LEGO bricks. No registration is required, all ages are welcome!

Heritage Ballet Register for the Waiting List in the Children’s Room Class is full
Free ballet class at the library for three and four year-olds taught by a talented instructor from Heritage Ballet! Students registering must be age 3 or 4 by August 31, 2019. Class will take place on Wednesdays at 1:30-2:20 p.m. beginning October 8 through June 2, 2020. No Classes: 12/24, 12/31, 3/24

Tween Time Wednesday, December 11 from 6-7 p.m. Drop In
Come join other 9-12 year-olds for fun with friends! This month our program is “DIY Holiday Gifts”. Make gifts for family and friends.

Paws to Read Thursday, December 12 from 4:00-5:15 p.m. Drop In
Open to readers ages 12 and under. Practice your reading skills with a dog from Windwalker Pet Therapy. This program is for children who are reading on their own. First-come, first-served. For children not yet reading: come visit the dogs from 5:00-5:15.

Pokémon Club Wednesday, December 18 from 6-7 p.m. Register Online
Do you love all things Pokémon? Are you between the ages of 5 and 12? If so, join us on the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. We will do a fun activity/craft and have Pokémon related books available for check out with your library card. Feel free to bring your own Pokémon card deck to play with other children. Trading will be permitted during the last 5 minutes of the program with approval from both adults. Online registration begins on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. Register for each session individually.

Minecraft Club for Kids Thursday, December 19 from 6-7 p.m. Register Online
Build imaginative worlds and battle nocturnal creatures. Novice or expert, join the club and play with your friends in our very own world. We provide laptops, accounts, and a secure server environment in which to explore and create. This program is for children in grades 2-5.
Registration for the January Minecraft program will open at the conclusion of the December session.

The Winter Storytime Session will start on Monday, January 6

The Library will be closed on December 25 & 26 in observance of the holidays.
The Library will be open from 9:00—12:30 p.m. on December 24 & 31.
The Back Page

Any Cumberland resident not able to get to the library is eligible for our homebound service. Books and other materials can be delivered every three weeks at no charge. This service is overseen by our Technical Services/Outreach Librarian and is available for anyone on a regular, permanent basis or for the short-term as someone rehabilitates. Items available for delivery are: Regular Print Books, Large Print Books, Books on CD, TV Series, Current and Classic Movies on DVD, Exercise DVDs for Seniors & Those with Disabilities. If you would like us to contact you for any service, please call 401-333-2552 x131 or email at esumner@cumberlandlibrary.org. Please provide your name, the name of the person we would be delivering items to, and a phone number where you can be reached during the day to discuss setting up home delivery services. Everyone should enjoy the library!

Library Hours

Mon.-Thurs.: 9:00-8:00
Fri. & Sat.: 9:00-5:00
Sunday: 1:00-4:00

Holiday hours:
December 24th: 9-12:30
December 25th, 26th: Closed
December 31st: 9-12:30

What sort of books do librarians read? Sign up for our Staff Picks newsletter from NextReads. It’s easy and free! Just click on the NextReads link on our webpage at www.cumberlandlibrary.org.