

CHECK IT OUT

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



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210 COURT STREET,
BURLINGTON, IA 52601

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LIBRARY CLOSINGS

NO SCHEDULED
CLOSINGS THIS
MONTH

LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY
9 AM - 8 PM

FRIDAY-SATURDAY
9 AM - 5 PM

SUNDAY - CLOSED

LIBRARY NEWS

FRIENDS NEWS

Censorship is so 1984. Read for your rights.

Every fall the American Library Association leads libraries across the country in taking a week to recognize our right to read, and to read freely without fear of recourse or attack, through Banned Books Week. This right is guaranteed to us by the First Amendment and is something we ought to be very proud of, as the ability to freely access information is the cornerstone of a free and democratic society. This year the American Library Association (led by Burlington's own, Sam Helmick) is giving an Orwellian spin on Banned Books Week, highlighting George Orwell's classic 1984 which gives us a glimpse into the dangers of a censored society.

While banning books is certainly a hot topic nationally and here in Iowa, we at the Burlington Public Library are taking this year's Banned Books Week to launch our very own Banned Camp Book Club. Led by the intrepid Burlington Public Library Board of Trustees, this book club will offer participants the opportunity to learn about why books are challenged and how the Burlington Public Library champions our right to read. By giving people a safe space to explore challenging themes and how the library responds to them, this book club will foster healthy civic dialogue and showcase how the Burlington Public Library works hard to ensure that everyone can see themselves reflected on our library shelves.

I encourage you to exercise your right to read and pick up a banned book to read and join the conversation at the Banned Camp Book Club. From the Bible to Charlotte's Web, there's a banned book for everyone and as the great library pioneer, S.R. Ranganathan is quoted, "every person has his or her book, and every book has its reader." Read freely this month & we'll see you at the library!

Happy Reading,

Brittany Jacobs
Library Director

Fall is here and makes a great time for reading! Of course, I think any time of year is a great time for reading, but that is just me! Anyway, your library provides a number of great ways to get reading materials. The Friends of the Library provide a lovely Book Store in the lobby where you can purchase very gently used books for a very low price. Through the library, you can check out books, or read them electronically. You can also be in the library and read. So you have lots of choices!

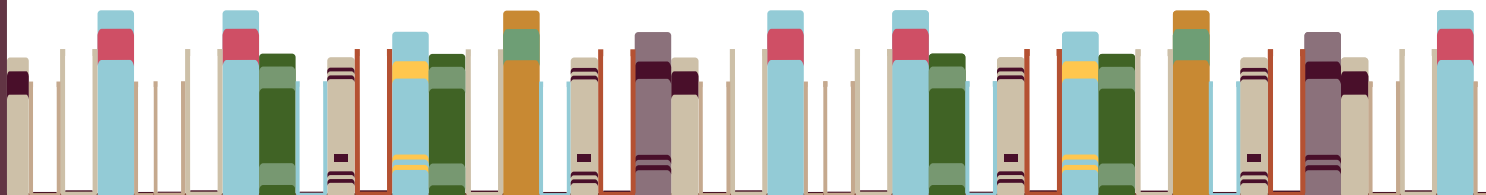
You could also use fall to think about volunteer opportunities. Again, the Friends have a great option for you. The Book Store is open Monday through Saturday 10-4 and is strictly staffed by volunteers. That provides 36 hours a week of volunteer hour opportunities. Each shift lasts only 3 hours, and provides the opportunity to talk to people about books, to work with books, or if the store is not busy, to read books. If you are interested in volunteering, contact our new Footnotes Manager Christine Walter at the Footnotes Store.

Enjoy your fall!

Cindy Murphy Book
Distribution Chair

We need your help! Please take a moment and tell City Council how valuable library programs are - citycouncil@burlingtoniowa.org

When the City cut all funding and support for programs in 2013, the Friends of the Library stepped in and have since paid roughly \$30,000 annually to ensure that BPL can continue to host high quality programs that are always FREE for all to attend. With a recent \$75,000 budget cut and additional proposed cuts for programming from Council, we need your help and support!



OCTOBER EVENTS

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

MINDFUL MONDAYS

Mondays, October 6, 13, 20 & 27 || 6 PM

Join us each Monday evening in the Create Space to start your week off mindfully. Mindfulness is a practice that involves present moment-awareness and non-judgmental acceptance. Each week we will do a short mindfulness creative exercise, a short guided meditation, games, and tea.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Saturdays, October 11 & 25 || 9 - 10:30 AM

Join us for Breakfast Club in the Create Space. Enjoy a simple breakfast provided by generous donations and optional activities. No registration necessary, all are welcome.

SUMMER READING TREE PLANTING

Saturday, October 18 || 9 AM - 12 PM

Join the Burlington Public Library, Burlington Parks and Forestry Departments as we plant the trees that were unlocked in this summer's reading program! Led by Burlington's City Forester, Patrick Moore, this will be a hands-on event where participants will learn about trees, how to plant, and how to care for them. Following the planting, members of the Tree Advisory Board will lead free tours and offer young tree pruning workshops throughout Dankwardt Park. No registration required; all are welcome.

PUMPKINPALOOZA

Friday, October 24 || 2 - 6 PM

Decorate your very own silly or spooky pumpkin! A special thanks to the Friends of the Burlington Public Library for making this event possible. Space is limited and registration is required for a pumpkin.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

WIGGLE TIME: FALL SESSION

Tuesdays, October 7 & 14 || 10 AM

Wednesdays, October 1, 8 & 15 || 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.

BABYGARDEN

Wednesdays, October 1, 8 & 15 || 5:30 PM

Thursdays, October 2, 9 & 16 || 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.

BRICKMASTERS

Saturdays, October 11 & 25 || 10 AM

Brickmasters offers an open ended lego building experience for children ages 5 and up. No registration required!

TWEEN PROGRAMS

BRIGHT IDEAS

JUNIOR OPTIMIST CLUB

Tuesdays, October 14 & 28 || 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, October 14 || 6 PM

Come and join us to make a Boo-tiful Ghost decoration using a mop, scrap paper and a background to add to your Halloween decor. This is a great way to add some DIY fun to your spooky season. Please visit our online calendar to register.

TEEN PROGRAMS

TICOS

Thursday, October 2 || 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. We will be making plans for the upcoming school year and would love to hear your ideas. Join us!

ADULT PROGRAMS

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, October 3 || 10 AM

Join us for Dan Haughey's presentation "Mr. U.S. Grant." No registration required, all are welcome.

SILENT BOOK CLUB

Friday, October 3 || 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, October 4 || 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 history of the Burlington Fire Department" No registration required; all are welcome.

BANNED CAMP BOOK CLUB

Saturday, October 11 || Noon - 1 PM

Join Burlington Public Library's 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, in celebration of Banned Books Week, and our inaugural meeting, we will welcome all banned and challenged titles. Pick your favorite! Come join us to share about your book, listen to others share about their books, and discuss common themes. Come with an open mind and be prepared to discuss the month's themes, the freedom to read, and specific banned and challenged books.

BEYOND THE BOOK CLUB

Thursday, October 16 || 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!

SEW WHAT

Thursday, October 16 || 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 is required, please register on our online calendar.

MEET THE AUTHOR: TOMMY CANALE

Friday, October 17 || 2 PM

Join us for a special event with Tommy Canale, author of *Shadows Over Clear Lake*. Canale will share the story of music legend Buddy Holly and the tragic event that ended his journey right here in Iowa.

FALL GENEALOGY & LOCAL HISTORY LOCK-IN

Sunday, October 19 || Noon - 4 PM

Whether you're just beginning genealogy research, interested in the history of your older home, hoping to discover more about your area ancestors - or you are an experienced researcher who'd like to use this quiet, dedicated time in the library to pursue your own work - this event is for you! With 1:1 help from knowledgeable staff & volunteers, you can learn new skills, conquer roadblocks and build confidence. There's even a bonus book sale with specially curated genealogy/local history items. Please register on our online calendar.

TALES FROM THE PANTRY: THE ART OF FOOD PRESERVATION & FOOD STORIES

Wednesday, October 22 || 11 AM - Noon

Join this lively discussion exploring the cultural traditions, personal stories, and history behind food preservation and seasonal foods. Perfect for food enthusiasts and story lovers alike, this program offers a fascinating glimpse into the ways food connects us across generations and cultures.

SPICY BOOK CLUB

Saturday, October 25 || 10 - 11 AM

In partnership with Thyme & Spice the Burlington Public Library is excited to offer a new spice-themed book club, Spicy Book Club. Each gathering will focus on a spice, and participants are encouraged to read a book that is in some way connected to its geography or culture. This month we'll feature cinnamon, a spice gathered from the bark of the tree species *cinnamomum* native to Sri Lanka though this tree can now be found in Indonesia, China, Saigon, and Malabar. Join us to sample this warm spice and share books related to the spice or the geographic areas listed above. No registration required.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, October 27 || Noon - 1 PM

Solve the mystery of what to read next by joining the Mystery Book Club! This club meets once a 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. Please join us!

MOCKTAIL HOUR

Thursday, October 30 || 4 - 5 PM

Come unwind and treat yourself to this Pumpkin Spice White Hot Chocolate Mocktail hour! Treat yourself to a cozy, relaxing hour of adult coloring and soothing activities!

Mailed to you by:
Friends of the Burlington Public Library



210 Court Street, Burlington, Iowa 52601
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STERLING LORD AUTHOR REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Registration is required to have a booth during our author showcase. The official Author Showcase will be open from 9-noon, however booths are permitted to remain through the rest of the day. The afternoon will feature writers workshops and publishing presentations. Sale of books is permitted once your registration has been accepted. Please contact Becky Nelson; bnelson@burlington.lib.ia.us with any questions.

Thank you for your participation!

Register now at:

burlington-ia.whofi.com/calendar/event/5559960

