Greetings from the President of the Friends – Ginna Shahid …. 

This can’t possibly be spring in New England! It’s sunny, it’s warm, and there’s no snow on the ground! You won’t hear me complaining, even if the glorious weather only lasts two days. I just spent an hour basking in the warm sunshine pouring through my windowpanes.

As I sat there enjoying the promise of warmer weather, I began thinking about the news I have to pass on to you, fellow FRIENDS of the Burlington Public Library. First, we have a new member on the Board. Christine Abramo stepped down after two years of always helpful service as Vice President, and Kelley Lax was voted in to replace her at our Annual Meeting in mid-January. Our Board now consists of myself as President, Kelley Lax as Vice President, Anne Petty as Recording Secretary, Barbara Parmet as Corresponding Secretary, and Hiral Gandhi as Treasurer. Kelley brings a youthful and ambitious attitude to the position. She is very keen on green initiatives, and one of her first proposals is to do away with plastic bottled water at our Third Thursday Programs. Instead, we will be offering Brita filtered water poured from a carafe into compostable cups. Look for the change to take place once we use up our current supply of bottled water. She will also arrange for a recycling bin to be available for use at all our programs. Hooray to Kelley for jumping right in with both feet!

Our annual Spring Book Sale is scheduled for Friday, May 1st through Sunday, May 3rd this year. As always, volunteer sign-up sheets will be available at the circulation desk, as well as through email contact. In preparation for the sale, we will be hosting two Book Collection Days in April. The first is Sunday, April 5th from 1:15-4:00 PM, and the second is Tuesday, April 14th from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. During those times, anyone wishing to make used book/CD/DVD donations to benefit the library can bring their items to the collection room, Fogelberg A, in the library where members of the Friends will accept books, DVDs, and CDs in good, useable condition.

One final notice – this year’s Volunteer Brunch is scheduled for June 13th. In conjunction with the Trustees, the FRIENDS invite any and all library volunteers to attend a brunch in their honor. Do you volunteer at book sales, bake for our Third Thursday Programs, sort donated books, help maintain the outside plantings, or help the library in any volunteer capacity? Then you are invited, and we look forward to seeing you there. You will find the food is delicious and the friendship fulfilling.

I wish you all a balmy spring and many happy hours reading in a sunny nook!

Ginna
Virginia Churchill Shahid, President
Friends of the Burlington Public Library
From the Desk of Michael Wick - Library Director…

I hope this Spring you will decide to participate in the library’s largest fundraiser of the year, our annual May Baskets Raffle. Funding from May Baskets provides many of the museum passes and programs that patrons enjoy daily at the library. Full information on how you can donate is posted on our library homepage at burlingtonpubliclibrary.org or, if you’d like to know more on how to participate, please contact me at mwick@burlington.org or by calling 781-505-4990.

In November 2019, the Burlington Public Library became a fine free library—meaning you no longer receive fines when you return our library materials (excepting Museum Passes) late to the library. In late February 2020, we’ve followed that up with automatic renewals which adds convenience to your library experience!

Automatic renewals will renew all eligible library items three days before they are due. There’s no need to sign up or take any action on your part—all patrons checking out materials at the Burlington Public Library will have the advantage of automatic renewals! If you’ve provided the library with your email address, you will receive an email stating which items were renewed and the new due date. Included in this email will be a list of items that could not be renewed, the reason why, and their due date. You will still receive courtesy notices for overdue materials as well—which will now arrive two days before they’re due.

Items checked out from the Burlington Public Library—even if they’ve come from another library in our network—will be eligible for automatic renewal. Please note that any items checked out while visiting other libraries will not be automatically renewed.

Because items automatically renew three days prior to their due date, your overall checkout period may be shortened. We felt that this service provides greater convenience for patrons and lessens the impact that a shorter overall checkout period may have. We think that you'll agree!

If you haven't registered your email address with us, now is the time to do so! You can update your account online or speak with someone at the Circulation desk at 781-270-1693.

We welcome your feedback on this new feature. The Burlington Public Library is testing this for the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium, so please reach out to us with any concerns. Once testing is complete, other libraries in the consortium will begin to offer automatic renewals.

Exhibits and Displays

The Library is looking for anyone interested in displaying their artwork in our Art Gallery or for any non-profit who wants to display items of local interest in our Lobby Cases. Contact the Assistant Director at 781-505-4985 to learn more.
Spring Storytime Sessions:
April 1 – May 20

Raise your child to be a reader!

You are your child’s most important teacher. The Burlington Public Library offers weekly storytime sessions to help your child develop reading, language and listening skills needed to succeed in school. Together, parents and librarians help children get ready to read!

Please Note: Caregivers are expected to stay with children during all storytime sessions. No registration is required for storytime – just drop by!

FYI Preschool Storytimes are changing to 11:30am starting April 1.

Toddler Storytime -
Tuesdays & Wednesdays @ 10:30 am
For caregivers with children 18-36 months. Interact with your toddler to nurture a love of books. Be active with music and movement!

Preschool Storytime -
Wednesdays @ 11:30 am
For caregivers with children ages 3-6 years. Help your preschooler get ready to read. Enjoy stories together and build language skills!

Baby Storytime –
Fridays @ 11:00 am
For caregivers with children ages birth-18 months. Delight and stimulate your baby’s senses with books, songs, toys, and puppets! Build brain power!

Story & Craft Mondays:
April 17 & May 15
Join us for a story and craft based on the tale! No registration required.

Toddlers @ 10:30 am For caregivers with children ages 18–36 months.
Preschoolers @ 11:30 am For caregivers with children ages 3-6 years.

Dads & Donuts (Ages 2-Grade 2)
Saturdays: April 20, May 18, & June 15 @ 11 am
Storytimes meant for dads, grandfathers, uncles, and other male caregivers to bring little ones to. We will have stories, fun, and donuts!

Saturday Stories (Ages 2-6)
Saturdays: April 4 @ 11 am
Stories and songs with Miss Joanna.
**Bird Feeders (Ages 5-11)**  
**Thursday, April 2 @ 4pm**  
We will be making homemade birdfeeders for the spring. Peanut butter may be used in this activity. Please call Miss Amanda if you have a food allergy 781-270-1692.

**Baby Sensory Activities**  
**Monday, April 6 @ 10:30am**  
Babies will enjoy fun activities to enlighten their senses, and learn to play in a group. This program is best for babies that can sit up on their own - children 2 years of age.

**Playing is Learning (Ages 2-6)**  
**Thursday, April 9 @ 1pm**  
Drop-in playgroup with stories, STEAM activities, and songs. Presented by Family ACCESS.

**Mother-Daughter Book Club (Ages 8-11)**  
**Thursday, April 9 @ 6pm**  
For mothers (or other caregiver) and their daughters. Book-related activities and snacks will be available at the meetings. Books will be at the Youth Services Desk.

**Lego Club (Grades K-6)**  
**Saturday, April 11 @ 11am**  
**Monday, April 27 @ 4pm**  
We provide the Legos – you bring your imagination!

**Preschool Games (Ages 3-6)**  
**Monday, April 13 @ 1pm**  
Stop by the library for fun games!

**PJ Storytime (Ages 3-7)**  
**Tuesday, April 14 @ 6:30pm**  
Bring your favorite stuffed animal & blanket, and snuggle in for some polar bear stories and a craft.

**Leftover Peep Activities (Ages 5-11)**  
**Thursday, April 16 @ 4pm**  
Join us as we take our leftover peeps and make something cool!

**Buffy the Three-Legged Pit Bull (All Ages)**  
**Tuesday, April 21 @ 11am**  
For mothers (or other caregiver) and their daughters. Book-related activities and snacks will be available at the meetings. Books will be at the Youth Services Desk.

**Tech Take Apart (Ages 5-11)**  
**Tuesday, April 21 @ 6:30pm**  
Take apart electronics and appliances like computers, coffee makers, and calculators, and see what’s inside!

**Earth Day Storytime (All Ages)**  
**Wednesday, April 22 @ 11am**  
Stories and songs to celebrate Earth Day!
Building with STEAM (Ages 7-11)
Tuesday, May 5 @ 4:30pm
Each month will be a different Geronimo book and meetings will have themed activities around the books.

Playing is Learning (Ages 2-6)
Thursday, May 7 & 21 @ 1pm
Drop-in playgroup with stories, STEAM activities, and songs. Presented by Family ACCESS.

Baby Sensory Activities
Friday, May 8 @ 11am
Babies will enjoy fun activities to enlighten their senses, and learn to play in a group. This program is best for babies that can sit up on their own - children 2 years of age.

Preschool Games (Ages 3-6)
Monday, May 11 @ 1pm
Stop by the library for fun games!

PJ Storytime (Ages 3-7)
Tuesday, May 12 @ 6:30pm
Bring your favorite stuffed animal & blanket, and snuggle in for some stories and a craft.

Mother-Daughter Book Club
(Grades 3-6)
Thursday, May 14 @ 6pm
For mothers (or other caregiver) and their daughters. Book-related activities and snacks will be available at the meetings. Books will be at the Youth Services Desk.

Lego Club (Grades K-6)
Saturday, May 9 @ 11am
Monday, May 18 @ 4pm
We provide the Legos – you bring your imagination!

Science Blast (Grades K-5)
Thursday, May 21 @ 4pm
Do fun science experiments with Amanda! Both hands-on and demonstrations will be enjoyed.

Preschool Science (Ages 3-6)
Friday, May 22 @ 1pm
Enjoy fun and educational science experiments with your preschooler
TEEN EVENTS
Grades 6-12 Only

Peep House Competition
Friday, April 3 at 2:30 PM
Build a home for some peeps out of graham crackers, frosting, and candy. The winner with the best house gets a small prize.

Teen Advisory Group
Monday, April 6 at 7 PM & May 4 at 7 PM
Earn community service while you prep crafts, clean shelves, talk about books, eat snacks, and more!

Aru Shah Release Party
Tuesday, April 7 at 3:30 PM
Celebrate the release of the Aru Shah party with themed crafts and activities. Plus – a chance to win the new book. Grades 4-8.

Girl Scout Cookie Taste Test
Friday, April 10 at 2:30 PM
A few different companies make Girl Scout cookies. Join Nicole and see if you can taste the difference. We'll also try their grocery store counterparts and some milk alternatives.

Teen Drop-in Volunteering Days
Tuesday, April 14 at 3:30 PM & Wednesday, May 20 at 2:30 PM
Can’t make it to our TAG meetings Monday night? Still want to volunteer? Check out our drop-in days for craft prep, cleaning, and more.

Listening Book Club
Wednesday, April 15 at 7 PM & Wednesday, May 13 at 7 PM
Join us for our new Book Club! No reading is required ahead of time. Each month we will listen to 30-45 minutes of an audiobook and then discuss our thoughts. Each book will be available on Hoopla so all participants can continue to listen on their own if they enjoyed it.

Snacks and coloring will be available during the listening.

Teen Paint “Night”
Friday, April 17 | 2:30 – 4 PM
Join us in the afternoon to create a masterpiece on canvas just like a “Paint Night”! Nicole will lead you step-by-step to create your own painting to take home.

Tween Mario Kart Tournament
Wednesday, April 22 at 7 PM
Join us to race your way to the top in a Mario Kart Tournament. Grades 4-8.

Book or Movie Trivia
Friday, April 24 at 2:30 PM
Join us for a trivia competition that asks, “Book or movie?” Questions will be centered around popular YA adaptations. Even if you don’t know the answer – you’ve got a 50/50 chance!
DIY Bathbombs
Friday, May 8 at 2:30 PM
Mother’s Day is right around the corner, why not make some bath bombs to give mom, grandma, or any other special caregiver in your life? Fine, fine, you can make them and keep them for yourself, too!

Tween Craft: Mandala Sun Catchers
Monday, May 11 at 7 PM
Join us to create a Mandala sun catcher from a recycled CD. Grades 4-8.

Make your own Salsa & Coco Movie Showing
Friday, May 15 at 2:30 PM
Chop up and mix together some salsa. Then enjoy with chips while watching Coco.

Hunger Games Release Party
Tuesday, May 19 at 7 PM
The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes comes out today! Join us for themed crafts, snacks, and activities. Plus, a chance to win the book!

Dessert in a Mug
Friday, May 22 at 2:30 PM
Whip up a dessert for one in a mug. Once you’ve enjoyed your tasty treat, wash your mug, and decorate it. It’s yours to take home!

Drop-in Videogame Day
Friday, May 29 at 2:30 PM
Join us for videogames on the switch and light snacks.

Love, Simon Interactive Movie Showing
Wednesday, June 3 at 6:30 PM
Join us for an interactive showing of Love, Simon. One of our favorite LGBT+ movies in honor of Pride month. Please note that the movie is rated PG-13.

Teen Pride Crafts
Friday, June 5 at 2:30 PM
Create some crafts and show off your PRIDE!

ADULT EVENING PROGRAMS

Bruce Robert Coffin - Retired Portland Police Detective & Bestselling Author
Thursday, April 16 at 7pm
Bruce Robert Coffin is the bestselling author of the Detective Byron mystery series. A former detective sergeant with more than twenty-seven years in law enforcement, he supervised all homicide and violent crime investigations for Maine's largest city. Following the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, Bruce spent four years investigating counter-terrorism cases for the FBI, earning the Director's Award, the highest award a non-agent can receive.
The first three novels in the Detective John Byron mystery series, *Among the Shadows* (2016), *Beneath the Depths* (2017), and *Beyond the Truth* (2018), have been well-received by fans and critics alike. The fourth book in the series, *Within Plain Sight*, was published in February 2020. Bruce lives and writes in Maine.

Books will be available for sale and signing.

**Checkmates: A Chess Class with Glenn Davison**

**Monday, April 27 at 6:30pm**

Glenn Davison is back and teaching a follow up chess class on how to checkmate your opponent. This class will discuss the rules of checkmate, different checkmate positions, strategies, and how to combine different chess pieces to checkmate. Glenn will provide different checkmate puzzles to participants and walk through their solutions. This course is a great step for all those who want to sharpen their skills and better understand the game. Time will be given towards the end of the course for participants to practice what they’ve learned.

**Author Stephen Puleo Presents His New Book Voyage of Mercy: The USS Jamestown, the Irish Famine, and the Remarkable Story of America’s First Humanitarian Mission**

**Wednesday, May 6 at 7pm**

Stephen Puleo will speak about his new book, *Voyage of Mercy*, where he tells the incredible story of the potato famine, the *Jamestown* voyage, and the commitment of thousands of ordinary Americans to offer relief to Ireland. This voyage provided the blueprint for future relief efforts, and established the United States as the leader in international aid. The *USS Jamestown*’s heroic voyage showed how the ramifications of a single decision can be measured not in days, but in decades.


Books will be available for sale and signing.
The Mill Girls of New England with Doug Stewart  
Thursday, May 21 at 7pm

Nearly 200 years ago, swarms of young women flocked to the brand-new cotton mills along the Merrimack River. These young women were not only the country’s first industrial labor force but also the biggest gatherings yet of women without men. By bringing together thousands of unmarried, unaccompanied, wage-earning women, the industrialists inadvertently triggered powerful social forces that set the stage for both the American labor movement and the women’s rights movement.

Doug Stewart is a freelance writer in Ipswich, MA, who writes magazine stories about history and the arts. More than 60 of his articles have appeared in *Smithsonian* magazine.

Hip Hip Hydrangeas! A How To with Andi Ross  
Wednesday, May 27 at 7pm

Learn about the history of hydrangeas, how new varieties are created, and why they are one of New England’s favorites for all-season blooms.

This program is sponsored jointly by the Burlington Public Library and the Burlington Garden Club.

Crime Lab Case Files – True Crime Tales with Paul Zambella  
Thursday, June 18 at 7pm

Due to the nature of the subject matter, this presentation is recommended for people of high school age and older.

Join Paul Zambella as he discusses some of the most infamous cases in which he was involved as a forensic scientist at the Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab. He will focus on the forensic evidence and how it provided information which was instrumental in assisting prosecutors to secure the conviction of each suspect.

BPL CHESS CLUB

April 28 and May 26

BPL Chess Club meets the last Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30pm. No need to register, just drop in! Come test your skills with a friendly evening of chess. A few boards will be provided, but feel to bring your own.
LAST THURSDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Join us April 30, May 28, and June 25 starting at 7pm, for a discussion of the month’s book. Titles of discussion books can be found on the library website or by visiting the library. Books are available at the circulation desk at the beginning of each month. For more information, please contact the Assistant Director at 781-505-4985.

ENGLISH AT LARGE DISCUSSION GROUP

English at Large conducts weekly English Conversation Groups at the Library. These groups provide an opportunity for learners to improve their speaking confidence and meet other adults who are learning English. Conversation Groups run on a semester basis. Summer classes run June to August with registration beginning in May.

English at Large Conversation Groups are open to all adults who want to practice their English-speaking skills. It is recommended that participants speak English at an intermediate level. Groups are free, but registration is required. To register, go online to www.englishatlarge.org/conversation-groups, or call the English At Large office at 781-395-2374.

BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN

Make an appointment with a librarian for a 45-minute, one-on-one session covering computer basics, instruction on downloading ebooks and/or audiobooks, or help using our databases or any of our library resources. We are not able to offer computer tech support or computer troubleshooting. An appointment is required. Call 781-270-1691 stop by the reference desk ahead of time, or send an email to ref@burlingtonpl.org (with an explanation of what you would like us to cover). We will be happy to assist you!

DIGITAL MAGAZINE COLLECTION

Check out our digital magazine collection in Overdrive. Access your favorite titles, including Newsweek, ESPN, Redbook, Oprah Magazine, and many more. Download issues to your mobile device with the free Overdrive and Libby apps (the same ones you use for ebooks, audiobooks, and videos) or read them in your browser. Titles are always available, can be loaned for 7, 14 or 21 days, and do not count towards your Overdrive check out limit.
The Library Connection
A Quarterly Publication of the Friends of the Burlington Public Library

Friends of the Burlington Public Library
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Burlington MA 01803