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**James Kennedy Public Library
Report to the Mayor and City Council
November 18, 2024**

Highlights from the Librarian's Report to the Board of Trustees for October 2024 are:

- 7,606 items were checked out. This is a 13.2% decrease from October 2023. Fiscal year to date, circulation is down 4.6%
- 27 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 117 new library cards have been issued.
- 95 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 3,208 people engaged with these activities.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 198 hours and 397 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 863 hours and 1,801 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 141 sessions, 139 visits, and 58 unique users. Year to date WiFi use included 491 sessions, 442 visits, and 153 unique users.
- There were 5,217 library visits.

Upcoming Events:

Enclosed please find a copy of the November events schedule, as well as a preliminary schedule of events planned for December. Some of the events scheduled include a presentation by the author of a book about the Cedar Valley Honor Flight, a pen and ink art class, a family winter holiday fun day, a visit from the Dubuque County Conservation's educational animals, the annual Old-Fashioned Christmas at the Dyer-Botsford House, and a holiday music program presented by local musicians. The Chair-ity Fundraiser continues until November 24, the Layette Quilt Display and Sale, in partnership with the Dyersville Layette group starts November 25, the Burrito Breakfast is November 30, and the Cookie Walk Fundraiser is December 6-8.

Library closing: The JKPL will be closed to the public from Tuesday, December 10 through Friday, December 13 while the interior is painted.

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director

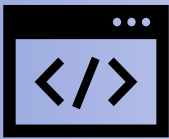
JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

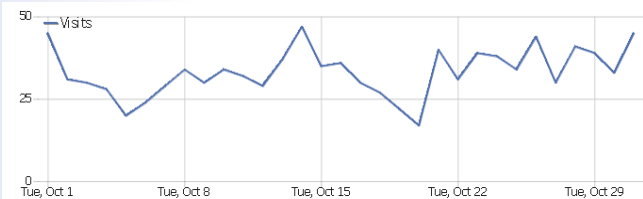
Month: October-24
YTD: July-24 to October-24
Previous YTD: July-23 to October-23

Library visits			Items loaned		Library cards issued		
					City resident	Total	
Month	5217	(↑ 6.6%)	7606	(↓ 13.2%)	15	27	(↓ 18.2%)
YTD	20492	(↓ 5.9%)	31633	(↓ 4.6%)	63	117	(↓ 14.6%)

Website traffic



Visits	Average visit duration
1031	1:48



Computer use



Hours			Sessions		
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD	Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
198	863	753	397	1801	1690

Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
141	491	129	442	58	153

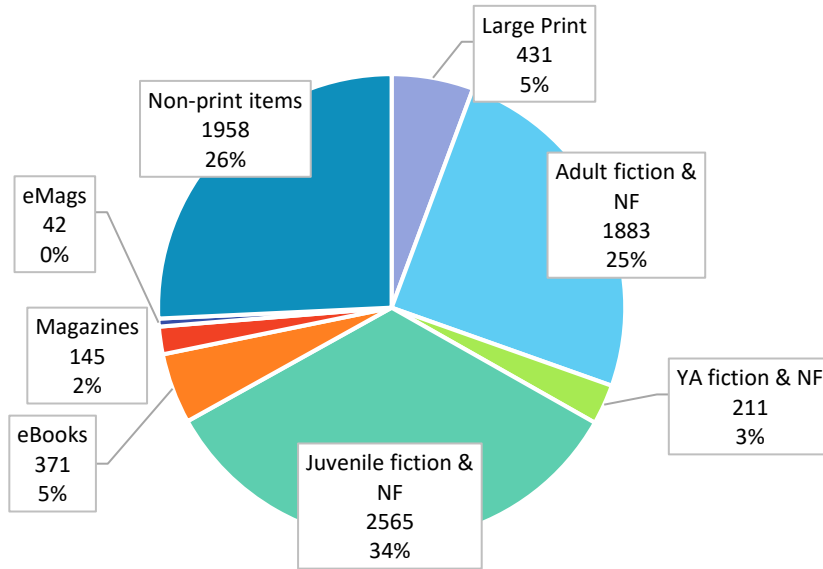
Meeting room use



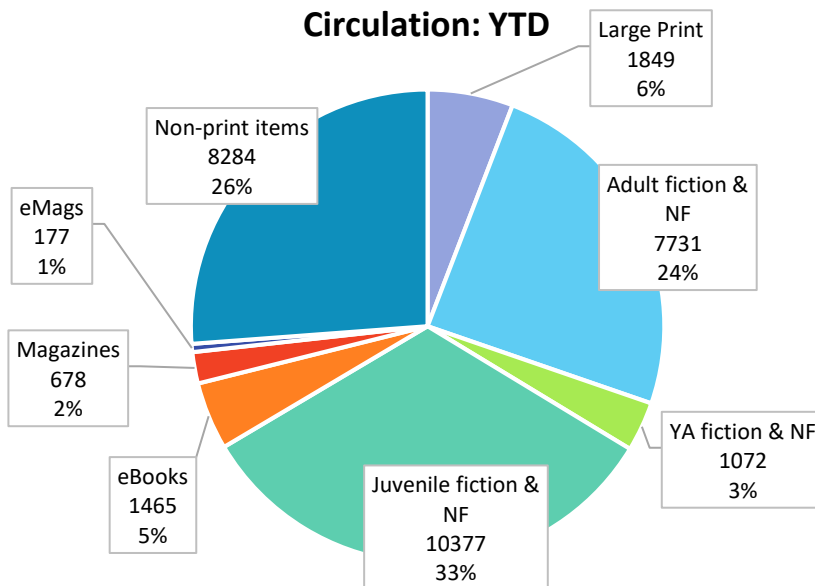
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
77	237	295

Circulation

Circulation: Month



Circulation: YTD



Non-print items

Month

YTD

eAudio	586	2284
Adult & YA audio	113	379
Juvenile audio & kits	17	58
Adult & YA video	690	2699
Juvenile video & DVD	230	1261
Games, LoT, etc.	322	1603
	1958	8284

Music

Downloads: 13
Total YTD: 51



Video (film and TV)

Downloads: 6
YTD: 38



Visits: 79
YTD: 634



Online Learning

Sessions: 3
YTD: 62



Languages

Sessions: 22
YTD: 59



Genealogy

Visits: 528
YTD: 2946



Collection

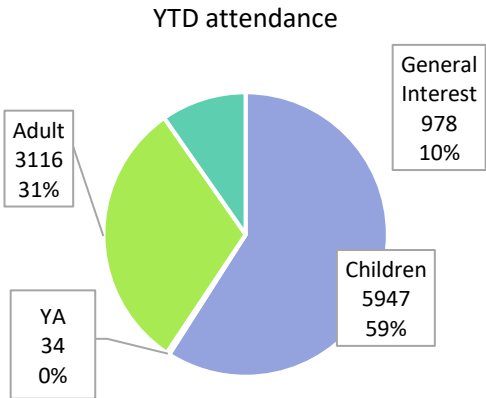
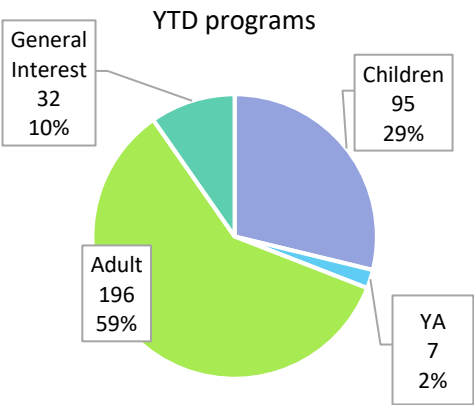
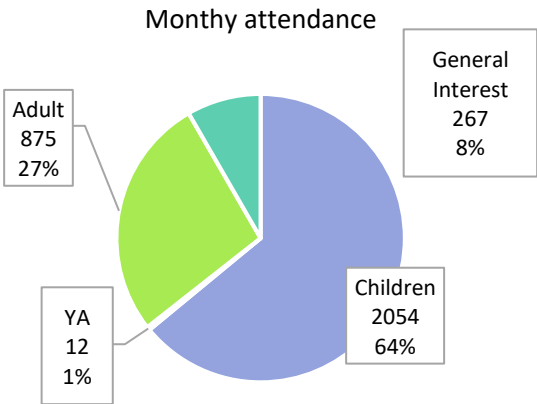
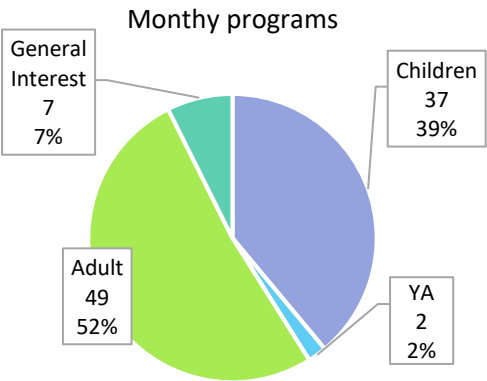
Items purchased	
Month:	262
YTD:	965

Items donated	
Month:	91
YTD:	297
Prev. YTD:	190

Items withdrawn		
	Month	YTD
Books	1050	1985
Audio	0	1
Video	12	21
Other	0	51
Total	1062	2058

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	25	93	41	21	59	28	12	4	0	60	5	5	353
Previous month	14	99	28	23	92	12	25	9	2	25	6	6	341
Current YTD	101	366	163	61	261	76	37	25	1	128	23	20	1262
Previous YTD	53	344	96	80	356	61	52	23	5	102	45	34	1251

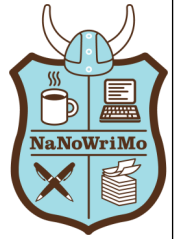
Programs



Upcoming events for November:

November is National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)!

NaNoWriMo is a fun, informal approach to creative writing, with participants working towards the goal of writing 50,000 words by 11:59 pm on November 30. It does not matter if you are writing a novel, a memoir, poetry, or short stories! Writers are encouraged to register on the official NaNoWriMo website (adults at nanowrimo.org and young adults at ywp.nanowrimo.org) and take advantage of all their helpful tools which include Pep Talks from published authors and real time advice given over social media (to name a few).



Want to participate in NaNoWriMo but need help registering online? Call the library and library staff member Ann B. can help you. Registration is not required for participation but those who register will receive a special writing exercise that might get you unstuck in your writing. Need a place to write?

Reserve one of our meeting rooms to work on your writing. Mark your calendars to join us November 26 at 6:30 pm when author Mike Whittlesey will be at the library to talk about his book, *The Cedar Valley Honor Flight Story: A Photographic Journey*. This event will replace the monthly JKPL writing group meeting.

International Games Month @ Your Library: November 1—30. International Games Month is an initiative run by volunteers from around the world to reconnect communities through their libraries around the educational, recreational, and social value of all types of games. Libraries, schools, community centers and other sites host special events during this month to encourage people to try different styles of gaming. The JKPL is celebrating by hosting three gaming events featuring card, video, and board games (Trading Card Game Hangout, Super Smash Bros Tournament, and Game Night). Plus, anyone who checks out a game during November, or attends one of these events, will be entered into a prize drawing! These events are open to all ages so bring the whole family!



Chair-ity Silent Auction Continues: November 1—24

The silent auction continues for the chairs and other decorative wooden items that were 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.
- Bids can be placed in person at the library, by emailing librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us, or by calling the library.
- 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 auction ends promptly at 3:00 pm on Sunday, November 24.



Children's Pretend Play Station: Dinosaur Hospital: November 1—30. Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in Dinosaur Hospital play!

Children's Scavenger Hunt: Dinosaurs: November 1—30. Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our Dinosaur scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! One sticker per child per library visit.

Kids Can Craft: Create a Dinosaur Challenge: November 1—30. Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to create a dinosaur. All entries will be entered into a drawing for a goody basket. Winner will be announced in early December.

Creation Station Craft—Thankful Turkeys: November 1—30. Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft is Thankful Turkeys! Kit includes a cup, a rubber band, and raffia ribbon that you will craft into a turkey. With this turkey, you can put in scraps of paper with things written on that you are thankful for. A video demonstration will be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.



Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: November 1—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: November 1—30. The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages available 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: November 1—30. Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month we are celebrating DInovember with a special puzzle: *Dinosaurs: Glow in the Dark*. 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®: “Penelope Rex and the Problem with Pets” by Ryan T. Higgins: November 1—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.*

Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, November 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 1:00—3:30 pm. Join us Friday afternoons for cards, dominoes, or other games in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players. The library has some games or you are welcome to bring your own.

Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, November 2 from 10:00—11:00 am. This month's theme is “My Dinosaur Creation”. This program is for all ages but children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. This LEGO® program is part of a monthly LEGO® building block program at the library sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac.



Family Movies @ Your Library presents “Despicable Me 4”: Saturday, November 2 @ 1:00 pm. Gru, Lucy and their girls welcome a new member to the family, Gru Jr., who is intent on tormenting his dad just as a new nemesis shows up and forces the family to go on the run. Rated PG (88 minutes).



Nerf War @ Your Library: Saturday, November 2 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 are 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.

Children’s Dinovember Book Week: November 4—10. Stop in at the library anytime during the week to grab a dinosaur goody bag complete with dinosaur activities for ages 2-12!



Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, November 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, & 25 @ 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.

Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, November 4 @ 12:00 noon. This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *The Bookbinder* by Pip Williams. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you need a link to the Zoom room, please email 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.

Unlocking Brain Fitness—KEYS to Dementia Prevention: Tuesdays, November 5 & 12 @ 6:00 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. Managed by Held and Hope for a Healthy Brain, these sessions are sponsored by Nightingale Drug and the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library. This class started in September so registration has closed. If you are interested in joining a future session, or would like more information, please contact the library to put your name on a waiting list.



Preschool Prep Program: Wednesdays, November 6, 13, & 20 from 10:00—11:00 am. Join area children of all ages/abilities and their caregivers to learn and/or practice basic preschool skills. Every program will include letter recognition, sensory centers, pretend play, listening to stories, participating in movement songs, and practicing patience with others. Parent participation and assistance is required. No registration is required. Each program will also focus on developing / practicing one specific skill, which will be continuously encouraged in all subsequent programs. Skills scheduled to be learned on each date are: November 6—Quiet voices; November 13—Gentle hands; November 20—Yoga.



Sit and Stitch: Wednesdays, November 6, 13, 20, & 27 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. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you are a new participant and wish to join virtually, please email 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.

Tween Zone—Drop in to Hang Out: Wednesday, November 6 from 4:00—5:00 pm

Do you love snacks, books, puzzles, and games? Join us to hang out, eat snacks, talk about your favorite book, and discover our new Turing Tumble puzzle game, which is a low-tech yet high-fun gaming experience! Registration is not necessary. Program is designed for Tweens ages 8 to 12. *The STEM Scale-Up Turing Tumble game sets are funded by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council.*



Family DINOvember Storytime: Wednesdays, November 6, 13, & 20 from 6:30—7:15 pm. Stop in to attend Family Storytime, where children are introduced to books, words, letters, reading, and writing through fun yet educational picture books, movement songs, visual prompts, crafts, motor activities, and pretend play opportunities. Family storytime is open to all ages and abilities but most beneficial to ages and age-ability of 1-6 years old. Adult participation is required. No registration is necessary. To celebrate Dinovember, this month's stories are all dinosaur related with the following themes: November 6—Dino Whisper; November 13—Dino Dance; November 20—Dino Yoga.



Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, November 7, 14, & 21 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. Registration 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. The menu for November is:



- Omelets (November 7)
- Cheesy Bean Quesadillas (November 14)
- No Bake Key Lime Pie (November 21)

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.

National STEAM Day Mini-fest!: Saturday November 9 from 10:00 am—12:00 pm

To celebrate National STEAM Day, the library will be hosting some educational but fun activities! Join Paul as he shows off some of the robotics available in the Library of Things collection, and Christa will be demoing how to use the Turing Tumble Tables—a board set that teaches users how computers work via a series of logic games. Both of these activities are open to all ages, but participants under the age of 7 will need an adult companion.



Toys and Games Swap: Saturday, November 9 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Are you looking for new or gently used toys, games, or puzzles? Come to the library and see what you might discover! Members of the community have donated good, new and gently used items for this special event. Items not taken by swappers will be saved for another swap, donated, recycled or used for JKPL activities.



Dungeons and Dragons Players Club: Saturday, November 9 @ 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 by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite.

Trading Card Game Hangout: Sunday, November 10 from 1:30—3:00 pm. As part of International Games Month, come hang out with Librarian Paul and learn how to play various trading card games. Games include: Pokemon, Magic the Gathering, Keyforge, Digimon, Dragon Ball Super, and Yu-Gi-Oh. Demo decks for some of the games will be available for attendees to take home courtesy of Dyersville Comics and Games.



Adult Crafternoon: Twine Pumpkin: Monday, November 11 from 1:00—3:00 pm. Join us this month to make a pumpkin out of twine. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a kit and craft on your own at home. Kits will include twine, floral wire, an artificial leaf, and a twig. You will need to provide scissors, pencil, and glue. Kits will be available while supplies last.

To find the latest information on library events and programs, visit www.dyersville.lib.ia.us, scan the QR code, contact the library directly at (563)875-8912 or email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us



Armchair Travel—Cambodia: Tuesday, November 12 @ 1:00 pm

Grab your travel buddy and meet us at the James Kennedy Public Library for a trip to Cambodia right from your armchair! Participants will explore the rich history of this Southeast Asian country by wandering through ancient temples, diving into the art and music scene and tasting some Cambodian food! Always wanted to try fresh spring rolls or rice wine? Or watch a Khmer New Year celebration? Ever wonder what markets look like 9,000 miles away from Iowa? Or what unique smells and noises fill the streets of Phnom Pehn? This event is for you! Presented by Chelsea Middendorf from Eagle Pointe Place Senior Living in Dubuque. This program is intended for older adults but all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Celebrate World Kindness Day: Wednesday, November 13. First introduced in 1998 by the World Kindness Movement, World Kindness Day offers an opportunity to highlight good deeds in the community and the common thread of kindness. Since its creation more than two decades ago, the day has achieved truly global notice and events associated with the day have attracted participants from every inhabited continent. Stop in at the JKPL starting today and pick up a Kindness Activity Kit which will include information about why kindness matters, kindness cards you can cut out and give away, bookmarks, stickers, coloring pages, and other ideas for kind activities. Kits will be available while supplies last. Don't forget to check out the display of kindness books!



Sky Viewing @ Ringneck Ridge: Thursday, November 14 from 6:00—7:00 pm

Look to the night sky and learn about the moon, planets, stars, and constellations as we look through telescopes and binoculars to see these up close. Dubuque County Conservation and James Kennedy Library will provide all materials and instruction for this event. This program is for all ages but those under 16 need an adult companion. Registration by November 13 is requested as a minimum of 10 people must participate for this event to be held. Note: If the sky is overcast for this night, the program will be canceled and we will do our best to reschedule.



The Man Who Reinvented Christmas: Saturday, November 16 @ 11:00 am

Would you believe Christmas used to be a very low-key affair? It's true! Until the mid-19th Century, people did little to mark it and businesses didn't consider it a holiday. Yet by 1900 it was our largest & most popular annual celebration. What changed society's view of Christmas? The answer may be Charles Dickens and his book, *A Christmas Carol*. Historian Kathy Wilson investigates how a novel about social reform transformed Christmas from a date on the church calendar into the holiday we know today. Refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.



Super Smash Bros Ultimate Tournament: Sunday, November 17 @ 1:30 pm. As part of International Games Month, join us at the library for a chance to see who among your friends is the Smash Bros Champion! Rules for the tournament will be three stock lives, no items, random stage per fight. We will be using the Ultimate (Switch) version and players may only use standard switch grip controllers. For ages 10 and up. Program is limited to 16 participants so registration is requested. Walk-ins are welcome if space allows.



Bingo Party: Monday, November 18 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 3-D Lighted Winter Scene: Monday, November 18 @ Thursday, November 21 @ 6:00 pm. Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher and create a three-dimensional light up winter scene. Participants should be 14 or older. Registration is required as attendance is limited to 10. Registration begins October 18. Cricut with Christopher will typically be held monthly on the third Monday of each month.

Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, November 19 @ 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 *If I Were You* by Lynn Austin. 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.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten Royal Party: Wednesday, November 20 from 7:00—7:30 pm. Area families and children who are participating in *1000 Books Before Kindergarten* are invited to a Royal Party celebrating their 1000 Books journey. Whether your journey is complete or just under way, stop in after our regularly scheduled storytime to enjoy juice and Goldfish. Children are welcome to wear royal attire (i.e. princess dresses) for this special party. All children can pick out a prize, and those children who have completed the program and have not collected their trophy will be awarded their trophy. Program is designed for children who have not yet entered Kindergarten and who are enrolled in the *1000 Books Before Kindergarten* program. Adult supervision is required. Registration is not required.



Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, November 21 @ 11:15 am. Come get tips and tricks for a hassle-free holiday. Presented by Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler. There will be food samples to try. All are welcome.



Genealogy with Ann: Thursday, November 21 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.



Movies @ Your Library presents "Twisters": Saturday, November 23 @ 1:00 pm. Ever since a devastating tornado encounter, Kate gave up chasing storms to safely study them on screens in New York City. Lured back to the field by a friend, Kate crosses paths with Tyler, a charming and reckless social-media superstar. As storm season intensifies with terrifying phenomena unlike anything seen before, Kate and Tyler realize they may need to work together if they are to have any chance of taming, and surviving, the destructive tornadoes. Rated PG-13 (121 minutes).



Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, November 23 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! All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion. This program is held the fourth Saturday of every month. **Note: this is a new date & time going forward!!!!!!**



Chair-ity Fundraiser Closing Reception: Sunday, November 24 from 2:00—4:00 pm

Stop in for refreshments and your last chance to bid on the chairs and other wooden home decor items that were donated for this year's Chair-ity 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.
- Bids can be placed in person at the library, by calling the library, or emailing librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us
- Bidding by email ends at 3:00 pm on Saturday, November 23. Bidding in person and by phone ends promptly at 3:00 pm on Sunday, November 24.
- All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support library services and collections.



Monday, November 25 thru Monday, December 23: Layette Quilt Display and Sale

The James Kennedy Public Library is partnering with the Dyersville Layette Ladies to share with you the work and talent of the Layette Ladies as well as raise some funds for both organizations. Quilts in various sizes and designs, made by the group will be on display at the library from November 25 thru December 22. All quilts are hand pieced. They may be hand stitched, knotted or machine stitched. These quilts will be available to purchase starting at \$25.00 (larger sizes are more) and proceeds will be split between the Layette Ladies group and the JKPL.



Strings Club: Monday, November 25 @ 6:30 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 from October to April. Registration encouraged. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows.

The Cedar Valley Honor Flight Story: Tuesday, November 26 @ 6:30 pm

Author Mike Whittlesey will be at the library to talk about his book, *The Cedar Valley Honor Flight Story: A Photographic Journey*. The book tells the story, through photos, of how a grateful community honored the men and women who have served their country in the United States Armed Forces with an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. on an Honor Flight. Whittlesey will talk about how the book came to be, share some of the photos from the book, and show a video that contains snippets from Honor Flights taken over a 13 year period. Copies of the book will be available for purchase from the author.



THANKSGIVING HOURS:

Wednesday, November 27: Library closes at 5:00 pm
Thursday, November 28: Library closed



Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser: Saturday, November 30 from 9:00—11:00 am

Take a quick break to support your library and enjoy a breakfast burrito! \$6.00 gets you a delicious fresh-made breakfast burrito and you get to select the ingredients. Options include eggs, sausage, hash browns, cheese, and salsa. Weather permitting, a tent will be set up outside the library for this event. If not, step into the Hoffman Community Room to get your breakfast and support your library! Burritos available while supplies last. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support library services and collections. Thank you to Fareway of Dyersville for supporting this fundraiser!

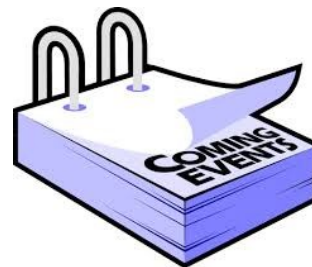


Small Business Saturday: Refueling Station: Saturday, November 30 from 9:30 am—2:30 pm. Need a break from shopping? Stop in the library and relax with a warm beverage. Grab a few moments of down time by working on the puzzle, coloring, reading or just relaxing.



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

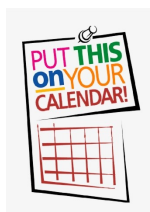
- *Sign up for our weekly email newsletter
- *Visit our website at www.dyersville.lib.ia.us (Or use the QR code to see our events)
- *Like us on Facebook
- *Follow us on X: @dyersvillelib
- *Follow us on Instagram: jameskennedylibrary
- *Follow us on Goodreads: James Kennedy Public Library
- *Follow us on YouTube: James Kennedy Public Library



Sync Library Events To Your Google Calendar!

If you use Google Calendar (or want an ICS file) you can now add the library's events to your personal calendar so you don't miss out on any events! Here's how:

1. Go to the library's calendar of events on our website at www.dyersville.lib.ia.us. Click on the Events tab to see the entire month's worth of events.
2. Click on the event you are interested in to bring up the basic details.
3. Click on "More Details" to open up all the details.
4. Click on "Add to Calendar" in the top right corner. Then select "Google Calendar".
5. Set any notifications you want, invite friends, then click on "Save" to save the event to your calendar.



LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday thru Thursday: 9:00 am—8:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am—5:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am—3:00 pm
Sundays: 1:00—4:00 pm

Note: The library will be closed for painting from December 10-13.

Upcoming EVENTS

My Winter Memory Box: Creativity with Pen & Ink Tuesday, December 3 @ 5:00 pm

In this art class, participants will be recalling memories of winters gone by, drawing those images, and then gathering them together into a memory box with an accordion book inside. All drawings will be demonstrated step-by-step by Dianne Kramer.

This class is designed for adults, and registration is required as space is limited to 18. Registration begins November 3. This class is 3 hours and there will be a short break. Snacks will be provided but feel free to bring your own.

Materials needed: pencil, eraser, fine-tipped felt black pen, colored pencils, scotch tape, and a glue stick.



Cookie Walk Fundraiser Friday, December 6—Sunday, December 8



Come to the library for the annual Cookie Walk Fundraiser! Guests will be able to purchase a dozen items for \$8.00 (or 24 for \$15.00). Choose from a delicious assortment of homemade treats to be placed on a plate, covered, and decorated with a bow. Prepackaged plates will also be available while supplies last. Funds raised from this event will be used to support library collections, programs and services.

Hours are:

- Friday from 1—5 pm
- Saturday from 10 am—4 pm
- Sunday from 1—4 pm

Cookie plates & a pop-up library will also be at the Merry Mingle Market from 12-4 pm!



Winter Holiday Fun Day Saturday, December 7 10:00 pm—2:00 pm



Join us for our Winter Holiday Fun Day featuring your favorite Australian blue heeler! Families and children of all ages are invited to the library for fun winter/ holiday/blue heeler-themed activities. Come and go as you are able! All ages welcome but children under 7 need an adult or mature teen companion.

- *Get crafty!* Supplies will be provided to decorate ornaments and to decorate cookies.
- *Write a letter!* The library will provide stationery, stickers, stampers, and envelopes for kids to write a letter to Santa, a relative, or a friend.
- *Take a picture!* The library's green screen will be set up for pictures with a choice of winter or Christmas backgrounds. We will email the picture to you, or if time permits, print one off for a memento.
- *Snowball Fight!* The day will conclude with an indoor snowball fight at 1:45 pm

Old Fashioned Christmas Sunday, December 15 from 1:30—3:30 pm

The entire family is invited for an afternoon of live music, traditional Christmas carols, cookies, and spiced cider at the Dyer-Botsford House in Dyersville. Prizes will be given out in a drawing. All ages welcome, but children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult. This event is sponsored by the Senior Advisory Committee of the JKPL and the Dyersville Area Historical Society.



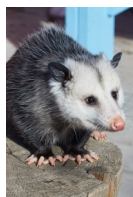
Sunday, December 22 Live Holiday Music @ 1:30 pm

Join us at the JKPL for this special holiday event featuring local musicians! Dan & Sue Engelbrecht, Gary & Chris Bramel, Joe Schmitt, and Steve Dikkers will perform some seasonal favorites to get you in the holiday spirit. Refreshments provided.



Live Animals @ James Kennedy Library Friday, December 27 @ 10:00 am

Bring the kids to this family-friendly event where we get a close-up encounter with some of Dubuque County Conservation's educational animals. Learn about their adaptations, hold them, and watch them interact with the environment around them. All ages welcome but those under 7 need a mature teen or adult companion.



December Holiday Movies @ Your Library:

The Search for Santa Paws

Rated G (119 min.)

Saturday, December 21 @ 1:00 pm

A Christmas Carol

Rated PG (95 minutes)

Saturday, December 28 @ 1:00 pm

Mystery Dinner Theatre Fundraiser: *Fast Times at Kennedy High* Saturday, February 22 @ 6:30 pm

The JKPL is excited to announce the 2025 Mystery Dinner Fundraiser. This event will feature a totally tubular 80s trivia night with murder, mayhem, and mixtapes. The show will be performed by the Brew Ha Ha Players, the meal will be catered by J & D Catering, and the event will be held at the Dyersville Social Center. Snow date is March 1. Doors open at 5:45 pm and the performance starts promptly at 6:30 pm. Themed dress is welcome! Pricing and final details to be announced.



Upcoming Events for DECEMBER 2024

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

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

Kids Can Craft: Color on a Community Poster: December 1-31. Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to help color a huge tablecloth coloring page. Every visit to the coloring table qualifies artists for an entry into the drawing for a kid's Christmas basket but is limited to one entry per day. Winner will be announced in early January.

Creation Station Craft: December 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 TBD. Kit includes most needed supplies and instructions. A video demonstration may also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.

Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: December 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: December 1-31. The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages available 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: December 1-31. Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Santa's Express*. 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®: "Woodland Christmas" by Frances Tyrrell: December 1-31. (Winter start/end dates for the StoryWalk® are approximate due to weather.) 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.*

Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, December 2, 5, 9, 16, 19, 23, 26, & 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.

Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, December 2 @ 12:00 noon. This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *Family Lore* by Elizabeth Acevedo. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you need a link to the Zoom room, please email 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.

My Winter Memory Box - Creativity with Pen & Ink: Tuesday, December 3 @ 5:00 pm. In our December art class, participants will be recalling memories of winters gone by, drawing those images, and then gathering them together into a memory box with an accordion book inside. All drawings will be demonstrated step-by-step by Dianne Kramer. This class is designed for adults, and registration is required as space is limited to 18. Due to the high demand for this class, two of the 18 slots will be allotted for those who have not previously attended one of Dianne's classes. Registration begins November 3. This class is 3 hours and there will be a short break. Snacks will be provided but feel free to bring your own. Materials needed: pencil, eraser, fine-tipped felt black pen, colored pencils, scotch tape, and a glue stick. Examples of what we'll be doing in class are on display at the library!

Tween Zone: Drop in to Hang Out: Wednesday, December 4 from 4:00-5:00 pm. Do you love snacks, books, puzzles, and games? Join us to hang out, eat snacks, talk about your favorite book, and discover our new Turing Tumble puzzle game, a low-tech yet high-fun gaming experience! Registration is not necessary. Program is designed for Tweens ages 8 to 12. *The STEM Scale-Up Turing Tumble game sets are funded by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council.*

Sit and Stitch: Wednesdays, December 4 & 18 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. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you are a new participant and wish to join virtually, please email 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. (Not holding in library on 12/11 due to painting; 12/25 closed for holiday)

Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, December 6, 13, 20, 27 from 1:00-3:30 pm. Join us Friday afternoons for cards, dominoes, or other games in the Hoffman Room. Come

meet, teach, and play with other players. The library has some games or you are welcome to bring your own.

Cookie Walk Fundraiser! Friday, December 6 - Sunday, December 8. Craving some special treats but don't have time to bake for yourself? Come to the library for the annual Cookie Walk Fundraiser! Guests will be able to purchase a dozen items for \$8.00 (or 24 for \$15.00). Choose from a delicious assortment of treats to be placed on a plate, covered, and decorated with a bow. Items will be homemade by friends, volunteers, board members, and staff of the library. Cookies will be stored away from the public and handled only by staff and volunteers working the event. Prepackaged plates will be available while supplies last. Funds raised from this event will be used to support library collections, programs and services. Hours are: Friday from 1–5 pm, Saturday from 10 am–4 pm, and Sunday from 1–4 pm.

Winter Holiday Fun Day: Saturday, December 7 from 10:00 pm - 2:00 pm. Join us for our Winter Holiday Fun Day featuring your favorite Australian blue heeler! Families and children of all ages are invited to the library for fun winter/ holiday/blue heeler-themed activities. Come and go as you are able! All ages welcome but children under 7 need an adult or mature teen companion. Get crafty! Supplies will be provided to decorate blue heeler-themed ornaments and to decorate cookies. Write a letter! The library will provide stationery, stickers, stampers, and envelopes for kids to write a letter to Santa, a relative, or a friend. Take a picture! Snap a selfie in our cardboard blue heeler sleigh. Uppy Uppy! Enjoy your favorite Australian blue heeler Uppy Uppy balloon game. Snowball Fight! The day will conclude with an indoor snowball fight at 1:45 pm.

Cookies and Cocoa at the Merry Mingle Market: Saturday, December 7 from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. The JKPL will be at this special Winter Market and we're bringing part of the annual cookie walk fundraiser with us! Stop by the JKPL booth and support the library while satisfying your sweet tooth. A variety of homemade cookies and sweet treats will be on a decorative plate, covered and decorated with a colorful bow. Each plate will be \$8.00 and include 12 items. Individual cookies and cups of hot chocolate will also be available for \$1.00 each. Grab and enjoy while wandering the market!

Pop-Up Library at the Merry Mingle Market: Saturday, December 7 from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. While enjoying the town festival activities, be sure to stop at the JKPL pop-up library. Stop by to learn more about the library and select a free book to keep. There will be books for all ages available. 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.

Adult Crafternoon: Monday, December 9 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. This month's craft TBA. If you prefer, you can pick up a take-and-make kit and craft on your own at home. The instructional video for how to do the craft will be posted on both the library's Facebook and YouTube pages starting December 10 and kits will be available while supplies last.

The Library is closed December 10-13 for painting

Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, December 14 from 10:00-11:00 am. This month's theme is "Holiday Fun". This program is for all ages but children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. This LEGO® program is part of a monthly LEGO® building block program at the library sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union. Each month there is a theme to help inspire creativity. 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. *Note: the date of this program was changed*

Dungeons and Dragons Players Club: Saturday, December 14 @ 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 by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite.

Old Fashioned Christmas: Sunday, December 15 from 1:30-3:30 pm. The entire family is invited for an afternoon of live music, traditional Christmas carols, cookies, and spiced cider at the Dyer-Botsford House in Dyersville. Prizes will be given out in a drawing. All ages welcome, but children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult. This event is sponsored by the Senior Advisory Committee of the JKPL and the Dyersville Area Historical Society. **Community poster**

Bingo Party: Monday, December 16 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!

JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, December 17 @ 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 call by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, December 17 @ 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 *Wish Book Christmas* by Lynn Austin. 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.

Teen Turing Tumble Coding Puzzles: Wednesday, December 18 from 4:00-5:00 pm. Want to learn more about how computers, coding, puzzles and games work? Join us for this monthly program using Turing Tumble, a tactile programming board game that uses marbles, ramps, crossovers, bits, inceptors, gears and gear bits to understand how computers and simple switches work. Snacks will be included! Program is designed for ages 13 to 18. Registration is encouraged.

***Family Christmas Movies @ Your Library presents “The Search for Santa Paws”:* Saturday, December 21 @ 1:00 pm.** Santa's loyal, four-legged companion Paws enlists the aid of a fun-loving orphan and his faithful friends to help save Christmas after Santa is stricken with a bad case of amnesia. Rated G (119 minutes).

Sunday, December 22: Live Holiday Music @ 1:30 pm. Join us at the JKPL for this special holiday event featuring local musicians! Dan & Sue Engelbrecht, Gary & Chris Bramel, Joe Schmitt, and Steve Dikkers will perform some seasonal favorites to get you in the holiday spirit. Refreshments provided.

Monday, December 23: Library closes @ 5:00 pm

Tuesday, December 24: Library closed for Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 25: Library closed for Christmas

Live Animals @ James Kennedy Library: Friday, December 27 @ 10:00 am. Bring the kids to this family-friendly event where we get a close-up encounter with some of Dubuque County Conservation's educational animals. Learn about their adaptations, hold them, and watch them interact with the environment around them. All ages welcome but those under 7 need a mature teen or adult companion.

***Christmas Movies @ Your Library presents “A Christmas Carol”:* Saturday, December 28 @ 1:00 pm.** In one haunted evening, embittered old miser Ebenezer Scrooge, who has soured on the world and his fellow man, learns the true spirit of Christmas from three ghostly visitors. This is the version starring Patrick Stewart. Rated PG (95 minutes).

Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, December 28 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 Saturday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

New Year's Noon Celebration: Tuesday, December 31. Activities to be decided.

Tuesday, December 31: Library closes @ 5:00 pm