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**James Kennedy Public Library  
Report to the Mayor and City Council  
March 16, 2026**

*Highlights from the Librarian's Report to the Board of Trustees for February 2026 are:*

- 6,589 items were checked out. This is a 12.7% decrease from February 2025. Fiscal year to date, circulation is down 0.2%.
- 24 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 203 new library cards have been issued.
- 89 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 2,393 people engaged with these activities. Year to date, program attendance is up 29.5%.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 323 hours and 456 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 1,655 hours and 3,344 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 1,067 sessions, 870 visits, and 333 unique users. Year to date WiFi use included 8,468 sessions, 7,161 visits, and 1,586 unique users.
- There were 4,756 library visits. Year to date visits are up 2.5%.

*Upcoming Events:*

Enclosed please find a copy of the March events schedule, as well as a preliminary schedule of activities planned for April. Some of the events scheduled include the Bear Creek Carvers' Open House and demonstration, a STEAMfest with several different family friendly activities, and the start of a new monthly Pokémon Club. We are also planning special events for Drop Everything and Read month (April) and National Library Week (April 19 - 25). The Build-a-Basket Fundraiser is going well with 46 baskets donated and active bidding on most of them. The JKPL has partnered with Fuse for a new event – a Comedy Night event on March 27. Tickets are available now. And the spring Burrito Breakfast or Bowl fundraiser to kick off National Library week is scheduled for April 18.

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director

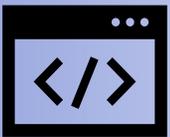
# JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

## Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

Month: February-26  
 YTD: July-25 to February-26  
 Previous YTD: July-24 to February-25

	Library visits		Items loaned		Library cards issued		
					City resident	Total	
Month	4756	(↑ 11.1%)	6589	(↓ 12.7%)	14	24	(↓ 4%)
YTD	39099	(↑ 2.5%)	61483	(↓ 0.2%)	131	203	(↓ 4.7%)

### Website traffic



Visits	Average visit duration
958	1:14



### Computer use



Month	Hours		Month	Sessions	
	YTD	Prev. YTD		YTD	Prev. YTD
323	1655	1701	456	3344	3440

### Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
1067	8468	870	7161	333	1586

### Meeting room use



Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
58	603	488

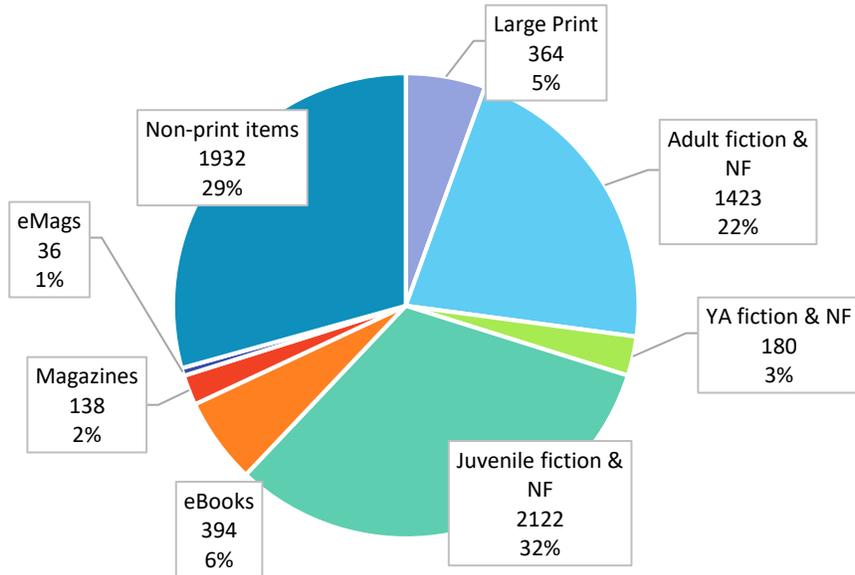
#### Online Learning

Sessions: 26  
 YTD: 783

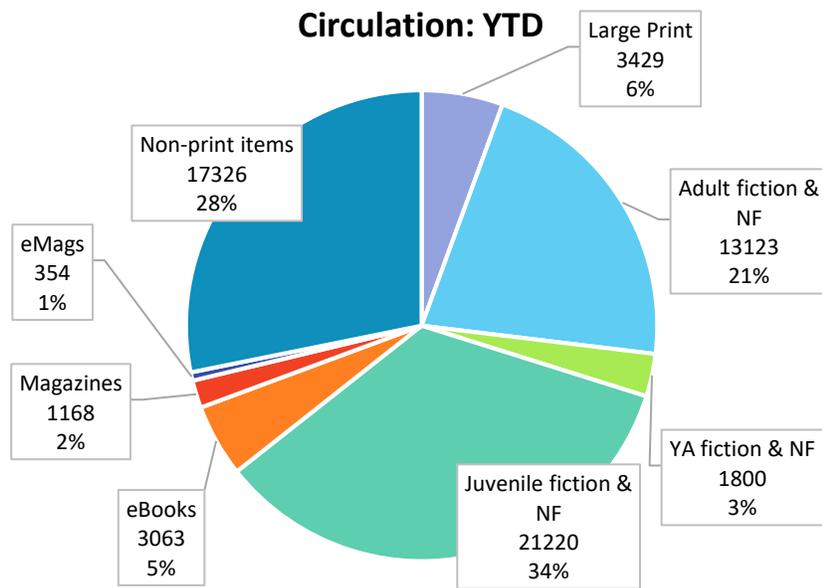



# Circulation

## Circulation: Month



## Circulation: YTD



Non-print items	Month	YTD
eAudio	692	5421
Adult & YA audio	73	723
Juvenile audio & kits	21	174
Adult & YA video	484	5644
Juvenile video & DVD	299	2548
Games, LoT, etc.	363	2816
	<b>1932</b>	<b>17326</b>

## Music

Downloads: 5  
Total YTD: 26



## Video (film and TV)

Downloads: 8  
YTD: 103



Visits: 295  
YTD: 1405



## Languages

Sessions: 103  
YTD: 402



## Genealogy

Visits: 866  
YTD: 3503



## World Culture

Visits: 0  
YTD: 30



## Hobbies

Sessions: 50  
YTD: 152



Sessions: 0  
YTD: 0



# Collection

**Items purchased**

Month:	144
YTD:	1745

**Items donated**

Month:	92
YTD:	397
Prev. YTD:	899

**Items withdrawn**

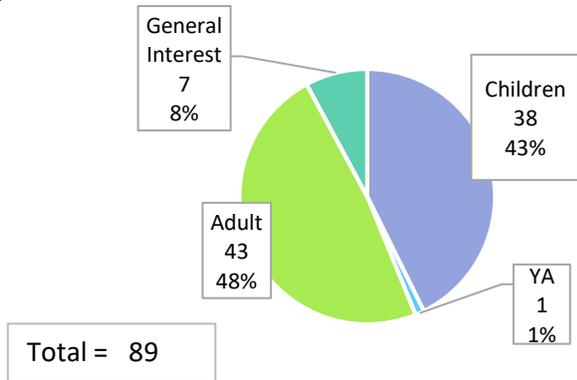
	Month	YTD
Books	129	1609
Audio	0	3
Video	3	454
Other	22	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>2149</b>

## Summary of additions

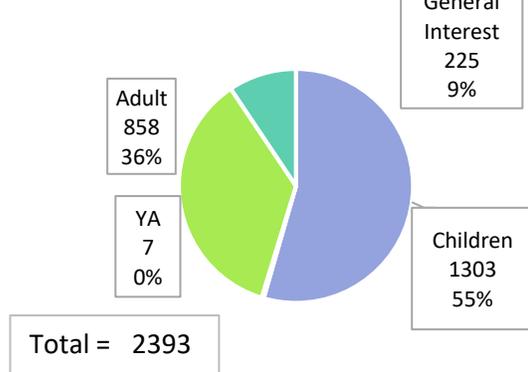
	Large print	Adult fiction	Adult & YA NF	YA fiction	Juvenile fiction	Juvenile NF	eBook & eAudio	Adult & YA audio	Juvenile audio	Adult & YA video	Juvenile video	CDs, games, misc.	Total
Current month	13	64	27	12	53	5	14	2	0	20	7	19	236
Previous month	14	64	25	17	83	15	15	4	1	38	10	17	303
Current YTD	114	610	224	140	535	73	85	30	4	217	39	71	2142
Previous YTD	163	708	270	132	518	125	79	39	3	253	94	67	2451

# Programs

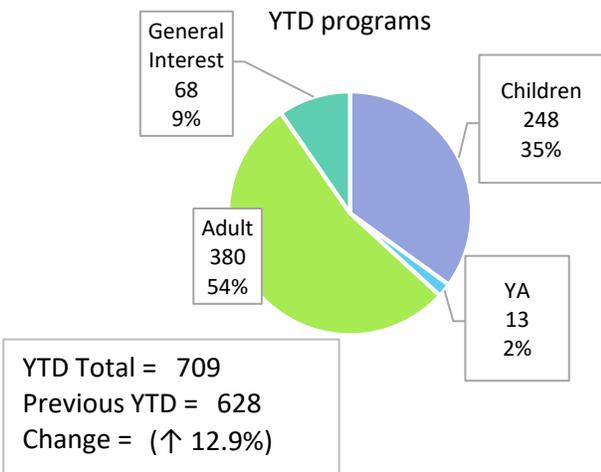
Monthly programs



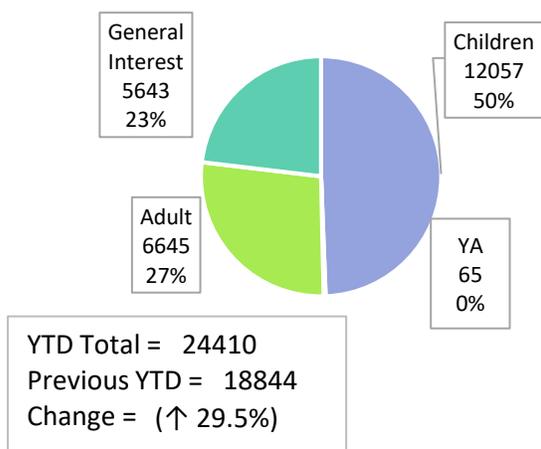
Monthly attendance



YTD programs



YTD attendance



## MARCH 2026

### **Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Silent Auction: March 2—29.**

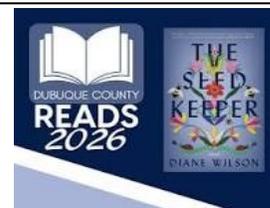
Organizations, businesses, and individuals have donated some amazing baskets this year and now is your opportunity to bid on them.

- All items are on display in the library and a photograph with a description of contents is posted on both the library's Facebook page and website at [www.dyersville.lib.ia.us](http://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us).
- Bids can be placed in person at the library, by calling the library, or emailing [librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us).
- The highest bid will be listed along with the photo of the item on the library's website. This list will be updated daily.
- Bidding in the Silent Auction runs March 2—29. Bidding by email and phone ends at 12pm on Sunday, March 29, while in-person bidding ends promptly at 3:00 pm on March 29.
- All funds raised are used to support library programs, collections, and services.



### **Dubuque County Reads: March 1—April 23**

The James Kennedy Public Library is participating in the fourth annual Dubuque County Reads (DCR) book discussion along with other libraries and organizations in the county. The purpose of the DCR program is to facilitate events that encourage productive conversation around a common book, with the selected title aiming to invigorate community members and inspire dialog about important issues and topics. The selected title for 2026 is *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson.



DCR book discussions and events will happen at various locations around the county between February 28—April 23. There will be 12 book discussions, 2 special events, and 4 related storytimes for children. Feel free to attend any and all discussions and events, at any location. All events are free and open to the public.

- The JKPL will hold a book discussion on Monday, March 16 at 6:00 pm.
- The JKPL will hold a children's storytime with the book *Berry Song* by Michaela Goade on Wednesday, March 25 @ 10:30 am.
- Author Diane Wilson will be at Steeple Square in Dubuque (101 East 15th Street) on Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30 pm.
- DCR will host a panel discussion featuring Indigenous leaders and advocates at the intersection of environmental justice and cultural survival working towards a more just and beautiful world. This event will be held at the Dubuque Museum of Art on Saturday, February 28 at 2:00 pm.

The book is available to borrow at each participating library, with the appropriate library card required. Digital copies or audiobooks may be available to borrow through your library as well. Alternatively, you can purchase a copy of the book from River Lights Bookstore in Dubuque for a discount. Each participating library has limited copies of the book to give away (Note: the JKPL is out of our free copies but other libraries may have a copy).

For more information about the book, a full list of participating libraries, and a schedule of all events go to: [www.DBQREADS.org](http://www.DBQREADS.org) or scan the QR code.



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

**Children's Scavenger Hunt: Alphabet Letters: March 1—31.** Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our "Alphabet Letters" scavenger hunt to earn a special prize! One prize per child per library visit.



**Kids Can Craft: Alphabet Letter Robot: March 1—31.** Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to build and color an Alphabet Letter Robot. Then turn your creation in at the front desk for an entry into the drawing for one of two Easter prize baskets! Limit is one entry per day. The winners will be announced in early April.

**Creation Station Craft: Polka Dot Snail: March 1—31.** Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft is a Polka Dot Snail made with a popsicle stick, a pipe cleaner, and dot stickers. Kits include how-to instructions plus all needed supplies except for glue, tape, 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: March 1—31.** Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. If crafting in the library, glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk. Kits are available while supplies last.

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

**Get Puzzled @ Your Library: March 1—31.** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Iconic Landmarks of Ireland*. 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.

**Adult Craft Kit: Fiddle Key Rings: March 1—31.** Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft is fiddle key rings - a series of key rings hooked together and threaded with beads that you can fiddle with. These can be made into a keychain, a bookmark, or a bracelet! Kits include how-to instructions plus all needed supplies. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available at the front desk while supplies last. This kit is for adults only.



**Westside Park StoryWalk®: "The Book That Almost Rhymed" by Omar Abed: March 1—31 (Continued from mid-February).** 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.*



**Read Across America Day Craft: Monday, March 2 from 9:00 am—8:00 pm.** Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with a Cat in the Hat craft! The take-and-make craft kit is available at the front desk for one day only. Pick one up while supplies last!



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

**Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, March 2 @ 12:00 noon.** This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *The Life Impossible* by Matt Haig. 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 the library at [librarian@dyserville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyserville.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, March 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, March 2 @ 5:30 pm.** Superman must reconcile his alien Kryptonian heritage with his human upbringing as reporter Clark Kent. As the embodiment of truth, justice and the human way he 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.



**A New Lens on Dementia: Understanding the Impact of Visual Impairment: Tuesday, March 3 @ 1:00 pm**

In this presentation, Alison Vanderpool, M.S.Ed bridges the gap between vision loss and cognitive care, offering a research-based look at supporting individuals living with both dementia and blindness. Attendees will gain insights into current statistics, evidence-based care strategies, and practical environmental adaptations designed for both professional and home-based caregivers.



**Storytime: Wednesdays, March 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. No registration required. Storytime will be held weekly through March 25 and resumes April 15.



**Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, March 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@dyserville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyserville.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, March 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: March 4—Paper/Yarn Weaving; March 11—LEGO Club; March 18—Sticker Paint Gumball Machine; and March 25—Book Bingo.



**Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, March 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. At the end of the school year, children who have participated in over half of the classes will receive an apron. The menu for March is: Muesli (5th), Takeout Style Sesame Noodles (12th), and Vegetable Stir Fry (19th).

- Classes will also be held 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.*

**Euchre Card Party: Fridays, March 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.

**Dubuque Symphony Orchestra's Storytime Symphony: A Musical Journey Down the Mississippi River: Saturday, March 7 @ 10:00 am**  
Pack your imagination and join us for a musical adventure! Storytime Symphony takes young listeners on a journey down the mighty Mississippi River from Iowa and Illinois all the way to New Orleans. Featuring engaging stories, lively music, and interactive moments, this 45 minute program introduces children to orchestral music through storytelling and sound. This program is geared toward young children and their families but all are welcome; however, children under the age of 10 need an adult companion.



**Movies @ Your Library presents "Rental Family": Saturday, March 7 @ 1:00 pm.** A down-and-out actor living in Tokyo is hired as a token American guy for a Japanese rental-family company, leading him on an unexpected journey of self-discovery through the roles he plays in other people's lives. Stars Brendan Fraser. Rated PG-13 (110 minutes).



**Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, March 7 @ 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.



**Adult Crafternoon: Coffee Filter Wreath: Monday, March 9 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Join us this month to make a floral wreath from a wire form and coffee filters, which you can decorate or leave white. All supplies will be provided. This program is intended for adults; however children over the age of 10 may attend with an adult companion.

**Fun and Games with Paul: Dungeons & Dragons: Monday, March 9 from 3:30—5:30 pm.** This month, come learn to play *Dungeons and Dragons*. Paul will teach players the basics of the game and play through a short scenario. 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, March 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 *Just For The Summer* by Melody Carlson. 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](mailto: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.

**Mock-A-Movie Night for Teens: Friday, March 13 @ 6:00 pm**

Join us for a night of terrible cinema, good food, and lots of fun mocking the movie! This evening we will be watching *Night of the Lepus* (PG-13): a terrible horror movie involving giant killer rabbits. Refreshments will be provided. For ages 12-18 only.



**Bingo Party: Monday, March 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!

**Dubuque County Reads Book Discussion: Monday, March 16 @ 6:00 pm.** Join us to discuss the 2026 book selection for Dubuque County Reads—*The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson. Refreshments provided. All are welcome. Can't make it to this discussion? Check the Dubuque County Reads website ([www.DBQREADS.org](http://www.DBQREADS.org)) for other book discussion dates around the county.



**Create with Audrey—Decorate a Coaster: Thursday, March 19 from 6:00—7:30 pm and Friday, March 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 decorating mandala coasters. All supplies will be provided. This program is intended for adults of all-abilities. Children over the age of 10 may attend with an adult companion.



**Bear Creek Carvers Open House and Demo: Saturday, March 21 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm**

Members of the Bear Creek Woodcarving Club will be at the library to demonstrate carving techniques and display their carvings. Questions are welcome! Everyone is invited to stop in during this open house and view the carvers and their work.



**Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, March 21 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.



**Fun with Virtual Reality: Sunday, March 22 from 1:30—2:30 pm.** Come try out some of the Virtual Reality games the library can access with our Metaquest VR headsets. Come check out the ocean, play some drums and much more! Feel free to drop in as you are able. For ages 12 and up.

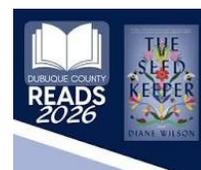


**Strings Club: Monday, March 23 @ 6:00 pm.** Do you have a ukulele, guitar or other string instrument that you would like to play more often? Then come join the JKPL Strings Club! Teen and adult musicians of all skill levels are welcome for this jam session facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically 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.

**JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, March 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.

**Dubuque County Reads Author Event: Tuesday, March 24 @ 6:30 pm**

Diane Wilson, author of *The Seed Keeper*, the Dubuque County Reads 2026 choice, will be visiting Dubuque to talk about her book and answer questions. All are welcome. This event will be held at Steeple Square (101 East 15th Street, Dubuque).



**Dubuque County Reads Storytime: Wednesday, March 25 @ 10:30 am**

Join Ms. Andrea for a special storytime that focuses on celebrating the Dubuque County Reads children's story, *Berry Song* by Michaela Goade. Every family who attends this special storytime receives a free copy of *Berry Song* to keep! This program is open to all ages and abilities but geared for those 1-6 years old. An adult companion is required. No registration required.

**Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, March 26 @ 11:15 am.** This month, we'll explore the many varieties of lentils and the health benefits they offer. Learn how to easily incorporate lentils and other plant-based proteins into your meals to support heart health, maintain muscle strength, and add delicious variety to your diet. Led by Nutritionist Colleen Lawler. There will be food samples to try. All are welcome.

**Comedian / Magician Nathan Tricky Allen: Friday, March 27 @ 8:00 pm at Fuse!**

Join us for this exciting 90 minute show supporting the James Kennedy Public Library to be held at Fuse in Dyersville (224 2nd Ave NE)! Show tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at the JKPL, Fuse, or online through Leap. A portion of ticket sales and a percentage of food and drink sold that night will be donated to the library. Visit [www.funnymagicshow.com](http://www.funnymagicshow.com) for more information about the performer. This show is for adults. It is funny but not filthy (It's just the "right" amount of "wrong" according to the performer!). Seating begins at 7:00 pm.



**STEAMFEST: Saturday March 28 from 9:30 am—2:30 pm.** Join us at the JKPL for this special event and discover some of the exciting S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, art, and music) activities available at the library! There will be different activities available throughout the day in different spaces of the library. Come for one or come for all! All ages welcome but those under the age of 8 require a teen or adult companion. STEAMFEST Schedule:



**Games for All Ages: 9:30 am—2:30 pm.** Join us for games for all ages, building blocks of all kinds, and even a life-sized Connect Four game!

**Reverse Coloring and Ink Tracing: 9:30 am—2:30 pm.** Reverse coloring and ink tracing pages will be available to pick up at the front desk for adults and older teens to enjoy wherever they choose in the library. Pens and markers may be borrowed as well, but should be returned when no longer needed.

**Kids' Coloring: 9:30 am—2:30 pm.** Drop in at the Creation Station at any time during the STEAMFEST to draw and/or color a flower or car for our Origami Frog Races' lilypad race track. This is a self-guided creative coloring activity for kids of all ages!

**Origami Frog: 9:30 am—11:30 am.** Hop on over and create an origami frog. When finished, have a frog race on a lilypad race track with other kids!

**Snap Circuits: 9:30—11:30 am.** See what electronic devices you can build using our Snap Circuit kits! These kits contain parts that snap to a grid board and allow participants to create a fan, a radio and much more! This activity is for those age 7 and up.

**Button making: 9:30 am—12:30 pm & 1:00—2:30 pm.** Buttons are a great way to show the world what you like. Visit this station to make a 2.25" pinback button reflecting your interest. Visitors will be able to design and color their button image, pick from some images already selected, or go online and find something specific to use.

**S.T.E.A.M. Storytime: 10:30—11:00 am.** Geared for kids ages 1-6, but all are welcome.

**Magnet Painting: 11:00 am—1:00 pm.** Children will explore how magnets work by using magnets to move paint-covered metal objects over a piece of paper to create a colorful piece of art. Magnet painting is recommended for preschool & kindergarten aged children, but all are welcome.

**Shrinky Dinks: 12:30—2:30 pm.** Come color your own Shrinky dinks, bake them, and watch what happens!

**Robot Obstacle Course: 1:00—2:30 pm.** Try your hand at coding to see if you can make a Dash Robot navigate an obstacle course! This activity is for those age 7 and up.

**Used Book Sale: Saturday, March 28 from 9:30 am—2:30 pm**

Did you miss the winter used book sale? Here is a second chance! Join us for this 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! This sale is one day only!



**Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, March 28 from 4:00—6:00 pm.** Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Friday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion. Note: this program was moved in March due to a conflict with another event.

**Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Closing Reception: Sunday, March 29 from 2:00—4:00 pm.** Join us for refreshments and one last chance to bid on the baskets donated to the library for the Build-a-Basket Fundraiser! Many themed baskets, including puzzles, games, arts and crafts, family and kids activities, holiday, and more have been donated by area businesses, organizations and individuals. There is something for nearly every interest so be sure to come and take a peek and bid on your favorite. The silent auction will end at 3:00 pm sharp. These baskets make great gifts for yourself or someone you love! All proceeds will be used to support library collections and services.





**D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) Month  
April 1–30  
&  
National Library Week  
April 6–12**

April is Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.) month, a national month-long celebration of reading designed to remind folks of all ages to make reading a priority activity in their lives. In April we also celebrate National Library Week. As we do every year, the JKPL will celebrate books, reading, and libraries all month long with various activities, events, and even a fundraiser! Check back for all the details. You won't want to miss what we're planning!

**Wildflower Hike at New Wine Park  
Thursday, April 30 from 6:00–7:30 pm**

Walk along the trails at New Wine Park with a naturalist from Dubuque County Conservation and learn about the flowers that are currently blooming and interesting ways you can use these plants as well as their wildlife value.

- The trail we are hiking on will have uneven terrain and steep inclines, please be prepared for this by wearing appropriate footwear and clothing.
- All ages welcome, but those under the age of 16 need an adult companion.
- This event is brought to you through the partnership with the James Kennedy Public Library of Dyersville.
- Registration is appreciated, but not required.

**Pokemon Club  
Monday, April 13 from 4:00–6:00 pm**

Drop in at this new monthly gathering to play some Pokemon and meet some fellow fans! Come learn, and play, the trading card game or video games with seasoned players. Meet some friends and do some card trading! This group meets the second Monday of each month. All ages welcome, but those under the age of 10 need an adult companion.

**Movies @ Your Library  
Free popcorn & soda for all who attend!**

*Hop* (PG)

Monday, April 6 @ 6:00 pm  
\*All-Abilities movie showing

*Zootopia 2* (PG)

Saturday, April 11 @ 1:00 pm

*Song Sung Blue* (PG-13)

Saturday, April 25 @ 12:30 pm

**Breakfast Burrito Grab and Go Fundraiser: Saturday, April 18 from 9:00–11:00 am**

Kick off National Library Week by stopping by the JKPL and enjoying a delicious breakfast burrito or bowl! \$8.00 gets you a delicious egg, sausage, hash brown and cheese burrito. Don't want a tortilla? You can choose a Burrito Bowl for the same price. Step into the Hoffman Community Room to get your breakfast and support your library! All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support library services and collections. A special Thank You goes to Fareway of Dyersville for supporting this fundraiser! Burritos available while supplies last.

**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.
- **Deadline to register is March 15.**
- Donations can also be made at the same link.

**Free Cucumber Seed Program!**

The Dubuque County Extension Office, in partnership with the James Kennedy Public Library, is offering a Free Cucumber Seed Program to help educate local residents on how to grow a food crop to increase local food security.

- Program participants will receive 25 cucumber seeds and season long updates on good growing practices for raising cucumbers throughout the 2026 gardening season.
- **Registration is required by May 20, 2026.**
- More information and registration can be found at <https://bit.ly/dbqcucumber>

# March 2026

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2 Read Across America Day craft kit from 9am-8pm Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Books For Lunch @ 12pm Genealogy with Ann from 1-3pm <i>Superman</i> (PG-13) @ 5:30 pm	3 A New Lens on Dementia @ 1pm	4 Storytime @ 10:30am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm	5 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Kids Can Cook from 4-5:30pm	6 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	7 DSO Storytime Symphony @ 10am <i>Rental Family</i> (PG-13) @ 1pm Dungeons & Dragons @ 3:30pm	
8	9 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Adult Crafternoon from 1-3pm Fun & Games with Paul from 3:30-5:30pm	10 A Novel Approach to Faith book club @ 7pm	11 Storytime @ 10:30am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm	12 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Kids Can Cook from 4-5:30pm	13 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm Mock-A-Movie for Teens @ 6pm	14	
15	16 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Bingo Party from 1-3pm Dubuque County Reads Discussion @ 6pm	17	18 Storytime @ 10:30am & 6:30pm Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm	19 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Kids Can Cook from 4-5:30pm Create with Audrey from 6-7:30pm	20 Create with Audrey from 10am-12:30pm Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	21 Bear Creek Carvers Open House from 10am-2pm Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program from 10-11am	
22 Fun with Virtual Reality from 1:30-2:30pm	23 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Strings Club @ 6pm	24 JKPL Writing Group @ 6:30pm Dubuque County Reads Author Event @ 6:30 pm	25 Dubuque County Reads Storytime @ 10:30am Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Early Out Afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm Storytime @ 6:30pm	26 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Health & Wellness 365 @ 11:15am	27 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm Comedian/Magician Nathan "Tricky" Allen @ 8pm	28 STEAMFEST from 9:30am-2:30pm Used Book Sale from 9:30am-2:30pm Game Night from 4-6pm	
29 Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Closing Reception from 2-4pm	30 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am	31		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>March 1—31</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coloring, Creating, &amp; Doing</li> <li>• Upcycled Cards kits</li> <li>• Get Puzzled</li> <li>• Fiddle Key Rings craft kits for adults</li> </ul>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>March 1—31</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Craft an Alphabet Letter Robot</li> <li>• Children's Pretend Play Station &amp; Scavenger Hunt</li> <li>• StoryWalk®</li> <li>• Poka dot snail craft kits for kids</li> </ul>	

Build-A-Basket Silent Auction begins



## Upcoming Events for APRIL 2026

**Free Cucumber Seed Program!** The Dubuque County Extension Office, in partnership with the James Kennedy Public Library, is offering a Free Cucumber Seed Program to help educate local residents on how to grow a food crop to increase local food security. Program participants will receive 25 cucumber seeds and season long updates on good growing practices for raising cucumbers throughout the 2026 gardening season. Registration is required by May 20, 2026. More information and registration can be found at <https://bit.ly/dbqcucumber>

**D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) Month - Dyersville Book Scavenger Hunt: April 1-30.** April is Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.) month, a national month-long celebration of reading designed to remind folks of all ages to make reading a priority activity in their lives. To celebrate this year, the JKPL has again partnered with local businesses for a fun D.E.A.R. month scavenger hunt! Can you match the book with the business? Pick up a scavenger hunt form at the library or print one off from the library's website. The scavenger hunt form features pictures of book covers and each participating business in Dyersville has one of the book covers posted in their business window or inside their business. Match the book with the business then turn your completed forms into the library before May 1 to get entered into the prize drawing for one of several gift baskets. You get to choose which basket! Entries with at least 1/2 of the books / businesses identified correctly will receive one entry into the drawing. Get them all right to earn two entries!

**D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) Month: Reading Recommendations: April 1-30.** JKPL staff, board members, and volunteers are celebrating D.E.A.R. month with videos and social media posts highlighting what they are dropping everything to read. Titles will be posted throughout the month on the library's social media. Want to join in the fun? Please share what book you dropped everything to read!

**Yard Signs: Love Your Library: April 1-30.** The JKPL has yard signs that say "I Love My Library" available for free! Signs are 18" x 24", vinyl, reusable, and come with a ground stake. Yard signs are available while supplies last. Already have one of these signs? Now's the time to put it up. Put a sign in your yard and let everyone know you love the library!

**Children's Pretend Play Station: Auto Shop: April 1-30.** Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in Auto Shop play!

**Children's Scavenger Hunt: Cars: April 1-30.** Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our "Cars" scavenger hunt to earn a special prize! One prize per child per library visit.

**Kids Can Craft: Cars Poem: April 1-30.** Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to write a poem about cars and/or color a car. Every poem or car design that is 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 May.

**Creation Station Craft: April 1-30.** Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft tbd. 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: April 1-30.** Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. If crafting in the library, glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk for in-library use. Kits are available while supplies last.

**Adult Craft Kit: Cloth Wrapped Wreath: April 1-30.** Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft is a cloth wrapped wreath. Kits include how-to instructions plus all needed supplies. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available at the front desk while supplies last. This kit is for adults only.

**Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: April 1-30.** The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages for you to enjoy at the library or at home. They are intended for adults and teens. Each pack will include at least 10 different items and are available while supplies last. If you want to work on the activities while at the library, colored pencils, markers, and more are available in the Creation Station or to check out from the front desk.

**Get Puzzled @ Your Library: April 1-30.** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Readers' Paradise*. 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®: "Pigs Dig a Road" by Carrie Finison: April 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.

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

**Early Out Afternoons: Wednesdays, April 8, 15, 22 & 29 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: April 8- Mini Bookcases; April 15- LEGO Club; April 22- Writing, Drawing and Coloring; and April 29- Book Bingo.

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

**Euchre Card Party: Fridays, April 3, 10, 17 & 24 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, April 4 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.

***Sunday, April 5: Library is closed for Easter***

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

***Genealogy with Ann: Monday, April 6 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.

***“Hop” – An All-Abilities Movie Event: Monday, April 6 @ 6:00 pm.*** He was destined to be the Easter Bunny, but all he wanted to do was rock! When teenage E.B. leaves for Hollywood in pursuit of his dream to become a rockstar drummer, he meets Fred, an out-of-work slacker with his own lofty goals. Together the two encounter a series of hilarious mishaps and misadventures and in the end help each other recognize the importance of family. Rated PG (96 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.

***Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, April 9, 16 & 23 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. The menu for April is Shrimp Scampi (9th), Strawberry Spoon Cake (16th), and Sioux City Style Loose Meat Sandwiches (23rd). 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.*

***Family Movies @ Your Library presents “Zootopia 2”: Saturday, April 11 @ 1:00 pm.*** Brave rabbit cop Judy Hopps and her friend Nick Wilde, the fox, team up again to crack a new case, the most perilous and intricate of their careers. Rated PG (108 minutes).

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

***Adult Crafternoon - Diamond Art: Monday, April 13 from 1:00-3:00 pm.*** Join us this month for Diamond Art. Choose between a butterfly on a stake or a corner bookmark. This program is intended for adults; however children over the age of 10 may attend with an adult companion.

***Pokémon Club: Monday, April 13 from 4:00–6:00 pm.*** Drop in at this new monthly gathering to play Pokémon and meet some fellow fans! Come play, or learn, the trading card game or video games with seasoned players. Meet some friends and do some card trading. All ages welcome; however, those

under the age of 10 need an adult companion. This group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month.

***Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, April 14 @ 7:00 pm.*** Join us for this book club that features a variety of books that weave religious faith into the characters and storylines. For this month we will be reading *The Girl Who Could Breathe Under Water* by Erin Bartels. 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](mailto: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.

***Storytime: Wednesdays, April 15, 22 & 29 @ 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. No registration required. Storytime will be held weekly through May 27 and resumes June 10.

***Create with Audrey - Cupcake Liner Flower Banners: Thursday, April 16 from 6:00-7:30 pm and Friday, April 17 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 making floral banners out of mini cupcake liners. This program is intended for adults of all-abilities. Children over the age of 10 may attend with an adult companion.

***Breakfast Burrito Grab and Go Fundraiser: Saturday, April 18 from 9:00-11:00 am.*** Kick off National Library Week, April 19 - 25, by stopping by the JKPL and enjoying a delicious breakfast burrito or bowl! \$8.00 gets you a delicious egg, sausage, hash brown and cheese burrito. Don't want a tortilla? New this year you can choose a Burrito Bowl for the same price. Step into the Hoffman Community Room to get your breakfast and support your library! All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support library services and collections. A special Thank You goes to Fareway of Dyersville for supporting this fundraiser! Burritos available while supplies last.

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

***National Library Week – Find Your Joy: April 19-25 to discover happiness and valuable resources at their local libraries April 6-12.*** "Find Your Joy," is an invitation for people of all backgrounds to explore and discover what sparks joy in them at the library. Join us at the JKPL this National Library Week as we celebrate. Activities to be decided.

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

***Rhythm & Pep with Author Daniel Henderson: Tuesday, April 21 @ 1:30 pm.*** Join author Daniel Henderson and learn the true story of two Iowa coal miners, named Carl and Earl Pearson, who had a dream. They came out of their father's coal mines near Clarinda, Iowa and became famous vaudeville stars in the 1920s. Their acrobatic dance routine took them to the top of Broadway entertainment at the Palace Theatre. Copies of Henderson's book, *Rhythm & Pep: The Vaudeville Career of the Pearson Brothers*, will be for sale by the author.

***Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, April***

**23 @ 11:15 am.** Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler will present. There will be food samples to try. All are welcome.

**Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, April 24 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.

**Movies @ Your Library presents "Song Sung Blue": Saturday, April 25 @ 12:30 pm.** Based on an incredible true story, Mike and Claire are two down-on-their-luck musicians who form a Neil Diamond tribute band called Lightning and Thunder. Soon they rise from garage and dive bar gigs to unexpected hometown stardom. When tragedy strikes, their love for each other, and passion for music, give them the strength to overcome hardships, rediscover hope, and inspire everyone around them. Rated PG-13 (131 minutes).

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

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

**Wildflower Hike at New Wine Park: Thursday, April 30 from 6:00-7:30 pm.** Walk along the trails at New Wine Park as a naturalist from Dubuque County Conservation guides you to look at the forest floor closely. Learn about the flowers that are currently blooming, their wildlife value, and interesting ways you can use these plants. The trail we are hiking on will have uneven terrain and steep inclines, please be prepared for this by wearing appropriate footwear and clothing. All ages welcome, but those under the age of 16 need an adult companion. This event is brought to you through a partnership with the James Kennedy Public Library of Dyersville. Registration appreciated, but not required.