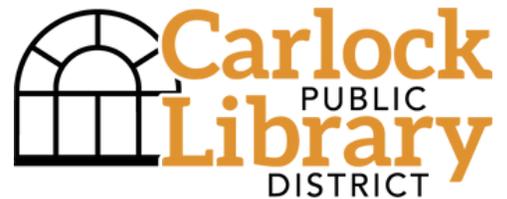


BOOKS & BEYOND

Carlock Public Library Newsletter
January 2026



UPCOMING EVENTS

Frequent Flyer Punch Card Bingo

January 2 - February 28

For adults

Pick up your punch card for this year's winter reading challenge! Complete activities throughout January and February, and then enter to win a drawing held March 1.



Book Club

Tuesday, January 6 (1:30 pm)

For adults

This month we're discussing *The Ladies' Midnight Swimming Club* by Faith Hogan. Come join in the fun!

Story Time

Thursdays, January 8, 15, 22, & 29 ~ 9:30 am
OR 10:30 am

For babies - age 5 (older siblings welcome)

Join us for stories, songs, crafts, and fun with friends!



Pages & Paws** ([Register here](#))

Thursday, January 8 ~ 4:30-5:30 pm

For everyone

Registration recommended; walk-ins welcome
Read to a certified therapy dog – you won't find a more attentive audience! Aimed to help elementary-age children build their reading confidence, but the dogs love hearing from teens and adults, too! Sign up in advance to guarantee a spot or walk-in the day of the event.

Silent Book Club** ([Register here](#))

Tuesday, January 13 ~ 5:00 - 6:00 pm

For ages 8+

Read what you want! Bring your own book or grab one from our shelves. Settle in for some quiet reading, enjoy light snacks, and stick around for optional social time afterward for informal discussion with other book lovers!

Bringing History to Life with Jonathan Eig* ([Register here](#))

Tuesday, January 13 ~ 7:00 - 8:00 pm

For adults (live online via Zoom)

Join Pulitzer-prize winner Jonathan Eig for a chat about all things history! Complete the short registration form and you'll receive a link to use the night of this event (note: most sessions are recorded; you'll receive a link to the recording if you're unable to tune in on January 13).

Let's Eat! A Cookbook Club*

Thursday, January 15 ~ 4:30 - 6:30 pm

For everyone ([Register here](#))

This potluck-style program is a delicious community event! This month, bring soup, stew, or chili to share, along with a copy of your recipe! Stumped as to what to make and bring? Check out a cookbook for inspiration!



Sourdough Secrets*

Thursday, January 22 ~ 5:30 - 6:30 pm

For ages 12 and older ([Register here](#))

Learn the ins and outs of making sourdough during this demonstration and conversation with Illinois Extension Nutrition and Wellness Coordinator Jenna Smith.

*Registration required

**Registration suggested; walk-ins welcome

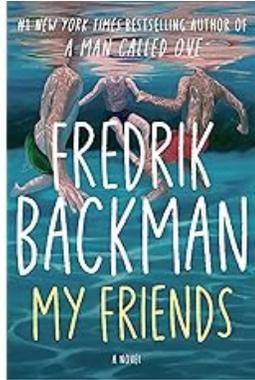
BEST OF 2025?

Check out these recommended books from 2025!
Get them at the library or online on Libby, Hoopla, or The Palace Project!

ADULT

My Friends
by Fredrik Backman

An unforgettably funny, deeply moving tale of four teenagers whose friendship creates a bond so powerful that it changes a complete stranger's life twenty-five years later. Winner of the 2025 GoodReads Choice Awards for Best Fiction



JUNIOR FICTION

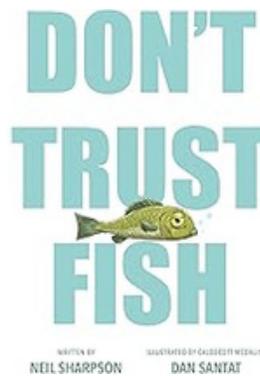
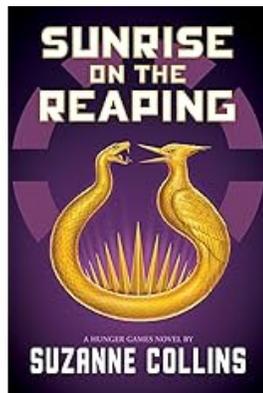
Spy School Blackout
by Stuart Gibbs

Ben and his fellow spy students must track down a hacker who shut down global power networks while facing assassins, pirates, and dangerous wildlife in Indonesia.

YOUNG ADULT

Sunrise on the Reaping
by Suzanne Collins

In the 50th Hunger Games, twice as many tributes fight, including Haymitch, torn from loved ones, set up to fail but determined to fight against all odds.



CHILDREN

Don't Trust Fish
by Neil Sharpson

An absurdly laugh-out-loud funny picture book about the villainy of fish, illustrated by National Book Award-winning creator Dan Santat

TRY SOMETHING NEW!



Slay your
New Year's Resolutions!

- Read more
- Meet people
- Enjoy quiet time
- Have fun

Tuesday
January 13
5:00 to
6:00 pm

You choose what to read! Bring a book or grab one from our shelves and settle in for 45 minutes of quiet reading. Then, enjoy a few snacks and stay for a short (optional and informal) discussion with other book lovers! [Registration suggested](#), but walk-ins are welcome!