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**James Kennedy Public Library  
Report to the Mayor and City Council  
September 15, 2025**

*Highlights from the Librarian's Report to the Board of Trustees for August 2025 are:*

- 8,732 items were checked out. This is a 10% increase from August 2024. Fiscal year to date, circulation is up 11.2%.
- 27 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 61 new library cards have been issued.
- 82 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 4,064 people engaged with these activities.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 186 hours and 392 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 389 hours and 883 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 1,137 sessions, 961 visits, and 352 unique users. Year to date WiFi use included 2,295 sessions, 1,930 visits, and 569 unique users.
- There were 5,022 library visits. Year to date visits are up 7%.

*Upcoming Events:*

Enclosed please find a copy of the September events schedule, as well as a preliminary schedule of events planned for October. Several author visits have been scheduled for this fall. Jeff Bremer will talk about his book, *A New History of Iowa*, and Michelle Sprout Murray, will share about her book, *Amazing Iowa*. Betty Brandt Passick will talk about the 1850s Delaware County doctor who is the inspiration for her historical fiction novel. Two authors with local connections, Sheri (Oberbroeckling) White and Sister Karen Lueck will also be visiting this fall. The JKPL will also be hosting activities for Banned Books Week, a sunset hike guided by Dubuque County Conservation, and several Halloween themed programs including the Books for Treats event. The Wreath-it-up Fundraiser has started, and two fundraising events – a jigsaw puzzle competition and a trivia night - have been scheduled. There should be something for everyone!

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director

Note: I am attending a conference and will be out of town on September 15 so will not be attending the City Council meeting. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

# JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

## Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

Month: August-25  
 YTD: July-25 to August-25  
 Previous YTD: July-24 to August-24

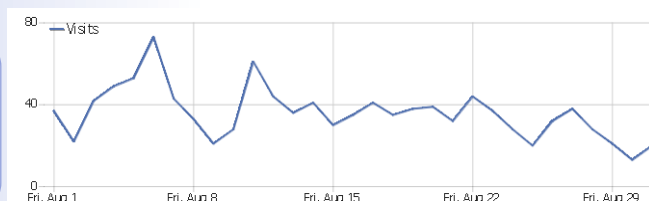
Library visits			Items loaned		Library cards issued		
					City resident	Total	
Month	5022	(↓ 5.9%)	8732	(↑ 10%)	21	27	(↓ 6.9%)
YTD	11767	(↑ 7%)	19125	(↑ 11.2%)	39	61	(↓ 11.6%)

## Website traffic



Visits  
 1114

Average visit duration  
 1:16



## Computer use



Hours			Sessions		
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD	Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
186	389	531	392	883	1061

## Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
1137	2295	961	1930	352	569

## Meeting room use



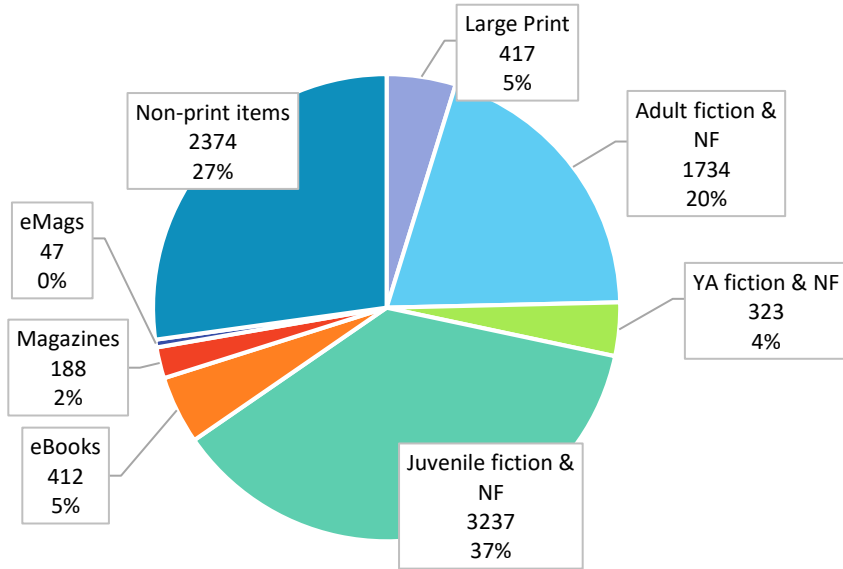
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
111	198	101

Online Learning  
 Sessions: 58  
 YTD: 108

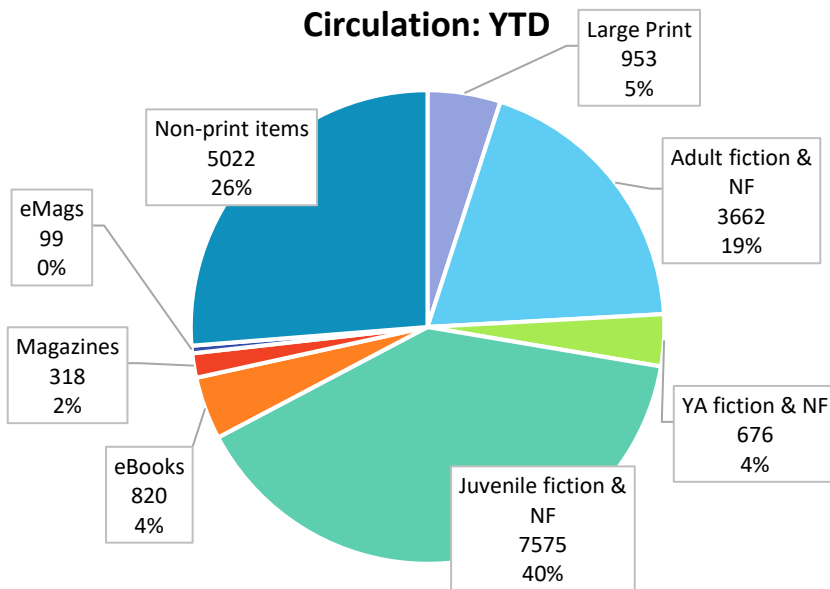


## Circulation

**Circulation: Month**



**Circulation: YTD**



### Non-print items

### Month

### YTD

eAudio	701	1426
Adult & YA audio	108	205
Juvenile audio & kits	21	75
Adult & YA video	748	1625
Juvenile video & DVD	350	787
Games, LoT, etc.	446	904
	<b>2374</b>	<b>5022</b>

### Music

Downloads: 4  
Total YTD: 5



### Video (film and TV)

Downloads: 21  
YTD: 32



Visits: 272  
YTD: 361



### Languages

Sessions: 19  
YTD: 24



### Genealogy

Visits: 445  
YTD: 589



### World Culture

Visits: 0  
YTD: 0



### Hobbies

Sessions: 7  
YTD: 15



Sessions: 0  
YTD: 0



Collection

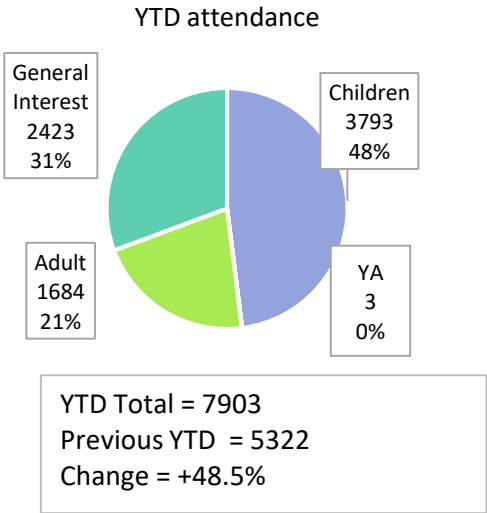
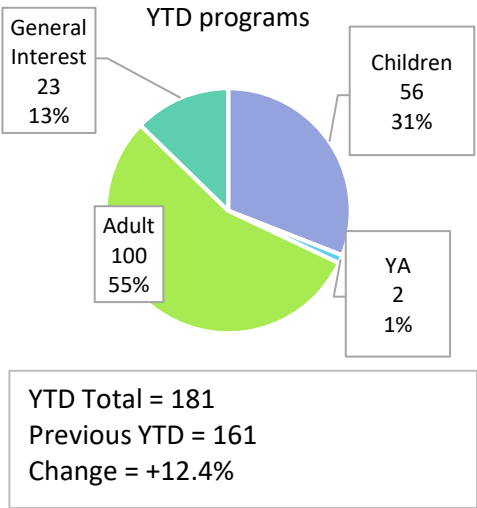
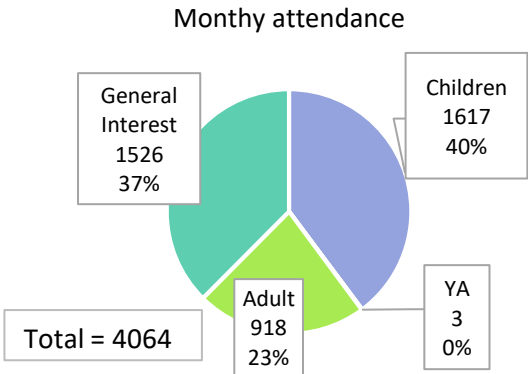
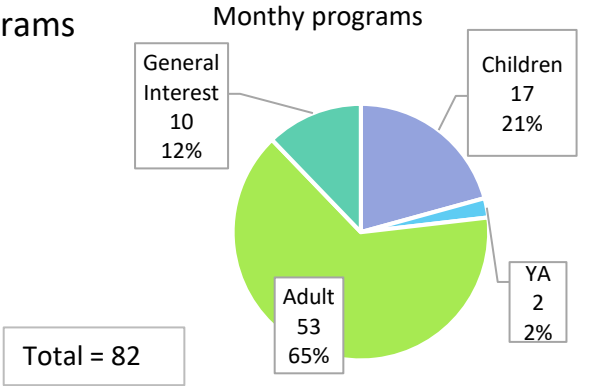
Items purchased	
Month:	221
YTD:	435

Items donated	
Month:	35
YTD:	92
Prev. YTD:	183

Items withdrawn		
	Month	YTD
Books	200	601
Audio	2	2
Video	283	357
Other	4	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>970</b>

Summary of additions														
	Large print	Adult fiction	Adult & YA NF	YA fiction	Juvenile fiction	Juvenile NF	eBook & eAudio	Adult & YA audio	Juvenile audio	Adult & YA video	Juvenile video	CDs, games, misc.	Total	
Current month	17	71	29	24	58	0	13	6	0	27	3	8	256	
Previous month	44	87	49	13	66	12	15	8	0	31	5	9	339	
Current YTD	27	150	55	39	146	3	22	6	0	50	12	17	527	
Previous YTD	61	219	95	33	131	29	25	16	1	55	12	13	690	

Programs



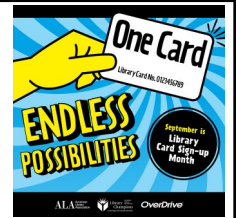
## SEPTEMBER 2025

**Library closed for Labor Day: Sunday, August 31 & Monday, September 1**



### **Library Card Sign-Up Month: September 2—30**

This year, libraries all across the United States remind you that a library card is *One Card, Endless Possibilities*. It may be small, but a library card packs a mighty punch. You can borrow books, dvds, audiobooks, and magazines. Borrow kitchen gadgets, musical instruments, and even tools from your library's collection. Take part in engaging programs like book clubs, movie nights, crafting classes, and lectures. Access technology, Wi-Fi, and career resources to support your goals, whether you're a student, job seeker, entrepreneur, or lifelong learner. It's one card with endless possibilities!



Sign up for a library card in September and receive a special bookmark and sticker. Also this month: Pick up a coloring sheet, color it, and return it to the library to get entered into a drawing for a small prize. Then kids can write and illustrate their own mini book and get their name entered for a special prize too. Also, everyone is welcome to come work on the library-themed puzzle under the skylight and get their name entered to win the puzzle.

### **Wreath-It-Up Fundraiser Begins: September 2**

Showcase your special talents and put your creativity to work at this library fundraising event! Pick up a wreath form from the library, decorate it any way you like, and return it to the library. Or decorate a wreath of your own and donate it to the library. Wreaths can be seasonal, thematic, or just anything that appeals to you! And although we focus on wreaths, other decorative wall hangings are welcome. Items will be accepted anytime in October. A silent auction of the donated items will be held in the library from October 20 to November 23. The Donor Reception and start of voting for ribbons will be on Sunday, October 26. The Silent Auction will end at 3:00 pm on Sunday, November 23.



**Children's Pretend Play Station: Ice Cream Shop: September 2—30.** Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in Ice Cream Shop play!

**Children's Scavenger Hunt: Ice Cream: September 2—30.** Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our "Ice Cream" scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! One sticker per child per library visit.



**Kids Can Craft: Write/Illustrate a Mini-Book Challenge: September 2—30.** Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to write and illustrate a mini-book. Every mini-book turned in qualifies the artist for an entry into a drawing for a prize basket. Entries are limited to one entry per day. The winner will be announced in early October.

**Creation Station Craft: Tissue Paper Hedgehog: September 2—30.** This month's craft is creating a hedgehog with construction paper, tissue paper, decorations, and glue. Kit includes instructions plus all needed supplies except for glue. Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.

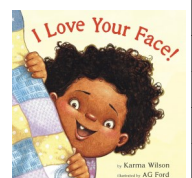
**Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: September 2—30.** Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. If crafting in the library, glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk for in-library use. Kits are available while supplies last.

**Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: September 2—30.** The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages for you to enjoy at the library or at home. They are intended for adults and teens. Each pack will include at least 10 different items and are available while supplies last. If you want to work on the activities while at the library, colored pencils, markers, and more are available in the Creation Station or to check out from the front desk.

**Get Puzzled @ Your Library: September 2—30.** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Great Stories*, to coincide with Library Card Sign-Up Month. The puzzle is located on the table under the skylight and everyone is welcome to add a piece or two or more. Everyone who works on the puzzle is encouraged to put their name into a drawing to win the puzzle. Please stop at the front desk to get your name entered.



**Westside Park StoryWalk®: "I Love Your Face" by Karma Wilson: September 2—30.** Families are invited to walk the StoryWalk® at Westside Park which begins south of the parking lot by the baseball diamond. Walk the trail and read the story to your children. *The StoryWalk® is made possible by the Dubuque Racing Association, Friends of the Library, and the Richard Osterhaus Memorial Fund. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.*





**Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, September 3, 10, 17 & 24 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person or, upon request, remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you wish to join virtually, email [librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 10:00 am on the date of the gathering and an invitation will be emailed to you. The same Zoom link is used each week.

**Tween Craft Afternoons: Wednesdays, September 3, 10 & 17 from 4:00—5:00 pm.** Children ages 8-12 are invited to the JKPL Creation Station for a weekly craft that introduces popular art trends, art concepts, artists, and/or techniques. The dates and themes are: LIB-bubu (September 3); Witches Yarn Wreath (September 10); 3-D Pyramid Collage (September 17). Although we will not meet on September 24, stop by to pick up a Frida Kahlo Art take-and-make kit to do at home.



**Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, September 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25 & 29 @ 9:30 and 10:30 am.** Older adults of any age and fitness level are invited to join this special exercise program made possible by a partnership between the Geri-Fit® Company and the James Kennedy Public Library. Participants will exercise to a Geri-Fit® DVD and most of the exercises will be performed seated in a chair. There is no dancing or aerobics involved. Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays and last approximately 45 minutes. For best results, participants should attend as many of the sessions as possible. Each participant will need a set of 2 or 3-pound dumbbell weights, a medium weight stretch band, and water to drink. Space is limited so registration is required.

**Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, September 4, 11 & 18 from 4:00—5:30 pm**

Kids Can Cook is back this fall! Kids Can Cook teaches kids ages 10-12 basic kitchen skills and how to make healthy food choices. The first ten minutes of each class will focus on kitchen safety and introductory cooking information, such as how to read a recipe. The remainder of each class will be hands-on learning, cooking, and cleaning up. Kitchen safety and cleanliness will be emphasized. At the end of the school year, children who have participated in over half of the classes will receive an apron.

- Classes will be held from 4:00—5:30 pm on September 4, 11 & 18; October 2, 9 & 16; and November 6, 13 & 20.
- The menu for September is Homemade Toaster Strudel (September 4); Pork Lettuce Wraps (September 11); and Mini Pizza Quiches (September 18).
- Registration for each session is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session.
- A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must also be on file for a child to attend.
- This program is funded by Theisen's More for Your Community, Dyersville Area Community Foundation, Jeanne M. Coppola Endowment for Education, the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library, and various library fundraising events.



**Pop-Up @ the Farmer's Market: Thursdays, September 4 & 11 from 2:00—5:00 pm.** The JKPL will be reaching out to the community by visiting the Dyersville Farmer's Market. Visitors will discover more about what the library has to offer, get their questions answered, and select a free book to keep from the pop-up library. Free, fun take-and-make craft kits may also be available (while supplies last). *The JKPL Pop-Up Library is sponsored in part by a grant from the Dyersville Area Community Foundation and partnership with the Dyersville Campaign for Grade Level Reading and the Friends of the JKPL.*

**Euchre Card Party: Fridays, September 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 1:00—3:30 pm.** Join us Friday afternoons for Euchre in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players.

**Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, September 6 from 10:00—11:00 am.** This LEGO® program is part of a monthly LEGO® building block program at the library sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union. This program is for all ages but children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. Photos of the creations are displayed in the children's area of the library and on the library's social media pages. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac.



**Kobolds Ate My Baby Role Playing Game: Saturday, September 6 @ 4:00 pm**

Join us after-hours for *Kobolds Ate My Baby*, a role playing game with simple rules and lots of shenanigans. The library will have completed character sheets available. All ages and skill levels are welcome.



**Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, September 8 @ 12:00 noon.** This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *The Last Bookshop* by Evie Woods. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or, upon request, remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you plan to attend via Zoom, please email [librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 10:00 am on the day of the program and an invitation will be emailed to you. Note: the date was moved due to the Labor Day holiday.

**Adult Crafternoon—Origami Corner Bookmark: Monday, September 8 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Join us this month to make an Origami Corner Bookmark. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a take-and-make kit and craft on your own at home. Kits will be available while supplies last.

**KEYS to Dementia Prevention: Tuesdays, September 9 to November 11 @ 5:00 pm**

Did you know you can reduce your risk of dementia by up to 70% by making lifestyle changes? This 10-week evidence-based course was developed by doctors to help people aged 55 and older reduce their risk of developing Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. It will provide you with tools and resources to preserve your memory and thinking skills. This course is made possible by the nonprofit Brain Help and Hope and will be led by local health experts. This series is co-sponsored by the Friends of the JKPL and Nightingale Drug.

- Participants should be 55 or older, in good cognitive health, and able to commit to attend the 10 in-person sessions.
- Sessions are approximately two hours each.
- A registration fee of \$20.00 per participant is required but may be refunded to those who attend at least 9 of the sessions, upon request.
- Registration is required as a maximum of 15 participants are allowed.



**Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, September 9 @ 7:00 pm.** Join us for this book club that features a variety of books that weave religious faith into the characters and storylines. For this month we will be reading *The All-American* by Susie Finkbeiner. Books are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. If you want to attend via Zoom and haven't attended before, please register by 12 noon on the day of the program at <https://bit.ly/NOVELAPPROACH> so a link to the Zoom room can be emailed to you.

**Virtual Reality with VictoryLabsFX: Saturday, September 13 from 10:00—11:30 am**  
VictoryLabsFX is a virtual reality educational program that the library can access with our Metaquest VR headsets. Join us as we do a little chemistry, check out some planets, and see some museum exhibits—all with VR! Feel free to drop in as you are able.  
For ages 12 and up.



**Family Movies @ Your Library presents "How To Train Your Dragon": Saturday, September 13 @ 1:00 pm.** On the isle of Berk, Vikings and dragons have battled for generations, but that won't stop Hiccup, the son of the Chief, from building an unlikely bond with the feared dragon, Toothless. With an ancient evil threatening their worlds, it's up to Hiccup, Toothless, and their courageous companion Astrid to make the realm realize they're stronger together, and only through friendship and bravery can they overcome the challenges they face. This is the 2025 live-action version. Rated PG (125 minutes).

**Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, September 13 @ 3:30 pm.** Join us for this monthly gaming event for D & D players that meets in-person or you can join remotely via Discord. This group meets the second Saturday of every month and new players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. The library has materials available but feel free to bring your own. To join via Discord, contact Paul at [Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite.

**National Coloring Day Coloring Party: Sunday, September 14 from 1:30—3:30 pm.** An annual event every September 14, National Coloring Day is all about setting aside some time to relax and color and get creative with paper and crayons, colored pencils or markers. To help you relax during this special day, the library will have coloring pages for all ages available to pick up and take home. For those wanting to color in the library—markers, colored pencils, crayons and more will be available in the Creation Station and to check out at the front desk. We will also have snacks! Everyone who participates by either coloring in the library, or taking coloring pages home, is encouraged to sign up at the front desk to get their name entered into a drawing for a tote bag with coloring supplies.



**Color Our World—Adult Summer Library Program Finale: Sunday, September 14 from 1:30—3:30 pm.** Participants in the *Color Our World* Adult Summer Reading program are invited to this special open house to celebrate the end of the program. Participants have until 5:00 pm on Friday, September 5 to submit their forms documenting items read or activities completed prior to September 1. Prizes will be available to pick up during this open house or at the library during the rest of September. Refreshments provided.



**Bingo Party: Monday, September 15 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Come enjoy bingo at the JKPL! There is a two-card limit, there is no cost to play, and there are prizes! Registration is recommended as space is limited. Bring your friends!

**Cricut with Christopher presents Customized Drink Tumblers: Monday, September 15 @ 6:00 pm.** Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher and customize a drink tumbler with a fun pattern. Tumblers will be provided. Participants should be 14 or older. Registration is required as attendance is limited to 10. Cricut with Christopher will typically be held on the third Monday of each month. This is a repeat of the June class. Registration is required as space is limited to 10 participants.

**Drop in and Create—Rock Art: Friday, September 19 from 9:30 am—12:30 pm.** Join us as we use paint and paint pens to create rock art! This is a drop-in event so guests are welcome to come and go as they are able. Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries.*



**A New History of Iowa with Author Jeff Bremer: Saturday, September 20 @ 1:30 pm**

Iowa State University Professor and Author Jeff Bremer will be at the library to talk about his book, *A New History of Iowa*. This book, published in 2023, offers the most comprehensive history of the Hawkeye State ever written, surveying Iowa from the last ice age through the COVID-19 pandemic. It tells a new and vibrant story, examining the state's small-town culture, politics, social and economic development, and its many diverse inhabitants. This program provides a brief introduction to some of the book's main ideas, while focusing on three important Iowans whose biographies teach us about the Civil War, temperance, and civil rights in the state. A copy of the book is available to borrow from the library.



**Conservation Camp—Fall Clean Up Day: Sunday, September 21 from 10:00 am—12:00 pm.** All those registered for this program will gather at the Dyersville Communities Gardens for the final session of this program. Pre-registration for this program was required and registration has now closed. *Note: date and time have been changed!*

**Genealogy with Ann: Monday, September 22 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Staff member Ann will be on hand to help you start, or continue to work on, your five-generation ancestor chart. Ann will also share information on free websites good for genealogy research. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own laptop, if they have one. Some library laptops will be available for use. Appointments with Ann can be made if that is more convenient.

**Strings Club: Monday, September 22 @ 6:00 pm.** Do you have a ukulele, guitar or other string instrument that you would like to play more often? Do you want to grow your skills by jamming with others? Then come join the JKPL Strings Club! Teen and adult musicians of all skill levels are welcome. NOTE: This is not a class but a jam session so participants should know basic chords. Facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month. Registration is encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Please contact the library to register.

**Armchair Travel—Netherlands: Tuesday, September 23 @ 1:00 pm.** Join us for a virtual journey through the charming landscapes and rich culture of the Netherlands—all from the comfort of your chair! From historic cities to colorful tulip fields, the Netherlands offers a beautiful blend of tradition, art, and everyday life that's sure to captivate. Your guide for the day is Chelsea Middendorf from Eagle Pointe Place Senior Living in Dubuque who will bring a taste of local favorites like stroopwafels and Gouda cheese. This program is for older adults, but all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



**Family Wellness Event: Tuesday, September 23 from 5:30—7:30 pm at Western Dubuque High School.** Join JKPL and 21 other community organizations at the Western Dubuque Community School District Family Wellness Event. This community event will promote awareness and provide valuable resources related to the wellness of children and families including mental, physical, and emotional health. James Kennedy Public Library Children's Librarian Christa Palm will provide parents with information and discussion about Jonathan Haidt's non-fiction book, *The Anxious Generation*, which proposes that mental health challenges are caused by high social media use and smartphone addiction. Dog Man activities will also be available for children.



**JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, September 23 @ 6:30 pm.** Join us this month in person at the library, or remotely via Zoom, for a sharing session with writers of all types including poetry, memoir, fiction, or nonfiction. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you want to participate via Zoom, please contact the library by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

**Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, September 25 @ 11:15 am.** Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler will talk about sleep and how it is essential for a healthy life. She will also talk about the nine Big Allergens most of us come into contact with. Snacks will be provided. All are welcome!

**"E.T. - The Extra-Terrestrial"—Sensory Friendly Movie Matinee: Thursday, September 25 @ 2:00 pm & Friday, September 26 @ 10:30 am.** A lonely boy befriends a homesick alien stranded on Earth and attempts to help him find a way home. Meanwhile, a group of government scientists attempt to capture the benevolent visitor for research. Rated PG (115 min.) Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion. Please note that this film may be shown with closed captioning enabled, ambient light and potentially other sensory friendly adjustments. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).*

**Meet Hometown Author Sheri (Oberbroeckling) White: Thursday, September 25 @ 6:30 pm.**

Join us in welcoming Sheri (Oberbroeckling) White back to her hometown! Sheri is the daughter of Gene and Marita Oberbroeckling. Sheri will share with us her newest book, *Unexpected Pearls: A Journey through Adversity to Peace*. This memoir offers readers a deeply moving, honest, and hope-filled journey through a personal family hardship to a place of lasting peace. Sheri will talk about her new book, answer questions, and sign copies of both of her books. Sheri is also the author of *100 Days of Staying the Hell Home* in 2020, a sharply funny chronicle of pandemic life. Books will be available for purchase from the author.



**Pop-Up Library at the Downtown Market: Saturday, September 27 from 8:00 am—12:00 pm.** The JKPL will have a pop-up library where visitors will be able to find out more about what the library has to offer, and select a free book to keep. There will also be a hotspot running to provide WiFi Access. Our participation at this event is weather permitting. The JKPL Pop-Up Library is sponsored in part by a grant from the Dyersville Area Community Foundation and partnership with the Dyersville Campaign for Grade Level Reading and the Friends of the JKPL.

**Family Movies @ Your Library presents "Lilo & Stitch": Saturday, September 27 @ 1:00 pm.** Lilo's an independent little girl. Stitch is a mischievous creature from outer space. When their worlds collide, it's love and chaos at first sight! This is the 2025 live-action version. Rated PG (108 minutes).

**Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, September 27 from 4:00—6:00 pm.** Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Friday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

**Celebrate National Good Neighbor Day: Sunday, September 28 from 1:30—3:30 pm**

September 28 is National Good Neighbor Day. This holiday was signed into law in 1978 by President Jimmy Carter and is celebrated annually across the country. Join us at the JKPL as we celebrate our neighbors with a community sweet treat social. Drop by the library for cookies and bars and maybe meet a new neighbor! The library will also have activity kits including coloring pages, sudoku, and more for you to enjoy during your visit or to take home.



### Want to stay current on all that is going on at the library? Here's how:

- \*Sign up for our weekly email newsletter
- \*Visit our website at [www.dyersville.lib.ia.us](http://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us)
- \*Follow us on Goodreads: James Kennedy Public Library
- \*Follow us on YouTube: James Kennedy Public Library

- \*Like us on Facebook
- \*Follow us on X: @dyersvillelib
- \*Follow us on Instagram: jameskennedylibrary



# Upcoming EVENTS

Find the latest information on library events  
and programs at [www.dyersville.lib.ia.us](http://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us)  
or scan the QR code



## Halloween Is Coming!

We are busy planning events for all ages to celebrate Halloween. Programs will be throughout the month of October. Check back for more details!



## Kids Can Cook

Thursdays, October 2, 9 & 16 from 4:00—5:30 pm

Kids Can Cook will teach kids ages 10-12 basic kitchen skills and how to make healthy food choices.

- The menu for October is Frittata (October 2); Fajita Bowl (October 9); and Chocolate Pudding (October 16).
- Classes will also be held in November.
- Registration for each session is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session.
- A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must be on file for a child to attend.
- *This program is funded by Theisen's More for Your Community, Dyersville Area Community Foundation, Jeanne M. Coppola Endowment for Education, the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library, and various library fundraising events.*



## Fit the Pieces Jigsaw Puzzle Fundraiser

October 23 at Textile Brewery from 5:00—8:00 pm

Back by popular demand! Join us at this puzzling fundraising event to support the JKPL! This event will be held at Textile Brewing Company, 146 2nd St NE, Dyersville.

- Teams of up to 4 individuals are invited to buy a table for \$60 and compete to be the first to complete the same 500 piece puzzle.
- Prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place and competitors will keep the puzzle at the end.
- Teams and observers are invited to bring cash to the event and buy twists like freezing the competition, making them wear gloves or use tweezers, and more!
- Textile will donate 10% of food and beer sales during the event to the JKPL.
- All proceeds will benefit the James Kennedy Public Library.
- ***There are only 15 tables available and tickets are on sale now!***



## Amazing Iowa with Michelle Sprout Murray Saturday, October 4 @ 1:30 pm

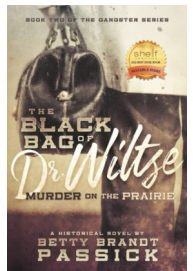
Whether you're a native Iowan, a recent resident, or just passing through—these stories of the weird, wild, and wonderful people and places of the great state of Iowa are waiting for you. Join author Michelle Sprout Murray and hear stories from her book, *Amazing Iowa*, about people you've heard about in the news... as well as those you should have heard about! Copies of the book will be available for purchase from the author.



## The Legacy of an Iowa Pioneer Physician with Betty Brandt Passick Saturday, October 18 @ 1:30 pm

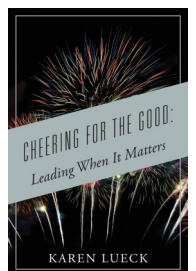
Come learn about the forgotten legacy of Dr. Alexander Wiltse. In the mid-1850s, he left behind his home in Canada to establish new roots in Delaware County, Iowa. Establishing his medical practice in Strawberry Point, his first clients were newly arriving immigrants, Indians, prairie banditti, and chicken thieves. Dr. Wiltse eventually would team up with Dr. Ward from Oxbow, and together they aided authorities with murder investigations across Bremer, Clayton, Delaware, and Fayette Counties. But the eruption of the Civil War in 1860 threatened to destroy Dr. Wiltse's dream of making a better life for himself and his family in their new homeland.

Dr. Wiltse's life is the basis for Betty Brandt Passick's historical fiction novel, *The Black Bag of Dr. Wiltse*. Come meet the author and hear about this forgotten piece of local history and the book it inspired! Copies of the book will be available for purchase from the author.



## Author Visit with Sister Karen Lueck Monday, October 27 @ 1:30 pm

Sister Karen will be at the library to talk about her two books: *Cheering for the Good: Leading When It Matters* and also *The Green Thread: Reclaiming Our Spiritual Authority*. She will talk about growing up near New Vienna, cheerleading for her St. Boniface team, and historical details and stories about the lives of German immigrants to the U.S. in the past and in the present.



# September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Library closed	1 Library closed	2 <div>September is Library Card Sign Up Month!</div> <div>Wreath-It-Up Fundraiser Begins!</div>	3 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Tween Craft Afternoon from 4-5pm	4 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Kids Can Cook @ 4pm Pop-Up @ Farmer's Market from 3-5pm	5 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	6 Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program from 10-11am <i>Kobolds Ate My Baby</i> RPG @ 4pm
7	8 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Books For Lunch @ 12pm Adult Crafternoon from 1-3pm	9 KEYS To Dementia Prevention from 5-7pm A Novel Approach to Faith book club @ 7pm	10 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Tween Craft Afternoon from 4-5pm	11 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Kids Can Cook @ 4pm Pop-Up @ Farmer's Market from 3-5pm	12 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	13 Virtual Reality from 10-11:30am <i>How To Train Your Dragon</i> (PG) @ 1pm Dungeons & Dragons @ 3:30pm
14 National Coloring Day Party from 1:30-3:30pm Adult SLP Finale from 1:30-3:30pm	15 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Bingo Party from 1-3pm Cricut with Chistopher @ 6pm	16 KEYS To Dementia Prevention from 5-7pm	17 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Tween Craft Afternoon from 4-5pm	18 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Kids Can Cook @ 4pm	19 Rock Art from 9:30am to 12:30pm Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	20 A New History of Iowa @ 1:30pm
21 Conservation Camp from 10am-12pm	22 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Genealogy with Ann from 1-3pm Strings Club @ 6pm	23 Armchair Travel: Netherlands @ 1pm KEYS To Dementia Prevention from 5-7pm Family Wellness Event @ WDHS from 5:30-7:30pm JKPL Writing Group @ 6:30pm	24 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm	25 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Health & Wellness 365 @ 11:15am <i>E. T. – The Extra-Terrestrial</i> (PG) @ 2pm Author Sheri White @ 6:30pm	26 <i>E. T. – The Extra-Terrestrial</i> (PG) @ 10:30am Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	27 Pop-up Library from 8am-12pm <i>Lilo &amp; Stitch</i> (PG) @ 1pm Game Night from 4-6pm
28 Good Neighbor Day from 1:30-3:30pm	29 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am	30 KEYS To Dementia Prevention from 5-7pm		<div>September 1—30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Coloring, Creating, &amp; Doing</li><li>Upcycled Cards kits</li><li>Get Puzzled</li><li>StoryWalk®</li></ul>	<div>September 1—30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Write a mini book challenge</li><li>Children's Pretend Play Station &amp; scavenger hunt</li><li>Tissue Paper Hedgehog craft kits</li></ul>	

## Upcoming Events for OCTOBER 2025

***Wreath-it-Up Fundraiser Continues!*** Showcase your special talents and put your creativity to work at this library fundraising event! Pick up a wreath form from the library, decorate it any way you like, and return it to the library. Or decorate a wreath of your own and donate it to the library. Wreaths can be seasonal, thematic, or just anything that appeals to you! And although we focus on wreaths, other decorative wall hangings are welcome. Items will be accepted anytime in October. A silent auction of the donated items will be held in the library from October 20 to November 23. The Donor Reception and start of voting for ribbons will be on Sunday, October 26. The Silent Auction will end at 3:00 pm on Sunday, November 23.

***Children's Pretend Play Station: Zoo: October 1-31.*** Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in Zoo play!

***Children's Scavenger Hunt: Zoo Animals: October 1-31.*** Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our "Zoo Animals" scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! One sticker per child per library visit.

***Kids Can Craft: Create a Zoo Animal Challenge: October 1-31.*** Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to design and color a new species of zoo animal. Rhino-giraffe? Elephant-tiger? Be creative, and have fun! Every design turned in qualifies artists for an entry into the drawing for a prize basket but is limited to one entry per day. Winner will be announced in early November.

***Creation Station Craft: Hand X-ray: October 1-31.*** Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft is creating an x-ray of the bones in your hand using construction paper and Q-tips. Kits include instructions plus all needed supplies, except for glue. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last. Project to be confirmed.

***Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: October 1-31.*** Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. If crafting in the library, glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk for in-library use. Kits are available while supplies last.

***Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: October 1-31.*** The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages for you to enjoy at the library or at home. They are intended for adults and teens. Each pack will include at least 10 different items and are available while supplies last. If you want to work on the activities while at the library, colored pencils, markers, and more are available in the Creation Station or to check out from the front desk.

***Get Puzzled @ Your Library: October 1-31.*** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Vintage Classroom*. The puzzle is located on the table under the skylight and everyone is welcome to add a piece or two or more. Everyone who works on the puzzle is encouraged to put their name into a drawing to win the puzzle. Please stop at the front desk to get your name entered.

***October is National Book Month!*** This month-long celebration focuses on the importance of reading, writing and literature. The purpose of National Book Month (or National Reading Month) is to encourage reading, an activity that has been proven to have many advantages. Reading can help anyone build excellent vocabulary, improve memory, increase knowledge, and decrease anxiety. To celebrate, a

book themed activity kit with coloring pages, trivia and more will be available and the Book Bike will be out and about in the community..

**Westside Park StoryWalk®: “Grumpy Monkey” by Suzanne Lang: October 1-31.** Families are invited to walk the StoryWalk® at Westside Park which begins south of the parking lot by the baseball diamond. Walk the trail and read the story to your children. The StoryWalk(R) is made possible by the Dubuque Racing Association, Friends of the Library, and the Richard Osterhaus Memorial Fund. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

**Storytime: Wednesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 @ 10:30 am & 6:30 pm.** Join new JKPL Children’s Programmer Andrea Lepley for Storytime, where children are introduced to two or three books, rhymes, songs and a movement activity. Storytime is open to all ages and abilities but geared to those 1-6 years old. Adult participation is required. No registration is necessary. Fall Storytime runs from October 1 through December 17 (week off November 26).

**Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via Zoom. The Zoom room is opened upon request. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you wish to join virtually, please email [librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 10 am on the date of the gathering and an invitation will be emailed to you. The same Zoom room link is used each week.

**Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, October 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27 & 30 @ 9:30 and 10:30 am.** Older adults of any age and fitness level are invited to join this special exercise program made possible by a partnership between the Geri-Fit® Company and the James Kennedy Public Library. Participants will exercise to a Geri-Fit® DVD and most of the exercises will be performed seated in a chair. There is no dancing or aerobics involved. Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays and last approximately 45 minutes. For best results, participants should attend as many of the sessions as possible. Each participant will need a set of 2 or 3-pound dumbbell weights, a medium weight stretch band, and water to drink. Space is limited so registration is required.

**Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, October 2, 9 & 16 from 4:00-5:30 pm.** Kids Can Cook will teach kids ages 10-12 basic kitchen skills and how to make healthy food choices. The first ten minutes of each class will focus on kitchen safety and introductory cooking information, such as how to read a recipe. The remainder of each class will be hands-on learning, cooking, and cleaning up. Kitchen safety and cleanliness will be emphasized. At the end of the school year, children who have participated in over half of the classes will receive an apron. The menu for October is Frittata (October 2); Fajita Bowl (October 9); and Chocolate Pudding (October 16). Classes will also be held in November. Registration for each session is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session. A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must be on file for a child to attend. *This program is funded by Theisen’s More for Your Community, Dyersville Area Community Foundation, Jeanne M. Coppola Endowment for Education, the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library, and various library fundraising events.*

**Euchre Card Party: Fridays, October 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 from 1:00-3:30 pm.** Join us Friday afternoons for Euchre in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players.

**Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, October 4 from 10:00-11:00 am.** This LEGO® program is part of a monthly LEGO® building block program at the library sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union. This program is for all ages but children under 7



must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. Photos of the creations are displayed in the children's area of the library and on the library's social media pages. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac.

***Amazing Iowa with Michelle Sprout Murray: Saturday, October 4 @ 1:30 pm.*** Whether you're a native Iowan, a recent resident, or just passing through - these stories of the weird, wild, and wonderful people and places of the great state of Iowa are waiting for you. Join author Michelle Sprout Murray and hear stories from her book, *Amazing Iowa*, about people you've heard about in the news... as well as those you should have heard about! Copies of the book will be available for purchase from the author. Sponsored by the Friends of the JKPL.

***Banned Books Week: October 5-11.*** Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read and the importance of the First Amendment. The theme this year is *Censorship Is So 1984. Read for Your Rights*. Current efforts to ban books and information held in schools, libraries, archives, and bookstores are a truth close to fiction – namely, the depiction of extreme censorship by an oppressive regime in George Orwell's cautionary and prescient tale *1984*. The Banned Books Week 2025 theme reminds us that the right to read belongs to all of us, that censorship has no place in contemporary society, and that we must defend our rights. To celebrate, the library will have a Name That Banned Book Guessing Jar. All who submit a correct guess will have their name entered into a drawing for a book themed prize. The winner will be drawn on October 13. The library will also show the movie *Are You There God? It's Me Margaret* (PG-13) on October 11 at 1:00 pm. This movie is based on the beloved children's book by Judy Blume that has been banned and challenged multiple times.

***Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, October 6 @ 12:00 noon.*** This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. The Zoom room is opened upon request. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you plan to attend via Zoom, please email [librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 10:00 am on the day of the program and an invitation to the Zoom room will be emailed to you.

***KEYS to Dementia Prevention: Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21 & 28 @ 5:00 pm.*** This 10-week evidence-based course was developed by doctors to help people aged 55 and older make lifestyle changes to reduce their risk of developing Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. Registration was required prior to the start of the course in September. However, if you are interested in potential future sessions, please share your contact information with the library so you can be contacted when another series is scheduled.

***Banned Book Movies @ Your Library presents "Are You There God? It's Me Margaret": Saturday, October 11 @ 1:00 pm.*** A plucky eleven-year-old named Margaret finds her life on the cusp of change as her family uproots from the heart of the city to a quiet suburban neighborhood. Margaret must then navigate the ups and downs of adolescence, including new friends, new feelings, and, ultimately, a new sense of self. Based on the novel of the same name by Judy Blume. Rated PG-13 (111 minutes).

***Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, October 11 @ 3:30 pm.*** Join us for this monthly gaming event for D & D players that meets in-person or you can join remotely via Discord. This group meets the second Saturday of every month and new players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. The library has materials available but feel free to bring your own. To join via Discord, contact Paul at [Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite.

***Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, October 14 @***

**7:00 pm.** Join us for this book club that features a variety of books that weave religious faith into the characters and storylines. For this month we will be reading *All That Is Secret* by Patricia Raybon. Books are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. If you want to attend via Zoom and haven't attended before, please register by 12 noon on the day of the program at <https://bit.ly/NOVELAPPROACH> so a link to the Zoom room can be emailed to you.

***Drop in and Create - Shrinky Dinks: Friday, October 17 from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.***

Come to the library and create with Shrinky Dinks! This is a drop-in event so guests are welcome to come and go as their schedule permits. Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).*

***Double Creature Feature: Friday, October 17 @ 6:00 pm.*** Come join us for our yearly Double Creature Feature! This program is for those age 13 and older, however, younger participants are welcome if they have an adult to accompany them. Snacks will be provided. This year we will show *Immaculate*, which follows a young nun that finds herself at the center of a dark conspiracy (Rated R). We will also show *In A Violent Nature*, which is about a group of teens being stalked by a Jason Vorhess style killer, but the events are shown from his perspective (Rated R).

***The Legacy of an Iowa Pioneer Physician with Betty Brandt Passick: Saturday, October 18 @ 1:30 pm.*** Come learn about the forgotten legacy of Dr. Alexander Wiltse. In the mid-1850s, he left behind his home in Canada to establish new roots in Delaware County, Iowa. Establishing his medical practice in Strawberry Point, his first clients were newly arriving immigrants, Indians, prairie banditti, and chicken thieves. Dr. Wiltse eventually would team up with Dr. Ward from Oxbow, and together they aided authorities with murder investigations across Bremer, Clayton, Delaware, and Fayette Counties. But the eruption of the Civil War in 1860 threatened to destroy Dr. Wiltse's dream of making a better life for himself and his family in their new homeland. Dr. Wiltse's life is the basis for Betty Brandt Passick's historical fiction novel, *The Black Bag of Dr. Wiltse*. Come meet the author and hear about this forgotten piece of local history and the book it inspired! Copies of the book will be available for purchase from the author.

***Nerf War @ Your Library: Saturday, October 18 from 4:00-6:00 pm.*** Bring your Nerf gun and ammo and head to the library for this bi-monthly Nerf War! Participants must be 13 or older and anyone under 18 must have a signed parental waiver. Registration requested as 10 people are required to hold the program and a max of 20 is allowed. Walk-ins welcome, if space allows. Participants must provide their own Nerf guns and ammo but no modifications to darts or guns to increase range or hitting power will be allowed. Guns with excessive hitting power will not be allowed.

***Wreath-It-Up Silent Auction Begins! Monday, October 20.*** Wreaths, wall hangings and other decorative items have been donated to this year's fundraiser! All items are on display in the library and photographs are posted on Facebook and the library's website at [www.dyersville.lib.ia.us](http://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us). Bids can be placed in person at the library, by calling the library, or emailing [librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us). The highest bid will be listed along with the photo of the item on the library's website. Bids will be updated daily on the website. The Donor Reception and start of voting for ribbons will be on Sunday, October 26. The auction ends promptly at 3:00 pm on Sunday, November 23.

***Bingo Party: Monday, October 20 from 1:00-3:00 pm.*** Come enjoy bingo at the JKPL! There is a two card limit, there is no cost to play, and there are prizes! Registration is recommended as space is limited. Bring your friends!

***Armchair Travel - Cambodia: Tuesday, October 21 @ 1:00 pm.*** Grab your travel buddy and join us on this virtual visit to stunning Cambodia! Chelsea Middendorf, from Eagle Pointe Place Senior Living in Dubuque, will take you on this tour. Chelsea will be providing a small taste of the culture as well, so come try something new! This program is for older adults, but all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Armchair Travel programs will be held on the third Tuesday of most months from 1 to 2 pm.

***Sunset Hike @ Ringneck Ridge: Tuesday, October 21 @ 6:00pm-7:30pm.*** Walk along the trail at Ringneck Ridge (5361 Highway 136, Worthington, IA 52078) as we learn about the prairie and enjoy the colors of the sunset along the landscape. Dubuque County Conservation staff will guide the hike and teach about the area. We will be walking 1.5 miles on uneven terrain, please be prepared for this by wearing appropriate footwear and clothing. All ages welcome, but those under the age of 16 need an adult companion. Registration is requested by noon on October 20 as a minimum of 10 participants is needed for this program to be held. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Register by contacting the library or online in the library's calendar of events at: [www.dyersville.lib.ia.us/events](http://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us/events). On the day of the program, participants should meet in the parking area at Ringneck Ridge, 5361 IA-136, Worthington, IA. (Turn onto a one-lane gravel road near a grain bin).

***Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, October 23 @ 11:15 am.*** Presented by Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler. Topic to be announced.

***"Hocus Pocus" - Sensory Friendly Movie Matinee: Thursday, October 23 @ 2:00 pm & Friday, October 24 @ 10:30 am.*** Three 17th-century witches, hanged for their murderous crimes, are resurrected on Halloween in modern-day Salem by an unsuspecting boy, who must now figure out how to get them back in the ground. Rated PG (95 min.) Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 7 need an adult companion. Please note that this film may be shown with closed captioning enabled, ambient light and potentially other sensory friendly adjustments. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).*

***Fit the Pieces Jigsaw Puzzle Fundraiser: October 23 at Textile Brewing from 5:00—8:00 pm.*** Back by popular demand! Join us at this puzzling fundraising event to support the JKPL! This event will be held at Textile Brewing Company, 146 2nd St NE, Dyersville. Teams of up to 4 individuals are invited to buy a table for \$60.00 and compete to be the first to complete the same 500 piece puzzle. Prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place and competitors will keep the puzzle at the end. Teams and observers are invited to bring cash to the event and buy twists like freezing the competition, making them wear gloves or use tweezers, and more! Doors will open for check in at 5:00 pm and the puzzle competition starts at 6:00 pm. Textile will donate 10% of food and beer sales during the event to the JKPL. Participants and observers are encouraged to come early and stay late to enjoy food and drink and support the JKPL. All proceeds will benefit the James Kennedy Public Library. There is only room for 15 tables so contact the JKPL soon to purchase your table.

***Trick-or-Treat in Downtown Dyersville: Saturday, October 25 from 10:00 - 11:00 am.*** Bring the kids to enjoy daytime trick-or-treating at First Avenue businesses while reading the story "How to Catch a Witch" by Alice Walstead in storefront windows. Self-guided trick-or-treating begins

and ends at the James Kennedy Public Library, where maps and a take-and-make craft are available. No registration is required. All ages are welcome, but those under age 10 need a teen or adult companion to guide excited, costumed children safely across First Avenue. All rules of the road must be followed. Sponsored by Tim & Angela English.

***Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, October 25 from 4:00-6:00 pm.*** Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Friday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

***Wreath-it-Up Donor Reception Open House: Sunday, October 26 from 1:30-3:30 pm.*** Stop in the library to enjoy refreshments and check out all of the items donated for the silent auction. Donors are invited to come and be recognized! This event also marks the start of the Wreath-It-Up Ribbon Voting where you can support your favorite item by voting for it. Categories to be announced.

***Wreath-it-up Ribbon Voting: Sunday, October 26 to Sunday, November 9.*** Be sure to stop in the library, check out Facebook, or the JKPL website to see the items that have been donated for the Chair-ity fundraiser. Show your support for your favorite by voting for it! Categories to be decided. Voting is available by completing a paper form at the library. Ribbons will be awarded on Monday, November 10 for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention.

***Author Visit with Sister Karen Lueck: Monday, October 27 @ 1:30 pm.*** Sister Karen Lueck will be at the library to talk about her two books: *Cheering for the Good: Leading When It Matters* and also *The Green Thread: Reclaiming Our Spiritual Authority*. She will talk about growing up near New Vienna, cheerleading for her St. Boniface team, and historical details and stories about the lives of German immigrants to the U.S. in the past and in the present.

***Strings Club: Monday, October 27 @ 6:00 pm.*** Do you have a ukulele, guitar or other string instrument that you would like to play more often? Do you want to grow your skills by jamming with others? Then come join the JKPL Strings Club! Teen and adult musicians of all skill levels are welcome. NOTE: This is not a class but a jam session so participants should know basic chords. Facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month. Registration encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Please contact the library to register.

***JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, October 28 @ 6:30 pm.*** Join us this month in person at the library, or remotely via Zoom, for a sharing session with writers of all types including poetry, memoir, fiction, or nonfiction. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you want to participate via Zoom, please contact the library by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

***Ghouls Night Out: Thursday, October 30 from 5:00-8:00 pm.*** Join us for the eighth annual Ghouls Night Out! Stroll the streets of downtown Dyersville and shop, browse, and enjoy a night out on the town. Details to be announced.

***Books for Treats Halloween Pop-Up Library: Friday, October 31 from 5:30-7:30 pm.*** Join us for the 9th Annual Books for Treats Event where families are invited to Trick-or-Treat for a book instead of candy! The JKPL will have a pop-up library on the lawn of The Allen House at 515 1st Ave. W. in Dyersville. Books for all ages, including adults, will be available. This event is sponsored in part by a grant from the Dyersville Area Community Foundation and partnership with the Dyersville Campaign for Grade Level Reading and the Friends of the JKPL.