



320 1st Ave E
Dyersville, Iowa 52040

Phone: 563-875-8912
Fax: 563-875-6162

librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us

Web: www.dyersville.lib.ia.us

**James Kennedy Public Library
Report to the Mayor and City Council
January 19, 2026**

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

- 7,076 items were checked out. This is a 5.6% increase from December 2024. Fiscal year to date, circulation is up 4.4%.
- 20 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 158 new library cards have been issued.
- 83 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 3,870 people engaged with these activities.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 134 hours and 329 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 1,148 hours and 2,494 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 961 sessions, 827 visits, and 319 unique users. Year to date WiFi use included 6,385 sessions, 5,386 visits, and 1,236 unique users.
- There were 4,090 library visits. Year to date visits are up 4%.

Upcoming Events:

Enclosed please find a copy of the January events schedule, as well as a preliminary schedule of activities planned for February. Some of the events scheduled include family activities for Take Your Child to the Library Day, mini-golf in the library, a special LEGO (t) building event for National Engineer's Week, and the Bear Creek Carvers open house. Kids Can Cook returns in February and it is also time to sign up for the Free Trees program. Upcoming fundraising activities include the annual Mystery Dinner Fundraiser, Love My Library, and Build-a-Basket. The Friends of the Library Used book sale is also in January.

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director

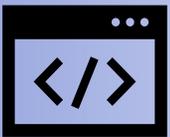
JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

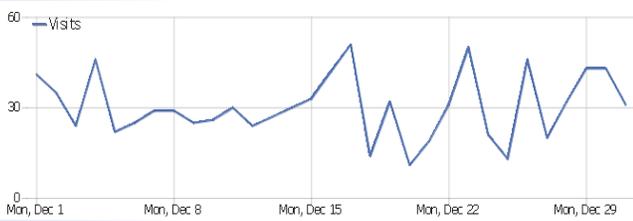
Month: December-25
 YTD: July-25 to December-25
 Previous YTD: July-24 to December-24

	Library visits		Items loaned		Library cards issued		
					City resident	Total	
Month	4090	(↑ 10.5%)	7076	(↑ 5.6%)	13	20	(↓ 4.8%)
YTD	30131	(↑ 4%)	47720	(↑ 4.4%)	102	158	(↓ 0.6%)

Website traffic



Visits	Average visit duration
945	1:23



Computer use



Month	Hours		Month	Sessions	
	YTD	Prev. YTD		YTD	Prev. YTD
134	1148	1227	329	2494	2548

Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
961	6385	827	5386	319	1236

Meeting room use



Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
39	484	348

Online Learning

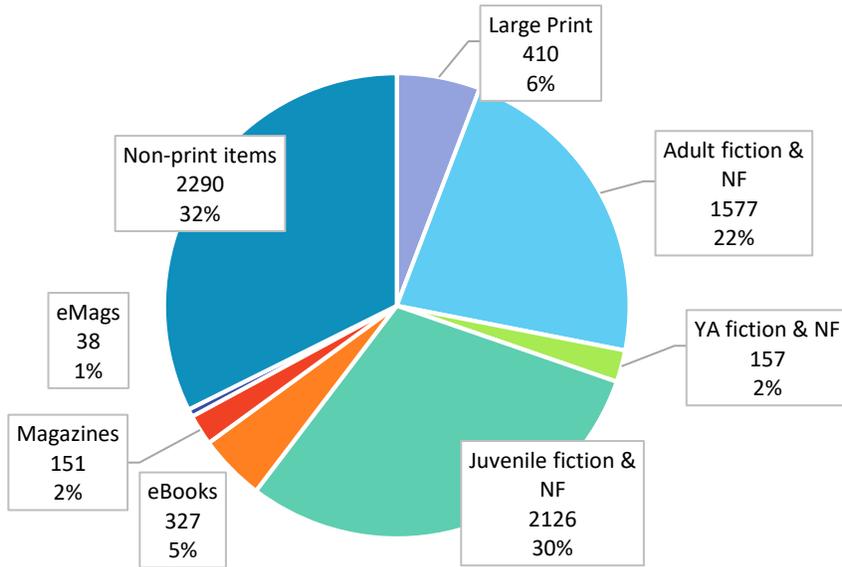
Sessions: 10
 YTD: 678

Mometrix
eLibrary

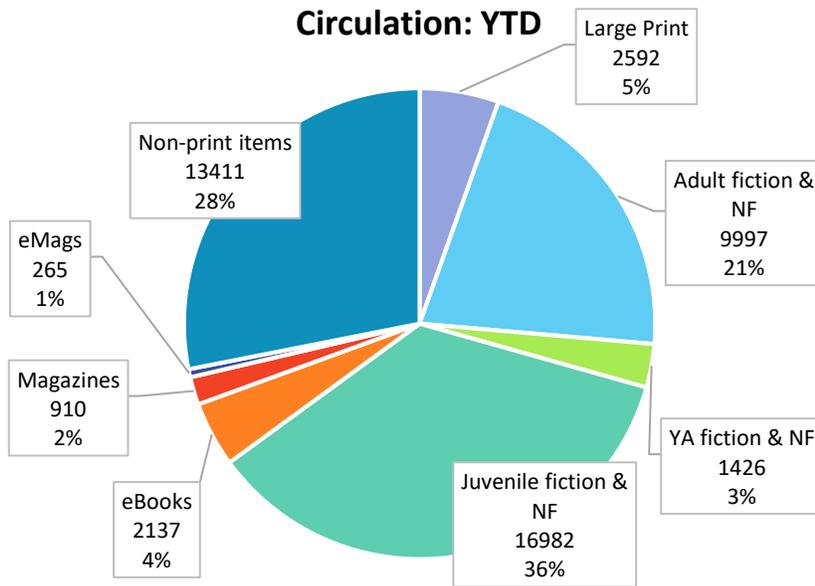


Circulation

Circulation: Month



Circulation: YTD



Non-print items	Month	YTD
eAudio	644	3985
Adult & YA audio	96	566
Juvenile audio & kits	17	126
Adult & YA video	741	4561
Juvenile video & DVD	391	2023
Games, LoT, etc.	401	2150
	2290	13411

Music

Downloads: 2
Total YTD: 17



Video (film and TV)

Downloads: 9
YTD: 82



Visits: 154
YTD: 999



Languages

Sessions: 30
YTD: 233



Genealogy

Visits: 659
YTD: 2079



World Culture

Visits: 0
YTD: 30



Hobbies

Sessions: 21
YTD: 71



Sessions: 0
YTD: 0



Collection

Items purchased

Month: 218
YTD: 1363

Items donated

Month: 19
YTD: 217
Prev. YTD: 434

Items withdrawn

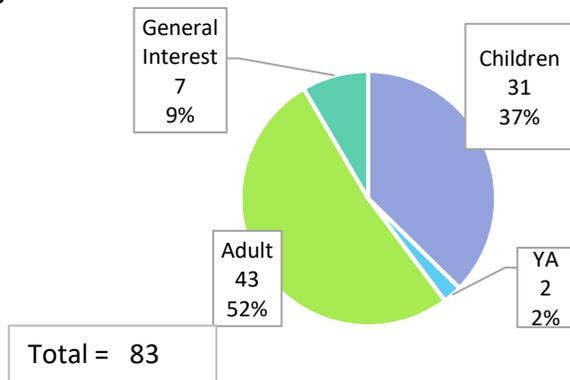
	Month	YTD
Books	83	1310
Audio	0	3
Video	3	444
Other	1	60
Total	87	1817

Summary of additions

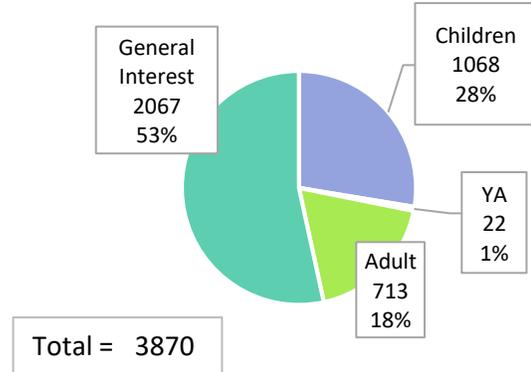
	Large print	Adult fiction	Adult & YA NF	YA fiction	Juvenile fiction	Juvenile NF	eBook & eAudio	Adult & YA audio	Juvenile audio	Adult & YA video	Juvenile video	CDs, games, misc.	Total
Current month	12	69	25	8	67	21	0	3	1	26	1	4	237
Previous month	9	32	17	14	33	0	0	5	1	23	0	7	141
Current YTD	85	429	171	96	418	59	57	20	3	168	31	43	1580
Previous YTD	130	455	213	92	369	91	46	34	2	178	49	32	1691

Programs

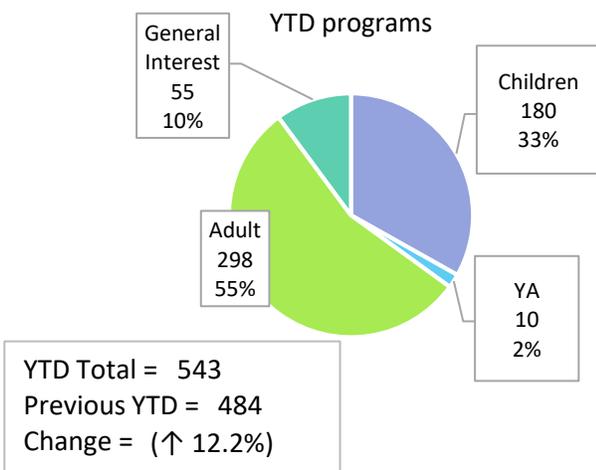
Monthly programs



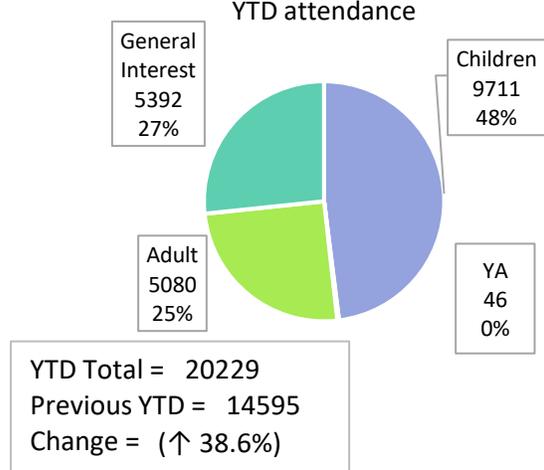
Monthly attendance



YTD programs



YTD attendance



Library closed: Thursday, January 1



Winter Wonderland Library Challenge: January 2–February 28

The JKPL is once again offering a winter library program. This year, participants will be using a new activity sheet to track their participation.

- Complete activities and read to earn prize entries.
- For each snowflake completed, the participant will earn an entry into the prize drawings (max of 5 entries per person)
- Several prize options, for various ages and interests, will be available to choose from.
- Those that complete the program, will earn a canvas book bag and be able to adopt an item to be added to the library collection.
- All ages of readers are welcome.
- Everyone will get a free book just for signing up!
- Activity sheets are available on or after January 2, or can be printed from the library website.



Creation Station Craft: Cotton Ball Penguin: January 2–31. Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft uses cotton balls to create a fluffy penguin. Kits include how-to instructions plus all needed supplies except for glue and scissors. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.



Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: January 2–31. Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. Kits are available while supplies last.

Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: January 2–31. The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages for you to enjoy at the library or at home. They are intended for adults and teens. Each pack will include at least 10 different items and are available while supplies last. If you want to work on the activities while at the library, colored pencils, markers, and more are available in the Creation Station or to check out from the front desk.

Get Puzzled @ Your Library: January 2–31. Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Home Cooking*. The puzzle is located on the table under the skylight and everyone is welcome to add a piece or two or more. Everyone who works on the puzzle is encouraged to put their name into a drawing to win the puzzle. Please stop at the front desk to get your name entered.

Westside Park StoryWalk®: "Snowflakes On Our Tongues" by Mike Ornstein: January 2–31 (dates are dependent on weather). Families are invited to walk the StoryWalk® at Westside Park which begins south of the parking lot by the baseball diamond. Walk the trail and read the story to your children. *The StoryWalk® is made possible by the Dubuque Racing Association, Friends of the Library, and the Richard Osterhaus Memorial Fund. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.*



Euchre Card Party: Fridays, January 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 from 1:00–3:30 pm. Join us Friday afternoons for Euchre in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players.

Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, January 3 from 10:00–11:00 am. Join us for this monthly LEGO® program that is for children of all ages. Those under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. Photos of the creations are displayed in the children's area of the library and on the library's social media pages. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac. Sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union.



Teen Quiz Bowl: Saturday, January 3 @ 4:00 pm

Want to test your knowledge and try to win some prizes? Join us for a Library Teen Quiz Bowl! The game will consist of 3 rounds consisting of 2 questions on each of the core subjects which include Arts, Literature, Science, Pop Culture, and History. Participants can sign up for one of three teams (Max 6 players per team). Registration is requested, and walk-ins are welcome if there is space on a team. For ages 13-18 only. Spectators are welcome! This program is sponsored by TACKL.



Children's Pretend Play Station: Pizza Restaurant: January 4–31. Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in Pizza Restaurant play!

Children's Scavenger Hunt: Pizza: January 4–31. Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our "Pizza" scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! One sticker per child per library visit.

Kids Can Craft: Create a Pizza Person: January 4–31. Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to design and color a hilarious pizza person. Pepperoni wearing a wedding dress? Vegetarian in farm overalls? Be creative and have fun! Every design turned in qualifies the artist for an entry into the drawing for a prize basket. The limit is one entry per day. The winner will be announced in early February.

Registration for Kids Can Cook Begins: Monday, January 5

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

- Classes will be held February 5, 12 & 19; March 5, 12 & 19; and April 2, 9 & 16 from 4:00–5:30 pm.
- Registration for each session is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session.
- A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must be on file for a child to attend.



This program is funded by Theisen's More for Your Community, Dyersville Area Community Foundation, Jeanne M. Coppola Endowment for Education, the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library, and various library fundraising events.

Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, January 5, 8, 15, 19, 22, 26 & 29 @ 9:30 and 10:30 am. Older adults of any age and fitness level are invited to join this special exercise program made possible by a partnership between the Geri-Fit® Company and the James Kennedy Public Library. Participants will exercise to a Geri-Fit® DVD and most of the exercises will be performed seated in a chair. There is no dancing or aerobics involved. Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays and last approximately 45 minutes. For best results, participants should attend as many of the sessions as possible. Each participant will need a set of 2 or 3-pound dumbbell weights, a medium weight stretch band, and water to drink. Space is limited so registration is required. *NOTE: there will not be classes held on January 12.*

Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, January 5 @ 12:00 noon. This month the group will discuss *The Santa Claus Girl* by Patricia Goodin. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. The Zoom room is opened upon request. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you plan to attend via Zoom, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 10:00 am on the day of the program and an invitation to the Zoom room will be emailed to you.



Genealogy with Ann: Monday, January 5 from 1:00–3:00 pm. Staff member Ann will be on hand to help you start, or continue to work on, your five-generation ancestor chart. Ann will also share information on free websites good for genealogy research. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own laptop, if they have one. Some library laptops will be available for use. Appointments with Ann can be made if that is more convenient.

"Home Alone"—An All-Abilities Movie Event: Monday, January 5 @ 6:00 pm. Join us for this classic holiday favorite! A mischievous 8-year-old just wants to be left alone—and that's exactly what happens when he gets accidentally left behind in a frenzied rush to the airport for a family vacation in Paris over Christmas. After learning to fend for himself, the boy has to protect his house against two bumbling burglars who are planning to rob it. Rated PG (102 min.) Refreshments provided. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion. Please note that this film may be shown with closed captioning enabled, ambient light and potentially other sensory friendly adjustments.



Storytime: Wednesdays, January 7, 14, 21 & 28 @ 10:30 am & 6:30 pm. Join Ms. Andrea for Storytime, where children are introduced to two or three books, rhymes, songs and a movement activity. Storytime is open to all ages and abilities but geared for those 1-6 years old. An adult companion is required and participation is encouraged. No registration needed. Storytime will be held weekly through March 25.



Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, January 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 1:00–3:00 pm. Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via Zoom. The Zoom room is opened upon request. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you wish to join virtually, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us 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.

Early Out Afternoons @ The Library: Wednesdays, January 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 3:30–4:30 pm. School's out early on Wednesdays, so head to the library every week for special activities geared toward kids of all ages! Children under age 7 are welcome, but must attend with a teen or adult companion. The dates and activities are:



January 7: Pom Pom Shooters
January 21: Writing, Drawing and Coloring

January 14: LEGO Club
January 28: Book Bingo

1000 Books Before Kindergarten Party: Wednesday, January 7 @ 7:00 pm

All children who have enrolled in the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program in 2025 are invited to attend the 1000 Books party and graduation. Come for storytime at 6:30 pm and stay for a brief award ceremony after. Or simply come to the ceremony. Kids who attend the party will receive a picture book and Goldfish crackers while graduates of the program will receive a trophy! An email invitation will be sent to participants, and all family members and siblings are welcome to attend. An adult companion is required. *The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program is funded by the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library.*



Family Movies @ Your Library presents “Freaky Friday”: Saturday, January 10 @ 1:00 pm. Dr. Tess Coleman and her teenage daughter Anna have one thing in common—they don’t relate to each other on anything. Then one night a little mystic mayhem changes their lives and they wake up to the biggest freak-out ever—they are trapped inside each other’s body! But Tess’s wedding is Saturday and the two must find a way to switch back fast! Literally forced to walk in each other’s shoes, will they gain respect and understanding for the other’s point of view? Rated PG (97 minutes). *Join us January 17 for the sequel!*



Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, January 10 @ 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.

National Hot Tea Day Activity Kits: Monday, January 12. January is National Hot Tea Month and January 12 is National Hot Tea Day so the JKPL invites you to celebrate! Starting today, activity kits will be available to take home and enjoy. Kits will include tea themed trivia, activities, and coloring pages, plus a couple of tea bags donated by Savvy Salvage. Kits will be available while supplies last.

Soup Lunch and Dinner Fundraiser: Monday, January 12 from 11:30 am –1:00 pm & 4:30–6:30 pm

Come enjoy a bowl of homemade chili or chicken noodle soup at this library fundraiser! Again this year, we are offering carryout service for lunch as well as dinner.

- Lunch will be available from 11:30 am–1:00 pm and dinner will be offered from 4:30–6:30 pm (or until we run out).
- Price is \$6.00 for a 14 oz bowl of soup with crackers. Quarts of soup are also available for \$12.00 each.
- The soup is made and served by the JKPL staff and Library Board members.
- Limited seating may be available for guests to eat on site.
- Guests can call ahead to have their order ready, or step into the Hoffman Room to order and pick up their soup.
- Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to support library programs, services and collections.



Adult Crafternoon—Pinecone Gnomes: Monday, January 12 from 1:00–3:00 pm. Join us this month to make a gnome out of a pinecone and felt. 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. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits will be available while supplies last.



Fun and Games with Paul—“Exploding Kittens”: Monday, January 12 from 3:30–5:30 pm. Drop in at this monthly gathering to play a game with Paul. Each month will feature a specific game that guests will be able to play while at the library. This month will focus on *Exploding Kittens*, a card game where players blow each other up with cats! Guests are welcome to come and go as they are able. Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion.



Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, January 13 @ 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 *Under the Texas Mistletoe* by Karen Witemeyer. 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 email dschrandt@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 6pm on the day of the program so a link to the Zoom room can be emailed to you.

Create with Audrey: Glow-In-the-Dark Rocks: Thursday, January 15 from 6:00–7:30 pm and Friday, January 16 from 10:00 am–12:30 pm. Join Audrey at the JKPL on the 3rd Thursday and Friday of each month to create a cool craft or art project. This month we will be decorating rocks with neon, glow-in-the-dark paint. This is a drop-in event so guests are welcome to come and go as they are able. Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion.



Kobolds Ate My Baby Role Playing Game: Friday, January 16 @ 6:00 pm. Join us after-hours for *Kobolds Ate My Baby*, a role playing game with simple rules and lots of shenanigans. The library will have completed character sheets available. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion.



Family Movies @ Your Library presents “Freakier Friday”: Saturday, January 17 @ 1:00 pm. 22 years after Tess and Anna endured an identity crisis, Anna now has a daughter and a soon-to-be stepdaughter. As they navigate the challenges that come when two families merge, Tess and Anna discover that lightning might strike twice. Rated PG (97 minutes).

Bingo Party: Monday, January 19 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!

Evergreens & Tea: Tuesday, January 20 from 6:00—7:30 pm

Join Dubuque County Conservation in learning about evergreen trees found here in Eastern Iowa. Be ready to learn about the differences between cedars, spruces, pines, and other evergreens. We will also be creating a pine needle tea to taste during our presentation and you'll take home another recipe to try on your own. For ages 12 and up. Registration is encouraged as a minimum of 8 participants is required for this event to be held. Register by calling the library or signing up online.



Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, January 22 @ 11:15 am. Join Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler who will talk about what the word "healthy" means on food labels and how to identify foods that meet these guidelines. We will also review the nutritional differences between fresh, canned, and frozen foods, helping you make informed and confident choices at the grocery store. There will be food samples to try. All are welcome.



Fit the Pieces Jigsaw Puzzle Fundraiser: Thursday, January 22 from 6:00—8:00 pm

Join us at Textile Brewing Company to celebrate National Puzzle Day at this fundraising event to support the JKPL!

- Teams of up to 4 individuals can buy a table for \$60.00 which includes a 500-piece puzzle.
- Complete the puzzle first to win!
- Prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place.
- Be sure to bring some cash to buy some fun twists like freezing the competition, making them wear gloves, putting them in jail, and more—with all proceeds going to the library!
- Participation is limited to 15 teams and tickets are on sale now.
- Textile Brewing Company will donate 10% of food sales during the event to the JKPL.
- All proceeds will benefit the James Kennedy Public Library.



Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, January 23 from 6:00—8:00 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.

Used Book Sale: Friday, January 23 thru Monday, January 26

Join us for the Friends of the Library used book sale in the basement of the James Kennedy Public Library. Come check out the variety of items including books, movies, audios and more! Bags of books are \$2.00 on Monday, the last day of the sale. Hours are:

Friday, January 23: 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Saturday, January 24: 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Sunday, January 25: 1:00—4:00 pm

Monday, January 26: 9:00 am—6:00 pm



Antique Children's Book Sale: Saturday, January 24 from 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Visit the James Kennedy Public Library to peruse a donated collection of antique children's picture books from the 1960s through the late 1990s. Enjoy the memories of bygone books, and support the library by purchasing some for your own collection. Books will be priced to sell at \$5 each (with price reductions on each hour), but the memories, laughs, and potential finds are priceless! The funds raised at this event will help fund a wooden play structure in the library's children's area.

Strings Club: Monday, January 26 @ 6:00 pm. Do you have a ukulele, guitar or other string instrument that you would like to play more often? Do you want to grow your skills by jamming with others? Then come join the JKPL Strings Club! Teen and adult musicians of all skill levels are welcome. NOTE: This is not a class but a jam session so participants should know basic chords. Facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month. Registration is encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Please contact the library to register.

LEGO® Builder Challenge: Tuesday, January 27 from 3:45—4:45 pm. Looking to challenge your LEGO® building skills? Come to the library! This program is for all ages but children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. Photos of the creations are displayed in the children's area of the library and on the library's social media pages. The winner will receive a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac. This program is sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union.



JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, January 27 @ 6:30 pm. Join us this month in person at the library, or remotely via Zoom, for a sharing session with writers of all types including poetry, memoir, fiction, or nonfiction. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you want to participate via Zoom, please contact the library by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

Free Trees for Earth Day!

The JKPL is celebrating Earth Day again this spring by participating in the Annual Neighborhood Forest free tree program, whose aim is to provide free trees to kids every Earth Day.

- Parents can find more information and sign their children up to receive a tree at this link: <https://bit.ly/FreeTrees24>
- Trees (6 to 12 inches in size) will be delivered to the JKPL and families will be able to pick them up at the library around Earth Day (April 22).
- Planting instructions and species information will be emailed a few days prior to the trees arriving.
- Registration should open sometime in January.



**Take Your Child to the Library Day
February 7 from 10:00 am—3:00 pm**

Help us celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day, an international day that celebrates libraries, by bringing your children to the library to enjoy the things the library offers. To celebrate, we have the following events planned for kids of all ages in various locations around the library:

- 10:00—11:00 am: LEGOs
- 10:30—11:00 am: Storytime
- 11:15—11:30 am: Indoor Snowball Fight
- 11:00 am—1:00 pm: BeanBoozled and Gummy Candy Tasting
- 1:00—3:00 pm: Movie: *The Mitchells vs. The Machines* (Rated PG)

A huge community poster will also be available to color with BRAND NEW library markers all day long in the Creation Station! Also while here, participate in our donuts scavenger hunt and coffee shop pretend play station, enter our donut poem drawing challenge, and check out books to read in the library or at home.

**Fun and Games with Paul: *Magic The Gathering*
Monday, February 9 from 3:30—5:30 pm**

Drop in at this monthly gathering to play a game with Paul. Each month will feature a specific game that guests will be able to play while at the library. This month will focus on *Magic: The Gathering*—a game where players summon monsters to attack each other strategically. Guests are welcome to come and go as they are able. Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion.

**Virtual Reality with VictoryLabsFX
Saturday, February 14 from 10:00—11:30 am**

VictoryLabsFX is a virtual reality educational program that the library can access with our Metaquest VR headsets. Join us as we do a little chemistry, check out some planets, and see some museum exhibits—all with VR! Feel free to drop in as you are able. For ages 12 and up.

**Miniature Golf @ Your Library
Saturday, February 21 from 4:30—6:30 pm**

Come to the library for this special after-hours event for all ages. For one night only, we'll turn the library into a mini-golf course! Come tee off between the stacks and navigate our book obstacles which will be designed by library staff and/or volunteers. All ages welcome but those under age 7 must be accompanied by an adult.

Movies @ Your Library

The Mitchells vs. The Machines (Rated PG)
Saturday, February 7 @ 1:00 pm

Tron: Ares (Rated PG-13)
Saturday, February 21 @ 1:00 pm

Free snacks & drinks for all who attend!

**Mystery Dinner Theatre Fundraiser
Murder at the Fish Fly Club
Saturday, February 28 @ 6:30 pm**

The JKPL is excited to announce the 2026 Mystery Dinner Fundraiser! Join us for a night of mystery and intrigue in the wild and romantic era of the roaring '20's! The show will be performed by the Brew Ha Ha Players, the meal will be catered by J & D Catering, and the event will be held at the Dyersville Social Center. Snow date is March 7. Themed dress is welcome! Tickets are \$75.00 per person or a group of six (6) for \$400.00. Seating is limited and tickets must be purchased by February 18. For more details on the show and the meal please visit: www.dyersville.lib.ia.us

Tickets on sale now!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> JANUARY 2026 </div>	<u>January 2–31</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coloring, Creating, & Doing Upcycled Cards kits Get Puzzled StoryWalk® Cotton Ball Penguin craft kits 	<u>January 4–31</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a pizza person challenge Children's Pretend Play Station & scavenger hunt National Hot Tea Day Activity Kits (available January 12) 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Library closes @ 5pm on December 31 </div>	1 Library closed	2 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Winter Wonderland Library Challenge Begins January 2! </div>	3 Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program from 10-11am Teen Quiz Bowl @ 4pm
4	5 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Books For Lunch @ 12pm Genealogy with Ann from 1-3pm Home Alone (PG) @ 6pm <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Kids Can Cook Registration begins </div>	6	7 Storytime @ 10:30am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 4-5pm 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Party @ 7pm	8 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am	9 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	10 Freaky Friday (PG) @ 1pm Dungeons & Dragons @ 3:30pm
11	12 Soup Lunch & Dinner Fundraiser from 11:30am to 1pm & 4:30-6:30pm Adult Crafternoon from 1-3pm Fun & Games from 3:30-5:30pm	13 A Novel Approach to Faith book club @ 7pm	14 Storytime @ 10:30am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 4-5pm	15 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Paint glow-in-the-dark rocks from 6-7:30pm	16 Paint glow-in-the-dark rocks from 10am-12:30pm Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm Kobolds Ate My Baby RPG @ 6pm	17 Freakier Friday (PG) @ 1pm
18	19 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Bingo Party from 1-3pm	20 Evergreens & Tea from 6-7:30pm	21 Storytime @ 10:30am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 4-5pm	22 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Health & Wellness 365 @ 11:15am Fit The Pieces Puzzle Fundraiser @ 6pm	23 Used Book Sale from 9am-5pm Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm Game Night from 6-8pm	24 Used Book Sale from 9am-3pm Antique Children's Book Sale from 9am-2pm
25 Used Book Sale from 1-4pm	26 Used Book Sale from 9am-6pm Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Strings Club @ 6pm	27 LEGO® Builder Challenge from 3:45-4:45pm JKPL Writing Group @ 6:30pm	28 Storytime @ 10:30am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 4-5pm	29 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am	30 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	31

Upcoming Events for FEBRUARY 2026

Free Trees for Earth Day! The JKPL is celebrating Earth Day again this spring by participating in the Annual Neighborhood Forest free tree program, whose aim is to provide free trees to kids every Earth Day. Since 2010, Neighborhood Forest has reached over 100,000 families and planted over 50,000 (mostly urban and residential) trees through the hands of children and parents across North America. The JKPL is excited to be participating in this wonderful program that teaches kids stewardship through the magic and wonder of planting and watching trees grow. Parents can find more information and sign their children up to receive a tree at this link: <https://bit.ly/FreeTrees24>. Deadline to sign up for this program is March 15. Trees (6 to 12 inches in size) will be delivered to the JKPL and families will be able to pick them up around Earth Day (April 22nd). Planting instructions and species information will be emailed a few days prior to the trees arriving. NEW!! Community members without children can also use this link to purchase trees and/or help fund free trees in your community. These purchases and donations help offset the cost of free trees registered for in your community and do not result in additional trees being sent to your institution beyond what is registered for.

Love My Library Giving Tree Fundraiser: February 2026. Do you “Love Your Library”? Then consider participating in this annual fundraising activity that will improve the collections, programs, and services the library is able to offer. Library staff have identified books and other materials, furnishings, equipment, programs, supplies, and more that the library needs. Select one or more items and donate the funds needed for purchase. Or purchase the items yourself and donate them to the library. Donations will be written on a heart and displayed on the library windows as well as acknowledged on the library website and social media. Where appropriate the library will attach a tag or book plate acknowledging the donation and the donor will be the first to check it out. Some items are listed on the bulletin board in the entry to the library as well as being featured on the library webpage and social media. The complete list can be viewed at the front desk or from the home page of the library’s website (www.dyersville.lib.ia.us). Not finding something you want to “love”? Bring your ideas to a librarian!

Winter Wonderland Library Challenge Continues: February 1-28. The JKPL is once again offering a winter library program. This year, participants will be using a new activity sheet to track their participation. Complete activities and read to earn prize entries. For each snowflake completed, the participant will earn an entry into the prize drawings (maximum of 10 entries per person). Several prize options, for various ages and interests, will be available to choose from. Those that complete the program, will earn a canvas book bag and be able to adopt an item to be added to the library collection. All ages of readers are welcome. Everyone will get a free book just for signing up! Stop in the library to register and pick up your activity sheet on or after January 2, or print the sheet from the library website. This Winter Library Challenge will run thru February 28 and all entries must be received by March 6 to be included in the drawings.

Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Begins: Sunday, February 1: Would you like to help raise money for the library? It is fun and easy! Just pick something you love and build a basket of items around that theme. Or pick a favorite book and build a basket around that book. Create your basket and donate it to the library by early March. The baskets will be auctioned off in a silent auction (in person and virtual) that runs March 1 to March 29. The library will provide you with an empty basket if you need one. Or you can just donate your items to the library and we can put them all in a basket for you. All funds raised are used to support library programs, collections, and services.

Children’s Pretend Play Station: Coffee Shop: February 1-28. Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in Coffee Shop play!

Children’s Scavenger Hunt: Donuts: February 1-28. Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our “Donuts” scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! One sticker per child per

library visit.

Kids Can Craft: Create a Donut Poem: February 1-28. Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to write a donut-shaped poem and/or color a donut. Every design turned in qualifies the artist for an entry into the drawing for a prize basket. Limit is one entry per day. The winner will be announced in early March.

Creation Station Craft: February 1-28. Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! Kits include instructions plus all needed supplies except for glue and scissors. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.

Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: February 1-28. Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. If crafting in the library, glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk for in-library use. Kits are available while supplies last.

Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: February 1-28. The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages for you to enjoy at the library or at home. They are intended for adults and teens. Each pack will include at least 10 different items and are available while supplies last. If you want to work on the activities while at the library, colored pencils, markers, and more are available in the Creation Station or to check out from the front desk.

Get Puzzled @ Your Library: February 1-28. Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. The puzzle is located on the table under the skylight and everyone is welcome to add a piece or two or more. Everyone who works on the puzzle is encouraged to put their name into a drawing to win the puzzle. Please stop at the front desk to get your name entered.

Westside Park StoryWalk®: "The Book that Almost Rhymed" by Omar Abed: February 1-28. Families are invited to walk the StoryWalk® at Westside Park which begins south of the parking lot by the baseball diamond. Walk the trail and read the story to your children. The StoryWalk® is made possible by the Dubuque Racing Association, Friends of the Library, and the Richard Osterhaus Memorial Fund. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, February 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 @ 9:30 and 10:30 am. Older adults of any age and fitness level are invited to join this special exercise program made possible by a partnership between the Geri-Fit® Company and the James Kennedy Public Library. Participants will exercise to a Geri-Fit® DVD and most of the exercises will be performed seated in a chair. There is no dancing or aerobics involved. Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays and last approximately 45 minutes. For best results, participants should attend as many of the sessions as possible. Each participant will need a set of 2 or 3-pound dumbbell weights, a medium weight stretch band, and water to drink. Space is limited so registration is required.

Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, February 2 @ 12:00 noon. This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *This is how it always is* by Laurie Frankel. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. The Zoom room is opened upon request. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you plan to attend via Zoom, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 10:00 am on the day of the program and an invitation to the Zoom room will be emailed to you.

Genealogy with Ann: Monday, February 2 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Staff member Ann will be on hand to help you start, or continue to work on, your five-generation ancestor chart. Ann will also share information on free websites good for genealogy research. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own laptop, if they have one. Some library laptops will be available for use. Appointments with Ann can be made if that is more convenient.

“Superman” – An All-Abilities Movie Event: Monday, February 2 @ 6:00 pm. As the embodiment of truth, justice and the human way Superman soon finds himself in a world that views these as old-fashioned. This is the 2025 movie. Rated PG-13 (130 min.) Refreshments provided. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion. Please note that this film may be shown with closed captioning enabled, ambient light and potentially other sensory friendly adjustments.

Storytime: Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25 @ 10:30 am & 6:30 pm. Join Ms. Andrea for Storytime, where children are introduced to two or three books, rhymes, songs and a movement activity. Storytime is open to all ages and abilities but geared for those 1-6 years old. An adult companion is required and participation is encouraged. No registration required. Storytime will be held weekly through March 25 and will then resume April 15.

Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 1:00–3:00 pm. Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via Zoom. The Zoom room is opened upon request. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you wish to join virtually, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us 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.

Early Out Afternoons: Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 3:30-4:30 pm. School’s out early on Wednesdays, so head to the library every week for special activities geared toward kids of all ages! (Children under age 7 are welcome but must attend with a teen or adult companion). The dates and activities are: February 4- Mini Diamond Art; February 11- LEGO Club; February 18- Writing, Drawing and Coloring; and February 25- Book Bingo. Early out afternoons will be held most Wednesdays until the end of May.

World Read Aloud Day: Wednesday, February 4. World Read Aloud Day is celebrated on the first Wednesday in February. This is a day dedicated not just to reading, but to the art and practice of reading aloud. LitWorld founded World Read Aloud Day in 2010 in celebration of the power of reading aloud to create community, to amplify new stories, and to advocate for literacy as a foundational human right. To celebrate, the JKPL will post a smash cut video of library staff members reading aloud brief excerpts from favorite books. Patrons are also encouraged to celebrate and share a brief video or photograph of them reading aloud. Videos can be posted on the library’s social media or emailed to librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us between February 1 and 15.

Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, February 5, 12 & 19 from 4:00-5:30 pm. Kids Can Cook will teach kids ages 10-12 basic kitchen skills and how to make healthy food choices. The first ten minutes of each class will focus on kitchen safety and introductory cooking information, such as how to read a recipe. The remainder of each class will be hands-on learning, cooking, and cleaning up. Kitchen safety and cleanliness will be emphasized. Classes will also be held in March and April. Registration for each session is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session. A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must be on file for a child to attend. *This program is funded by Theisen’s More for Your Community, Dyersville Area Community Foundation, Jeanne M. Coppola Endowment for Education, the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library, and various library fundraising events.*

Euchre Card Party: Fridays, February 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 1:00-3:30 pm. Join us Friday afternoons for Euchre in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players.

Take Your Child to the Library Day: Saturday, February 7 from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Help us celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day, an international day that celebrates libraries, by bringing your children to the library to enjoy the following children's events for all ages:

10:00 - 11:00: LEGOs in the Hoffman Room

10:30 - 11:00: Storytime with Ms. Andrea in the Children's Area

11:15 - 11:30: Indoor Snowball Fight in the Hoffman Room

11:00 - 1:00: BeanBoozled and Gummy Candy Tasting in the Creation Station

1:00 - 3:00: *The Mitchells vs. The Machines* (Rated PG) with free popcorn and soda.

A huge community poster will also be available to color with *BRAND NEW* library markers all day long in the Creation Station! Also while here, participate in our donuts scavenger hunt and coffee shop pretend play station, enter our donut poem drawing challenge, and check out books to read in the library or at home.

Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, February 7 from 10:00-11:00 am.

Join us for this monthly LEGO® program that is for children of all ages. Those under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. Photos of the creations are displayed in the children's area of the library and on the library's social media pages. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac. Sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union.

Family Movies @ Your Library presents "The Mitchells vs. The Machines": Saturday, February 7 @ 1:00 pm. After Katie Mitchell is accepted to the university of her dreams, her father decides that the whole family will drive her to school and have an adventure. However, their plans are ruined when technology—phones, appliances, personal robots, and more—stages a revolution against humanity. The Mitchells now find themselves with two malfunctioning robots working to save the world from destruction! Rated PG (114 minutes).

Nerf War @ Your Library: Saturday, February 7 from 4:00-6:00 pm. Bring your Nerf gun and ammo and head to the library for this bi-monthly Nerf War! Participants must be 13 or older and anyone under 18 must have a signed parental waiver. Registration requested as 10 people are required to hold the program and a max of 20 is allowed. Walk-ins welcome, if space allows. Participants must provide their own Nerf guns and ammo but no modifications to darts or guns to increase range or hitting power will be allowed.

Adult Crafternoon: Scrap Wreaths: Monday, February 9 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Join us this month to make an 8" wreath from scraps of material and ribbon. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a take-and-make kit and craft on your own at home. Kits will be available while supplies last.

Fun and Games with Paul - "Magic the Gathering": Monday, February 9 from 3:30-5:30 pm. Drop in at this monthly gathering to play a game with Paul. This month, come learn to play *Magic: The Gathering*- a game where players summon monsters to attack each other strategically. Guests are welcome to come and go as they are able. Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion.

Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, February 10 @ 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 *Double Indemnity* by Robert Whitlow. 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 email dschrandt@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 6pm on the day of the program so a link to the Zoom room can be emailed to you.

Virtual Reality with VictoryLabsFX: Saturday, February 14 from 10:00-11:30 am.

VictoryLabsFX is a virtual reality educational program that the library can access with our Metaquest VR headsets. Join us as we do a little chemistry, check out some planets, and see some museum exhibits - all with VR! Feel free to drop in as you are able. For ages 12 and up.

Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, February 14 @ 3:30 pm. Join us for this monthly gaming event for D & D players that meets in-person or you can join remotely via Discord. This group meets the second Saturday of every month and new players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. The library has materials available but feel free to bring your own. To join via Discord, contact Paul at Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite.

Bingo Party: Monday, February 16 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Come enjoy bingo at the JKPL! There is a two card limit, there is no cost to play, and there are prizes! Registration is recommended as space is limited. Bring your friends!

Create with Audrey - Sticker Art and Confetti Bookmarks : Thursday, February 19 from 6:00-7:30 pm and Friday, February 20 from 10:00 am-12:30 pm. Join Audrey on the 3rd Thursday and Friday of each month to create a cool craft or art project. This month we will be painting pictures with stickers and making bookmarks filled with confetti. This is a drop-in event so guests are welcome to come and go as their schedule permits. Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 10 need an adult companion.

Movies @ Your Library presents "Wicked: For Good": Saturday, February 21 @ 12:00 pm. Elphaba and Glinda are now estranged, each living with the consequences of their choices. Elphaba, now The Wicked Witch of the West, lives in exile, continuing her fight to expose The Wizard. Meanwhile, Glinda has become a glamorous symbol of Goodness, basking in the perks of fame and popularity. As the angry citizens of Oz rise up against the Wicked Witch, Glinda and Elphaba must reunite and truly see each other—if they are to change themselves, and all of Oz. Rated PG (140 minutes).

Miniature Golf @ Your Library: Saturday, February 21 from 4:30-6:30 pm. Come to the library for this special after-hours event for all ages. For one night only, we'll turn the library into a mini-golf course! Come tee off between the stacks and navigate our book obstacles which will be designed by library staff and/or volunteers. All ages welcome but those under age 7 must be accompanied by an adult.

Strings Club: Monday, February 23 @ 6:00 pm. Do you have a ukulele, guitar or other string instrument that you would like to play more often? Do you want to grow your skills by jamming with others? Then come join the JKPL Strings Club! Teen and adult musicians of all skill levels are welcome. NOTE: This is not a class but a jam session so participants should know basic chords. Facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month. Registration is encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Please contact the library to register.

National Engineers Week City Building Challenge: Tuesday, February 24 from 3:30-5:00 pm. National Engineers Week (February 22-28) is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of, and interest in, engineering and technology careers. To celebrate, the library is hosting a LEGO building challenge! This year participants will work together using LEGOs to build their own city layout that needs to meet certain requirements to be successful- just like what a city engineer does! Dyersville City Engineer John Wandsnider will be on hand to answer questions, either about the challenge or general engineering questions. This program is designed for those ages 7 and up.

JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, February 24 @ 6:30 pm. Join us this month in person at the

library, or remotely via Zoom, for a sharing session with writers of all types including poetry, memoir, fiction, or nonfiction. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you want to participate via Zoom, please contact the library by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, February 26 @ 11:15 am. Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler will talk about >>>>> There will be food samples to try. All are welcome.

Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, February 27 from 6:00-8:00 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.

Murder Mystery Dinner Fundraiser: “Murder at the Fish Fly Club”: Saturday, February 28 @ 6:30 pm. Join us at the Dyersville Social Center for a night of mystery, music, and mayhem in the wild and romantic era of the roaring ‘20’s! The show will be performed by the Brew Ha Ha Players. Tickets are \$75.00 each or a group of six (6) for \$400.00. Seating is limited and tickets must be purchased before February 18. Doors open at 5:45 pm and the performance starts promptly at 6:30 pm. Themed dress is welcome! The meal will be catered by J&D Catering. The meal will include: Caesar salad, Red Wine Pot Roast, Parmesan Peppercorn Chicken, Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Green Bean Almandine, and Cupcakes (white with raspberry filling & double chocolate fudge). Note: A vegetarian option is available if requested at the time the ticket is purchased. Water, milk, iced tea, lemonade, and coffee also provided. Soda and alcohol are NOT provided but guests are welcome to bring their own! Snow date is March 7. Show description, menu, and more details can be found at <https://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us/events/murder-mystery-dinner-fundraiser>

Description for Murder at the Fish Fly Club:

Step back into the wild and romantic world of the Roaring '20s, where the champagne flows, the jazz sizzles, and danger lurks behind every beaded curtain! When Buzz Nessman, the dashing owner of Dyersville’s most notorious speakeasy—The Fish Fly Club—is found murdered, the joint goes from jumpin’ to downright deadly. Was it the prim and proper prohibitionist N.A. O’Doul? Or Buzz’s crooked business partner, Bootleg Willie? Maybe the sultry songbird Bea Sharpe, or Betty Jane - Buzz’s “sweet” but not-so-innocent mistress? Grab your pearls, your fedoras, and your flask and join the bumbling, yet oddly charming detective, Jack Slickman as the mystery unfolds right before your eyes!