

CHECK IT OUT

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



319-753-1647
210 COURT STREET,
BURLINGTON, IA 52601

WWW.BURLINGTON.LIB.IA.US



LIBRARY CLOSINGS

DECEMBER 24TH -
CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 25TH -
CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 31ST - NEW YEAR'S
EVE - CLOSING EARLY AT 5 PM

LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY
9 AM - 8 PM

FRIDAY-SATURDAY
9 AM - 5 PM

SUNDAY - CLOSED

LIBRARY NEWS

As we get ready to close out 2025, I'd like to say thank you to all library users for making the Burlington Public Library a vibrant and exciting place to be this past year, along with all of our donors, who gave of their time, energy, and funds to elevate our services and spaces for the public.

From upgrading the meeting room projectors, to increasing our buying power for the rich collection of books, movies, computers, and databases, to paying for the whimsical musical instruments that now line the entryway of the library, this was a banner year for Foundation support. Though the Foundation allocated funds for a bookmobile several years ago, and after 75 years since the idea was dreamed up, this year we were able to purchase our first bookmobile to take library services out in the community!

In addition to our Foundation donors, the funds raised through volunteer hours in the Footnotes book shop and at their quarterly book sales, pay for all library programming and outreach operating expenses. Thank you to all of our library users for breathing life into this incredible library, and thank you to our donors and supporters for ensuring that the funding is there for us to keep carrying out our mission to create opportunities for all people to connect with others, to learn about the world around them, and to imagine the futures before them.

Happy Holidays to all & cheers to another great year at the Burlington Public Library!

Brittany Jacobs
Library Director

FRIENDS NEWS

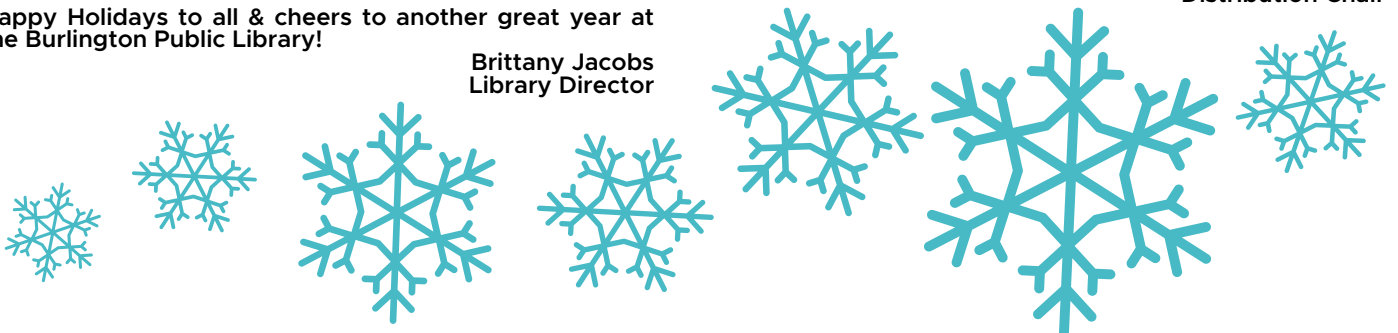
Happy Holidays! There are so many great times to celebrate this season. If any of your celebrations include gift-giving opportunities, please think about shopping at the Footnotes store in the library.

Our store features current and older titles, all for the amazing prices of \$3 for hard covers, \$2 for soft covers, and \$1 for paperbacks. Children's books are priced at 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, or \$1. Some books are priced slightly higher but are still a great value. This is a great time to pick up last minutes gifts!

Also, if you are thinking of finding volunteer activities in the coming new year, think about the Friends of the Library. The Footnotes store is staffed fully by volunteers in three-hour shifts. In addition, help is always needed at the book sales setting up, working the sale, and taking down the sale. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please go to the Library website and fill out the volunteer information request form. You will be contacted once your background check has been completed.

Again, happy holidays to our many Friends members, their families, and all patrons of the Burlington Public Library!

Cindy Murphy Book
Distribution Chair



DECEMBER EVENTS

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

CHESS CLUB

Saturdays, December 6 & 20 || 9 AM - 12 PM

Interested in learning chess or brushing up on your skills? Join us for this drop-in chess club in the Create Space. No registration required; all skill levels welcome.

BEL CANTO CHORALE

Saturday, December 13 || 11 AM

Get in the holiday spirit with a Bel Canto concert at the library. Join us at our great window overlooking the Mississippi as local singers serenade us with holiday sounds. No registration required; all are welcome.

THE ART OF GIFTING

Saturday, December 13 || 2 - 4 PM

Sharing with others cultivates generosity and compassion. Giving isn't about the money you spend, but the time, love, and thought you put into it! Join us to create your own gifts for loved ones out of various materials. Please register on our website.

READY SET SEW

Thursday, December 18 || 6 - 7 PM

Ready Set Sew is a beginner sewing class for all ages (3rd grade and up recommended). Learn how to use a sewing machine and make a simple project. Registration is required and class size is limited. This class meets every other month.

BELIEVE: A HOLIDAY MOVIE NIGHT

Monday December 22 || 5 - 7:45 PM

Hop aboard your favorite holiday train! Join us for an evening of bell necklaces, hot cocoa, and a showing of the feature film. Please register on our website.

MINI ZEN GARDENS

Monday, December 29 || 6 - 7:30 PM

Do you want to create more peace in your life for the new year? Join us for a mindful evening, and create your very own miniature zen garden to take home. Please register on our website.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

WIGGLE TIME: LATE FALL SESSION

Tuesdays, December 2, 9, & 16 || 10 AM

Wednesdays, December 3, 10 & 17 || 10 AM

Wiggle Time is a music and movement program for children ages 2-4 with their caregiver. Children and grownups will sing, dance, and read together as we continue to work on establishing the 5 building blocks of early literacy: read, write, sing, talk, and play! Registration requested; please visit our online calendar to register.

BABYGARTEN

Wednesdays, December 3, 10 & 17 || 5:30 PM

Thursdays, December 4, 11 & 18 || 10 AM

Babygarten is an early literacy program for children ages 0-23 months with a caregiver. We will be learning new sign language, sharing caregiver tips, and sharing songs, rhymes and a book. Please Register on our website.

TWEEN PROGRAMS

BRIGHT IDEAS

JUNIOR OPTIMIST CLUB

Tuesdays, December 9 || 5 - 6 PM

The Bright Ideas Junior Optimist Club is open to 3rd to 5th graders passionate about volunteering for the library and engaging with the community. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month, offering a chance to plan service projects and participate in group activities. Members can make new friends, learn the value of community service, and develop essential life skills. The club fosters creativity and leadership, providing hands-on learning experiences. Interested students or parents should plan to attend a meeting to join and start benefiting from this enriching opportunity.

TWEEN TUESDAY

Tuesday, December 16 || 6PM

Get ready to jingle and spread some holiday joy! Join us for Jingle and Joy Elf Fun — a festive time filled with snacks, games, and creative elf-themed activities that are sure to bring on the holiday cheer. Please register on our website.

TEEN PROGRAMS

TICOS

Thursday, December 11 || 6:30-7:30 PM

TICOS is a Junior Optimist Club that doubles as our Teen Advisory Club. It is open to all students in 6-12th grades who want to volunteer for the library and in the community. Join us for a holiday party with food and fun!

ADULT PROGRAMS

FIRST FRIDAY:

UKRAINIAN HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

Friday, December 5 || 10 AM

Local Ukrainian, Iryna Brueck and others will share their most treasured holiday traditions; Christmas Eve: Families gather for a 12-dish dinner, beginning with the blessing of the kutya, a grain dish symbolizing ancestors and good fortune. Didukh: A decorated sheaf of wheat is the main house decoration, representing the family's ancestors. Vertep: A portable puppet theatre that reenacts the Nativity story. St. Nicholas Day (December 6th/5th): Children receive gifts from St. Nicholas before Christmas, often under their pillows. Malanka (January 13th): A New Year's Eve celebration with masquerades, folk performances, and ritualistic activities to ward off evil spirits.

SILENT BOOK CLUB

Friday, December 5 || 6 - 8 PM

Friends and strangers alike are welcome to gather for our silent book club! Join us at Homestead 1839's barn (701 West Agency, West Burlington) the first Friday of the month to spread out, cozy up, and share in your love of reading. You can choose to socialize and share what you're reading (or not!) and enjoy mocktails and light appetizers. Registration requested.

THAT'S YESTERDAY'S NEWS

Saturday, December 6 || 10 AM

Join local historian, Terry Abrisz, for some refreshments and Burlington history. Terry uses the local newspaper to share the story of the community with a different topic each month. This month, Terry presents Holiday History! No registration required; all are welcome.

BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB

Thursday, December 18 || Noon - 1 PM

Join us to read a new book each month from unique authors. Books for each month are available at the Welcome Desk at the front of the library for check out. Check our website for future titles!

SPICY BOOK CLUB

Saturday, December 20 || 10 AM

In partnership with Thyme & Spice, the Burlington Public Library is excited to offer an opportunity to explore flavors, food, and make new friends in the library's spiciest book club. Each gathering will focus around a spice, and participants are encouraged to read a book that is in some way connected to its geography or culture. We'll gather in December to learn about ginger. Ginger is the rhizome of the flowering plant *Zingiber officinale*, native to the Indian subcontinent, but written about widely in India, China, and the Middle East. Sample ginger in foods and drinks, and share our books related to the spice or its native geographic area. No registration required.



DECEMBER 2025



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 • WIGGLE TIME 10AM	3 • WIGGLE TIME 10AM • BABYGARTEN 5:30PM	4 • BABYGARTEN 10AM	5 • FIRST FRIDAY: UKRAINIAN HOLIDAY TRADITIONS 10AM • SILENT BOOK CLUB 6-8PM	6 • CHESS CLUB 9AM - 12PM • THAT'S YESTERDAY'S NEWS 10AM
8	9 • WIGGLE TIME 10AM • BRIGHT IDEAS JUNIOR OPTIMIST CLUB 5-6PM	10 • WIGGLE TIME 10AM • BABYGARTEN 5:30PM	11 • BABYGARTEN 10AM • TICOS 6:30-7:30PM	12	13 • THE ART OF GIFTING 2-4PM • BEL CANTO CHORALE 11AM
15	16 • WIGGLE TIME 10AM • TWEEN TUESDAY 6PM	17 • WIGGLE TIME 10AM • BABYGARTEN 5:30PM	18 • READY SET SEW 6-7PM • BABYGARTEN 10AM • BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB 12PM	19	20 • CHESS CLUB 9AM - 12PM • SPICY BOOK CLUB 10AM
22 • BELIEVE: A HOLIDAY MOVIE NIGHT 5-7:45PM	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE - CLOSED	25 CHRISTMAS DAY - CLOSED	26	27
29 • MINI ZEN GARDENS 6-7:30PM	30	31 CLOSED EARLY AT 5 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL AGES PROGRAMS • CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS • TWEEN/TEEN PROGRAMS • ADULT PROGRAMS • OUTREACH EVENTS • LIBRARY CLOSINGS 		

JANUARY 2026



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL AGES PROGRAMS • CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS • TWEEN/TEEN PROGRAMS • ADULT PROGRAMS • OUTREACH EVENTS • LIBRARY CLOSINGS 	1 CLOSED - NEW YEARS DAY	2	3
5	6 • TWEEN TUESDAY 6PM	7	8 • TICOS 6:30-7:30PM	9	10 • BANNED BOOK CLUB 10AM • WINTER SEED SOWING 1PM
12	13 • BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS 2PM • BRIGHT IDEAS JUNIOR OPTIMIST CLUB 5-6PM	14 • TALES FROM THE PANTRY 10AM	15 • BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB 12PM	16	17
19 • THE FROST FAIR - ALL DAY • MINDFUL MONDAY 6PM	20 • BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS 2PM	21	22	23 • THE DISCOVERY READERS 11AM	24
26 • MINDFUL MONDAY 6PM	27 • MYSTERY BOOK CLUB 12PM • BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS 2PM • BRIGHT IDEAS JUNIOR OPTIMIST CLUB 5-6PM	28	29	30	31

Mailed to you by:
Friends of the Burlington Public Library



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www.burlington.lib.ia.us

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FROST FAIR

Monday, January 19th
10 AM - 5 PM

