

CHECK IT OUT

MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER



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BURLINGTON, IA 52601

WWW.BURLINGTON.LIB.IA.US



LIBRARY CLOSINGS

MONDAY,
MARCH 3RD

LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY
9 AM - 8 PM

FRIDAY-SATURDAY
9 AM - 5 PM

SUNDAY - CLOSED

LIBRARY NEWS

FRIENDS NEWS

March is a busy time of year at the Burlington Public Library with an active budget season, legislative season, ongoing programs, and final planning for our largest annual initiative: summer reading. In going to City Hall and the Capitol at Des Moines to advocate for the Burlington Public Library, I have been telling our story and showcasing how something as traditional as a public library is a thriving community center in this digital age. 140 years ago, when the City of Burlington voted in Ordinance 21 shifting our private library into a public one, information was very static. New discoveries, ideas, and ideations were relegated to the pages of a print document. Libraries were born out of this age as an economical way to have access to these discoveries, ideas, and ideations. This is how humanity progressed at such a rapid rate. We found the loophole to evolutionary limits by recording and consolidating information into bound books, pamphlets, and the like which allowed us to quickly learn from the discoveries of those who came before us and build upon them. No longer did people need to individually attempt to figure out how to control fire, as early peoples did; we can read and learn about the amazing ways to harness energy and heat and build upon them. This is how we went from oral communication in 100,000BCE to cave paintings in 30,000BCE to landline phones in 1876 to being able to make video calls with the International Space Station in 2025. For hundreds of thousands of years information moved at a glacial pace, and in the last 150 years we have seen mind-blowing progress, and during that time the Burlington Public Library has remained a relevant and reliable resource for access to information. Burlington produced great minds like Brian Metzger who figured out where in the universe gold came from, Bart Howard who serenaded us with romanticized space travel, and Ed Stone who took humanity beyond the Moon to Mars. These men relied upon access to heaps of information in order to go down in the history books as award-winning thinkers, and their discoveries and creations will in turn be used to inspire and launch the next round of human progress. As information has become more valuable in our fast-paced world, so too have libraries. As we continue to request fair and decent funding and legislation for our library, I take great pride in knowing that throughout humanity's great leap forward we have been right there at the leading edge connecting, inspiring, and learning with the best of them.

Happy Reading,

Brittany Jacobs
Library Director

Watch your mail! As the old saying goes... The months of March and April are busy ones for the Friends of the Library as we approach our year-end on April 30. These months are the ones that see us asking for membership renewal, as well as planning for the annual meeting. So we will soon be sending our information on both. (That's why you are watching your mail.)

It is also a time where we look back on our year and revisit our accomplishments. This again has been a good year for our association, and we hope you will continue to find reasons and ways to support us. See you at the annual meeting!

Cindy Murphy,
Book Sale Chair

Save the Date!



Friends of the Library Annual Dinner



Friday April 25 @ 5:15 PM

Celebrate our successful year with a
picnic at the library!



MARCH EVENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 3RD LIBRARY CLOSED

The Burlington Public Library will be closed on Monday, March 3rd for a staff development day. We will reopen at 9 AM on Tuesday, March 4th.

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

CHESS CLUB

Saturdays, March 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

BRICKMASTERS

Saturdays, March 8 & 22 || 10 AM

Brickmasters is bringing a whole new meaning to LEGO building! Brickmasters offers a unique and creative LEGO building experience for kids in K+. Come join us and explore your inner creativity! Don't miss out on the fun - come and join us for a morning of LEGO building! No registration is required!

BABYGARTEN: SPRING 2 SESSION

Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; May 7 || 5:30-6 PM

Thursdays, April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1 & 8 || 10-10:30 AM

Babygarden is an early literacy program for children ages 0-23 months with a caregiver. Each week in this 6 week session we will be learning new sign language, sharing caregiver tips, and sharing songs, rhymes and a book. Registration required; please visit our online calendar to register.

WIGGLE TIME: SPRING 2 SESSION

Mondays, March 31; April 7, 14, 21 & 28 || 6:00 PM

Tuesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 || 10 AM

Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 || 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.

TWEEN PROGRAMS

TWEEN TUESDAY

Tuesday, March 11 || 6 PM

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with an iconic treat! This green shake will make you feel lucky, and wear green to match!

READY SET SEW!

Thursday, March 13 || 6-7 PM

Ready Set Sew is a beginner sewing class for tween and teens in grades 4-12. Learn how to use a sewing machine and make a simple project. Registration is required and class size is limited. This class meets monthly.

TEEN PROGRAMS

TICOS

Thursday, March 6 || 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. It meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month and usually has a second event/project sometime in the month.

NETWORK NIRVANA MINECRAFT

Friday, March 14 || 2:30 - 4:30 PM

Kick off your Spring Break at the library playing Minecraft with Network Nirvana. Players will have to work together to discover the origins of the evil plan and foil it before their spell consumes all of Nirvana! Bonus: Enjoy access to the Nirvana worlds all month. See BPL's website for details.

3D PRINTING CLASS

Thursday, March 20 || 2 - 4 PM

Learn how to use the library's 3D printers on Thursday March 20 2-4pm. We recommend that you create an account at Tinkercad, review the tutorials found in the Resources: Learning Center before the class, and know your login information so you are ready to design and send a print to our printers. This class has a limited class size. Registration is required.

TICOS CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 29 || 9:30 AM - 4 PM

Join TICOS for a fun day connecting (virtually) other Junior Optimists all over the state! We will have fun activities here at the library and will join via Zoom the JOI event in Des Moines. We will have lunch provided for teens in 6th-12th grade who register and plenty of fun things to do throughout the day. This is a great chance to see what TICOS (Teens Inspiring Change Optimism & Service) is all about! Please register by visiting our online calendar.

ADULT PROGRAMS

THAT'S YESTERDAY'S NEWS

Saturday, March 1 || 10 AM

Join local historian, Terry Abrisz, for some coffee, pastries and Burlington history. Terry uses the local newspaper to share the story of the community with a different topic each month. This month Terry is looking back at the rise and fall of the Westland Mall. No registration required; all are welcome.

FIRST FRIDAY: ELIZABETH PACKARD

Friday, March 7 || 10 AM

Elizabeth Parsons Ware Packard was committed to the Illinois State Hospital (the state mental asylum) in 1860 where she remained for three years, protesting her sanity. Elizabeth was able to obtain her release despite her husband insisting she was insane. However, her battle continued. Current law allowed married women to be placed in asylums by their husbands without the benefit of a formal trial or medical examination. Elizabeth started a campaign to change that unjust law. Hear from Elizabeth Packard in April 1864, while the Civil War rages around the nation, and her private war is raging in her soul.

MOCKTAILS AND ME TIME

Thursday, March 13th || 4-6 PM

Join us for Mocktails and relaxing activities! This month enjoy the sweet, bubbly and super cute pink drink with your favorite person. While you sip you can enjoy seasonal coloring pages, card games, and other relaxing activities. No Registration Required!

BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB

Thursday, March 20 || 12-1 PM

The magic of books is that they allow you to travel when you have to stay where you are. Join the Beyond the Book Club to explore new places, people, and culture. This group reads a selected book each month and meets on the third Thursday at noon. The March title is *Burnt Sugar* by Avni Doshi. No registration required; all are welcome.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, March 25 || 12-1 PM

Our March book is the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency. This popular series takes place in Botswana - here is a brief summary: This first novel in Alexander McCall Smith's widely acclaimed series tells the story of the delightfully cunning and engaging Precious Ramotswe, who is drawn to her profession to help people with problems in their lives. Immediately upon setting up shop, she is hired to track down a missing husband, uncover a con man, and follow a wayward daughter. But the case that tugs at her heart, and lands her in danger, is a missing eleven-year-old boy.

SEW WHAT?

Thursday, March 27 || 6-7 PM

Sew What is a beginner sewing class for adults. This class is for you if: 1 You haven't sewn in ages and need a refresher. 2. You have a sewing machine but no clue what to do with it. 3 You want to learn some new skills and have some fun. Registration required. Please visit our online calendar to register.

Mailed to you by:
Friends of the Burlington Public Library



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