



Bethalto Public Library

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



Food For Fines

CLEAR FINES


Bring in non-perishable, shelf stable food to clear your fines. Each item you bring in is worth a set dollar amount. This amount will be deducted from your overdue fines.

MEAL IN A BAG DEALS

Take advantage of the Meal in a Bag deals we offer. Donate all ingredients for the selected meals for a greater reduced rate. See a clerk for more details.

COMMUNITY DONATIONS

The Bethalto Public Library is also accepting donations for our 2 local food pantries. If you would like to help local families have food to put meals on the table, bring in your donations and we will get them to the Community Hope Center and the Our Lady Queen of Peace food pantries.



Holiday Closures

Christmas

Wednesday, Dec. 24th - Closed
Thursday, Dec. 25th - Closed

New Year's

Wednesday, Dec. 31st - 10am - 5pm
Thursday, Jan. 1st - Closed




HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

December 13th - 10am - 4pm

December 14th - 12pm - 4pm

Swing by the Bethalto Public Library anytime during open hours and get crafty with festive Christmas creations! All ages can join in the holiday creativity. Come create a little holiday magic. We'll have plenty of supplies. Bring a friend and double the holiday fun.





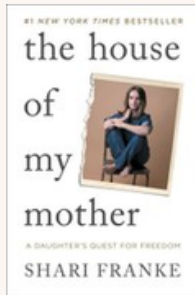
Book Clubs



True Crime

Dec. 4, 2025
6pm

The House of my Mother by Shari Franke

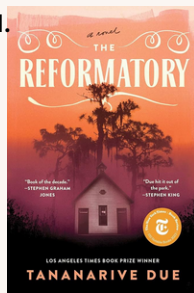


THRILLS AND CHILLS

In January 2026, True Crime Book Club is changing! Come check out the all new Thrills and Chills Book Club-The book club for those of us who like things a little spooky! We will read horror, thrillers, and mysteries, with the occasional true crime sprinkled in for good measure. If you like books that keep you up at night, this is the club for you.

Jan. 14, 2026
6pm

The Reformatory by Tananarive Due



Just Another

Dec. 17, 2025
10am

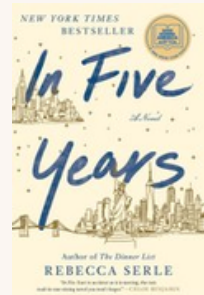
The Most Wonderful Crime of the Year by Ally Carter



The OG

Dec. 2, 2025
6:30pm

In Five Years by Rebecca Serle



UPCOMING BOOK CLUB MOVIE EVENT

On January 6, 2026, at 6:30pm, The OG Book Club will be hosting a Potluck Movie Viewing.

All Book Club members are invited to join them in viewing *Arrival*. Bring a dish and relax with fellow book-lovers.



Upcoming Titles

The OG

Feb. 3rd - *Bleak House* by Charles Dickens

Thrills and Chills

Jan 14th - *The Reformatory* by Tananarive Due

Just Another

Jan. 21st - *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot



Storytime

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Dec. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th
10am and 1pm

Join us in the Kids Area every Tuesday for a fun-filled storytime! Each week we'll explore early literacy through stories, song, movement, and hands-on crafts. Both sessions feature the same activities. Pick the time that fits your schedule best.

BABY/TODDLER PLAYTIME

Dec. 4th, 11th, and 18th
10am

Our littlest visitors may be too busy to sit for a full story, but they still love spending time at the library! Join Ms. Amy in the Kids Area for a gentle introduction to Preschool Storytime, filled with play, socializing, and early learning.



Read with Maui

Dec. 15th | 4pm

Maui has returned! Drop in at the Library to reserve your reading time with everyone's favorite therapy dog. Be sure to check out our Maui Loyalty Program—each reading session brings you closer to fun rewards!



Special Storytime

Raising Kids in a Digital World

Dec. 6th | 3pm

Brought to you by the Sesame Workshop and Google, this 45-minute family workshop helps young children and caregivers explore healthy digital habits through storytime, creativity, and movement. Activities are geared toward ages 3-5, but all ages are welcome.



FAMILY FUN THURSDAYS

Thursdays - 3pm

Dec. 4th - Christmas Crafts for Kids

Dec. 11th - Gingerbread House Decorating

Dec. 18th - Holiday Movie in the Kids Area



Noon Year's Eve Party

Dec. 31st | 11am - 1pm

Ring in the New Year a little early with our littlest patrons. Snacks, music, dancing, crafts, and a balloon drop at noon!



Interactive Movie



ELF

Dec. 12th | 6pm

It's time for some holiday cheer—*Elf* style! Grab your interactive movie bag and enjoy popcorn, drinks, and candy as we watch Buddy's hilarious journey. And during intermission? Gear up for the ultimate speed Gingerbread House decorating showdown!



Finals Night!

Teen Study Night

Dec. 15th | 5 - 9pm

Food, free printing, stress relieving activities, Maui the Therapy dog.

5 - 6pm - Therapy Time! - Maui the Therapy Dog and crafts.

6 - 7pm - Brain-fuel Munchie Break! - Pizza and snacks.

7 - 9pm - Grind Time! Quiet study time and mindful activities (after hours - the library is all yours!)



ADULT BINGO NIGHT

Dec. 26th | 6pm

Bethalto Library's Adult Bingo Night - where the numbers are hot, the popcorn is popping, and the prizes are worth playing for. Grab your lucky charms, a friend or two, and enjoy a night out on us!



Bethalto Public Library

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

Days Closed

Christmas
Dec. 24-25, 2025
New Year's
Jan. 1, 2026

Hours

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