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**James Kennedy Public Library  
Report to the Mayor and City Council  
June 17, 2024**

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

- 7,042 items were checked out. This is a 5.1% decrease from May 2023. Fiscal year to date, circulation is up 5.1%.
- 38 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 314 new library cards have been issued.
- 84 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 2,668 people engaged with these activities.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 256 hours and 483 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 2,119 hours and 4,607 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 121 sessions, 104 visits, and 43 unique users.
- There were 5,668 library visits.

*JKPL Strategic Plan 2022 – 2029*

The Board of Trustees of the JKPL approved a revised and updated Strategic Plan for the library. This plan expands on the original version that was approved in 2022 and includes goals and objectives for the next five years. A copy of the JKPL Strategic Plan 2022 – 2029 is included with this report.

*Grants:*

The JKPL received a grant of \$3,000 from the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque to support the 2024 Children's Summer Library Program.

*Upcoming Events:*

Enclosed please find a copy of the June events schedule, as well as a preliminary schedule of events planned for July. Some of the events scheduled include a weekly film event featuring movies that are located along Historic US Route 20, a magic show, a presentation on how to decide if your property is trash or treasure, a program on sustainable living, a visit with zoo animals, bubbles at the Downtown Market and a theatre production at Legacy Square (weather permitting). Summer Reading Programs for all ages continue throughout July and include special programs and activities featuring the theme of *Read, Renew, Repeat*. Fundraising events scheduled for this summer include the return of the Book Art Craft event.

Note: Shirley will be on vacation on June 17 so will not be attending the Council meeting. If you have any questions or comments on this report, please contact Shirley at 875-8912 or [svonderhaar@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:svonderhaar@dyersville.lib.ia.us).

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director



## JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

### Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

Month: May-24  
YTD: July-22 to May-24  
Previous YTD: July-21 to May-23

#### Library visits

Month	5668	(↑ 22.2%)
YTD	55124	(↑ 17.2%)

#### Items loaned

Month	7042	(↓ 5.1%)
YTD	85576	(↑ 5.1%)

#### Library cards issued

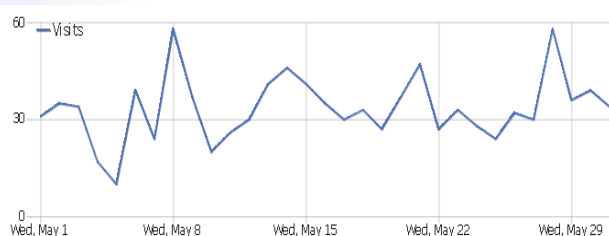
City resident	Total
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Month	18	38	(↑ 5.6%)
YTD	168	314	(↑ 2.6%)

### Website traffic



Visits	Average visit duration
1039	1:30



### Computer use



Hours			Sessions		
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD	Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
256	2119	1674	483	4607	4342

### Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
121	2127	104	1824	43	332

### Meeting room use

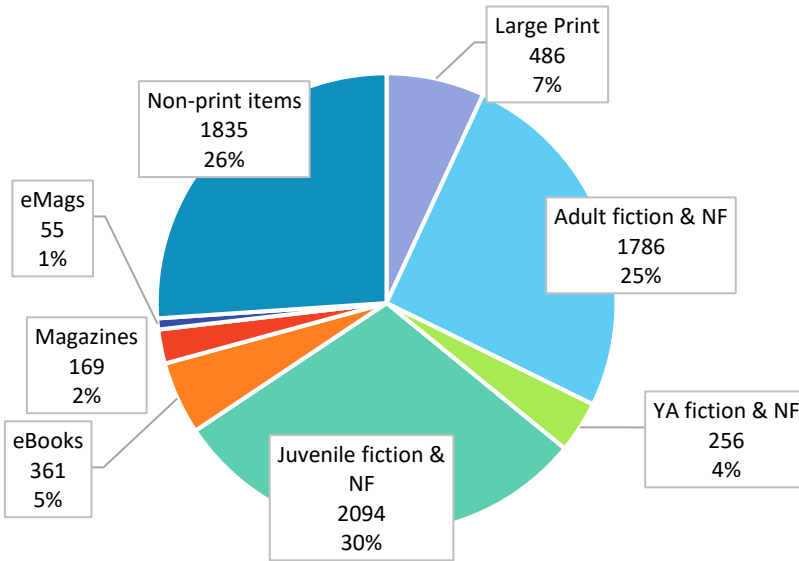


Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
44	698	634

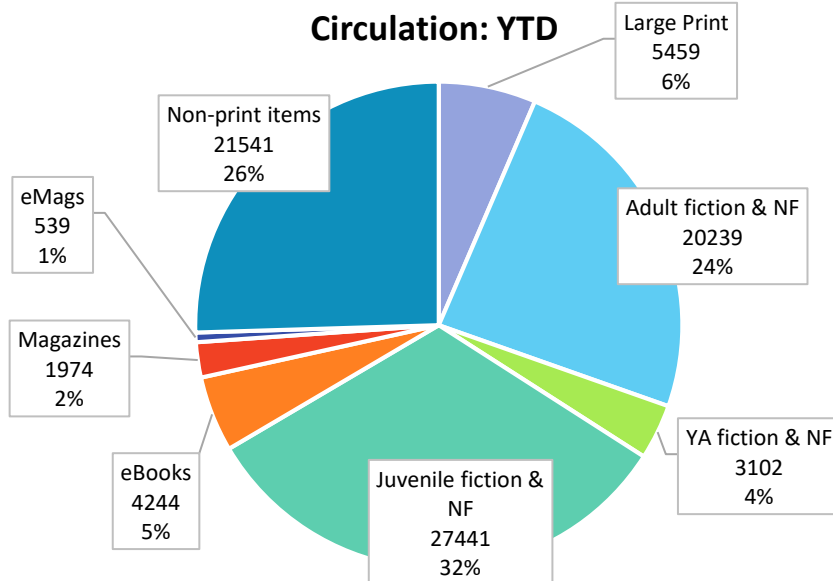


## Circulation

**Circulation: Month**



**Circulation: YTD**



Non-print items	Month	YTD
eAudio	465	5213
Adult & YA audio	98	927
Juvenile audio & kits	7	185
Adult & YA video	514	7772
Juvenile video & DVD	363	3476
Games, LoT, etc.	388	5005
	<b>1835</b>	<b>21541</b>

### Music

Downloads: 8  
Streams: 0  
Total YTD: 84



### Video (film and TV)

Downloads: 6  
YTD: 33



Visits: 226  
YTD: 2695



### Online Learning

Sessions: 5  
YTD: 718



### Languages

Sessions: 6  
YTD: 444



### Genealogy

Visits: 799  
YTD: 7957





Collection

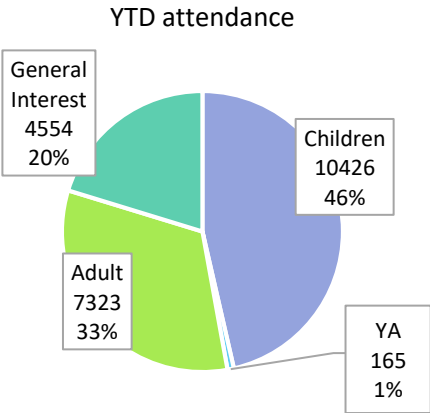
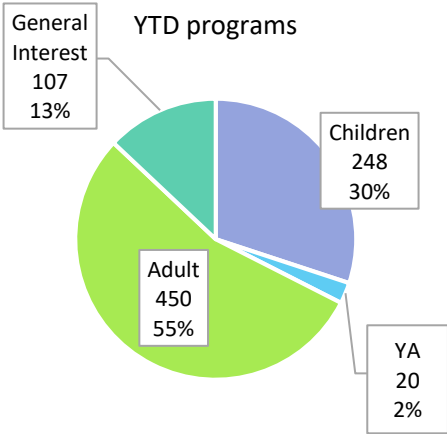
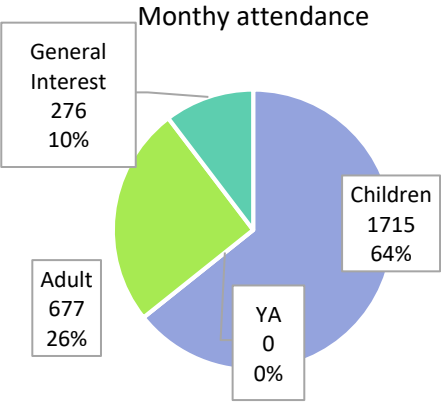
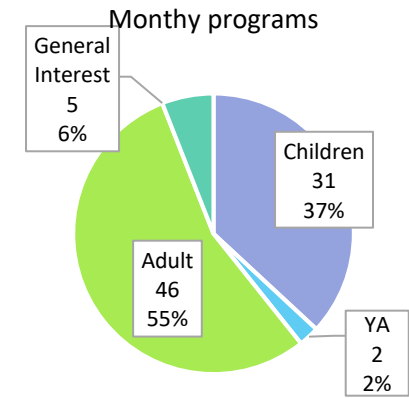
Items purchased	
Month:	336
YTD:	2674

Items donated	
Month:	35
YTD:	569
Prev. YTD:	711

Items withdrawn		
	Month	YTD
Books	348	3663
Audio	0	49
Video	8	312
Other	6	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>4108</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	18	75	40	34	107	16	11	11	2	28	12	17	371
Previous month	16	116	45	19	119	12	10	10	0	27	12	11	397
Current YTD	170	951	336	192	774	106	130	85	7	296	96	100	3243
Previous YTD	191	1114	335	189	704	194	124	107	12	281	77	128	3456

Programs





## Upcoming Events in June:

**Library Garage Sale Fundraiser: Saturday, June 1 from 9:00 am—1:00 pm.** The JKPL fundraising committee and Friends of the Library have partnered to offer a new way you can support the JKPL! Members of the community have donated good, new, and gently used items to the JKPL for this new event. The sale will be held in the parking lot adjacent to the library (weather permitting) or in the Hoffman Room. All proceeds will be used to support library programs, collections and services.

**GARAGE  
SALE**

### **Adult Summer Library Program Begins: Saturday, June 1**

Everyone 18 and older is encouraged to participate in the 2024 program that runs June 1—August 31. This year's theme is *Read, Renew Repeat* (*Leer, Renova, Repetir*). This summer reading program will feature the idea and practice of conservation: reduce, reuse and recycle. This program also encourages reading as a restorative method of self-improvement and self-preservation.

- Registration begins on June 1 and adults are welcome to join throughout the summer.
- Participants will receive a bookbag, bookmark, and a free book just for registering.
- Participants will track books read or listened to, library services used, programs attended, and activities completed to earn prizes.
- For each item completed, the participant's name will be entered into the general prize drawings that are held after the program ends.
- For each four items completed, participants will be able to select an item from the prize box or another book for the cart.
- Participants completing at least sixteen activities, which must include reading at least four books, will have completed the program and will have their name entered into the grand prize drawing for the Book Lover's Basket and other prizes.
- The adult summer library program is sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.

**READ,  
RENEW,  
REPEAT**



### **Reduce, Renew, Repeat: How do you practice conservation?: June 1—30**

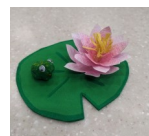
The summer library programs this year focus on conservation, self-improvement, and self-preservation so each month this summer you are invited to respond to a question related to this topic. June's question is: What do you do with things you no longer need? Visitors of all ages are welcome to share their response every time they visit the library by putting a pom-pom in the jar that matches their choice. Each response also earns an entry into a drawing to win the opportunity to select an item of your choice to be added to the library collection.

### **Read, Renew, Repeat—Reading Recommendations: June—August**

Do you like to recommend books to others? Or enjoy reading something recommended to you? When you finish a book you love, pick up a "Read This" bookmark and share why it should be read. Give the bookmark to a staff member to get your name entered into a drawing for a JKPL themed swag bag that will include a tote bag, book journal, and more! Staff will put the bookmark in the appropriate book and display them in the library for others to discover and enjoy!

**Kids Can Craft: Create a Comic Strip: June 1—30.** Kids of all ages are invited to create a comic strip at the Creation Station. Can't finish it at the library? Take it home, color it, bring it back, and collect a small prize! Comic strips will be displayed in a bound book in August. One prize per child, but children are welcome to create multiple comic strips.

**Creation Station Craft—Lily Pad: June 1—30.** Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month we will be making a clay frog and paper flower sitting on a foam lily pad. Kit includes all supplies, except for paint and hot glue. A video demonstration will be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.



**Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: June 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: June 1—30.** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Ice Cream Truck*. 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.

**Children's Pretend Play Station: Ice Cream Shop: June 1—30.** Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in pretend ice cream shop play!

**Westside Park StoryWalk®: "The Stuffy Sleepover" by Christa Palm: June 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.*

**Children's Scavenger Hunt: Sweets: June 2—30.** Once per week, participate in our "Sweets" scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! The "Sweets" scavenger hunt will be changed to different pictures and locations once per week during the entire month of June, giving kids the chance to earn a sticker every week! One sticker, per child, per week.





### Teen Summer Reading Program Begins: Monday, June 3

Everyone who has completed 6th-12th grade is encouraged to participate in the teen program that runs from June 3—July 27. The theme this year is *Read, Renew, Repeat*.

- Participants will receive a free book just for registering.
- Participants will be given a game board of challenges that include reading different types of books or using some of the services available at the library.
- For each color coded set that is completed, the participant will earn an entry into the prize drawings.
- Complete extra challenges and earn more entries!

READ,  
RENEW,  
REPEAT



### Children's Summer Reading Program Begins: Monday, June 3

Children ages 4—11 (who have completed 5th grade) are encouraged to participate in the children's summer reading program! The theme this year is *Read, Renew, Repeat*, a theme which encourages libraries to be green through reducing, reusing, and recycling materials in a sustainable manner.

- Program runs June 3—July 16.
- Registration begins June 3 in-person at the library. Can't make it on June 3? Stop in any day after to register but know that points earned for summer reading begin on the day that you sign up.
- Receive a free book just for registering!

READ,  
RENEW,  
REPEAT



Earn points and beads for reading and brag tags for every program that you attend. At the end of the summer reading program, tally up your points, and use your total summer reading points to buy some great prizes at our summer reading store! The more you read, the more you earn! Check out all of the fun programs, with an emphasis on supporting artists and performers—there's a performer nearly every week! All performers are paid for by a generous gift from the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library. All programs will be held at the James Kennedy Public Library unless otherwise noted.

### Toddler Summer Reading Program Begins Monday, June 3

Children ages infant to 3-years old and their parents or caregivers are encouraged to participate in the toddler summer reading program that runs from June 3—July 16. Complete the Read-With-Me Family Literacy Activities sheet to earn a free ice cream cone coupon and a toy. Those who wish to complete a second Family Literacy Activities sheet will earn a book.

**Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, June 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 24, 27 @ 9:30 am & 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. There is a maximum of 20 participants allowed per session so registration is required. *Note: There will be no class on Thursday, June 20.*

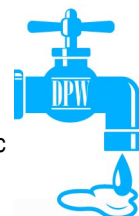
**Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, June 3 @ 12:00 noon.** This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *Yellowface* by R.F. Kuang. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely 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](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.

**Adult Crafternoon: Ladybug Beaded Keychains: Monday, June 3 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Join us this month to make Ladybug beaded key chains. Stop in at 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. All ages are welcome but those under age 7 must have an adult or teen companion. The instructional video for how to do the craft will be posted on both the library's Facebook and YouTube pages starting June 4 and kits will be available while supplies last.



### Dyersville Public Works Equipment Exhibition: Tuesday, June 4 from 9:00—11:00 am

Due to inclement weather, this program was rescheduled from May 21st. The JKPL and Dyersville Public Works are partnering to celebrate National Public Works Week. This year, Public Works will bring some of their vehicles and equipment to the library parking lot to show them off and talk about how each one is used to help Dyersville. Included will be the street sweeper/vacuum, end-loader, skid-loader, utility crane, sewer camera unit, and a brand-new dump-truck/snow-plow/sand-spreader! The library will also be showing videos on the many different services Public Works provides, as well as how Dyersville's water and wastewater systems operate. We will also have a scavenger hunt challenge available! All ages welcome. Guests will receive a fire hydrant stress reliever (while supplies last) and refreshments will be provided.



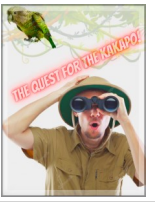
**Sit and Stitch: Wednesdays, June 5, 12, 19, 26 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via 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](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.

**Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, June 7, 14, 21, 28 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. Registration is recommended as space is limited. All ages welcome but those under age 7 must have an adult or teen companion. Walk-ins welcome as space allows.



**Traveling Lantern Theater Company presents "The Quest for the Kakapo," Saturday, June 8 @ 10:00 am**

Join the Traveling Lantern Theater Company as they present a play about the Caterpillar Hunter, an explorer who travels around the world to rescue the Kakapo, a rare endangered parrot from New Zealand. All ages welcome! This play is being held at the amphitheater in Legacy Square, but if there is inclement weather the play will be moved to the Hoffman Room of the James Kennedy Public Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.



**Movies @ Your Library presents "Arthur the King": Saturday, June 8 @ 1:00 pm.** Based on an incredible true story, the movie follows Michael Light, a pro adventure racer, desperate for one last chance to win as he tries to convince a sponsor to back him and a team of athletes for the Adventure Racing World Championship in the Dominican Republic. Over the course of ten days and 435 miles, an unbreakable bond is forged between Light and a scrappy street dog companion dubbed Arthur, who will redefine what victory, loyalty and friendship truly mean. Rated PG-13 (107 minutes).

**Dungeons and Dragons Players Club: Saturday, June 8 @ 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.

**Donate to the Arts and Crafts Swap: June 8—28**

Do you have craft supplies you no longer need? Fabric, yarn, or art items cluttering up your space? Please consider donating it to the JKPL Arts and Crafts Swap! Drop off your new or gently used items during library hours between June 8—28. Information about donation guidelines is posted on the JKPL website and available to pick up at the library. If you can buy it at a craft store like Michaels or Hobby Lobby, chances are it is a good fit. Come back to the Swap on Saturday, June 29 and select what you can use. Swaps are a great way to declutter your home, keep things out of the land fill, and save a little money! Items not taken by swappers will be saved for another swap, donated, recycled, or used for JKPL activities.



**Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Monday, June 10 from 10:00—11:00 am.** This month's theme is "Reuse, Rebuild!". 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.



**Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip: Mondays, June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 @ 6:30 pm**

Historic US Route 20 runs from the East Coast to the West, with Dyersville located along the route. Many movies have been made over the years at locations along Route 20. Join us Mondays in June and July to enjoy a movie "road trip" where we will watch a movie that was filmed along Route 20. Heidi Huisman, a member of the Historic US Route 20 Association, will give a brief presentation about Route 20, and the film, prior to each showing. The series will start in Dyersville with *The Pajama Game*. We will travel west to see *Children of the Corn* and *Nebraska*, return to Dyersville for *Field of Dreams* and then travel east and watch *True Adventures of Wolfboy*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and *Taking Woodstock*. Our final showing will be a return to Dyersville to watch *Frozen Stiff*, an episode from *Murder She Wrote*. Popcorn and soda will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own snacks. You can find out more about US Route 20 at <https://historicroute20.org/>



**Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents "The Pajama Game": Monday, June 10 @ 6:30 pm.** Join us here in Dyersville to kick off the Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman. *The Pajama Game* is a musical based on the novel *7½ Cents* by Richard Bissell. The story deals with labor troubles and romance in a pajama factory. This lighthearted 1957 film stars Doris Day. Popcorn and soda provided. Not Rated. (101 min.)

**Chalk Art Fun: Tuesday, June 11 from 10:00—11:00 am.** Join us in our (closed-to-traffic) parking lot for chalk art fun for all ages!

**All Iowa Reads Virtual Author Visit Series: Tuesday, June 11 and Wednesday, June 12.** The authors of the 2024 All Iowa Reads (AIR) book selections are visiting Iowa virtually! Authors Diane Wilson, Celia Perez and Samira Ahmed Wilson will each participate in a virtual author visit. The authors will be joined by a moderator to discuss their books and respond to questions from attendees. Guests are welcome to come to the JKPL and view the presentations together or participate from home. Please register at: [www.statelibraryofiaowa.gov/index.php/AIR](http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.gov/index.php/AIR) to receive a link to participate independently. Registration is not required if you plan to join us at the library. The scheduled visits are as follows:



- **Tuesday, June 11 @ 6:30 pm:** Diane Wilson, the author of *The Seed Keeper*, which is the 2024 All Iowa Reads selection for adults
- **Wednesday, June 12 @ 2:00 pm:** Celia Perez, the author of *Tumble*, which is the 2024 All Iowa Reads selection for kids
- **Wednesday, June 12 @ 4:00 pm:** Samira Ahmed Wilson, the author of *Hollow Fires*, which is the 2024 All Iowa Reads selection for teens

**Woodland Art - Creativity with Pen & Ink: Tuesday, June 11 @ 6:00 pm**

Join Dianne Kramer for an imaginary walk in the woods. Participants will learn to draw a variety of woodland flowers and will then design a woodland scene of berries, flowers, feathers, and twigs. All drawings will be demonstrated step-by-step. This class is designed for adults and registration is required as space is limited to 24. Due to the high demand of this class, four of the twenty-four slots are allotted for those who have not attended one of Dianne's classes before, or has not attended since October 2023. Registration begins May 11 and ends June 8. Participants will need to bring the following supplies: pencil, eraser, fine black felt-tipped pen, and colored pencils. All other supplies will be provided. Come to the library to see a display of the types of drawings we'll do in class!





**Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, June 11 @ 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 *Hooked on You* by Kathleen Fuller. 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.



**Family Storytime: Wednesdays, June 12, 19 and 26 @ 10:00 am & 6:30 pm:** Join us for these storytimes that are geared toward 3-6 year olds, but open to children of all ages and abilities. An adult companion is required.

**Upcycled Greeting Cards: Thursday, June 13 from 1:00—2:00 pm.** Want a unique card for someone special? Library staff member Ann B. will be on hand to show you how to 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. There are some kits ready to pick up at the circulation desk. Kits available while supplies last. We will have special kits for Father's Day!

**Pop-Up @ the Farmer's Market: Thursdays, June 13 & 27 from 3:00—5:00 pm.** The JKPL will be reaching out to the community by visiting the Dyersville Farmer's Market on the second and fourth Thursdays in June, July, and August! Visitors will learn about what the library has to offer, get their questions answered, and select a free book to keep from the pop-up library. Take-and-make activities may also be available. The library will bring a hotspot and provide WiFi Access! *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.*

**Art in the Park: Thursday, June 13 from 3:30—4:30 pm.** Join us at the Farmer's Market to make slime. All ages welcome, but children under age 7 must be accompanied by a responsible teen or adult companion.

**Iowa Legal Aid presents Medicaid/Title 19: Thursday, June 13 @ 6:30 pm**

An attorney from Iowa Legal Aid will be at the library for a presentation focused on Iowa's Medicaid program with regard to nursing home care and the Elderly Waiver Program. We will also discuss Iowa's Medicaid Estate Recovery program. This presentation aims to equip attendees with a deeper understanding of these pivotal Medicaid components, fostering informed decision-making and effective utilization of available resources. All are welcome. Please bring your questions!



**STEM Performer Dino O'Dell: Friday, June 14 @ 1:00 pm**

Author and children's presenter Dino O'Dell presents *Book Detective: Zar and the Broken Spaceship*. Check out this interactive, engaging, educational show complete with music, dancing and tons of fun for all ages. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.



**TACKL Fun and Games @ Downtown Summer Nights: Friday, June 14 from 5:30—9:00 pm.** Join the Teen Advisory Council to the Kennedy Library (TACKL) at Downtown Summer Nights in Legacy Square for fun, free games for kids. Everyone walks away with a prize for playing! This event is sponsored by the Dyersville Chamber of Commerce.

**Pop-Up @ Downtown Summer Nights: Friday, June 14 from 5:30—8:30 pm.** The JKPL will be reaching out to the community by "popping up" at Downtown Summer Nights at Legacy Square! Visitors will be able to select a free book to keep from the pop-up library as well as learn more about library services. The JKPL Fundraising Committee will be on hand selling frozen treats to support the special collections and services of the library. *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.*

**Teen Chefs: Saturday, June 15 from 12:00—2:00 pm**

Teens, ages 12-18, can come learn basic kitchen skills and how to make a meal for their family and friends! For this program participants will make homemade spaghetti and meatballs. There is an alternate sauce option if you don't like marinara sauce. The first ten minutes of the class will focus on kitchen safety and introductory cooking information, such as how to read a recipe. The remainder will be hands-on learning, cooking, and cleaning up. Kitchen safety and cleanliness will be emphasized. Registration in person is required as a waiver needs to be signed by a parent or legal guardian. There is a limit of 12 teens for this class. This program is funded by TACKL (The Teen Advisory Council of the Kennedy Library).



**Nerf War @ Your Library: Saturday, June 15 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

**Sunday, June 16:** Library closed for Father's Day



**Bingo Party: Monday, June 17 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 all ages welcome but those under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult or teen.

**Cricut with Christopher presents Etched Nightlights: Monday, June 17 @ 6:00 pm.** Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher and create a customized, etched nightlight. Participants should be 14 or older but children age 8 and up are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Registration is required as attendance is limited to 10.



**Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents "Children of the Corn": Monday, June 17 @ 6:30 pm.** This classic horror film, based on a story by Stephen King, is our second stop on the Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman. A psychopathic twelve-year-old girl in a small town in Nebraska recruits all the other children and goes on a bloody rampage, killing the corrupt adults and anyone else who opposes her. A bright high schooler who won't go along with the plan is the town's only hope of survival. Popcorn and soda provided. This is the 2023 version. Rated R (93 min.)



**Shadow Box Crafting: Tuesday, June 18 from 10:00—11:00 am.** Pick a theme, and then use recycled materials to craft an artistic shadow box! All ages welcome, but children under age 7 must be accompanied by a responsible teen or an adult.

**Elder Fraud Prevention with MidWestOne Bank: Tuesday, June 18 @ 1:00 pm**

Fraud happens every day, and often it is those over the age of 65 that are targeted. That's why we're excited to offer this opportunity for you to learn how to protect yourself. Receive tips to proactively stay safe and avoid the frustration and possible financial loss from fraudulent activity. You won't want to miss this great presentation covering ID Theft, romance scams, investments scams and a host of other topics! Presented by Justine Bemis from MidWestOne Bank. Refreshments will be provided. Rescheduled from June 4.



**Teen Writer's Group: Tuesday, June 18 from 5:00—6:00 pm.** Participants between the ages 12 to 18 are invited to join the library's teen summer writer's group which will meet on the third Tuesday of June, July, and August. Bring whatever short story, poem or nonfiction project you've been working on to share with the group and get feedback. Not sure what to write? Check out the bulletin board in the YA corner for writing challenges. Refreshments will be provided.



**Magician Mikayla Oz: Thursday, June 20 @ 10:00 am**

Enjoy this fast-paced, interactive, hilarious show complete with hands-on magic training and an appearance from Bubbles the Magic Bird. All ages welcome. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.



**Genealogy with Ann: Thursday, June 20 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. All ages welcome but those under age 9 must have an adult companion or teenager. 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. Registration is recommended as space is limited. Bring your friends!

**Family Movies @ Your Library presents "Ferngully: The Last Rainforest": Saturday, June 22 @ 1:00 pm.** Deep in the heart of the forest awaits a paradise filled with tiny sprites, winged fairies, tree spirits, and all kinds of animals who live together in joyful harmony. But when their home is threatened by humans, one courageous sprite must give her all to save it! Rated G (75 minutes).

**Summer Tea: Sunday, June 23 from 2:00—3:30 pm**

Grab a friend and come to our Summer Tea! Enjoy delicious tea and delicate homemade cookies and bars served on real china. Lemonade will be provided for the non-tea drinkers. All ages are welcome but children under the age of 15 require an adult companion. We encourage you to wear a hat! Sponsored by the JKPL Senior Advisory Committee.



**Write a Graphic Novel: Monday, June 24 from 1:00—2:00 pm.** Join author and librarian Christa Palm to discover how to write a graphic novel story. Illustrate your story at home and return it to the library for display during the month of August. Program is designed for ages 8 to 12.

**Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents "Nebraska": Monday, June 24 @ 6:30 pm.** This is the third film on the Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman. A devoted son drives his curmudgeonly father from Billings, Montana to Lincoln, Nebraska to collect a \$1 million sweepstakes prize that the dad claims to have won. Popcorn and soda provided. Rated R. (114 min)



**Design a STEM Waterslide: Tuesday, June 25 from 10:00—11:00 am.** Get ready to get wet in this awesome STEM program! Join us in our (closed-to-traffic) parking lot to design your own miniature water slide fit for a king...or a Nerf ball. Program is open to all ages, but children under 7 years old must have an adult present. Please wear clothing that can get wet. Program will be canceled if there is inclement weather.

**JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, June 25 @ 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 the library by 5:30 pm on the day of the event so the invite can be emailed to you.

**Meet Iowa Author Bill Mueller: Wednesday, June 26 @ 10:30 am.** DeWitt author Bill Mueller will be at the MercyOne Nursing Home in Dyersville to talk about his book, *Time to Ship Another Steer*. As Bill says, when you have eleven kids, and there is a bill to pay, it is *Time to Ship Another Steer*! This book is a fun look at growing up on the family farm in Kenosha, WI with ten brothers and sisters. Bill originally wrote this book for his grandchildren and great-nephews and nieces as a way to share and save his family's history. Bill is also the author of the book, *Come Drive With Me: The Adventures, Perils, and Insights of a Driver's Ed Instructor*. Copies of his books will be available to purchase from the author. Registration is required so MercyOne can plan for the visitors.



**Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, June 27 @ 11:15 am.** The topics for June are Camping Safety and Dairy month! Presented by Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler. There will be food samples to try and giveaways. All are welcome.



**Art in the Park: Thursday, June 27 from 3:30—4:30 pm.** Join us at the Farmer's Market to make a chia pet. All ages welcome, but children under age 7 must be accompanied by a responsible teen or adult companion.

**No-Sew T-shirt Tote Bag: Thursday, June 27 from 5:30—7:30 pm.** Drop in at the JKPL for this special upcycling event! Participants will learn how to take a t-shirt and turn it into a handy tote bag with no sewing required. All supplies provided. Make your bag at the library or take the supplies and directions home and create at your convenience. Take-and-make kits will be available while supplies last. This program is for adults and older teens but children are welcome with an adult companion.



**Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, June 28 from 6:00—9:00 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.

**James Kennedy Public Library @ Dyersville Downtown Market: Saturday, June 29 from 8:00 am—12:00 noon**

The James Kennedy Public Library will be at the Downtown Market to bring you a pop-up library, kick off our Book Art fundraiser, and bring you HUGE bubbles. Check out all that we have planned!

**Pop-Up Library**

Visitors will be able to find out more about what the library has to offer, and select a free book to keep. The JKPL will also have a hotspot running to provide WiFi Access. *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.*



**Absolute Science Bubbles Stations**

Do you love making HUGE bubbles? Help us celebrate summer reading with multiple bubble stations. Join in on the bubble fun for all ages! *Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library and the Dyersville Downtown Market.*



**Book Art For Your Library Kickoff**

Individuals and groups of all ages are invited to create a piece of art or sculpture by upcycling books and/or book pages. The JKPL will provide a grocery bag full of old books to use for their art. Participants may use anything from individual book pages to several books, but the maximum number of books to be used in a submission is how many will fit in a plastic grocery bag. Participants may also use their own books and other materials but number would still be limited to this quantity. The art or sculpture can be any design and can be created by individuals, families, couples, or groups of any age.



Sign up to participate and pick up supplies at the Market and/or at the library starting June 29. Finished projects should be brought to the library on or before Friday, July 26. On Saturday, July 27, all submissions will be displayed at the Downtown Market with a mason jar adjacent to them. Visitors will be able to vote for their favorite by putting money in the jar. At the end of the Market, the creator of the item that brought in the most money will win a special prize. All money raised will be used to support library collections and services.

**Arts and Crafts Swap: Saturday, June 29 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

Are you looking for new or gently used craft or art supplies for your next project? 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 summer event. Swaps are a great way to declutter your home, keep things out of the landfill, and save a little money! Items not taken by swappers may be saved for the next swap, donated, recycled, or used for JKPL activities.



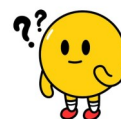
**Game Changer for Teens: Saturday, June 29 @ 4:00 pm**

Game Changer is a YouTube channel where participants engage in games involving improv comedy and random challenges. The twist is that the players don't know what game they are playing until it starts. The library is bringing a version of this to the library for teens! For ages 12-18 only. Registration is required by June 28th to ensure we have enough attendees to hold the program. Want to watch but not play? Feel free to come be part of the audience.



**Trash or Treasure with Heidi: Sunday, June 30 @ 2:00 pm**

Do you have treasure hiding in your house? Or is it really just trash? Come to this special event where Heidi Huisman from Savvy Salvage will bring examples and demonstrate what to look for, and resources you can use, to determine if you have trash or treasure. She will also examine items brought in by program attendees and share her opinion on their value and how she would research the item. Guests may bring one or two items each, but no coins or expensive jewelry. Participants are encouraged to bring a smartphone or laptop computer to follow along, but it is not required. Registration is not required but those wanting to bring an item for evaluation are encouraged to notify the JKPL in advance to ensure their items will be examined. There should be time to review up to 20 items total, additional items will be examined as time allows.



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





# 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



## Camp NaNoWriMo @ Your Library: July 1—31

Camp NaNoWriMo is your next great writing adventure! It's a month-long writing event held in July to challenge yourself to tackle a writing project you have been wanting to work on. It is a cousin to NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month), which is held yearly in November.

This year, the JKPL is hosting Camp NaNoWriMo where you can set your own word-count goal and you can tackle any type of writing project you want! Here at the library we are going to meet weekly to share our writing and to encourage each other throughout the month with our goals. Check back for more information!

## Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip: Mondays, July 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 @ 6:30 pm

The Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman continues this month with five more movies filmed along US Route 20. The movies to be shown are:

July 1: *Field of Dreams* (Rated PG)  
July 8: *The True Adventures of Wolfboy* (Rated PG-13)  
July 15: *It's A Wonderful Life* (Not Rated)  
July 22: *Taking Woodstock* (Rated R)  
July 29: *Frozen Stiff from Murder She Wrote* (Season 12—Not Rated)

## Sustainable Living Tuesday, July 9 @ 6:00 pm

Learn how to live more sustainably in your every-day life with different tips, tools, and techniques that are easy to implement into your life. See first-hand, sustainable products and practices that Dubuque County Conservation staff use. Registration is requested by July 8 as a minimum of 10 participants are required for this program to be held. This program is intended for older teens or adults but younger guests are welcome with an adult companion.

## Stuffy Storytime Wednesday, July 10 @ 9:15 am & 6:30 pm

Bring your favorite stuffy for a special animal-themed storytime geared toward 3-6 year olds but open to children of all ages and abilities. Adult supervision is required.

## Iowa Legal Aid presents Wills & Advanced Directives Thursday, July 11 @ 6:30 pm

An attorney from Iowa Legal Aid will be at the library to discuss advanced directives and some of the free legal services offered by Iowa Legal Aid. This presentation will encompass various aspects of advanced directives, including living wills, durable powers of attorney for healthcare and financial decisions, as well as other legal documents crucial for expressing healthcare wishes in times of incapacity. All are welcome. Please bring your questions!

## Used Book Sale Friday, July 12 thru Monday, July 15

Join us for the Friends of the Library used book sale, which will be held in the basement of the James Kennedy Public Library. Bags of books are \$2 on Monday, the last day of the sale. Hours are:

Friday, July 12: 9:00 am—5:00 pm  
Saturday, July 13: 9:00 am—3:00 pm  
Sunday, July 14: 1:00—4:00 pm  
Monday, July 15: 9:00 am—6:00 pm

## Climb Theater presents Country Mouse & City Mouse: Adventure to the Suburbs Tuesday, July 16 @ 10:00 am

Follow along with this theater production as Country Mouse and City Mouse practice empathy and advocacy in an entertaining summer adventure great for all ages. The play will be held at the amphitheater in Legacy Square. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.

## TOMY Toys and Activities Thursday, July 18 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm

Join TOMY at the library to discover some amazing toys! Stories will also be read aloud at 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm. All ages welcome!

## Fraud Prevention Awareness with MidWestOne Bank Thursday, July 18 @ 6:30 pm

Fraud happens every day and that is why we're excited to offer this opportunity for you to learn how to protect yourself. Receive tips to proactively stay safe and avoid the frustration and possible financial loss from fraudulent activity. Presented by Justine Bemis from MidWestOne Bank. Refreshments will be provided.

## Teen Murder Mystery Challenge Saturday, July 20 @ 4:30 pm

A murder most foul has happened at the library and participants ages 12-18 are invited to try and solve it! Clues have been spread out around the library, witnesses are available for questioning, and everyone has only so much time to solve the mystery. Registration is required by July 19th. For ages 12-18 only.

## Absolute Science Butterflies Encounter @ Dyersville Downtown Market Saturday, July 27 from 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Come to the Dyersville Downtown Market in Legacy Square and experience butterflies up close in a magical encounter that will delight the whole family. All ages welcome. This program will be held weather permitting. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library and the Dyersville Downtown Market.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>JUNE 2024</b>	June 1—30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a comic strip craft</li> <li>Lily pad craft kits</li> <li>Coloring, Creating, Doing</li> </ul>	June 1—30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get Puzzled</li> <li>StoryWalk®</li> <li>Children's Pretend Play Station &amp; scavenger hunt</li> </ul>		Summer Reading Programs Begin! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult—June 1</li> <li>Teen—June 3</li> <li>Children/Toddlers—June 3</li> </ul>		1 Library Garage sale from 9am-1pm
2	3 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Books For Lunch @ 12pm Adult Crafternoon from 1-3pm	4 Dyersville Public Works Exhibition from 9-11am	5 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm	6 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am	7 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	8 <i>The Quest for the Kakapo</i> @ 10am <i>Arthur the King</i> (PG-13) @ 1pm Dungeons & Dragons @ 3:30pm
9	10 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program from 10-11am <i>The Pajama Game</i> (NR) @ 6:30pm	11 Chalk Art Fun from 10-11am Woodland Art @ 6pm Virtual Author Visit @ 6:30pm A Novel Approach to Faith book club @ 7pm	12 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Family Storytime @ 10am & 6:30pm Virtual Author Visit @ 2pm Virtual Author Visit @ 4pm	13 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Upcycled Greeting Cards from 1-3pm Pop-up at Farmer's Market from 3-5pm Art in the Park from 3:30-4:30pm Iowa Legal Aid @ 6:30pm	14 Dino O'Dell @ 1pm Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm TACKL Fun & Games @ DSN from 5:30-9pm Pop-up @ DSN from 5:30-8:30pm	15 Teen Chefs from 12-2pm Nerf War @ 4pm
16 Library closed	17 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Bingo from 1-3pm Cricut with Christopher @ 6pm <i>Children of the Corn</i> (R) @ 6:30pm	18 Shadow Box Crafting from 10-11am Elder Fraud Prevention @ 1pm Teen Writer's Group from 5-6pm	19 Family Storytime @ 10am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm	20 Magician Mikayla Oz @ 10am Genealogy with Ann from 1-3pm	21 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	22 <i>Ferngully: The Last Rainforest</i> (G) @ 1pm
23 Summer Tea from 2-3:30pm	24 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Write a Graphic Novel from 1-2pm <i>Nebraska</i> (R) @ 6:30pm	25 Design a STEM Waterslide from 10-11am JKPL Writing Group @ 6:30pm	26 Family Storytime @ 10am & 6:30pm Author Bill Mueller @ 10:30am Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm	27 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Health & Wellness 365 @ 11:15am Pop-up at Farmer's Market from 3-5pm Art in the Park from 3:30-4:30pm No Sew T-shirt Bag from 5:30-7:30pm	28 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm Game Night from 6-9pm	29 Absolute Bubbles @ DDM from 8am-12pm Pop-up Library @ DDM from 8am-12pm Book Art Fundraiser Kickoff @ DDM from 8am-12pm Arts & Crafts Swap from 10am-2pm Game Changer for Teens @ 4pm
30 Trash or Treasure @ 2pm						



## Upcoming Events for JULY 2024

**July 1-31: Camp NaNoWriMo @ Your Library.** Camp NaNoWriMo is your next great writing adventure! It's a month-long writing event held in July to challenge yourself to tackle a writing project. It is a cousin to NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month), which is held yearly in November, which challenges participants to write a 50,000 word novel in one month. This year, the JKPL is hosting Camp NaNoWriMo from July 1-31. For Camp you can set your own word-count goal and you can tackle any type of writing project you want! Writers are encouraged to register on the official NaNoWriMo website (adults at [nanowrimo.org](http://nanowrimo.org) and young adults at [ywp.nanowrimo.org](http://ywp.nanowrimo.org)) and take advantage of all their helpful tools which include: Pep Talks from published authors as well as real time advice given over social media (to just name a few). Here at the library we are going to meet weekly to share our writing and to encourage each other throughout the month with our goals. Meetings will be held on Thursdays, July 11, 18 and 25 at 7:00 pm. We will also hold a special event this month- the Come Write In Kick off registration on Monday July 1st.

**July 1-27: Book Art For Your Library Fundraiser Continues.** The JKPL Fundraising Committee is excited to announce the return of this fun event for all! Individuals and groups of all ages are invited to create a piece of art or sculpture by upcycling books and/or book pages. The JKPL will provide a grocery bag and participants can fill it with old books to use for their art. Only what will fit in the grocery bag can be used! Participants may also use their own books and other materials but the number is still limited to what can fit in one plastic grocery bag. The art or sculpture can be any design or format - folding, cutting, using individual pages, building, etc. and can be created by individuals, families, couples, or groups of any age. Registration is required. Finished projects should be brought to the library on or before 4:00 pm on Friday, July 26. On Saturday, July 27, all submissions will be displayed at the Dyersville Downtown Market. Next to each submission will be a mason jar and visitors will vote for their favorite by putting money in the jar (all donations will go to the JKPL). At the end of the Market, the creator of the item that brought in the most money will win a great prize. As space allows, entries may be displayed at the library during the month of August. Entries can be picked up at the library any time after July 28 should be picked up at the library by September 15. All money raised will be used to support library collections and services.

**Kids Can Craft: Create a Monster Challenge: July 1-31.** Kids of all ages are invited to draw a monster, color your monster drawing, and submit it at the front desk for a chance to win a stuffed animal prize. Create at the library or create at home! One submission per child.

**Creation Station Craft: July 1-31.** Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! A video demonstration may also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.

**Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: July 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: July 1-31.** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *I Love Seasons*. 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.

**Reduce, Renew, Repeat: What do you do to improve yourself? July 1-31.** The summer library programs this summer focus on conservation, self-improvement, and self-preservation so each month this summer you are invited to respond to a question related to this topic. July's question is: What do you do for self-care? Visitors of all ages are welcome to share their response every time they visit the library by putting a pom-pom in the jar that matches their choice. Each response also earns an entry into a drawing to win the opportunity to select an item of your choice to be added to the library collection.

**Children's Pretend Play Station: Pizza Restaurant: July 1-31.** Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in our new, improved Pizza Restaurant play!



**Children's Scavenger Hunt: Pizza: July 1-31.** Once per week, participate in our "Pizza" scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! The "Pizza" scavenger hunt will be changed to different pictures and locations each week during the entire month of July, giving kids the chance to earn a sticker every week! One sticker per child per week.

**Westside Park StoryWalk®: "It's a Tiger" by David LaRochelle: July 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® 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.*

**Monday, July 1: Camp NaNoWriMo Registration & Come Write In from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm.** Want to participate in Camp NaNoWriMo? Library staff member Ann B. will be on hand to help participants register online. Registration is not required for participation but those who register will receive a special NaNoWriMo supplies basket. After registering, feel free to stay as long as you want to start your writing. Snacks provided.

**Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, July 1, 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. Due to high demand, two sessions will now be offered, with a maximum of 20 participants allowed per session. Space is limited so registration is required.

**Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, July 1 @ 12:00 noon.** This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *The Wager* by David Grann. 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](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.

**Play-Doh Challenge: Monday, July 1 from 2:00-3:00 pm.** Children of all ages are welcome to come and play with Play-Doh. Creative inspiration challenge cards will be available for all ages.

**Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents "Field of Dreams": Monday, July 1 @ 6:30 pm.** The Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman returns to Dyersville! Based on the book *Shoeless Joe* by W.P. Kinsella, an Iowa farmer lays out a baseball diamond in his cornfield, and who should show up but long-dead ballplayer Shoeless Joe Jackson and a squadful of departed Major Leaguers. Rated PG. (107 min) Popcorn and soda provided.

**Sharpie Canvas Creation Challenge: Tuesday, July 2 from 10:00-11:00 am.** Children ages 8-12 are invited to participate in a creativity challenge using canvas and Sharpies to design art or artistic handbags. Sewing machines, glue guns, and permanent markers will be available for use; children must practice safety and responsibility around all machines/crafting materials.

**Wednesday, July 3:** Library closes at 5:00 pm for Independence Day holiday. No storytimes will be held.

**Sit and Stitch: Wednesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 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](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.



**Thursday, July 4:** Library closed for Independence Day holiday

**Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, July 5, 12, 19, 26 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, July 6 from 10:00-11:00 am.** This month's theme is "Rainy Day". 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.

**Movies @ Your Library presents "A League of Their Own": Saturday, July 6 @ 1:00 pm.** Jimmy Dugan is a washed-up ballplayer whose big league days are over. Hired to coach in the All-American Girls Baseball League of 1943, while the male pros are at war, Dugan finds himself drawn back into the game by the heart and heroics of his all-girl team. Rated PG (128 minutes).

**Adult Crafternoon: Monday, July 8 from 1:00-3:00 pm.** Join us this month at the Creation Station to make a fun adult craft. 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. The instructional video for how to do the craft will be posted on both the library's Facebook and YouTube pages starting July 9 and kits will be available while supplies last.

**Write A Children's Picture Book: Monday, July 8 from 1:00-2:00 pm.** Join librarian and author Christa Palm to learn how to write a children's picture book. Illustrate your story at home and return it to the library for display during the month of August. Program is designed for ages 8 to 12.

**Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents "The True Adventures of Wolfboy": Monday, July 8 @ 6:30 pm.** The Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman now heads east to Buffalo, NY. This film is a coming of age journey about a boy with an illness that causes hair growth over the entirety of his face and body. After a disastrous carnival experience, he goes in search of his mother who abandoned him at birth. In the wilds of New Jersey he finds fast friends, but is pursued by an enigmatic carnival owner, and a police officer enlisted by his father. Rated PG-13 (88 min). Popcorn and soda provided.

**Eco-Arts Animals: Tuesday, July 9 from 10:00-11:00 am.** Create some amazing art from recycled materials! Choose from our supply of recycled materials to create your own animal, (either a real animal or a Franken-animal!). Program is open to all children, but those under age 7 must be accompanied by an adult or responsible teen.

**Sustainable Living: Tuesday, July 9 @ 6:00 pm.** Learn how to live more sustainably in your every-day life with different tips, tools, and techniques that are easy to implement into your life. See first-hand, sustainable products and practices that Dubuque County Conservation staff use. Be ready to make a goal and take steps to living more sustainably for the rest of the year! Registration is requested by July 8 as a minimum of 10 participants are required for this program to be held. This program is intended for older teens or adults but younger guests are welcome with an adult companion. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Register by contacting the library or online in the library's calendar of events.

**Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, July 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 Proving* by Beverly Lewis. 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.

**Stuffy Storytime: Wednesday, July 10 @ 9:15 am & 6:30 pm:** Bring your favorite stuffy for a special animal-themed storytime geared toward 3-6 year olds but open to children of all ages and abilities. Adult



supervision is required. **Note:** the morning storytime on July 10 is being held at 9:15 am to allow for Blank Park Zoo time to set up for their program.

**Blank Park Zoo Animal Presentation: Wednesday, July 10 @ 11:00 am.** Learn all about animals from Blank Park Zoo staff in a fun and engaging biology program for all ages. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.

**Pop-Up @ the Farmer's Market: Thursdays, July 11 & 25 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm.** The JKPL will be reaching out to the community by visiting the Dyersville Farmer's Market on the second and fourth Thursdays in July and August! Visitors will learn about what the library has to offer, get their questions answered, and select a free book to keep from the pop-up library. Take-and-make activities may also be available. The library will bring a hotspot and provide WiFi Access! *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.*

**Art in the Park: Thursday, July 11 from 3:30-4:30 pm.** Join us at the Farmer's Market twice per month during the summer to make nature paints from flowers, grasses, mud and other natural materials. All ages welcome, but children under age 7 must be accompanied by a responsible teen or adult companion.

**Iowa Legal Aid presents Wills & Advanced Directives: Thursday, July 11 @ 6:30 pm.** An attorney from Iowa Legal Aid will be at the library to discuss Advanced Directives and some of the free legal services offered by Iowa Legal Aid. This presentation will encompass various aspects of advanced directives, including living wills, durable powers of attorney for healthcare and financial decisions, as well as other legal documents crucial for expressing healthcare wishes in times of incapacity. All are welcome. Please bring your questions!

### **Friday, July 12: Downtown Summer Nights**

**Friday, July 12 thru Monday, July 15: Used Book Sale.** Join us for the Friends of the Library used book sale, which will be held in the basement of the James Kennedy Public Library. Bags of books are \$2 on Monday, the last day of the sale. Hours are: Friday, July 12: 9:00 am—5:00 pm; Saturday, July 13: 9:00 am—3:00 pm; Sunday, July 14: 1:00-4:00 pm; and Monday, July 15: 9:00 am—6:00 pm.

**TACKL Fun and Games @ Downtown Summer Nights: Friday, July 12 from 6:00-9:00 pm.** Join the Teen Advisory Council to the Kennedy Library (TACKL) at Downtown Summer Nights for fun, free games for kids. Everyone walks away with a prize for playing! This event is sponsored by the Dyersville Chamber of Commerce.

**Pop-Up @ Downtown Summer Nights: Friday, July 12 from 6:00 - 8:30 pm.** The JKPL will be reaching out to the community by "popping up" at Downtown Summer Nights at Legacy Square! Visitors will be able to select a free book to keep from the pop-up library as well as learn more about library services. The JKPL Fundraising Committee will be on hand selling frozen treats to support the special collections and services of the library. 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.

**Donate to the Kitchen and Housewares Swap: July 13 - 26.** Do you have kitchen utensils, tools, or small appliances you no longer need? Dishes, napkins, or other kitchen and cooking related items cluttering up your space? Please consider donating it to the JKPL Kitchen and Housewares Swap! Drop off your new or gently used items during library hours between July 13 and 26. Information about donation guidelines is posted on the JKPL website and available to pick up at the library. Come back to the Swap on July 27 and select what you can use. Swaps are a great way to declutter your home, keep things out of the land fill, and save a little money! Items not taken by swappers will be saved for another swap, donated, recycled, or used for JKPL activities.

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

**Bingo Party: Monday, July 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!

**Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents “It’s a Wonderful Life”: Monday, July 15 @ 6:30 pm.** The Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman continues in New York state for a holiday classic. George Bailey is a decent small-town banker who learns what life would have been like if he'd never been born after he unwittingly becomes involved in a mistaken case of bank fraud, which threatens his spirit and tests his will to live until a wise angel compels him to see how his presence has made an incredible impact on the people of Bedford Falls. Rated PG. (130 min). Popcorn and soda provided.

**Climb Theater presents “Country Mouse & City Mouse: Adventure to the Suburbs”: Tuesday, July 16 @ 10:00 am.** Follow along with this theater production as Country Mouse and City Mouse practice empathy and advocacy in an entertaining summer adventure great for all ages. The play will be held at the amphitheater in Legacy Square, but if inclement weather occurs, the theater production will be moved to the Hoffman Room at the James Kennedy Public Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.

**Summer Reading Store is Open: July 16-21.** Children ages 4 to 11 who participated in the summer reading program are welcome to drop in to spend their points and pick out toys at our summer reading store. The store is open the following hours:

- Tuesday, July 16: Open 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Wednesday, July 17: Open 12:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Thursday, July 18: Open 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Friday, July 19: Open 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Saturday, July 20: Open 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Sunday, July 21: Open 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Teen Writer’s Group: Tuesday, July 16 from 5:00-6:00 pm.** Participants between the ages 12 to 18 are invited to join the library's teen summer writer’s group which will meet the third Thursday of July and August. Bring whatever short story, poem or nonfiction project to share with the group and get feedback. Not sure what to write? Check out the bulletin board in the YA corner for writer challenges. Refreshments will be provided.

**Family Storytime: Wednesdays, July 17 and 24 @ 10:00 am & 6:30 pm:** Join in on storytimes that are geared toward 3- to 6-year olds but open to children of all ages and abilities. Adult supervision is required.

**TOMY Toys and Activities: Thursday, July 18 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.** Join TOMY at the library to discover some amazing toys! Stories will also be read aloud at 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm. All ages welcome! Poster

**Fraud Prevention Awareness with MidWestOne Bank: Thursday, July 18 @ 6:30 pm.** Fraud happens every day and that is why we’re excited to offer this opportunity for you to learn how to protect yourself. Receive tips to proactively stay safe and avoid the frustration and possible financial loss from fraudulent activity. Presented by Justine Bemis from MidWestOne Bank. Refreshments will be provided.

**Family Movies @ Your Library presents “The Parent Trap”: Saturday, July 20 @ 1:00 pm.** Hallie Parker, a hip Californian, and Annie James, a proper London miss are identical twins who don't even know each other exists until they accidentally meet at summer camp. Now they're up to their freckles in schemes and dreams to switch places, get their parents back together, and have the family they've always wished for! Rated PG (128 minutes).

**Teen Murder Mystery Challenge: Saturday, July 20 @ 4:30 pm.** A murder most foul has happened at the library and participants ages 12-18 are invited to try and solve it! Clues have been spread out around the



library, witnesses are available for questioning, and everyone has only so much time to solve the mystery. Registration is required by July 19th to make sure there is enough interest to hold the program. For ages 12-18 only.

***Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents “Taking Woodstock”: Monday, July 22 @ 6:30 pm.*** The final stop in New York for this Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman is a historical comedy-drama about the celebrated 1969 festival of peace and love. Elliot Teichberg is an interior designer who offers to help out the promoters of Woodstock when they lose their permit to have the concert. He provides a space for the show, but must think on his feet when the entire event becomes much larger than he imagined. Rated R. (121 min.) Popcorn and soda provided.

***JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, July 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 register by 11:00 am on the day of the event at <https://bit.ly/JKPLwriting>.

***Art in the Park: Thursday, July 25 from 3:30 - 4:30 pm.*** Join us at the Farmer’s Market to make colored macaroni collages. All ages welcome, but children under age 7 must be accompanied by a responsible teen or adult companion.

***Hanging Planters or Candles - Thursday, July 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.*** Drop in at the JKPL for this special upcycling event! Participants will transform glass jars and cord into hanging planters or candle holders. All supplies provided. Make your creation at the library or take the supplies and directions home and create at your convenience. Take and make kits will also be available while supplies last. This program is for adults and older teens but children are welcome with an adult companion.

***Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, July 26 from 6:00-9:00 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.

***Pop-Up @ the Dyersville Downtown Market: Saturday, July 27 from 8:00 am - 12:00 noon.*** The James Kennedy Public Library will be reaching out to the community by bringing a pop-up library to the Market. Visitors will be able to find out more about what the library has to offer, and select a free book to keep. The JKPL will also have a hotspot running to provide WiFi Access. 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. Our participation at this event is weather permitting.

***Absolute Science Bubbles Station @ Dyersville Downtown Market: Saturday, July 27 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.*** Come to the Dyersville Downtown Market in Legacy Square for bubble fun. All ages welcome. This program will be held weather permitting. Sponsored by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library and the Dyersville Downtown Market.

***Book Art For Your Library Fundraiser Finale: Saturday, July 27 from 8:00 am - 12 noon.*** Join the library at the Dyersville Downtown Market to see what items were made for the Book Art fundraiser and vote for your favorite! Next to each submission will be a mason jar and visitors will vote for their favorite by putting money in the jar (all donations will go to the JKPL). At the end of the Market, the creator of the item that brought in the most money will win a great prize. All money raised will be used to support library collections and services.

***Kitchen and Housewares Swap: Saturday, July 27 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.*** Are you looking for new or gently used kitchen or other houseware items? Come to the library and see what you might discovered. Members of the community have donated good, new, and gently used items for this special summer event. Swaps are a great way to declutter your home, keep things out of the landfill, and save a little money! Items not taken by swappers maybe be saved for the next swap, donated, recycled, or used for JKPL activities.



***Mid-Century Architecture In Dubuque County: Sunday, July 28 @ 2:00 pm.*** Presented by Tricia Baum of the Dubuque County Historic Preservation Commission.

***Historic US Route 20 Movie Road Trip presents “Murder She Wrote - Frozen Stiff (Season 12, Episode 10)”:*** ***Monday, July 29 @ 6:30 pm.*** The final stop on the Historic US Route 20 Summer Movie Road Trip hosted by Heidi Huisman returns us to Dyersville. A successful frozen food company pledges \$750,000 to Jessica's favorite charity, the Literacy Foundation. Unfortunately, when she arrives to accept the donation, the money has vanished and the company accountant has committed suicide. Soon after, the corpse of one of the firm's co-founders is found in the company freezer. Rated TV-14 (60 min) Popcorn and soda provided.

***Virtual Conversation with author Heather Gudenkauf and the Story Society of Iowa:***  
***Wednesday, July 31 @ 6:30 pm.*** Iowa authors and members of a group called the Story Society of Iowa - Kimberly Stuart, Kali White VanBaale, Julie Stone, and Nicole Baart will join New York Times Bestselling author Heather Gudenkauf for a fun conversation about books, writing and their love for Iowa. Guests are invited to come to the JKPL to enjoy this program virtually in the Hoffman Room with refreshments and door prizes. Those not able to attend in person can request a Zoom link by emailing [svonderhaar@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:svonderhaar@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by noon on Wednesday, July 31 and a link to the Zoom room will be provided.



# James Kennedy Public Library

Dyersville, Iowa

## Strategic Plan 2022 – 2029



Approved by the James Kennedy Public Library Board of Trustees

Original - March 15, 2022

Revised and updated - June 12, 2024



### **Original Planning Process (2021-2022):**

The James Kennedy Public Library Board of Trustees invited residents and stakeholders of the Dyersville community to participate in the planning process.

### **Community Participants:**

#### *Phone Interview Participants:*

Amanda Schwartz  
Sheila Tegeler  
Tina Gulick  
Jill Hageman  
Dave Buchheit  
Kayla Horsfield  
Mary Radloff  
Heidi Huisman  
Brittany Demezier  
Michelle Grover  
Jessica Pape  
Lucas Ingles

#### *Focus Group Participants:*

Marcus Ingles  
Carol Ruden  
Devin Werner  
Ian Hermsen  
Alex Werner  
Linda Hansel  
Monika Steffen  
Beth Lutgen  
Joan Hinerichsen  
Marcel Kielkucki

### **Library Board of Trustees:**

Karen Kramer, President  
Catherine O’Hea, Vice President  
Danielle Will, Secretary  
Sue Engelbrecht  
Angela English  
Ray Kruse  
Marcus Ingles  
Karen Tieskoetter  
Alex Wiezorek

### **Library Staff:**

Shirley Vonderhaar, Director  
Dawn Schrandt, Assistant Director  
Kimshiro Benton-Hermsen, Librarian  
Ann Boeckenstedt, Librarian  
Paul Zurawski, Librarian  
Brian Alm, Clerk  
Jo Amunson, Clerk  
Samantha Burds, Clerk  
Deb Gudenkauf, Clerk  
Sarah Keffeler-Gibson, Clerk  
Devin Werner, Clerk

### **Facilitator:**

Becky Heil, Library Consultant,  
State Library of Iowa



In February of 2020, the James Kennedy Public Library Board of Trustees began planning to draft a new Strategic Plan. At that time, they decided to work with Becky Heil, District Consultant for the State Library of Iowa, to create a vision statement, review the mission statement, and update the existing plan. Due to Covid-19, the Board postponed working on the JKPL Strategic Plan as it would be challenging to get community involvement due to restrictions on gathering.

In April of 2021, Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director, met with Becky Heil to develop a process for the JKPL to prepare a strategic plan. Becky met with the library board in August to outline the variety of methods that are currently being used and get their input on which model they felt would be best for Dyersville. Of the options presented, the Board concluded using both an in-person focus group and a series of telephone interviews would be beneficial.

The JKPL Board of Trustees identified community stakeholders for both the telephone interviews and the in-person meeting. Board members contacted selected potential participants until fifteen individuals had agreed to participate in phone interviews and an additional fifteen were scheduled for the in-person session. Representatives from the JKPL Board, Staff, Friends Group, Teen Advisory Council, and City Council were included in those invited to participate in the focus group gathering.

Telephone interviews with twelve individuals were conducted the week of November 1, 2021. The questions asked were intended to identify the best things about the Dyersville community, what needs and improvements interviewees would like to see, how the library might respond to or satisfy those community needs, and what the library is doing well.

An ad hoc Strategic Planning Board Subcommittee was formed. Committee members were Karen Kramer, Catherine O'Hea, Danielle Will, Angela English, and Shirley Vonderhaar. This committee was tasked with reviewing the eighteen PLA Library Service Responses, and narrowing them down to no more than ten priorities for the focus group to consider.

The focus group met on December 5. They answered the same questions as were posed during the phone interviews and reviewed the information that had been gathered at the phone interviews. They heard demographic information and statistics about library use and trends. At the end of the focus group meeting, participants voted on the top five Library Service Responses the JKPL Board of Trustees should prioritize. The results of the voting reflect the community needs identified by both the phone interviewees and the focus group attendees. The following Service Responses were selected:

**Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services (8 votes)**

Residents will have a central source for information about the wide variety of programs, services, and activities provided by community agencies and organizations.

**Celebrate Diversity: Cultural Awareness (7 votes)**

Residents will have programs and services that promote appreciation and understanding of their personal heritage and the heritage of others in the community.



**Make Informed Decisions: Life Choices, Information Fluency, Job and Career Development, Be an Informed Citizen (5 votes)**

Residents will have the resources they need to identify and analyze risks, benefits, and alternatives before making decisions that affect their lives.

**Express Creativity: Create and Share Content (4 votes)**

Residents will have the services and support they need to express themselves by creating original print, video, audio, or visual content in a real-world or online environment.

**Literacy for All: blending two Literacy focused responses (4 votes)**

*Create Young Readers: Early Literacy*

Children from birth to age five will have programs and services designed to ensure that they will enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen.

*Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy*

Adults and teens will have the support they need to improve their literacy skills in order to meet their personal goals and fulfill their responsibilities as parents, citizens, and workers.

The JKPL Board of Trustees held two work sessions, also facilitated by Becky Heil, in January 2022. One session focused on writing new Vision and Mission Statements. At the second session, the Board discussed the selected Service Responses and drafted relevant goals. The Subcommittee took the results of these two work sessions and crafted statements and goals to recommend at a full Board meeting. At the February 2022 Board meeting, the Board approved the Vision Statement, Mission Statement, Library Service Responses, and Goals included in this document. The Literacy for All Service Response was removed from the plan and the goals relating to those needs were included elsewhere.

Following these Board decisions, the JKPL Library Staff held a special in-service, facilitated by Heil, to develop objectives. The Library Director reviewed the objectives proposed by the staff, the previous plan, and the notes from all of the planning meetings; and used that information to draft objectives that met the format of including a responsible staff member, measurable task, and time frame. Proposed objectives were shared with librarians and the Strategic Planning Subcommittee prior to discussion at the Board level. The final document was reviewed, edited, and approved by the full Board of Trustees at their March 8, 2022 meeting.



## **Process for Update:**

In the fall of 2023, the Board discussed the strategic plan and decided it would be appropriate to review and update the document as a whole. It was agreed that Becky Heil would again facilitate the process and there would be community and staff involvement. On February 8, 2024, a special JKPL work session was held. Participants were members of the Board of Trustees, representatives from the community, city council and library staff with Becky Heil facilitating. The group reviewed the existing Strategic Plan item by item with discussion on what was complete, what should stay in a new plan, what should be removed, and what should be added. The group decided to blend the Library Service Responses (LSR) of *Know Your Community* and *Make Informed Decisions* into one Response – *Be Informed*. They also decided to include in the plan the *Literacy for All* LSR that was considered but not included in the original plan. The Library Service Responses were approved at the March 13, 2024 Board Meeting.

All library staff were involved in a brainstorming session on April 5, 2024, where they discussed the process, the LSRs, potential goals, objectives and activities. The updated Goals were approved at the April 10, 2024 Board meeting. Objectives were written by library director Shirley Vonderhaar with review and comment from Dawn Schrandt, Paul Zurawski, and Christa Palm. At the May 8, 2024 Board meeting, the policy committee members were appointed to review a draft of the proposed complete plan, prior to it going to the full JKPL Board at the June 2024 meeting.

### **Community Participants:**

Tiegan O’Hea  
Monika Steffen  
Amanda Wachendorf

### **City Council / Library Liaison:**

Tom Westhoff

### **Library Board of Trustees:**

Catherine O’Hea, President  
Alex Wiezorek, Vice President  
Danielle Will, Secretary  
Kami Droessler Boffeli  
Sue Engelbrecht  
Beth Gudenkauf  
Sally Kelly  
Raymond Kruse

### **Library Staff:**

Shirley Vonderhaar, Director  
Dawn Schrandt, Assistant Director  
Paul Zurawski, Librarian  
Christa Palm, Librarian  
Ann Boeckenstedt, Programmer  
Brian Alm, Clerk  
Jo Amunson, Clerk  
Samantha Burds, Clerk  
Deb Gudenkauf, Clerk  
Sarah Keffeler-Gibson, Clerk  
Audrey Maiers, Clerk



**Motto / Tag Line:**  
Discover – Connect – Inspire

**Mission:**  
The James Kennedy Public Library enriches the Dyersville community by providing equal access to creative resources for entertainment and education.

**Vision:**  
The James Kennedy Public Library helps create a thriving community to inspire curiosity, creativity, innovation, and connection.

**Selected Service Responses, Goals, and Objectives:**

**Be Informed** (Blending Information focused LSRs):

*Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services*

Residents will have a central source for information about the wide variety of programs, services, and activities provided by community agencies and organizations.

*Make Informed Decisions: Information Fluency, Job and Career Development, Be an Informed Citizen*

Residents will have the resources they need to identify and analyze risks, benefits, and alternatives before making decisions that affect their lives.

**Goal #1:** Residents are knowledgeable about the services and resources available at the library.

*Objective:* The Librarian in charge of social media will research current, new, and popular social media options to determine if there is a need for the JKPL to modify resources used to provide information to the community by July 2025.

*Objective:* As part of marketing strategies, the Assistant Director will investigate utilizing targeted emails or other direct messaging to share information about library services, programs and / or resources by December 2025.

*Objective:* The Library Director will investigate offering free passes or otherwise supporting or providing access to local attractions, including but not limited to museums and parks by September 2024.

*Objective:* The Assistant Director will research and revise the staff and board biographical information which is posted on the JKPL webpage by December 2024.



**Goal #2:** Residents will find information and resources about community organizations, services and businesses at the library.

*Objective:* The Assistant Director will identify community resources and services (food pantry, churches, health care, etc.) and create or locate avenues (webpages, lists, fliers, etc.) to provide residents of the community with access to this information by July 2025.

*Objective:* The Assistant Director will work with other city organizations to provide information about community services and resources to new residents by September 2025.

*Objective:* The Library Director will investigate offering free passes or otherwise supporting or providing access to local attractions, including but not limited to recreational businesses that are fee based or businesses that provide tours of their facilities by July 2025.

**Goal #3:** Those exploring careers are able to access information regarding businesses hiring locally.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming for teens and adults will investigate creation of programs, events, or activities featuring local businesses by December 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming for teens and adults will work with Workforce Development and local businesses to provide access to information about job openings by July 2025.

**Goal #4:** Job seekers have the skills they need to gain employment or advance their career.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will provide training on Brainfuse and other job skills and career related services available through the JKPL by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Assistant Director will investigate opportunities to provide job seekers with volunteer or internship style opportunities that will increase their skills and employability (look good on a resume) by July 2025.

*Objective:* The Young and Emerging Adult Services Librarian will investigate opportunities to partner with the schools and other education agencies to provide information about and / or access to job seeking skills by January 2026.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will work together to develop or provide access to employment and / or activities focused on job skills for job seekers of all ages by January 2027.



**Goal #5:** Community members of all ages will find programming and other resources for life events.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will develop events, activities and programs focused on current issues and life events of interest or concern to the Dyersville Community by June 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of collection development will evaluate physical materials and online resources focused on life events and consider expanding and / or updating the library's collections in those areas by September 2025.

**Goal #6:** Teens and adults will develop critical thinking skills for analyzing informational resources of all kinds.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming for teens and adults will identify and present programs to assist with developing critical thinking skills by January 2025.

***Celebrate Diversity: Cultural Awareness***

Residents will have programs and services that promote appreciation and understanding of their personal heritage and the heritage of others in the community.

**Goal #1:** Residents will experience diverse collections.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of collection development will develop a plan to ensure a diverse and inclusive collection by March 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of collections and marketing will develop a plan to ensure diverse and inclusive displays are offered for all ages by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of collection development will evaluate allocating a certain percentage of the collection budget to diverse and inclusive materials by July 2026.

**Goal #2:** The community will be enriched by celebrating and developing a greater understanding of diversity.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming at all levels will research, plan, and schedule performances, activities, and / or events for all ages celebrating different cultures by January 2026. Possibilities suggested at planning meeting include Diversity Day, Heritage Days, Multicultural Fair.



*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will schedule at least one program per year featuring diverse presenters by July 2027.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will plan at least one program or activity per year that celebrates diversity, equity and inclusion by December 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will investigate creating a human library of diverse experiences by October 2025.

*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will start a tween or intergenerational book club, which will include selections featuring a variety of diverse viewpoints, by September 2025.

*Objective:* The Library Director will investigate the possibility of offering a multigenerational or adult book club featuring books with diverse viewpoints or characters by September 2026.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of book clubs will include selections featuring a variety of diverse viewpoints, characters, or authors by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Storywalk<sup>®</sup> will feature at least one story per year that reflects diversity, equity and inclusion by April 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will plan at least one program per year that celebrates Hispanic Heritage by July 2025.

**Goal #3:** Library staff will recognize and appreciate diversity in the community to ensure that every patron receives excellent service

*Objective:* Library staff will create or provide access to a resource list of "difficult" topics so that patrons can locate information without having to ask staff for assistance if they prefer not to by February 2025.

*Objective:* Library staff will have the resources, knowledge and training to assist Spanish language speaking patrons by June 2025.

*Objective:* The Library Director will develop a written plan to provide dedicated, paid staff time for training, including diversity training, for all staff on a regular basis by August 2024.

*Objective:* Library staff will have the resources, knowledge and training to appropriately serve neurodivergent patrons by April 2025.

*Objective:* The Library Director will investigate ways the JKPL can better serve the mental health needs of community residents by April 2026.



*Objective:* The Library Director will investigate ways the JKPL can provide support to caregivers residing in the community by April 2026.

***Express Creativity: Create and Share Content***

Residents will have the services and support they need to express themselves by creating original print, video, audio, or visual content in a real-world or online environment.

**Goal #1:** Students have resources to support and develop their writing skills.

*Objective:* The Children’s Librarian will investigate starting a summer creative writing group or other programs to help children develop writing skills by March 2025.

*Objective:* The Children’s Librarian will investigate creating a “NaNoWriMo” style event for youth by November 2024.

*Objective:* The Young and Emerging Adult Services Librarian will investigate creating a “NaNoWriMo” style event for teens by November 2024.

*Objective:* The Children’s and Young and Emerging Adult Services Librarians will explore incorporating writing into the typical summer reading program activities by May 2024.

*Objective:* The Children’s Librarian will research Brainfuse and other online services to identify and, if appropriate, offer training in their use for developing and improving writing skills by June 2025.

*Objective:* The Children’s Librarian will encourage area students to submit writing, memoirs, etc. to be bound into a book to add to the library collection by December 2024.

**Goal #2:** Members of the community have access to an environment that nurtures creative thinking.

*Objective:* The Children’s and Young and Emerging Adult Services Librarians will evaluate the needs of children and young adults for programs, events, activities and collections that nurture creative thinking by December 2024.

*Objective:* The Librarians developing programs for adults of all ages will work together to create programs and activities where adults in the community may showcase their special skills and talents by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarian in charge of social media will provide an opportunity for local citizens to share their talents and skills on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube Channels by December 2024.



*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will plan and host a bi-annual Create-a-thon event (festival of art, music, etc. where people can explore various creative interests) by January 2026.

*Objective:* The Young and Emerging Adult Services Librarians will partner with the local schools to provide an opportunity for students in debate, speech, theatre, etc. to demonstrate their skills in a public setting, prior to the actual performance or competition by July 2025.

**Goal #3:** Students are provided with S.T.E.M. focused opportunities to supplement their learning and bridge gaps in their knowledge.

*Objective:* The Young and Emerging Adult Librarian will partner with local experts and establishments (schools, colleges, other libraries) in order to provide access to S.T.E.M. equipment and expertise by December 2025.

*Objective:* Library staff in charge of S.T.E.M. programming will investigate best times, topics, and potential grant resources for S.T.E.M. programming by August 2025.

*Objective:* Library staff in charge of S.T.E.M. programming will partner with local schools to provide a venue for youth to teach and demonstrate skills and talents by January 2026.

*Objective:* Library staff in charge of S.T.E.M programming will partner with other organizations and businesses to develop and present programming connected with Engineering Week, Public Works Week, National STEM/STEAM Day, or other national events connected with S.T.E.M. by May 2025.

*Objective:* Library staff in charge of S.T.E.M programming will plan programming that demonstrates what a career in S.T.E.M. may look like by May 2025.

*Objective:* The Children's and Young and Emerging Adult Services Librarians will partner with the local schools to identify and fill gaps in S.T.E.M. learning by May 2026.

**Literacy for All** (blending Literacy focused responses):

*Create Young Readers: Early Literacy*

Children from birth to age five will have programs and services designed to ensure that they will enter school ready to learn to read, write, and listen.

*Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy*

Adults and teens will have the support they need to improve their literacy skills in order to meet their personal goals and fulfill their responsibilities as parents, citizens, and workers.

**Goal #1:** Children will have access to the programs, collections, and services they need to enter school ready to learn.



*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will offer regular and special story times throughout the year to support early literacy by August 2024.

*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will investigate expanding OutReads, the JKPL outreach story time program, to serve additional ages and / or daycares by May 2025.

*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will develop and offer resources for families to aid them in modeling reading and literacy by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will investigate modifying or expanding the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program to include preschools and / or daycares by December 2027.

*Objective:* Library staff will investigate opportunities to help families grow their home libraries by December 2026.

**Goal #2:** School age children will have access to the programs, collections and services they need to succeed at school.

*Objective:* Librarians in charge of programming for youth will develop a plan to visit schools and classrooms to engage with youth regarding reading and literacy by September 2026.

*Objective:* Librarians in charge of programming for youth will develop a plan for youth to visit the library in person or virtually (tours, video tours, etc.) by September 2027.

*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will provide opportunities for children to practice their reading skills in a safe, supportive environment by October 2025.

**Goal 3:** Teens and adults will have access to the programs, collections and services they need to support their learning goals.

*Objective:* The Young and Emerging Adult Librarian will work with the teen advisory council to identify educational topics and skills of interest to teens by November 2024.

*Objective:* The Young and Emerging Adult Librarian will launch a series of programs designed for teens focused on educational topics that prepare them for adulthood by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming for teens and adults will identify gaps in learning opportunities and develop programs to fill those gaps by April 2027.

*Objective:* The Library Director will evaluate electronic services and online databases to identify and provide access to those that support adult and teen learning goals by January 2028.



**Goal #4:** Neurodivergent individuals and those with special needs of all ages will have access to appropriate services and resources.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of collection development will develop collections to support neurodivergent residents by December 2024.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will develop programs and activities to meet the needs and interests of neurodivergent adults by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will develop programs and activities to meet the needs and interests of neurodivergent youth by October 2025.

*Objective:* The Library Director will investigate ways the JKPL can support the adult daycares in the community and those that use their services by September 2024.

*Objective:* The Library Director will identify resources for services to the neurodivergent by January 2025.

*Objective:* The Library Director will work with members of the neurodivergent community to identify barriers to accessing library service by August 2024.

**Goal #5:** Adults will have access to collections, programs and services to support their health and wellness needs.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programing will investigate partnering with the Dyersville Parks and Rec Department to offer collections and services related to fitness, health and wellness by April 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will work with older adults in the community to identify, plan and offer programs related to health and wellness by December 2024.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will investigate offering programs on nutrition and meal planning by June 2025.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming for adults will investigate the need and develop a plan to offer services for those with dementia (memory care services and programs, dementia friendly, etc.) by January 2026.

*Objective:* The Librarians in charge of programming will investigate expanding programs to include gardening and culinary literacy (cooking) programs for all ages by May 2026.



**Goal #6:** Residents who are not native English speakers will have access to programs, services and collections in their native language.

*Objective:* The Children's Librarian will investigate offering a bilingual (Spanish / English) Story Time at least quarterly by September 2025.

*Objective:* The Assistant Library Director will investigate what services the JKPL could offer to support the ESL and tutoring programs already available in the community by October 2024.

*Objective:* The Library Director will investigate providing access to materials for non-Native English-speaking patrons by October 2025.