# IDA PUBLIC LIBRARY
# 2026 / 2027 WINTER PROGRAM GUIDE



*There's Snowplace like the library!*

## SIRENS AND SKATES

*1:00- 3:00 PM-WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH*



Come ice skate with us and local first responders at our Sirens and Skates event! Ice skating and skate rental is free for the whole family though skates and sizes are limited. We will have a warming cabin with cookies and cocoa provided by Belvidere Walmart.

**Location: Riverside Ice Arena at Doty Park: 365 W. Locust St. Belvidere, IL 61008**

Boone County Sheriff; BPD; Fire Engine and EMT's will be present.

*Sponsored by the Friends of Ida Public Library*

**To Register for Events:**
Visit
idapubliclibrary.org > Events > Registration or call 815-544-3838.

# STORYTIMES

## STORY SPROUTS

*10:30AM WEDNESDAYS; NO SESSIONS DEC 23*

Join us on Wednesday mornings on the lower level in the meeting room for Story Sprouts! This weekly program is perfect for your preschool-aged reader to engage in stories, activities, and crafts! **Registration Required.**

In Honor of Law enforcement appreciation day, Belvidere Police will be joining Story Sprouts on January 13th @ 10:30 A.M.



## OPEN PLAY

*1ST & 3RD THURSDAYS AT 10:30AM*

Bring your little one to Open Play with us! On the first and third Thursday of the month at 10:30am to socialize, play, and learn! **Registration Required.**

## TINY TALES

*2ND & 4TH THURSDAY EXCEPT DEC 10 , DEC 31 (SPECIAL EVENT REGISTRATION)*

This Storytime is for Ida's tiniest readers to socialize and engage in early literacy! Tiny Tales Storytime is designed for babies from newborn to 24 months and their caregiver(s) **Registration Required.**

## TINY TIMES SQUARE

*10:30AM-THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST*




Get ready for the New Year with this fun party for your little ones! We will have toys, music, and other activities to enjoy. Fancy attire is not required, but is appreciated.
**Registration Required.**

## NIGHT OWLS STORYTIME



*6:00 PM-MONDAY, JANUARY 4TH*

*6:00 PM-MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH*

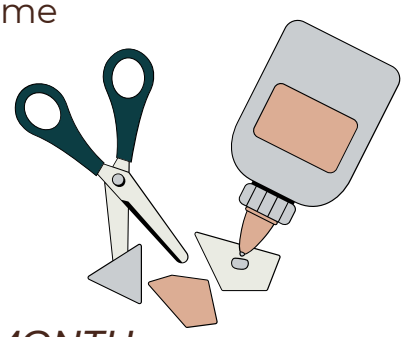
Join us on these Monday nights on the lower level in the meeting room for Night Owls Storytime. This monthly program is perfect for your preschool-aged reader to engage in stories, activities, and crafts! We will also have special guest Therapy dogs from Forest City Dog at these night sessions.
**Registration Required.**

YOUTH PROGRAMS

## CLUB NEXT

*3:30PM - 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH*

Join us for Club Next! We will have games, crafting materials, Hour of Code games, and activities for you to do while you hang out at the library! Each month we have a special theme mentioned below. **Registration Required.**



- December 22nd: Winter Wonderland
- January 26th: LEGO
- February 23th: Jumanji

## BUILDERS CLUB



*3:30PM - 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH*

Join Ida's Builders Club where you can show off your creativity by building with LEGOs! We will have different challenges, themes, and contests along the way in this once-a-month Builders Club! **Registration Required.**

- December 9th: Gingerbread House
- January 13th: Build a maze
- February 10th: Flower Garden

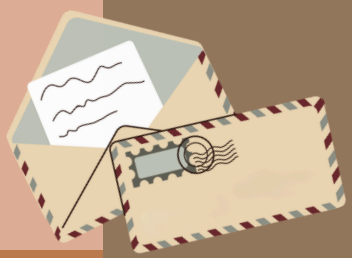


## KIWI BRITHDAY BASH SLEEPOVER

*10 A.M. - DROP OFF FRIDAY, JANUARY 8TH | PICK UP SATURDAY, JANUARY 9TH*



Bring your special pals to the Library where they can have a Birthday sleepover with our cool friend Kiwi! Drop off will be Friday, January 8 from 10 to 4 pm and Pick-up will be Saturday, January 9 from 12 to 4 pm. Come see what shenanigans your friends get up to at the library after hours. **Registration Required.**

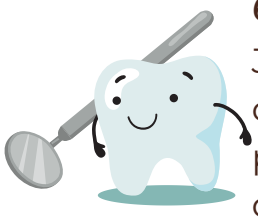


## INTRODUCING KIWI'S FRIENDS!

KIWIS TREE HAS BECOME QUITE FULL WITH NEW PEN PAL FRIENDS THAT LOVE TO WRITE TO THE LIBRARY KIDS!

STOP BY THE JUVENILE DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN A SPECIAL BOND WITH SOME FUZZY FRIENDS!

## TOOTH BUDDIES



*6:00 PM-MONDAY , FEBRUARY 1ST*

Join Dr. Liliana Paz for a fun, interactive presentation where children will learn about brushing, flossing, healthy foods, and preventing cavities. This 20–25 minute program includes engaging demonstrations and a dental goodie bag for each child!

**Registration Required.**

## PAGES & PLAY WITH PEARL STREET KIDS ACADEMY



*6:00-7:00 PM-MONDAY, JANUARY 25TH*

This month, Pearl Street Kids Academy staff are coming to the library! We invite you to join us as we read and play together at Ida Public Library. **Registration Required.**

## PAGES & PLAY WITH PEARL STREET KIDS ACADEMY



*6:00-7:30 PM-MONDAY, DECEMBER 21ST*

Join us for a story and playtime at Pearl Street Kids Academy! Pearl Street Kids Academy will open up their space to us so families can learn, explore, and play together. Come check out their space and enjoy a little open house style playtime with us. Pearl Kids Academy is geared towards children ages 2-6. There is no cost to attend!

**Registration Required.**

**Location: Onsite at Pearl Street Kids Academy, 2170 Pearl St, Belvidere, IL**

## LITTLE SWEETHEARTS DANCE



*6:00-7:00 PM-THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH*

Put on your dancing shoes and meet us at Pearl Street Kids Academy for a Little Sweethearts Dance! We will have a photo op, music, dancing, and a whole lot of fun for your little one! This event is geared towards children ages 2-6. There is no cost to attend. **Registration Required.**

**Location: Onsite at Pearl Street Kids Academy, 2170 Pearl St, Belvidere, IL 61008**

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

## CELEBRATE WINTER WITH US!

COME IN FROM THE COLD AND WARM UP AT THE LIBRARY!
THERE'S A LITTLE WINTER MAGIC WAITING FOR EVERYONE HERE!



### MAKE AND GIVE WORKSHOP

*6:00- 7:00 PM-MONDAY, DECEMBER 7TH*

It is the season of giving! We will have craft supplies ready for kids to make their very own handmade gift for their family or friends. Drop in from 6-7 P.M. while supplies last.

### BILINGUAL BINGO

*6:00-7:00 PM - ONCE A MONTH*

Join us for a winter theme Bilingual Bingo! Instead of numbers, it will be pictures. **This program will be in Spanish and English. Registration is required.**

¡Acompáñenos a jugar Bingo Bilingüe con temática de Invierno! En lugar de números abra imágenes.

**Este programa será en Español y inglés.**

- Thursday, Dececember 10th
- Wednesday, January 6th
- Wednesday Feburary 17th




### WINTER WONDERLAND BINGO

*2:00-2:30 & 3:00-3:30 PM-MONDAY,DECEMBER 21ST*

Warm up with Winter Wonderland BINGO! This BINGO game will contain winter related images instead of numbers, making it fun and accessible for all ages. **Registration Required.**



### COZY CUDDLE BUDDIES

*6:00- 7:00 PM- MONDAYS, JANUARY 4TH AND FEBRUARY 8TH*

Our favorite therapy dog teams are back! Drop by the lower-level meeting room to visit with the Forest City Therapy Dog teams, read a book, color, or just relax in their cozy presence.

## FARMERS RISING AT IDA!

*6:00-7:00 PM- MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH: PIZZA SAUCE WORKSOP*
*1:00-3:00 PM-TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29TH: SALSA MAKING WORKSHOP*

Farmers Rising is excited to offer two free, hands-on culinary workshops at Ida Public Library through funding from the Illinois specialty crop grant. These sessions will be led by our farm chef, Andy Skupien and farm educators where we will celebrate specialty crop vegetables while developing practical cooking skills and gain confidence in preparation of meals. **Registration Required.**

## COAR CHRISTMAS EVENT

*5:00-7:00 PM-WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH*

Celebrate the magic of the holiday season with a fun-filled Christmas program with COAR at the Ida Public Library! Community members of all ages are invited to join us for a festive time of creativity and holiday cheer. Decorate Christmas cookies, create handmade cards, and make your own ornaments to take home. Whether you love crafting, decorating, or simply getting into the holiday spirit, there will be something for everyone to enjoy!

This festive program is free for all community members, with all materials and supplies included. Come ready to create, celebrate, and make some holiday memories with COAR! **No Registration Needed.**

## ONLINE AUTHOR TALK WITH JEFF KINNEY



3:00 PM-THURSDAY, JANUARY 7TH

Join us for a hilarious, action-packed virtual conversation with #1 international bestselling author Jeff Kinney as he introduces the 21st book in his globally beloved series, Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Fight or Flight on Thursday, January 7th AT 3PM. **Register to receive the link to the virtual talk!**



## WINTER FESTIVE GAMES

*4:00- 5:30 PM-MONDAY, FEBURARY 1ST*

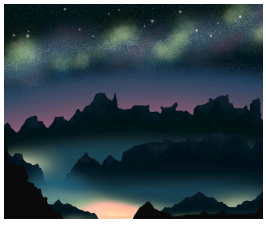
Lets beat the cold by playing competitively at “5 Minute To Win It” winter festive games. Join us at the library on February 1 @ 4-5:30 P.M. and thaw out your skills!

# TEEN CRAFT NIGHTS

## DECEMBER- WINTER STRING ART

*6PM-THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3RD*

Looking for a way to have fun while avoiding cold weather The Ida Public Library has you covered! Warm up with us as you create beautiful winter string art using pre-nailed templates and colorful string! Watch your picture come alive as you slowly weave string between nails, creating your own winter masterpiece! Ages 12-18. **Registration Required.**



## JANURARY- OIL PASTEL NORTHERN LIGHTS

*6PM-THURSDAY, JANUARY 7TH*

Create your very own version of the Northern Lights using oil pastels and construction paper! Draw colorful lines using the pastels and smear the extra oil upward to create a misty and glowing effect! Ages 12-18. **Registration Required.**

## FEBURARY- PAINT AND SIP PALTENTINE'S DAY

*6PM-THURSDAY, FEBURARY 4TH*

Celebrate your friends by painting them a picture for Palentine's Day! We will provide all of the paint supplies as well as dirty sodas to add some fizzy fun! Ages 12-18. **Registration Required.**



## ONLINE RESOURCES FOR TEENS

Visit idapubliclibrary.org under the Resources tab for databases and Illinois Reliable Information Sources. These resources have peer reviewed articles, practice tests, e-books, tutorial, practice tests and academic/study tools.

# ADULT BOOK CLUBS

## MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

*10:30AM - LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH*



Do you love a good mystery? Each month we will meet to give our thoughts and choose next month's read. Books will be available to check out at the upper-level circulation desk. **Registration Required.**

## IDA AFTER DARK



*6 PM - 2ND WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH*

For those who love a romance with a little spice, this one is for you! Every month we will be reading a new romance book and discussing the good, the bad, the spice, and everything in between. Copies will be available at the upper-level circulation desk. This book club is 18+. **Registration Required.**

## TRUE CRIME BOOK CLUB




*6 PM - 3RD THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH*

Are you a True Crime junkie? If so, join our book club! Every month we will get together to discuss a True Crime book & share our thoughts on the case! Books will be available to check out at the upper-level circulation desk. **Registration Required.**

## CHAIR EXERCISE

*10AM - TUESDAYS*



Start your Tuesday morning off right with Chair Exercise! This workout session is perfect for individuals of all different ages, stages, and physical ability. The stretching and breathing in this yoga inspired activity will help increase flexibility, mobility, and calming of the mind. **Registration Required.**

## STRING THING

*6PM - LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH*



It's a STRING THING hangout! Attention all string addicts-bring your latest string projects and hang out with other string addicts once a month to work on them and chat. Knitting, crocheting, quilting, embroidery, macrame or whatever your string thing is! **Registration Required.**

# ADULTS ONLY CRAFT NIGHT



## DECEMBER-WATER COLOR HOLIDAY CARDS

*6:00 PM-TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1ST*

Are the holidays fast approaching? Have you prepped your holiday cards? No worries, we can help! Come create your very own watercolor holiday cards where all supplies are provided except for the stamps. **Registration Required.**

## JANURARY- NEW YEAR, NEW JOURNAL: JOURNAL DECORATING

*6:00 PM-TUESDAY, JANUARY 5TH*




Come decorate a journal with us! Whether you plan to use it for journaling, tracking your reading, keeping up with your goals, or simply jotting down notes, start the new year with a journal that's uniquely yours! We'll provide all the materials you need to personalize and decorate your journal. You're also welcome to bring your own journal to decorate. **Registration Required.**



## FEBRUARY-MASON JAR HEART ART

*6:00 PM-TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND*

Add a little love and color to your home or office this February! Join us as we decorate a mason jar for a beautiful glowing decoration. All materials will be provided. **Registration Required.**

## UNIQUE EATS AND EATERIES IN ILLINOIS



*6:00 PM-TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH*

Carrie Steinweg, author of Unique Eats and Eateries in Illinois; The People and Stories Behind the Food will be joining us to share some of the interesting eateries in Illinois. Copies of the book will also be for sale.
*Sponsored by the Friends of Ida Public Library*
**Registration Required.**

## HEALTH INSURANCE BASICS WITH THE IL DEPT OF INSURANCE

*6:00-7:00 PM-WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH*

Baffled by the ins and outs of health insurance? You are not alone. Representatives from the Illinois Department of Insurance will be at Ida Public Library on Dec 9th to provide education on the basics of health insurance and answer your questions! **Registration Required.**






## ONLINE AUTHOR TALK WITH CARO CLAIRE BURKE

6:00 PM-THURSDAY, JANUARY 14TH

Join us for a provocative and darkly humorous conversation with author Caro Claire Burke as we dive into the debut book everyone's been buzzing about–*Yesteryear*, one of New York Times Best Books of the Year. Thursday, January 14th at 6 PM CT via digital live-stream. **Registration Required. Link to the talk will be provided via email.**

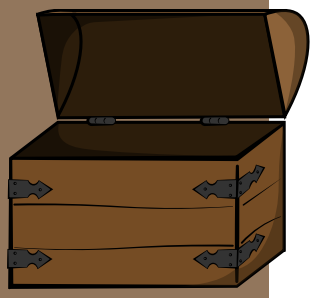
## KEYSTONE PLANT SPECIES

6:00 PM-THURSDAY, FEBURARY 25TH

"*Keystone Plant Species* -- Entomologists & horticulturalists have identified keystone species essential for strong food webs. Any size garden -- from small backyards to large natural areas -- can help support biodiverse ecosystems by including keystone plants." Presented by the University of Illinois Extension Office. **Registration Required.**

## HISTORY CABINET

Ida Public Library has an ongoing a partnership with Boone County Museum of History to display loaned items from their teacher totes that pertain to the topic of the month. This display is located in front of the local history desk. Feel free to explore and ask questions about the items that are shared.



## SENIOR TAKE HOME KITS

*DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY*

Enjoy a little creativity from the comfort of home! These take-home craft kits are designed especially for seniors and include all the materials needed to complete a fun, seasonal project. Simply register, **pick up your kit at the library between the 1st and 15th of the month**, and create whenever it's convenient for you. No experience is necessary. Just enjoy making something beautiful at your own pace! **Registration Required.**

December 1st - 15th: Scrabble tile bookmarks
Janurary 1st - 15th: Gnomes
February 1st - 15th: Heart Wreaths






## SUNSET SOCIAL HOUR

LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH-6 PM

Looking to connect with new people in the community? Look no further! This winter come and join fellow older adults for a casual hour of tea, good conversation, and card games! If you are looking to expand your social circle or just want a relaxing space to play cards then check out this new program! **Registration Required.**

# ONGOING SERVICES

## IDA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE

### LOTS OF NEW, FUN THINGS HAPPENING!




The Ida Public Library's Bookmobile is a mobile extension of the library!

You can also return items from the library to the Bookmobile and vice versa! Don't have a library card? No problem. They can get you one right there on the bus!

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Be sure to follow the Ida Bookmobile on Facebook or visit our website for the most up-to-date calendar and locations! Anytime you see us out, we are open!

Ida Public Library Bookmobile

IDAPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG > BOOKMOBILE

### IDA PUBLIC LIBRARY CARDS

Ida Public Library is funded through city property tax dollars. Illinois is a Reciprocal Borrowing state, which means that library card holders from one public library may use their cards in any public library within the state of Illinois. This does not include college or university libraries. For more information visit https://idapubliclibrary.org/using-the-library/library-card/

### WE DO LICENSE PLATE STICKER RENEWALS!

You can renew your Illinois License Plate sticker right here in our library during our normal business hours. Read a book or magazine, browse, or sit and relax in the quiet while you wait! There will be an additional fee of $9.50 applied. A portion of this fee will go to support the library.



# ONGOING SERVICES

## I.T. HELP BY APPOINTMENT

Do you need personalized help filling out your information on a website? Do you have a major problem with your laptop or electronic device? Call to schedule an appointment with Tim at 815-544-3838.

## LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

Ida's Local History Specialist provides several specialty services for all patrons. Looking for an old obituary? Wondering who lived in your house once upon a time? Do you have old photos that need to be digitized? Ever wonder "What does Belvidere even mean?" Call to make a research request or schedule an appointment to learn how to navigate the history and genealogy research tools available at the library. Research request forms are also available on our website or in paper above our obituary collection.

## NOTARY SERVICES

We offer notary service by appointment. There is a fee of $3 for the first page, and $1 per additional page. Please call the library to schedule an appointment. Valid photo ID is required.
Ahora ofrecemos servicios notariales bilingües.

## PLAYAWAYS & TRANSMITTERS FOR CHECK OUT

Playaways are pre-loaded audiobooks that do not need internet or Wi-Fi to listen to! They also have a universal headphone jack. If you don't have ear buds we can offer you some at checkout. We also have transmitters for check out which allow you to listen to the Playaway through your hearing aids if you have them!
Stop by the Adult Circulation Desk on the 2nd floor or stop by our Bookmobile to check one out today!




## JOIN THE FRIENDS OF IDA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of Ida Public Library invite you to join them as they conduct fundraisers, book sales, and more to help benefit Ida Public Library and its patrons! Members also get first access at the book sales hosted by the Friends. An Individual Membership is $10 & a Family Membership is $15. Additional memberships available. Feel free to visit their Facebook Page at Friends of Ida or idapubliclibrary.org/friends-of-the-library/ for more information!

# INFORMATIONAL

## YOUR LIBRARY AT HOME

Explore thousands of audiobooks, eBooks, e-comics, and streaming movies FREE with your Ida Public Library card! Hoopla, Libby all have apps that are perfect for a tablet or mobile device! Download the app, enter your library card information and you are set!

## LIBRARY CLOSURES

**Closed: Dec 24th, Dec 25th, Dec 26th, Jan 1st, Jan 18th, Feb 15th**
**Early Close: Dec 2nd ,Dec 31st,**

We may open late, or have unexpected closures on select dates, for staff trainings or inclement weather. Please see our Facebook page, Instagram pages or call for upcoming closures and current hours.

## LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

**Jan 26th , Feb 23rd**

Meetings take place on the 4th Tuesday of the Month at 6PM. Meetings are open to the public. If you would like to make a comment, please contact the library director by calling the library or emailing mindyl@idapubliclibrary.org.

## BLESSING BOX

Ida Public Library has a blessing box located in front of the building, off of North State Street. If you are in need of toiletries or non-perishable food items, you are welcome to visit it. If you would like to donate to it, you are welcome to do that also!

## PHOTOGRAPHY NOTICE

Library staff may take photos or videos during events to share on library social media. If you do not wish to be photographed, please let staff know before the event.

## BOOK DONATIONS

We are accepting book donations for our Friends Book Sale! Bins are located inside the lower level doors!



## ACCOMMODATIONS

Any person needing an accommodation for a disability in order to access the benefits of the library's services, programs, or activities under the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the library staff.