

# Bethalto Public Library



January 2025



## Books Written by Descendants of Bethalto-nians Now Available

The Bethalto Public Library District recently received a donation of four books from the descendants of Heye and Maria Zimmermann, who lived in Bethalto from 1874 until their deaths. These books have been added to our collection and may be checked out for you to read.

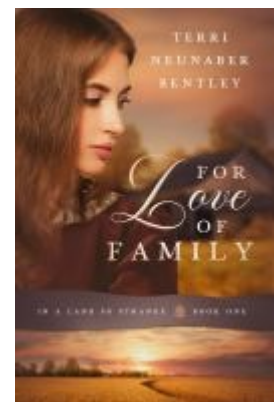
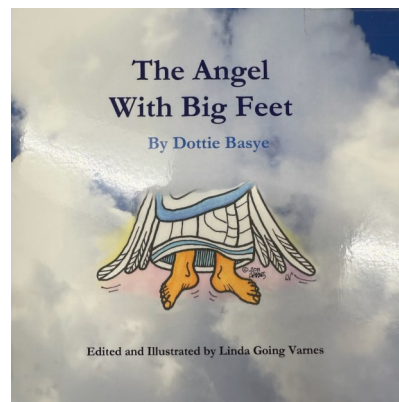
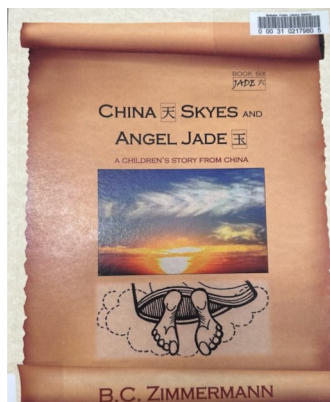
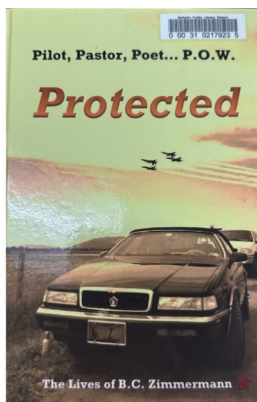
About the authors...

B. C. Zimmerman is their great-grandson. He has written his memoir ***Protected: The Lives of B. C. Zimmermann***, and wrote of his ancestors in the chapters titled 'Preserved' and 'Pilot'. He has also written a shorter, large-print version for children, ***China Skyes and Angel Jade***.

Eyewitness sketches and old family letters frame the story of Lt. Col. B. C. Zimmermann's early life as a World War II missionary kid, escaping China as one of America's youngest POWs at just two years of age. Awareness of his God-sent Guardian Angel led him to careers as a pastor, teacher, and aviator. In 1985, he was a pilot on hijacked TWA Flight 847 and saved many lives. This is his story...

Linda Varnes is B. C. Zimmermann's cousin and editor of his memoir. ***The Angel With Big Feet*** is edited and illustrated by her.

Terri Bentley is another cousin who has written ***For Love of Family***, a historical fiction novel of German immigrants set in the Bethalto community around the time their actual ancestors immigrated.



## Preschool Storytimes

Tuesdays | 10AM & 1PM

These weekly storytimes build children's early literacy skills with stories, songs, movement, and crafts. The program lasts 30 minutes followed by craft time. Leftover storytime crafts will be available in the kids area while supplies last.

## Baby/Toddler Storytime

Thursdays | 10AM

Baby Storytime is an interactive storytime that includes early literacy fun with books, songs, fingerplays, and body movement. Best for 0-23 months old.

## Family Fun Thursdays

Thursdays | 3-5PM

Different, fun activities each Thursday in the Kids Area. Light snack served every Thursday. Drop in from 3-5pm, with the exception of **Kids in the Kitchen**, which is from 3-4pm in the Great Room. Kids in the Kitchen will be making Apple "Donuts".

- Jan. 2nd - Kid's Crafternoon
- Jan. 9th - Lego Club
- Jan. 16th - Kids in the Kitchen - Apple "Donuts"
- Jan. 23rd - Let's Get Moving - The Floor is Lava
- Jan. 30th - Dog Man - Unleashed at the Library!



## Family Movie Night

January 17th | 6PM

*The Wild Robot* (Rated PG) - Based on the bestselling book, *The Wild Robot* follows the epic adventures of Roz the robot as he learns to adapt to the harsh surroundings of the uninhabited island where he has been shipwrecked. Popcorn and drinks provided, or bring your own snacks and drinks.

## Sensory Play Day

January 18th | 10:30AM-12PM

Sensory Play encourages learning through curiosity, creativity, and free exploration of materials. Sensory play can be an excellent tool for supporting self-regulation. It can be a safe way for young children to release big energy or emotions, while improving gross and fine motor skills. Please note - some of our sensory activities can be messy, so dress your child accordingly.

## Read with Maui

January 22nd | 4-5PM

On Wednesday this month! Come sign up for a time slot to read to therapy dog Maui. Newfoundlands have earned a reputation as a patient and watchful 'nanny dog' for kids. NEW—Maui Punch Cards! The more times you read to Maui, the more prizes you could win.

## Family Glow Bingo Night

January 24th | 6PM

GLOW BINGO! Bring the whole family to the Library for this fun and exciting after-hours event. Light refreshments will be provided. Doors open at 5:45pm.

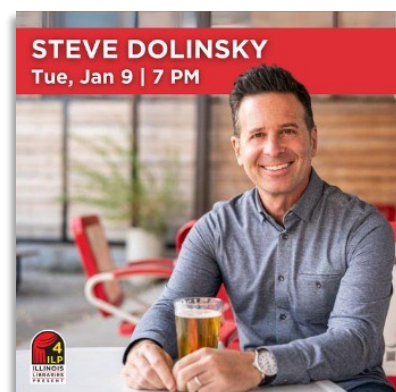
## Adult Bingo Night

January 31st | 6PM

It's Bingo Night at the Library. We provide the daubers, light refreshments, fun, and prizes. Bring your own lucky charms. Adults only, please. Doors open at 5:45pm.

## Virtual Event Series

Register at [bethaltolibrary.org](https://bethaltolibrary.org) and watch online from home.



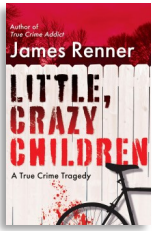
## In February...

**Feb. 9th** - Galentine's Spa Day: gather your friends for a relaxing day at the Library

**Feb. 22nd** - Puzzle Race: Teams of up to 5 race to complete the same puzzle

**Tech Times** - Drop in to see if we can help with your tech questions and needs. Specific dates/times will be in the February newsletter.

# Join our Book Clubs!



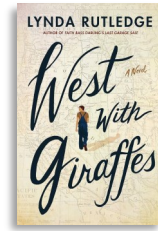
**February's Title**  
*Not Lost Forever*  
by Carmina Salcido

**Thursday**  
**Jan. 2nd | 6PM**



**February's Title**  
*The Institute*  
by Stephen King

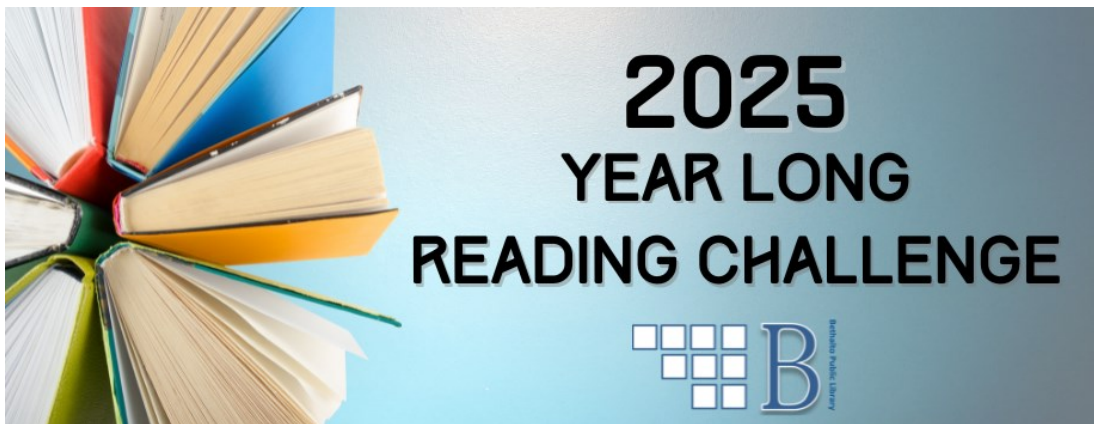
**Movie and Potluck**  
**Tuesday**  
**Jan. 7th | 6:30PM**



**February's Title**  
*White Ivy*  
by Susie Yang

**Wednesday**  
**Jan. 15th | 10AM**

## \*NEW\* 2025 Year Long Reading Challenge



This reading challenge is for everyone! Pick any book that meets the month's prompts, then log your reading in the Beanstack app and you are automatically entered for that month's prize drawings. Winners will choose from a prize basket filled with goodies, including book themed gifts, gift cards, and more. (Eligible to win up to 3 times during the year.)

You do not have to complete prompts every month. We know life sometimes gets busy! This is a reading challenge you can participate in at any time during 2025.

Each book read fulfills a single prompt. Need help finding a good book? Check out the displays at our Library or ask our Librarians for recommendations.

Happy Reading in 2025!

## JANUARY



By a  
favorite  
author



A  
long  
book



About  
animals



Title letters  
on cover are  
a primary color



Set in  
Europe or  
in a castle

# WINTER BREAK

## CROSSWORD

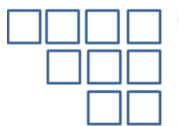
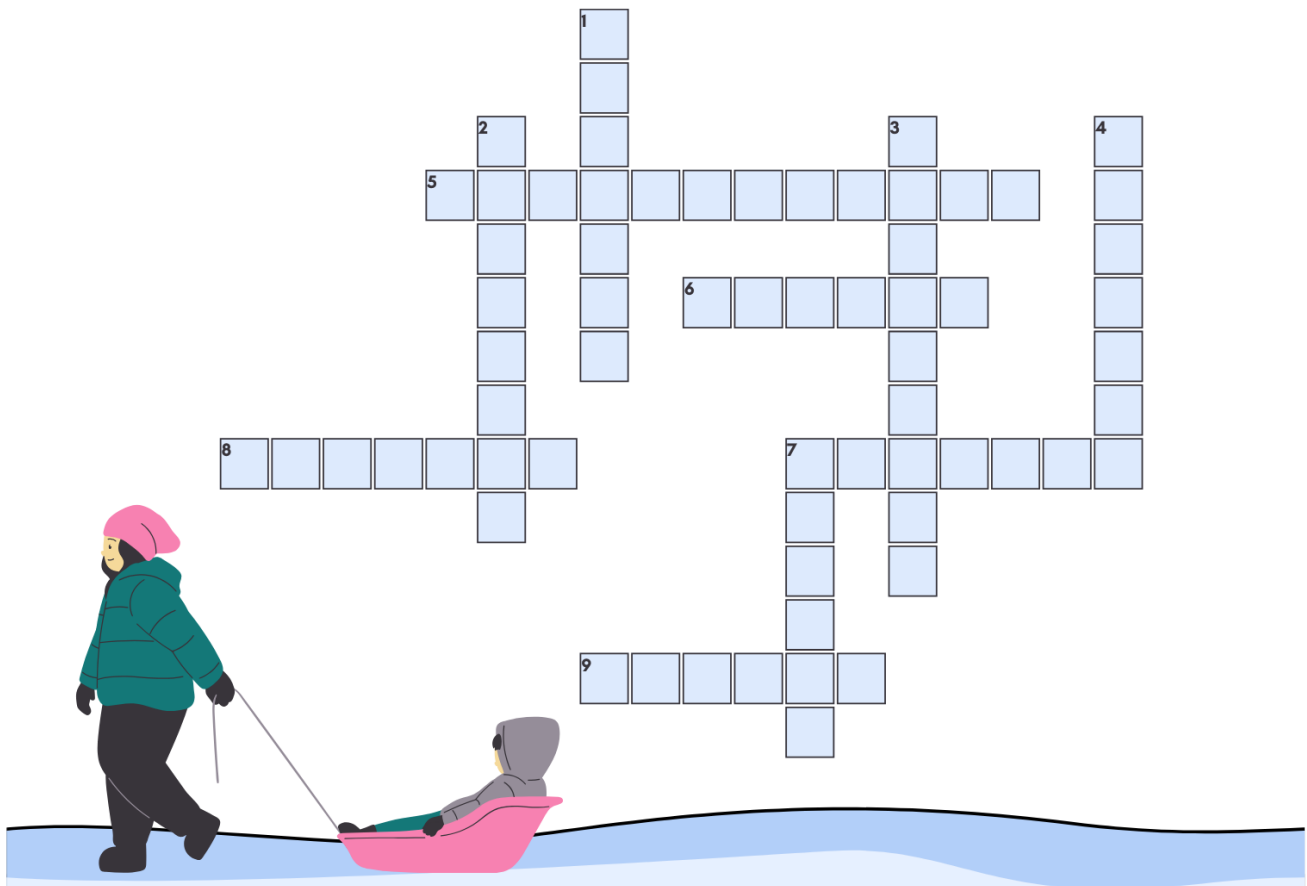
Find 10 words related to the winter holidays.

### DOWN

1. A figure made of snow with a carrot nose.
2. Making clothes or blankets from yarn with needles.
3. A place where you make a fire to keep warm.
4. Games where you put pieces together to make a picture.
7. Sliding down snow on long, thin boards on your feet.

### ACROSS

5. Riding down a snowy hill on a board.
6. Stories you watch on a screen.
7. Long pieces of cloth you wrap around your neck to stay warm
8. Looking at words in a book to learn or have fun.
9. Cooking things like cookies or cakes in an oven



**Bethalto Public Library**  
321 S. Prairie Street  
Bethalto, IL 62010  
618-377-8141

### Days Closed

**New Year's Day**  
January 1, 2025  
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
January 20, 2025

### Hours

Mon - Thu: 10:00am to 7:00pm  
Fri, Sat: 10:00am to 4:00pm  
Sun: 12:00pm to 4:00pm