

LET'S BE FRIENDS

Friends of the Creston Public Library Newsletter

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Jordan Foote

*The Friends of the Library Board meet
the third Monday of the month at 1:00
at the library. All FOL members are
welcome to attend.*



25th Anniversary Valentine Cookie Fundraiser

It started with an idea. “What if we baked cookies and made them into bouquets to sell for Valentine’s Day as a fundraiser?” asked Kay Ritter, who came up with the idea as a fundraiser for the Friends of the Gibson Memorial Library. Its purpose was to give the library additional funds for children’s books and programs, especially the Summer Reading Program. That was in 2001 and it has been continuously done since then with the help of many Friends. The overwhelming support of the public has been amazing and truly appreciated by the Friends of the Library and the Gibson Memorial Library Staff. What began as 100 cookies being made into cookie bouquets has evolved into cookie boxes of various sizes. This year more than 2500 Valentine cookies are being made and decorated!



Orders can be placed online at gibson-memorial-library.square.site or made in person at the library. Deadline in February 5th. There s a gluten-free option available in the six-cookie box. Prices are \$12 for six, \$18 for 12 and \$40 for 24. All boxes come with a free bonus cookie to commemorate the 25th Anniversary. “Keep the change” options are available online to round up in support of the library.

Boxes can set for delivery within Creston city limits or pickup at the Gibson Memorial Library, 200 W. Howard St. Delivery will be the morning of February 13 while pick-up will be from noon to 6:00 p.m. the same day.



The library staff have been busy planning lots of fun activities for you and your family to enjoy, learn and experience. If you are a FOL member and have email, O.J. Fargo sends a complete listing of all of the offerings each month. The Friends of the Library newsletter highlights some of the activities, but for a full list, please check O.J.'s email or pick up a monthly calendar at the library.

HISTORICAL TALK

February 10, 2026
5:30 - Genealogy Room

Gibson Memorial Library has received funding from Humanities Iowa, a private nonprofit, to host a presentation called Still We Move: Migration, Memory, and the Making of Black Iowa by Abena Sankofa Imhotep at 5:30 PM on February 10th in the library's Genealogy Room. A cultural resource for Iowans since 1971, Humanities Iowa offers many cultural and historical programs and grants to Iowa's communities.



Join Abena Sankofa Imhotep for a historical talk about Black heritage in Iowa. This talk traces Black movement through Iowa, from early migrations like Buxton and the Great Migration to the modern pursuit of justice and belonging, revealing how Black Iowans have not only survived the Midwest's contradictions but redefined what it means to call Iowa home. This program is free and open to the public.

Take Your Kid to the Library! Snowman Night

Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day at Gibson Memorial Library! Come on the official day, Saturday, February 7, and sign up for a library card, play with library toys and check out books OR join us at 5:30 on Monday, February 9 for a cozy family storytime with an edible snowman craft! See what we have to offer for our youngest citizens and connect with other families.



ADOPT AN AUTHOR

The Adopt-An-Author program is one that ensures new titles of popular authors will be in the Library's collection, while freeing up space in the Library's budget to purchase more books for its patrons.

The way the program works is this: An individual chooses an author and commits to buying those author's books as they come out. Of course, the donor may read the book first before donating it to the Library!

Many thanks to our generous adopters! Won't you please consider adopting your favorite author for the Library? It's a great way to help!

Contact Library Director Danielle Dickinson Thaden for a list of authors. The library especially needs large-print books