

# BETHALTO PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

January 2026



## FAMILY BINGLOW

Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM

Bring the whole family to the Library after hours for a glow-tastic night of fun! Enjoy blacklight bingo, tasty snacks, exciting prizes, and a few surprise activities along the way. It's a playful evening filled with laughter, bright lights, and memorable moments for all ages.

## READ WITH MAUI

\*Wednesday\*

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> @ 4PM

Sign up for a special time slot to read with Maui, our friendly therapy dog! Newfoundlands are known for their gentle, patient nature, making Maui the perfect reading buddy for kids. Don't forget to ask about our Maui Loyalty Cards – the more you read to Maui, the more prizes you can earn.

## MINDEFUL CRAFTS

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> @ 10AM – 4PM (Drop In Anytime)

Unwind and get creative at Adult Craft Day: Mindful Crafts! Drop in anytime to explore relaxing activities like mandala painting, reverse coloring, paint by numbers, and more. No experience needed. Crafts will be available throughout the day during library hours, from 10:00am to 4:00pm.



## ADULT BINGO NIGHT

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM

Join us for Bethalto Library's Adult Bingo Night, where the numbers are hot, the popcorn is popping, and the prizes are worth playing for! Bring your lucky charms and a friend or two for a fun, free night out filled with laughs and friendly competition.



## PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Tuesdays @ 10AM & 1PM  
January 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>

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

Thursdays @ 10AM  
January 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>

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.

## FAMILY FUN THURSDAYS

Thursdays @ 3PM

All Family Fun Thursday are drop in programs from 3-5pm, with the exception of Kids in the Kitchen, which runs from 3-4pm (while supplies last).

- ❄️ **January 1<sup>st</sup>** – Library Closed
- ❄️ **January 8<sup>th</sup>** – Crafternoon and Indoor Snowball Fight
- ❄️ **January 15<sup>th</sup>** – Kids in the Kitchen: S'mores Pops and Hot Cocoa Bar
- ❄️ **January 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Movie Day in the Kids' Area (Popcorn provided.)
- ❄️ **January 29<sup>th</sup>** – Winter Lego Challenge



# BOOK CLUBS

## THE OG

Book Club Movie Event  
Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30PM

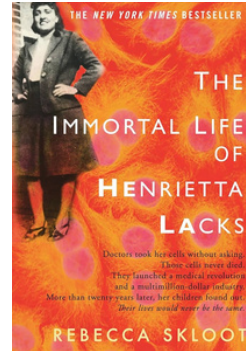
**The OG Book Club is hosting a Potluck Movie Viewing.**

All Book Club members are invited to join The OG Book Club in viewing the film, *Arrival*. Bring a dish and relax with fellow book-lovers.



## JUST ANOTHER

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> @ 10AM

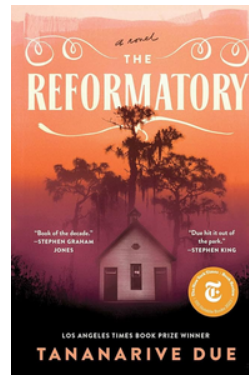


*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*  
by  
Rebecca Skloot

## THRILLS & CHILLS

Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM

Beginning this month, True Crime Book Club is changing! Come check out the all new **Thrills & Chills Book Club**. This book club is 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 book club is for you!



*The Reformatory*  
by  
Tananarive Due



## UPCOMING TITLES

### The OG Book Club

Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Bleak House by Charles Dickens

### Thrills & Chills Book Club

Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> - Listen for the Lie by Amy Tintera

### Just Another Book Club

Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> - The Soulmate Equation by Christina Lauren



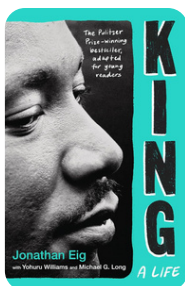


ILLINOIS  
LIBRARIES  
PRESENT

# AUTHOR CHATS VIA ZOOM

## BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE WITH JONATHAN EIG

Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM



Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jonathan Eig shares insights from *King: A Life*, his groundbreaking biography of Martin Luther King Jr., the first in decades to include newly declassified FBI files. Vivid and deeply human, the book explores King's public power and private struggles as he reshaped American history. Eig will be joined in conversation by Mark Bazer, host of *The Interview Show* and longtime Chicago Humanities moderator.

Scan to register.



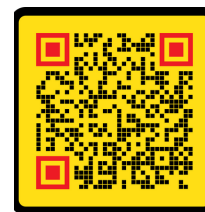
## STILL AFRAID OF THE DARK: AN EVENING WITH R.L. STINE

Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM



Bestselling author R.L. Stine, creator of *Goosebumps* and *Fear Street*, defined horror for a generation and continues to thrill readers of all ages. With over 400 million books sold, his recent work includes new *Goosebumps* titles, *The Graveyard Club* graphic novel, and upcoming *Fear Street* films. He'll be joined in conversation by horror expert Becky Spratford.

Scan to register.



## UPCOMING AUTHOR CHATS



March 19, 2026  
Percival Everett



April 16, 2026  
Cristina Henríquez



May 19, 2026  
R.F. Kuang



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

### Days Closed

**New Year's Day**  
Jan. 1, 2026

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
Jan. 19, 2026

### Hours

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