

# Bethalto Public Library

February 2025  
Newsletter



## Beyond Books

Services the Library Provides

The core service of a public library is to provide free access to a collection of books, periodicals, and other materials for borrowing and reading, essentially acting as a community information center where anyone can access knowledge and resources. But did you know that the Library offers a variety of activities and services beyond books. Check out our offerings!

Home printer run out of ink and you don't want to buy a new cartridge to print two pages? Email us your documents and we'll print them out for you. Black and white pages are 20¢ each and color pages are 50¢ each on letter size paper.

Need to sign and send those documents? We got you covered. We can fax for \$1 per page. Or we can scan your documents and send them as a pdf file to an email for 50¢ per email address. Send yourself the document and then you can forward the file to whoever you want later on.

Need a computer to type up that document or fill out online forms? We've got five public computers you can use for one hour, and then longer if no one else is waiting, for free. Or bring your laptop in and use our free Wi-Fi to connect with the online world. And speaking of Wi-Fi, we actually leave ours on 24/7, so you can connect from our parking lot even if the Library hasn't opened yet.

Its income tax season, and our Library partners with AARP to offer free tax preparation appointments with AARP Volunteer Preparers on Wednesdays. Spots are filling up fast, so call to schedule yours. If you're a do-it-yourselfer we also have the basic 1040 form and instructions free to pick up.

We offer other programs at the Library year round. Storytimes are a must, but have you thought of coming to the Library to play bingo or see a family movie? Every month there are a variety of free activities to enjoy and meet other members of your community.

Passionate about Board Games? Stop in and check one out. We have over a hundred different board games, dice games, card games for all ages. These cannot be requested online, but the collection can be browsed through at the Library.

Prefer your mobile device? Try our two free Apps – Cloud Library and Libby. Your library card number gives you access to thousands of downloadable books and audiobooks to checkout. The Libby app has magazines too!

There is so much going on here, we want our community to know about it. Spread the word of what the Library can do for you and the rest of our Bethalto Public Library District's residents. We are here to help. Stop by soon and see what else we have going on.

## Sensory Play Day

February 8th | 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.



## Puzzle Race and Swap

February 22nd | 2PM

Put together a team of 4-6 puzzlers and race to see which team can complete the same puzzle first. Registration is required. We will also have a variety of puzzles to swap (bring a puzzle, take a puzzle).

## Adult Bingo Night

February 28th | 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](http://bethaltolibrary.org) and watch online from home.



## 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 Edible Sand Art.

- Feb. 6th - Kid's Crafternoon
- Feb. 13th - Lego Club
- Feb. 20th - Kids in the Kitchen - Edible Sand Art
- Feb. 27th - Let's Get Moving - Indoor Snowball Fight

## In March...

### Nachos and Novels

Did you read the best book ever recently, but have no one to discuss it with? Nachos and novels is the program for you. Find your next great read at Nachos and Novels in March. Browse our curated selection of recent, popular fiction books. Speak with likeminded readers about your favorite books of 2024, all while enjoying free nachos and other treats. Pre-registration is required.



# Pal-entine's Day Event Series

## FEB. 5TH AT 6PM

Lisa Vignassi will be back with a beautiful ♥ wreath craft. Each project is \$20. Registration is required.

## FEB. 8TH FROM 9-10AM

Join us for a relaxing & refreshing morning of yoga before the library opens.

## FEB. 9TH FROM 2-4PM

Grab a friend or two & come to the library for a soothing spa day! Give yourself a manicure, do a facemask, make a sugar scrub, have a snack & more!

*\*Students from the Illinois Institute of Massage will be here giving chair massages.*



Bethalto Public Library  
321 S. Prairie Street  
Bethalto, IL 62010  
618.377.8141

# Join our Book Clubs!

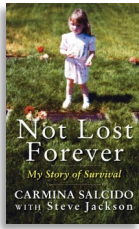


### March's Title

*The Seven Year Slip*  
by Ashley Poston

**Tuesday**

**Feb. 4th | 6:30PM**

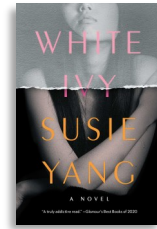


### March's Title

*Hell Town*  
by Casey Sherman

**Thursday**

**Feb. 6th | 6PM**

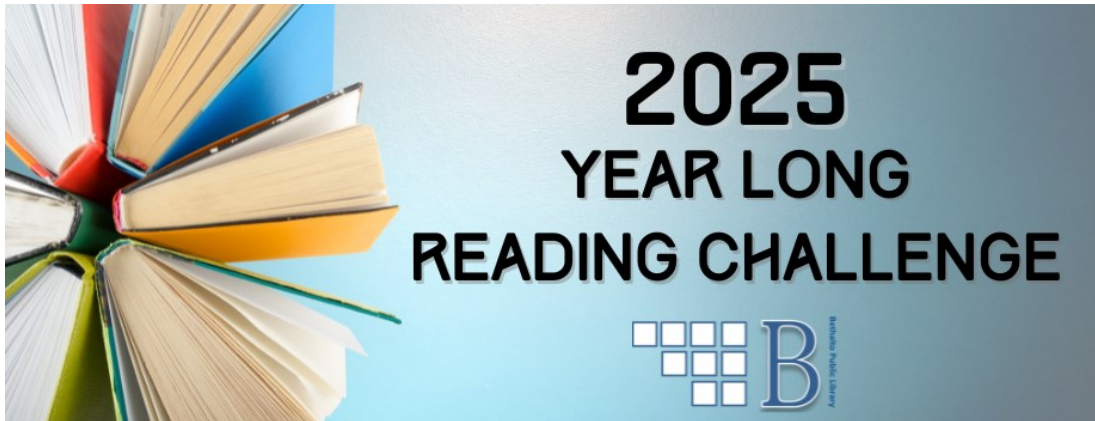


### March's Title

*When Ghosts Come Home*  
by Wiley Cash

**Wednesday**

**Feb. 19th | 10AM**



This reading challenge is for everyone! Pick any book that meets the month's prompts, then log your reading on a paper log available at the library and our website or record 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!

## FEBRUARY



Author has one of your initials



Indoor scene on the cover



About family



A color in the title



Set in a small town



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### Days Closed

**Presidents' Day**  
February 17, 2025  
**Easter**  
April 20, 2025

### Hours

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