

DECEMBER 2025 *newsletter*

AT THE FORT ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

FORT ERIE UKES CONCERT

THURSDAY **11** 6:00-7:00 PM
DECEMBER Crystal Ridge Branch

In collaboration with the Fort Erie Ukes,
The Salvation Army will be holding a
Food Drive and the Crystal Ridge Dream
Center will be holding a Toy Drive.
Please consider donating!
Ask the circulation desk for a Wishlist.



Mitten Tree



Drop off warm, knitted
materials at any
branch until Saturday,
December 13th!

All items welcome!

Suggested Items

- Adult Knitted Socks
- Large Gloves
- Mittens
- Toques



staff picks



'The Chronicles of Narnia:
The Lion, the Witch and
the Wardrobe' ~ C.S. Lewis



'The Book Club Hotel'
~ Sarah Morgan



'Small Things Like These'
~ Claire Keegan



'A Christmas Carol'
~ George C. Scott



'Comfort & Joy'
~ Kristin Hannah



'Mr. Dickens and His Carol'
~ Samantha Silva



'Shepherds Abiding'
~ Jan Karon



'Skipping Christmas'
~ John Grisham

The Fort Erie Public Library will be closed:

Wednesday, December 24
Thursday, December 25
Friday, December 26
Wednesday, December 31
Thursday, January 01

CENTENNIAL BRANCH
136 Gilmore Rd., Fort Erie
(905) 871-2546

Monday - Thursday: 9:30 - 8:00
Friday - Saturday: 9:30 - 5:00

CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH
89 Ridge Rd S., Ridgeway
(905) 894-1281

Monday - Thursday: 9:30 - 8:00
Friday - Saturday: 9:30 - 5:00

STEVENSVILLE BRANCH
2508 Stevensville Rd., Stevensville
(905) 382-2051

Monday & Saturday: 9:30 - 2:00
Wednesday & Thursday: 3:30 - 8:00



WWW.FEPL.CA



KIDS PROGRAMS

KIDS CLUB

CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Mondays | 3:30-5:00 PM



Looking for something fun to do after school? Come hang out at the library each week for a mix of stories, games, creative challenges, and cool crafts. It's a laid-back space to play, create, and connect with friends! **Drop in.**

AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS

R



CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Tuesdays | 4:00-5:00 PM

Join us weekly for a creative break after school. All supplies are provided, ages 4+.

Register or drop in.

passive programs

These are *passive programs*, which means they are totally self-run. Library staff will set it up, but the rest is up to you! Come and go as you please.

KIDS' CHESS CLUB

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Mondays | 4:00-5:00 PM



Play, learn or watch. All skill levels are welcome to come play chess every Monday afternoon. **Drop in.**



EARLYON

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Wednesdays | 10:00-11:00 AM



Join us for stories, songs, crafts and playtime. In partnership with EarlyON.

ART PARTY

R

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursdays | 4:00-5:00 PM



Join us every Thursday for Art Party- a place to explore and test out new artistic skills. We'll be using paint, pastels, charcoal, clay, watercolour- and more. **Register or drop in.**

COCOA CLUB

STEVENSVILLE BRANCH

Wednesdays | 4:00-4:45 PM



Come to the library on Wednesdays for Cocoa Club; a relaxing program where you can sip hot cocoa, read a story, and do a simple craft or colouring activity. **Drop in.**

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

newsletter

\$100,000 MILESTONE REACHED!

The Friends of the Fort Erie Public Library have reached an exciting milestone, recently presenting the library with a \$10,000 donation—bringing our total contributions since founding (2014) to an impressive \$100,000. To commemorate this achievement, the Town of Fort Erie presented the Friends with a Certificate of Recognition at the November 17th Council.

thank you!



USED BOOK DRIVE

The Friends are now accepting donations for our Spring sale! We gladly welcome gently used books, DVDs, and CDs. Please note: We cannot accept items that are yellowed, moldy, or damaged. Thank you for understanding. Donations can be dropped off on Tuesdays from 3 PM to 7 PM at the Crystal Ridge Branch.

SAVE THE DATE - SPRING BOOK SALE

The Friends are excited to share that we will be having our next Giant Used Book Sale on Saturday, April 25th, 2026.

MEETINGS

The next General Meeting of the Friends will be held on Tuesday January 13th, 4pm at the Centennial Branch. Everyone is welcome to attend.

GIVING TUESDAY IS ON DECEMBER 2ND

This global initiative brings people together to give back and support causes close to their hearts. It encourages donations, volunteer efforts, and acts of generosity that make a positive impact in communities worldwide. For the Friends of the Fort Erie Public Library, Giving Tuesday presents a wonderful opportunity to advance our mission of supporting library services for Fort Erie residents. This year, all funds raised will go towards supporting the Junior Collections at all three library branches, helping us provide more books and resources for young readers in our community. You can donate online through Canada Helps via our webpage <https://www.fepl.ca/friends> or by dropping off a cheque at any of the three Fort Erie Public Library branches.

MORE ABOUT US:

Discover who we are and how to become a member:

Visit our website: www.fepl.ca/friends

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/friendsofFEPL

Join us on Instagram: [@friendsoftheforterielibrary](https://www.instagram.com/friendsoftheforterielibrary)



Thank you Delta Bingo for our fundraising partnership.



Registration Required

www.fepl.ca

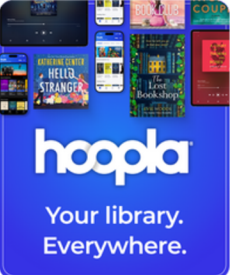


Registration Required

www.fepl.ca



INFORMATION



Bonus Borrows
Available December 25th - 31st

For the last seven days of each calendar month, patrons can choose from a range of exciting titles without impacting their monthly borrowing limit.

Printing & Scanning

Visit any of our branches to print from a library computer, or send a print job using your own device.



Black & White: \$0.25
Colour: \$0.50

Scanning to email, printing resumes or Government documents are free.



FOLLOW US!

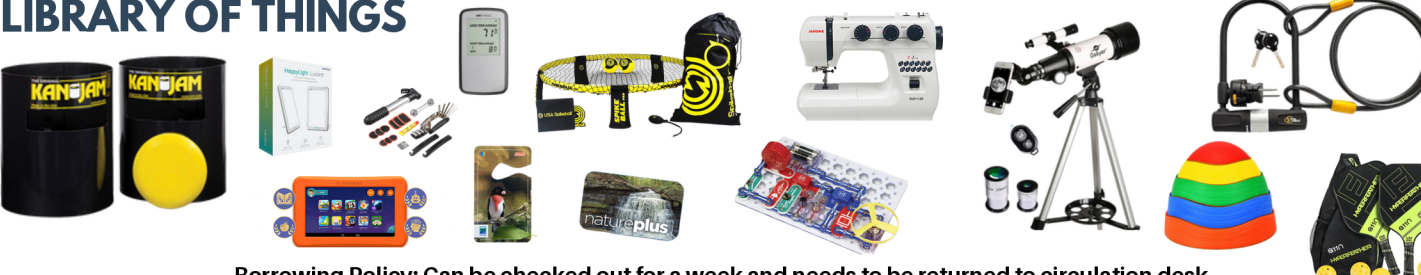




Fort Erie Public Library
@forteriepubliclibrary

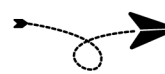


LIBRARY OF THINGS



Borrowing Policy: Can be checked out for a week and needs to be returned to circulation desk.

Email Newsletter



Find out about upcoming programs and registration dates right away.
Sign up at:
www.fepl.ca/newsletter



To **sign up** for a library card, at any branch, please bring a piece of photo ID along with proof of residence in the Greater Fort Erie area.

You can also apply for a card online.

A staff member will be happy to assist you.

Say Cheese!

Please be advised that staff may take photos or recordings during programs for use in marketing materials, social media, or other promotional purposes. Patrons who do not wish to be photographed or recorded should inform a staff member prior to or during the program.





KIDS PROGRAMS



STEAM SERIES: Marshmallow Igloos ^R & Fake Snow

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursday, December 4th | 6:00-7:00 PM

Kids will explore engineering by learning how strong walls are built—then put their skills to the test by designing and constructing their own marshmallow igloos. After that, we'll dive into chemistry as we mix and experiment with ingredients to create fake snow they can take home. **Registration required.**

HOME SCHOOL HANGOUT

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Friday, December 12th | 10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Connect with other home schooling families to work together and play together. Every month we'll follow a different guided activity involving STEAM, STEM, or art. **Drop in.**

ONCE UPON A NIGHT STORIES

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursday, December 18th | 7:00-7:30 PM

Snuggle up and wind down with us at the library for a special evening story time! We'll read a heartwarming tale, enjoy some quiet coloring time, and sip on warm hot cocoa. Bring your favourite blanket or stuffed animal and wear your coziest pajamas. This gentle, family-friendly event is best for children ages 3-7, but all are welcome. **Drop in.**

THERAPY TAILS

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Saturday, December 20th | 1:00-2:00 PM

Reading with a therapy animal can help reluctant readers, new language learners, and anxious readers gain confidence and develop a love of reading. **Drop in.**

FAMILY MOVIE: *The Polar Express*

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Tuesday, December 23rd | 2:00-4:00 PM

Join us for a family movie, where we will view 'The Polar Express'. Popcorn included! There will also be a craft to follow. **Drop in.**

Introduction to the Library: Tour & Sign Up

Are you a teacher interested in teaching your students more about their local library? Arrange a class visit or library tour to learn about our collections and services.

Questions? Visit fepl.ca/Services or Email Serena at smariage@fepl.ca



TEEN PROGRAMS

TEEN BOOK CLUB

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Tuesdays | 5:00-6:00 PM

Join us for a chill book discussion based on your reading interests. You can bring whatever you're currently reading to discuss with friends at the Centennial Branch. We'll share what we like (and don't like) about popular titles, and maybe even swap books. **Drop in.**



TEEN CROCHET CLUB

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Tuesday, December 2nd, 16th & 30th
6:00-7:00 PM

Learn how to crochet squares for a community project. We will meet every second Tuesday at 6pm to work together over the fall and winter on creating a beautiful teen made blanket to display in the library and raffle off to a lucky winner. **Drop in.**



HOME ALONE COURSE ^R

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Saturday, December 13th | 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

The Home Alone course is for any young person (aged 10 and over) who will be spending short periods of time at home alone. This course covers many issues that will help children and their parents feel more confident. **Register through St. John Ambulance online or by calling: (905) 685-8964. Fee: \$65**



St. John Ambulance

TEEN CRAFT NIGHT:

Miniature Wreaths ^R

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursday, December 18th | 6:00-7:30 PM

You will love these tiny adorable ornaments, made from pipe cleaners and holiday decorations. Join us for a merry night of holiday crafting. **Registration required.**



YOUTH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Tuesday, December 30th | 6:00-7:30 PM

Are you between the ages of 14 and 18, want to earn community involvement hours, build leadership skills and help improve what the library has to offer? YLA aims to create a welcoming atmosphere that encourages teens to become life-long library users while providing library-related services to youth in a fun and friendly environment. **Register or Drop in.**

ADULT PROGRAM CALENDAR

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 ADULT COLOURING CLUB STV 11:00 AM ADULT CHESS CLUB CEN 6:00 PM	2 ADULT KNITTING GROUP CEN 10:00 AM	3	4 TAI CHI CEN 2:00 PM FORT ERIE UKES CR 5:00 PM	5	6 ADULT CRAFT: GIFT TAGS CR 2:00 PM ^R
8 ADULT CHESS CLUB CEN 6:00 PM	9 ADULT KNITTING GROUP CEN 10:00 AM	10 ADULT CRAFT NIGHT: ^R Fabric Ornaments CEN 6:00 PM	11 AFTERNOON ^R BOOK CLUB CEN 2:00 PM TAI CHI CEN 2:00 PM FORT ERIE UKES CONCERT CR 6:00 PM	12	13 * LAST DAY FOR THE MITTEN TREE CAMPAIGN 
15 ADULT COLOURING CLUB STV 11:00 AM ADULT CHESS CLUB CEN 6:00 PM	16 ADULT KNITTING GROUP CEN 10:00 AM BRING YOUR OWN CRAFT CR 6:00 PM	17 HAPPY IN MY HOME OUTREACH CEN 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM ADULT TRIVIA NIGHT ^R CEN 6:00 PM	18 TAI CHI CEN 2:00 PM FORT ERIE UKES CR 5:00 PM GENERATIONS CONNECT CEN 6:00 PM	19	20 THERAPY TAILS CEN 1:00 PM ADULT COLOURING CLUB CEN 2:00 PM
22 BRING YOUR OWN CRAFT STV 10:00 AM ADULT CHESS CLUB CEN 6:00 PM	23 ADULT KNITTING GROUP CEN 10:00 AM FAMILY MOVIE: <i>The Polar Express</i> CEN 2:00 PM	24 LIBRARY CLOSED	25 LIBRARY CLOSED 	26 LIBRARY CLOSED	27
29 ADULT CHESS CLUB CEN 6:00 PM ADULT CARDMAKING ^R CR 6:00 PM	30 ADULT KNITTING GROUP CEN 10:00 AM JOB GYM: RESUME ^R BUILDING CR 3:30 PM	31 LIBRARY CLOSED 	01 LIBRARY CLOSED	02	03



Registration for December programming opens **Saturday, November 22nd at 9:30am.** Register for events through our website, www.fepl.ca, or by calling or visiting the library.

ADULT PROGRAMS

GENERATIONS CONNECT: YLA & Senior Tech Program

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursday, December 18th | 6:00-7:30 PM

Need tech help? Stop by the Centennial branch to get help from a member of the Youth Library Association! They can help you with your devices, email, and any other tech need. **Drop in.**

FAMILY MOVIE: *The Polar Express*

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Tuesday, December 23rd | 2:00-4:00 PM

Join us for a family movie, where we will view 'The Polar Express'! Popcorn included! There will also be a craft to follow. **Drop in.**

ADULT CARDMAKING R CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Monday, December 29th | 6:00-7:00 PM

Please join us at the library to design and make greeting cards! All materials will be provided. **Registration required.**

JOB GYM PRESENTS: Resume Building (16+) R

CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Tuesday, December 30th | 3:30-4:30 PM

Rydder from the Job Gym will host a monthly workshop to help Fort Erie residents with resumes. This workshop is fantastic for those interested in editing their resumes before job hunting. **Registration encouraged.**

BRING YOUR OWN CRAFT

CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Tuesday, December 16th | 6:00-7:30 PM

STEVENSVILLE BRANCH

Monday, December 22nd | 10:00-12:00 PM

Have an arts project you're working on? Bring it to the library and create in community! **Drop in.**

ADULT COLOURING CLUB

STEVENSVILLE BRANCH

Monday, December 01st & 15th | 11:00-1:00 PM

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Saturday, December 20th | 2:00-3:00 PM

Are you someone who loves colouring? Visit the library. This month's theme: Happy Winter. **Drop in.**

KNITTING GROUP

CENTENNIAL BRANCH | Tuesdays

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Bring your knitting, crochet, needlework, and other projects. **Drop in.**

Passive Programs

Looking for something fun to do? Stop by and check out our *self-guided* programs. We'll have all the supplies you need to dive in and get started. These are *passive programs*, which means they are totally self-run. Library staff will set it up, but the rest is up to you. Come and go as you please.

ADULT CHESS CLUB

Centennial BRANCH | Mondays | 6:00-7:30 PM

All skill levels are welcome to **drop in** and play Chess when you can!

KIDS SPECIAL EVENTS

SNOWFLAKES GALORE! R NEW CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Saturday, December 6th | 2:00-3:00 PM

Use a variety of materials and techniques to create beautiful snowflakes and turn any space into a Winter Wonderland! All supplies included. **Registration required.**

3D PRINTING A TOY R NEW CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursday, December 11th | 6:00-7:00 PM

Discover the amazing world of 3D printing! In this hands-on workshop, kids will learn the basics of 3D design and printing, then create their very own toy to take home. Finished toys will be printed after the session and available for pickup one week later. Space is limited for this program. **Registration required.**

KIDS CRAFT: GINGERBREAD R NEW HOUSE ORNAMENTS CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Saturday, December 13th | 2:00-3:00 PM

Get creative this holiday season! Kids are invited to make their very own gingerbread house ornament using small terracotta pots, paint, and plenty of festive decorations. Add a touch of handmade charm to your Christmas tree with this fun, hands-on craft. **Registration required.**

LETTERS TO SANTA

Interested in writing to Santa? Stop by any local branch to write your letter to Santa. Santa loves reading all the letters that are sent to him - pictures and questions are welcome. If a child needs help getting started, templates are available. Include your return address and we'll make sure our library elves take care of mailing your letter. Send your letter to Santa no later than **December 8, 2025.**



KIDS CUPCAKE ORNAMENTS R NEW CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Monday, December 08th | 6:00-7:00 PM

Join us for a cozy winter craft session where imagination comes to life with cupcake ornaments. Kids will design and create their very own ornament adding lots of sparkle to their Holiday decorations. **Registration required.**

MICHELLE LAIR: BOOK READING CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Saturday, December 20th | 12:30-1:30 PM

Join us for an extra-special reading of The Goobers by Michelle Lair! The Goobers is a fun and whimsical tale of mysterious creatures who go about their day to day lives teaching children through social graces that we are all the same on the inside. **Drop in.**



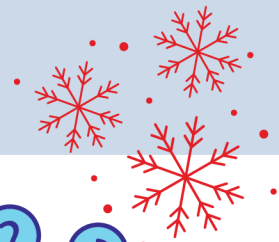
GINGERBREAD MAN HOLIDAY CONTEST ALL BRANCHES

Our gingerbread cookies need your help! They don't want to be eaten! Pick up a gingerbread person outline from your local library branch and use your imagination to disguise them. Will your gingerbread be a superhero, a snowman, a mermaid, or something totally unexpected?

Colour, decorate, and disguise your creation to enter our contest. All entries will be displayed for everyone to enjoy, and winners will be chosen at the end of December.



KIDS PROGRAM CALENDAR



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 KIDS CLUB CR 3:30 PM KIDS' CHESS CLUB CEN 4 PM	2 AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS CEN 4:00 PM TEEN BOOK CLUB CEN 5:00 PM TEEN CROCHET CLUB CEN 6:00 PM	3 EARLYON CEN 10:00 AM COCOA CLUB STV 4:00 PM	4 ART PARTY CEN 4:00 PM STEAM SERIES CEN 6:00 PM R	5	6 SNOWFLAKES GALORE! CEN 2:00 PM R
8 KIDS CLUB CR 3:30 PM KIDS' CHESS CLUB CEN 4 PM KIDS CUPCAKE ORNAMENTS CR 6:00 PM	9 AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS CEN 4:00 PM TEEN BOOK CLUB CEN 5:00 PM	10 EARLYON CEN 10:00 AM COCOA CLUB STV 4:00 PM	11 ART PARTY CEN 4:00 PM 3D PRINTING A TOY CEN 6:00 PM R	12 HOME SCHOOL HANG OUT CEN 10:00 AM	13 KIDS GINGERBREAD HOUSE ORNAMENTS CEN 2:00 PM R HOME ALONE COURSE CEN 10:00 AM R
15 KIDS CLUB CR 3:30 PM KIDS' CHESS CLUB CEN 4 PM	16 AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS CEN 4:00 PM TEEN BOOK CLUB CEN 5:00 PM TEEN CROCHET CLUB CEN 6:00 PM	17 EARLYON CEN 10:00 AM COCOA CLUB STV 4:00 PM	18 ART PARTY CEN 4:00 PM TEEN CRAFT: Miniature Wreaths CEN 6:00 PM R GENERATIONS CONNECT CEN 6:00 PM ONCE UPON A NIGHT STORIES CEN 7:00 PM	19	20 MICHELLE LAIR BOOK READING CEN 12:30 PM THERAPY TAILS CEN 1:00 PM
22 KIDS CLUB CR 3:30 PM KIDS' CHESS CLUB CEN 4 PM	23 AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS CEN 4:00 PM TEEN BOOK CLUB CEN 5:00 PM FAMILY MOVIE: The Polar Express CEN 2:00 PM	24 LIBRARY CLOSED	25 LIBRARY CLOSED 	26 LIBRARY CLOSED	27
29 KIDS CLUB CR 3:30 PM KIDS' CHESS CLUB CEN 4 PM	30 AFTER SCHOOL CRAFTS CEN 4:00 PM TEEN BOOK CLUB CEN 5:00 PM TEEN CROCHET CLUB CEN 6:00 PM YLA MEETING CEN 6:00 PM	31 LIBRARY CLOSED 	01 LIBRARY CLOSED	02	03



PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Registration for December programming opens **Saturday, November 22nd at 9:30am.** Register for events through our website, www.fepl.ca, or by calling or visiting the library.

ADULT PROGRAMS

TAI CHI

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursdays | 2:00-3:00 PM

Join Ray as he teaches a simple style of Tai Chi, combined with breathing and body conditioning exercises borrowed from Aikido. All ages. **Registration is encouraged, but not required.**

ADULT TRIVIA NIGHT R

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Wednesday, December 17th | 6:00-7:30 PM

Gather your friends, test your trivia knowledge, enjoy snacks, and have a chance to win bragging rights and a prize. **Registration required.**



ADULT CRAFT: GIFT TAGS R

CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Saturday, December 6th | 2:00-3:30 PM

Join us at the library to create gift tags for your loved ones this Holiday season. All supplies provided. **Registration required.**

FORT ERIE UKES

CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Thursday, December 4th & 18th | 5:00-7:00 PM

Fort Erie Ukes (FEU), established in 2021, is a group of adult ukulele players and enthusiasts meeting every other Thursday. All skill levels are welcome to attend. We typically play 16-18 songs from our library and sprinkle in any open mics you may be working on.

ADULT CRAFT NIGHT:

Fabric Ornaments

with Deb

R

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Wednesday, December 10th | 6:00-7:30 PM

Bring some holiday cheer to your tree with beautiful fabric ornaments. This is a popular program - please notify us if you can no longer attend to allow someone else the opportunity to participate. All supplies included. **Registration required.**

FORT ERIE UKES CONCERT

CRYSTAL RIDGE BRANCH

Thursday, December 11th | 6:00-7:00 PM

In collaboration with the Fort Erie Ukes, The Salvation Art with be holding a Food Drive and the Crystal Ridge Dream Center will be holding a Toy Drive. Please consider donating. Ask the circulation desk for a Wishlist.

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB R

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Thursday, December 11th | 2:00-3:00 PM

Looking for a good read? Join the Afternoon Book Club with our very own staff member, Derek, to read the best in modern and popular fiction. **Registration required.**

HAPPY IN MY HOME OUTREACH

CENTENNIAL BRANCH

Wednesday, December 17th | 9:30-11:00 AM

Happy in my Home, Community Support Services of Niagara, is a volunteer based not-for-profit agency providing comprehensive client-driven community support services to help older adults and adults with disabilities live independently in their own homes. **Drop in** to the library to learn more about their services.