

CHECK IT OUT

AUGUST 2026 NEWSLETTER



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BURLINGTON, IA 52601

WWW.BURLINGTON.LIB.IA.US



LIBRARY CLOSINGS

AUGUST 18TH -
STAFF DEVELOPMENT

LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY
9 AM - 8 PM

FRIDAY-SATURDAY
9 AM - 5 PM

SUNDAY - CLOSED

LIBRARY NEWS

The City of Burlington and all of its departments, including the Burlington Public Library, run on a July-June fiscal year, and August is the month for us to take a staff development day to discuss and review the year. From July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (Fiscal Year 2026, FY26) we saw 121,506 people walk through our front doors. This is a 19% increase in foot traffic from FY25, and is an indicator of how people are using the library more and more often to gather and connect with one another. In that same time 272,519 items circulated across our physical and digital collections! It takes a strong team of dedicated professionals to orchestrate a facility like ours, so I'd like to give an enormous thanks to the staff here at BPL.

I'd also like to thank our Board of Trustees who govern our library. To serve on the library board is a unique form of civic service, and our seven trustees show up and lead this institution with incredible passion and a keen eye for ensuring everything we do upholds the mission and values of this institution.

I'd also like to thank YOU for helping make FY26 a great one at the Burlington Public Library by using our collections, gathering in our space, and attending our programs! I look forward to seeing you at the library in this new fiscal year and hope that you take great pride in how excellent our library is.

Happy Reading,
Brittany Jacobs
Library Director

FRIENDS NEWS

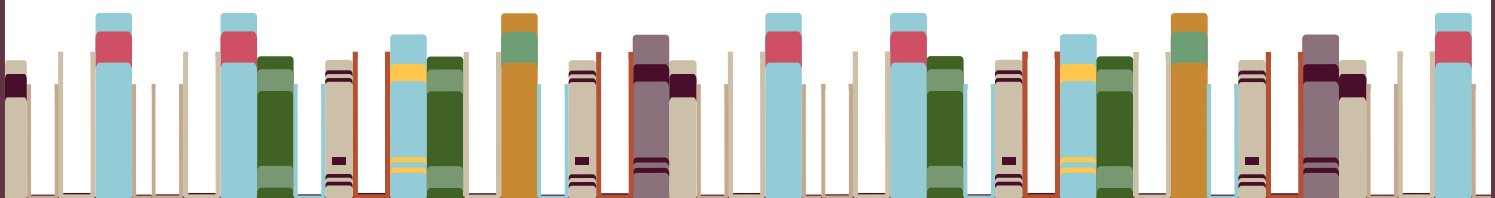
In just a few short days, the Holocaust Exhibit will be arriving at our library. This is such an honor that we have been chosen to display this important historical exhibit.

In conjunction with this display, the Footnotes Store is going to have a collection of books with the general theme of the Holocaust for sale. Please stop in to see this offering which will enhance your Holocaust Exhibit experience.

In addition, we have an incredible opportunity. We were recently gifted a copy of *Mein Kampf*. This edition is in English, and has a 1939 and 1941 copyright, and is a twentieth impression. This book is not on display, but serious buyers may ask to see it. We are pricing this book at \$400.

Hopefully you will be able to take advantage of this rare opportunity to see the Exhibit and to shop our related books.

Thanks,
Cindy Murphy
Book Distribution Chair



AUGUST EVENTS

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

CHESS CLUB

Saturdays, August 1 & 15 || 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.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

TAKING A BREAK, CHECK OUT OUR SEPTEMBER CALENDAR FOR FALL CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING!

TWEEN & TEEN PROGRAMS

TEEN SPACE MURAL DEDICATION

Monday, August 3 || 2 - 3 PM

Celebrate the completion of a remarkable year-long project in the library! Last summer, local teens had the unique opportunity to partner with the Smithsonian for the Democracy in Dialog Virtual Exchange program. Through this collaborative effort, they planned and began painting a stunning mural in the library, dedicated to honoring area teens who have made a significant difference and featuring familiar landmarks.

BRIGHT IDEAS FALL KICK OFF

Thursday, August 6 || 5 - 6 PM

The Bright Ideas Junior Optimist Club is open to 3rd to 6th graders passionate about volunteering for the library and engaging with the community. Meetings include a Bright Idea for others, a Bright Idea for fun, and Bright Ideas for future meetings. Members can make new friends, learn the value of community service, and develop essential life skills.

EVERDEEN'S LITERARY ARENA

Thursday, August 27 || 6 - 7 PM

District readers, prepare for a literary showdown! Our Hunger Games-themed Book Club invites tributes of all ages to explore Suzanne Collins' gripping series, *Mockingjay* this month. Join us for lively discussions inspired by Panem as we dive into themes of courage, rebellion, and resilience.

POKEMON CLUB

Saturday, August 29 || 2 - 3 PM

Calling all Pokémon fans! Gather at the library for the Pokémon trading card game, video games (bring your own portable console), or even Pokémon Go. Skilled players will guide participants in how to play, and beginner TCG decks are provided if you don't have one, so no experience is necessary. No registration required.

ADULT PROGRAMS

THAT'S YESTERDAY'S NEWS

Saturday, August 1 || 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 "The Manor on Roosevelt" No registration required; all are welcome.

MAHJONG MEET-UP

Tuesdays, August 4, 11 & 25 || 5:30 - 7:30 PM

****Library Closed August 18****

Thursdays, August 6, 13, 20 & 27 || 1:00 - 3:30 PM

Enjoy an afternoon of strategy, connection, and friendly competition at our Mahjong Meet-Up! This relaxed, peer-led group is perfect for both beginners and experienced players. Participants learn from one another, share tips, and build their skills together as they play. Whether you're brand new to Mahjong or looking to sharpen your game, this is a welcoming space to ask questions, practice, and enjoy the social side of the game. Please bring your own Mahjong set if you have one.

FILL YOUR CUP: ALZHEIMER CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, August 6 || 10am

Fill Your Cup Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group offers a confidential environment where individuals can relax, share, and learn.

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, August 7 || 10 AM

In preparation for the "Americans and the Holocaust" exhibition coming to BPL this fall, join us to view episode 2 of Ken Burns documentary "The U.S. and the Holocaust"

BANNED CAMP BOOK CLUB

Saturday, August 8 || 10 AM

Join Burlington Public Libraries Board of Trustees as we read challenged and banned books. Each month, one of our trustees will host an exploration of books relating to a certain theme. For this month, we will be reading a banned or challenged book of your choice. Come with an open mind and be prepared to discuss your chosen book, the freedom to read and other topics related to banned and challenged books.

COLORFUL CONNECTIONS: AN ACCESSIBLE HOUR OF CONNECTION

Wednesday, August 12 || 10 AM -11 AM

Celebrate National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day and National Cat Day with us! Enjoy delicious cookies, color fun cat-themed pictures, watch funny cat videos, and connect with others in the community. It's a relaxed and creative way to spend time together while enjoying good company and a few feline-inspired laughs.



THE MAKERS TABLE: AN ADULT CRAFT CLUB

Wednesday, August 12 || 5 PM

Get your crafty self to the library! Learn a new craft, meet others, and enjoy a fun, laid-back atmosphere. Whether you're a seasoned maker or just trying something new, there's a seat at the table for you. No registration required.

CLOTHING SWAP

Friday, August 14 || 10 AM- 2 PM

Bring clothing items in clean and good condition to the library and swap them out for some new-to-you pieces. Patrons can bring in up to 15 items from August 10th - 14th. On the 14th, participants can pick out the same amount of items to take home. If you bring the items on a hanger (that you don't want back), you can choose an additional clothing item to keep. All clothes that remain at the end of the event will be donated locally.

SPICY BOOK CLUB

Saturday, August 15 || 10 - 11 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 August to learn about chives. Chives are perennials that trace their origins to Eurasia and North America. Sample chives in tasty food, learn from the Des Moines County Master Gardeners about growing this herb, and share books related to the plant or its native geographic area. No registration required.



SORTA ORGANIZED: A CASUAL PLANNER CLUB FOR LISTS, GOALS & GOOD INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 15th || 11 AM

Whether you already love planning or are starting completely from scratch, Sorta Organized is a relaxed club for anyone interested in planning, creativity, and trying new ways to stay organized. Learn how to design customizable disc-bound planner pages in Canva, create accessories with a Cricut, and use provided materials to build or personalize your own reusable planner system.

BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB

Thursday, August 20 || Noon - 1PM

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!

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, August 25th || Noon - 1 PM

Solve the mystery of what to read next by joining the Mystery Book Club! The club meets at noon on the last Tuesday of the month to investigate a new mystery book. Books for each month are available at the Welcome Desk at the front of the library for check out. Our book for August is Postmortem by Patricia Cornwell. Please join us!



PRESENTED BY:

ALA American Library Association

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

BURLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

AMERICANS

AND THE HOLOCAUST

August 19 – September 30, 2026

Burlington Public Library

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