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**James Kennedy Public Library  
Report to the Mayor and City Council  
April 21, 2025**

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

- 8,031 items were checked out. This is a 20.7% increase from March 2024. Fiscal year to date, circulation is down 1%
- 23 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 236 new library cards have been issued.
- 91 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 4,525 people engaged with these activities.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 199 hours and 457 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 1,900 hours and 3,897 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 1,176 sessions, 996 visits, and 316 unique users. Year to date WiFi use included 3,390 sessions, 2,983 visits, and 727 unique users.
- There were 5,596 library visits.

*Grants:* The James Kennedy Public Library has been selected as one of 300 libraries to participate in round three of Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an American Library Association (ALA) initiative that provides community engagement and accessibility resources to small and rural libraries to help them better serve people with disabilities. The competitive award comes with a \$10,000 grant that will help the library provide spaces and tools for the neurodivergent youth of the Dyersville community.

*Upcoming Events:*

Enclosed please find a copy of the April events schedule, as well as a preliminary schedule of events planned for May. Some of the programs scheduled include a visit from Iowa Author Carol Kroh Schmitt, a presentation on the Holocaust sponsored by the Friends of the JKPL, and a Heart Healthy Cooking Class and a Hands-only CPR Class presented by HeartCorps. We are also partnering with the Better Future Foundation to offer a summer Conservation Camp focused on conservation and gardening. It is also time to sign up for the Free Sweet Potato Plant program, which is a partnership with the Dubuque County Extension Office. Upcoming fundraisers include the Trivia Fundraiser hosted by O So Good Winery and Distillery on April 25 and the Plant Sale Fundraiser on May 17.

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director

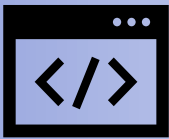
JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

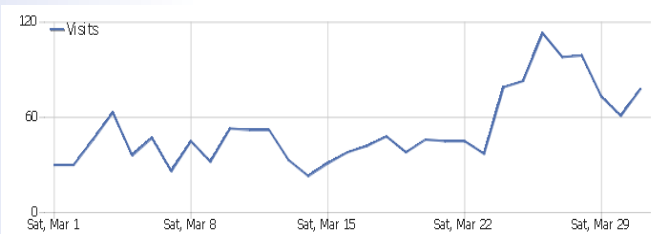
Month: March-25  
YTD: July-24 to March-25  
Previous YTD: July-23 to March-24

Library visits			Items loaned		Library cards issued		
					City resident	Total	
Month	5596	(↑ 4.1%)	8031	(↑ 20.7%)	12	23	(↓ 8%)
YTD	43741	(↓ 1.6%)	69659	(↓ 1%)	118	236	(↓ 10.3%)

Website traffic



Visits	Average visit duration
1622	1:16



Computer use



Hours			Sessions		
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD	Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
199	1900	1642	457	3897	3723

Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
1176	3390	996	2983	316	727

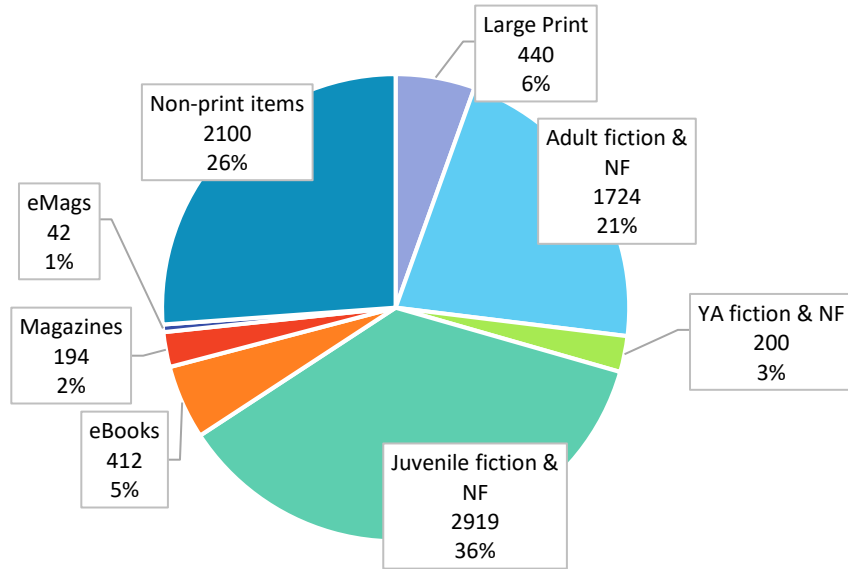
Meeting room use



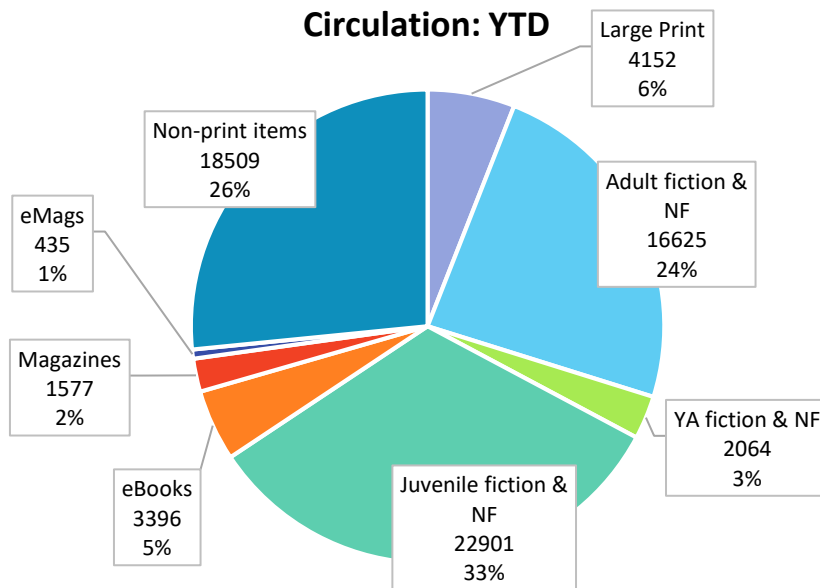
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
81	569	594

## Circulation

**Circulation: Month**



**Circulation: YTD**



### Non-print items

### Month

### YTD

eAudio	652	5290
Adult & YA audio	94	784
Juvenile audio & kits	18	128
Adult & YA video	579	5887
Juvenile video & DVD	322	2814
Games, LoT, etc.	435	3606
	<b>2100</b>	<b>18509</b>

### Music

Downloads: 14  
Total YTD: 115



### Video (film and TV)

Downloads: 13  
YTD: 111



Visits: 96  
YTD: 1655



### Online Learning

Sessions: 41  
YTD: 344



### Languages

Sessions: 10  
YTD: 126



### Genealogy

Visits: 722  
YTD: 5036



Collection

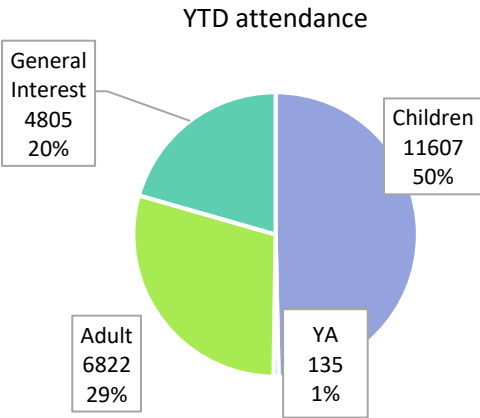
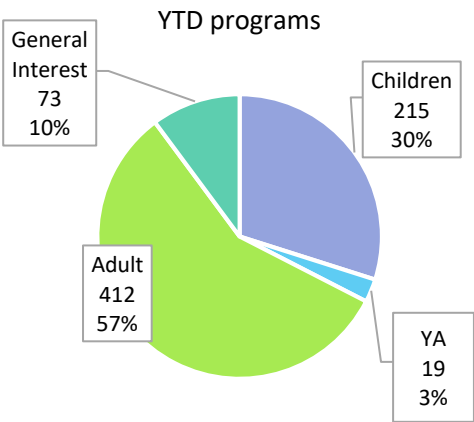
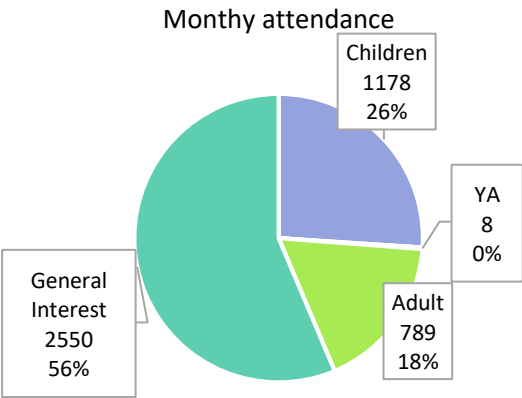
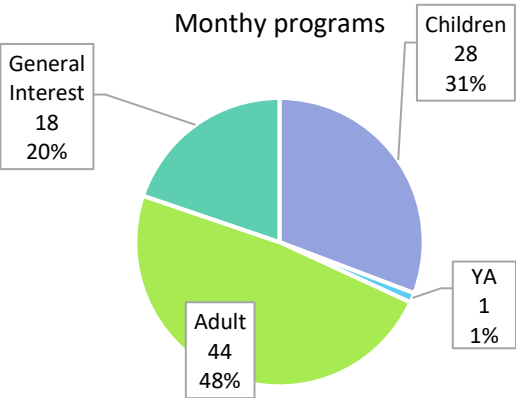
Items purchased	
Month:	104
YTD:	1694

Items donated	
Month:	197
YTD:	1096
Prev. YTD:	461

Items withdrawn		
	Month	YTD
Books	293	4466
Audio	1	356
Video	6	41
Other	18	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>4937</b>

Summary of additions													
	Large print	Adult fiction	Adult & YA NF	YA fiction	Juvenile fiction	Juvenile NF	eBook & eAudio	Adult & YA audio	Juvenile audio	Adult & YA video	Juvenile video	CDs, games, misc.	Total
Current month	17	87	32	16	92	10	0	1	2	24	14	6	301
Previous month	17	110	30	20	57	6	0	9	0	15	8	10	282
Current YTD	180	795	302	148	610	135	79	40	5	277	108	73	2752
Previous YTD	136	760	251	139	548	78	109	64	5	241	72	72	2475

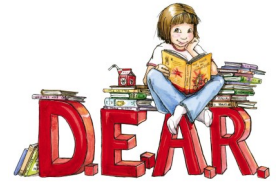
Programs



## Upcoming events for April:

### ***D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) Month: 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. This year, the JKPL has three opportunities for you to help us celebrate.



### ***Dyersville Book Scavenger Hunt***

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 the 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 ½ of the books / businesses identified correctly will receive one entry into the drawing. Get them all right to earn two entries!

### ***Book Exchange***

New this year is a book exchange for all ages! Bring in a new or gently used book and exchange it for something new to you! Feel free to exchange as many books as you'd like! (one book for one book). The book exchange will be available all month long. Books left when the exchange ends will be used for other library activities.

### ***Reading Recommendations***

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!

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

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



***Kids Can Craft: Design a Carrot-Person Challenge: April 1—30.*** Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to design a carrot-person. Add arms, legs, clothing, eyes, mouth, nose, etc. to create a funny carrot character. Every design turned in qualifies the artist for an entry into the drawing for a Spring book basket. Limited to one entry per day. Winner will be announced in early May.

***Creation Station Craft: Spinning Top: 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 spinning top made out of an old CD. Kit includes most needed supplies and instructions. A video demonstration will also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.

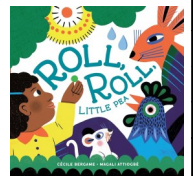


***Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: April 1—30.*** Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. Glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk for in-library use. Kits are available while supplies last.

***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 available for you to enjoy at the library or at home. They are intended for adults and teens. Each pack will include at least 10 different items and are available while supplies last. If you want to work on the activities while at the library, colored pencils, markers, and more are available in the Creation Station or to check out from the front desk.

***Get Puzzled @ Your Library: April 1—30.*** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle, *Greatest American Novels*, was selected to celebrate Drop Everything and Read month. The puzzle is located on the table under the skylight and everyone is welcome to add a piece or two or more. Everyone who works on the puzzle is encouraged to put their name into a drawing to win the puzzle. Please stop at the front desk to get your name entered.

***Westside Park StoryWalk®: "Roll, Roll, Little Pea" by Cecile Bergame: 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.*





**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.



**Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Silent Auction Continues: April 1—13.** 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 or by calling the library. 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 through April 13 and ends promptly at 3:00 pm on Sunday, April 13. All funds raised are used to support library programs, collections, and services.



### **Dubuque County Reads: April 1—15**

The James Kennedy Public Library is participating in the third annual *Dubuque County Reads* book discussion along with other libraries in the county. The purpose of the *Dubuque County Reads* 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 2025 is *What My Bones Know* by Stephanie Foo.

*Dubuque County Reads* book discussions and events will happen at various locations around the county between now and April 15. There will be 11 book discussions and 2 special events. Feel free to attend as many sessions, at any location, as you like. 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. For more information about the book, a full list of participating libraries, and a schedule of all events go to: <https://libguides.dbq.edu/dubuquecountyreads>.



### **Book discussions will be held at the following locations:**

- Divine Word College: Tuesday, April 1 @ 1:00 pm
- Loras College Library: Wednesday, April 2 @ 4:00 pm
- Wartburg Seminary: Thursday, April 3 @ 12:00 pm
- **James Kennedy Public Library Books for Lunch Discussion: Monday, April 7 @ 12:00 pm**
- University of Dubuque: Monday, April 7 @ 2:30 pm
- Carnegie Stout Public Library: Monday, April 7 @ 6:00 pm
- Clarke University Library: Tuesday, April 8 @ 2:30 pm
- Dubuque County Disability Council: Tuesday, April 8 @ 4:00 pm (Virtual)
- Dubuque County Library District (Asbury): Wednesday, April 9 @ 6:30 pm
- Cascade Public Library: Tuesday, April 7 @ 4:30 pm
- **James Kennedy Public Library: Monday, April 14 @ 5:00 pm**

### **Special programs:**

- ◆ Mental Health Panel on Trauma at University of Dubuque Heritage Center: Thursday, March 27th @ 6:30 pm.
- ◆ Meet Author Stephanie Foo at Loras College: Thursday, April 10th @ 6:30 pm.

### **Fun and Games with Paul—Virtual Reality Goggles: Tuesday, April 1 from 9:30 am—12:30 pm**

Drop in at this new monthly gathering where library staff member Paul will feature a specific game or activity that guests will be able to try out while at the library. This month come check out the library’s new Meta Quest VR goggles. Use these virtual reality goggles to play games and try out some educational apps! Guests are welcome to come and go as they are available. We have four pairs of goggles so there may be a wait time to use them. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Ages 13 and up only. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries.*



**Let’s Get Social—KEYS Chat: Tuesday, April 1 @ 4:00 pm.** This program on social engagement will discuss the importance of socialization as we age and simple strategies to overcome loneliness. The presentation will be followed by suggestions on small ways to engage in more social opportunities and participants will have an opportunity to share ideas and suggestions. Presented by Anne O’Rear. This program is presented via Zoom so guests may join by gathering at the JKPL or participate from home using a personal computer or other smart device. To join from your own device, please email [BrainHelpandHope@outlook.com](mailto:BrainHelpandHope@outlook.com) to receive the Zoom link. KEYS chats are presented by the nonprofit organization Brain Help and Hope, typically on the first Tuesday of each month.



**Kid Librarian Storytime: Wednesdays, April 2 & 9 @ 10:00 am & 6:30 pm.** Calling all book-loving kids—Come to Kid Librarian Storytime in the Children’s Area to enjoy a program where YOU are the librarian! Pick your favorite picture book from our shelves or bring one from home to read aloud to other participants. Not yet reading? Simply tell the audience about your favorite book, read the pictures, or lead them in a movement song or nursery rhyme. Enjoy a moment to shine, then have fun playing in our Children’s Area with other children. Kid Librarian Storytime is open to all ages and abilities. Adult participation is required. No registration is necessary.



**Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you 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.

**Tween Zone: Drop in to Hang Out: Wednesday, April 2 from 4:00—5:00 pm.** Do you love snacks, books, puzzles, and games? Join us to hang out, eat snacks, talk about your favorite book, and discover our new Turing Tumble puzzle game, a low-tech yet high-fun gaming experience! Registration is not necessary. Program designed for ages 8-12. *The STEM Scale-Up Turing Tumble game sets are funded by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council.*

**Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, April 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, & 28 @ 9:30 and 10:30 am.** Older adults of any age and fitness level are invited to join this special exercise program made possible by a partnership between the Geri-Fit® Company and the James Kennedy Public Library. Participants will exercise to a Geri-Fit® DVD and most of the exercises will be performed seated in a chair. There is no dancing or aerobics involved. Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays and last approximately 45 minutes. For best results, participants should attend as many of the sessions as possible. Each participant will need a set of 2 or 3-pound dumbbell weights, a medium weight stretch band, and water to drink. Space is limited so registration is required.

**Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, April 3, 10 & 17 from 4:00—5:30 pm**

Kids Can Cook will teach kids ages 10-12 basic kitchen skills and how to make healthy food choices. The first ten minutes of each class will focus on kitchen safety and introductory cooking information, such as how to read a recipe. The remainder of each class will be hands-on learning, cooking, and cleaning up. Kitchen safety and cleanliness will be emphasized. At the end of the school year, children who have participated in over half of the classes will receive an apron. Registration is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session. A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must be on file for a child to attend. The menu for April is:



- Pork Chops & Mashed Potatoes (April 3)
- Pumpkin Blender Muffins (April 10)
- Chicken Satay with sauce and Thai Quickles (April 17)

*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 & Games: Fridays, April 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 1:00—3:30 pm.** Join us Friday afternoons for cards, dominoes, or other games in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players. The library has some games or you are welcome to bring your own.

**Breakfast Burrito Grab and Go Fundraiser: Saturday, April 5 from 9:00—11:00 am**

Kick off National Library Week by stopping by the JKPL and enjoying a delicious breakfast burrito! For just \$7.00, you can support the JKPL and enjoy a delicious fresh made breakfast burrito. Potential ingredients include eggs, sausage, hash browns, cheese, and salsa. Weather permitting, a tent will be set up outside the library for this event. If not, step into the Hoffman Community Room to get your breakfast and support your library! Burritos available while supplies last. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support library services and collections. Thank you to Fareway of Dyersville for supporting this fundraiser!



**Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, April 5 from 10:00—11:00 am.** This month's theme is *Surprise!* This program is for all ages but children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. This LEGO® program is part of a monthly LEGO® building block program at the library sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union. Each month there is a theme to help inspire creativity. Photos of the creations are displayed in the children's area of the library and on the library's social media pages. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac.



**Family Movies @ Your Library presents "The Pagemaster": Saturday, April 5 @ 1:00 pm.** After seeking shelter from a storm in a mysterious library, an easily terrified kid is transported to an animated fantasy world. There, he encounters characters and situations from classic literature. Rated G (76 minutes).



**Nerf War @ Your Library: Saturday, April 5 from 4:00—6:00 pm.** Bring your Nerf gun and ammo and head to the library for this bi-monthly Nerf War! Participants must be 13 or older and anyone under 18 must have a signed parental waiver. Registration requested as 10 people are required to hold the program and a max of 20 is allowed. Walk-ins welcome, if space allows. Participants must provide their own Nerf guns and ammo but no modifications to darts or guns to increase range or hitting power will be allowed. Guns with excessive hitting power will not be allowed.



**National Library Week—Drawn To The Library: April 6—12**

Millions of people across the country visit their libraries every week. What's the draw? Everything! From young families stopping in for play and storytime, to students sketching out their next creative project in a makerspace, to seniors seeking tech help and everyone in between, libraries of all kinds help us connect the dots from one part of our journey to the next. Chart your next literary adventure by browsing the stacks or joining a book club. Let an author color your imagination at an author talk, or trace your history with your library's genealogy resources. Make your mark and get involved with your library by volunteering or spreading the word. Whatever draws you in, the library has something for everyone.



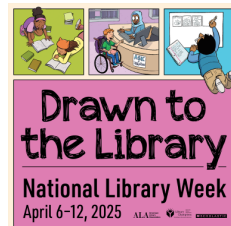
Join us at the JKPL this National Library Week as we celebrate. Stop in each day to pick up a different library themed giveaway; dress up to celebrate the daily theme; vote in the library poll; and check out books or other items to enjoy at home. Sign up each day you visit the library for a chance to win library themed prizes! Join us for one or all of the special events scheduled for this week! The week's activities are as follows:

**Monday, April 7: Right to Read Day!** April 7 is a day for readers, advocates, and library lovers to take action to protect, defend, and celebrate the right to read. The American Library Association (ALA) kicks off National Library Week with the release of its State of America's Libraries Report, including the list of Top Ten Most Challenged Books of 2024. Stop in the library today to see this document and pick up a Challenged and Banned Books Word Search. Join the library staff in wearing book themed apparel. Giveaway: Right to Read magnets.

*Continued on the next page.....*

## National Library Week—Drawn To The Library: April 6—12

Continued from previous page.....



**Tuesday, April 8: National Library Workers Day!** Join the library staff and volunteers today as we celebrate Library Workers Day, a day to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers and volunteers. Library workers wear many different hats at their job, so today we will be wearing a favorite or fun hat! Join us by wearing a hat or cap during your visit. Stop in anytime during the day to enjoy refreshments. Check out the bulletin board or the JKPL Facebook page and see if you can match the picture of the person reading to the library worker. Giveaway: Post-it notes.

**Tuesday, April 8 from 6:00—8:00 pm: Drawn to the Library—Board Meeting and Social.** The Members of the Board of Trustees of the JKPL invite you to celebrate National Library Week by attending this open house. Come meet the Board members and learn what is new at the library. Attend our regular monthly board meeting (starts at 6 pm and typically lasts less than an hour) or just drop by any time. There will be refreshments and door prizes!

**Wednesday, April 9: National Library Outreach Day.** Outreach, which is about meeting library patrons where they are, is important to the JKPL. Visit the library today and select a book from the JKPL Pop-up Library, one of our most popular outreach activities. Visitors are also invited to learn more about what the library has to offer by completing a library scavenger hunt. Giveaway: Book from the pop-up library and a pen or pencil.

**Thursday, April 10: Relaxation Day!** Libraries are a place for relaxing as well as learning and entertainment. Join the library staff today as they relax at work in their PJs or lounge clothes. Pick up a library themed set of activity and coloring pages. Giveaway: Magnetic bookmark.

**Friday, April 11: Spirit Day!** Today library staff will celebrate by wearing JKPL colors (green, gold, yellow) or library/book themed apparel. Join us in showing pride in your library! Giveaway: Choice of a library themed item.

**Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, April 7 @ 12:00 noon.** This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss the 2025 Dubuque County Reads selection *What My Bones Know* by Stephanie Foo. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you plan to join 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.

**Drawn to the Library—Board Meeting and Social: Tuesday, April 8 from 6:00—8:00 pm.** The Members of the Board of Trustees of the JKPL invite you to celebrate National Library Week by attending this open house. Come meet the Board members and learn what is new at the library. Attend our regular monthly board meeting (starts at 6 pm and typically lasts less than an hour) or just drop by any time. There will be refreshments and door prizes!

**Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, April 8 @ 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 Wings of Poppy Pendleton* by Melanie Dobson. Books are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. If you want to attend via Zoom and haven't attended before, please register by 12 noon on the day of the program at <https://bit.ly/NOVELAPPROACH> so a link to the Zoom room can be emailed to you.



### **Bowling Break: Thursday, April 10 @ 10:30 am, 2:00 pm, & 6:00 pm**

The JKPL will host this fun bowling event at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Dyersville (across the alley from the library). There are three opportunities for participants and we are estimating about 2 hours per session. Candy, chips and pop will be available to purchase. Bowling shoes provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 13 need an adult companion. Please note: There are 2 steps up into the building and 4 steps down to get to the bowling lanes in the KC Hall.



Registration is requested for a session, as space is limited. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Sessions are as follows:

10:30am-12:30 pm                      2:00-4:00 pm                      6:00-8:00 pm

This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).

**Mock-A-Movie Night for Teens: Friday, April 11 @ 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 *Borderlands* (PG-13), a terrible movie based on a video game series. Refreshments will be provided. For ages 12-18 only.

### **National Library Week StoryTime: Saturday, April 12 @ 10:00 am**

Join us for this special family storytime celebrating National Library Week! This storytime features the 2025 Dubuque County Reads Jr. book selection, *The Color Monster* by Anna Llenas. The storytime theme is emotions and will include a read aloud of the book plus a special storytime color monster craft. The program is open to all ages but is most beneficial for children ages and age-ability infant to six years old. Adult participation is required. No registration is necessary.



**Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, April 12 @ 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.



**Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Closing Reception: Sunday, April 13 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! More than forty themed baskets, including puzzles, games, arts and crafts, family and kids activities, 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.



**Adult Crafternoon: Blackout poetry: Monday, April 14 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Join us to celebrate National Poetry month! Library staff member Ann will be on hand to teach you how to create blackout poetry with pictures and coloring pens. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a kit and create on your own at home. Kits will be available while supplies last.

**Dubuque County Reads Book Discussion: Monday, April 14 @ 5:00 pm**

The James Kennedy Public Library is participating in the third annual *Dubuque County Reads* book discussion along with other libraries in the county. The selected title for 2025 is *What My Bones Know* by Stephanie Foo. Join us tonight as we host a discussion about this book. Copies of this book are available to borrow from the JKPL or other Dubuque County libraries.



**Genealogy with Ann: Wednesday, April 16 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. If this time does not work with you please call and schedule an appointment.

**Drop in and Create—Watercolor Painting: Friday, April 18 from 9:30 am—12:30 pm**

Join us at the JKPL as we use water and paint brushes to create beautiful pictures! Participants will select a picture and use the attached watercolor palette to create their work of art. 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 7 need an adult companion. Drop in and create programs will typically be offered the third Friday of each month. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).*



**Library closed for Easter: Sunday, April 20**



**Bingo Party: Monday, April 21 from 1:00—3:00 pm.** Come enjoy bingo at the JKPL! There is a two-card limit, there is no cost to play, and there are prizes! Registration is recommended as space is limited. Bring your friends!

**Cricut with Christopher presents Lovely Lady Flower Pots: Monday, April 21 @ 6:00 pm.** Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher and turn a plastic flower pot into a lovely lady. All supplies will be provided. Participants should be 14 or older. Registration is required as attendance is limited to 10. Cricut with Christopher will typically be held on the third Monday of each month.

**Wildflower Hike @ New Wine Park: Monday, April 21 from 6:00—7:30 pm**

Join us at New Wine Park for this entertaining and informative hike led by a Dubuque County Conservation Naturalist. Walk along the trails at New Wine Park and learn about the flowers that are blooming and interesting ways you can use these plants as well as their wildlife value. The 2-mile trail we are hiking 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. Registration is requested by April 18 as a minimum of 10 participants is needed for this program to be held. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Register by contacting the library or online in the library's calendar of events at: [www.dyersville.lib.ia.us/events](http://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us/events). On the day of the hike, participants should meet at New Wine Park (15971 New Wine Park Lane, New Vienna, IA). When entering the park, stay to the right, cross the bridge, and meet at the trailhead, located on the left side of the road.



**Meet Iowa Author Carol Kroh Schmitt: Tuesday, April 22 @ 6:30 pm**

Dubuque author Carol Kroh Schmitt will be at the library to talk about her historical fiction book, *Dancing Down a Rocky Path*. This family saga follows four generations as they live through despair and triumph and deal with the challenges of Twentieth Century America. Author Heather Gudenkauf gave it an editorial review and said it "is not to be missed." Carol will read from her book and talk about her journey as an author. Copies of her books will be available to purchase from the author.



**Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, April 24 @ 11:15 am.** Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler will be at the library to talk about Food Safe Containers and what kinds of containers are and are not safe for food storage. There will be food samples to try. All are welcome.

**"Champions"—Sensory Friendly Movie Matinee: Thursday, April 24 @ 1:00 pm.** A former minor-league basketball coach who, after a series of missteps, is ordered by the court to manage a team of players with intellectual disabilities. He soon realizes that despite his doubts, together, this team can go further than they ever imagined. Rated PG-13 (125 min.) Refreshments provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 7 need an adult companion. Please note that this film will be shown with closed captioning enabled, ambient light and potentially other sensory friendly adjustments. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).*



### **Trivia Night Fundraiser at O So Good Winery & Distillery: Friday, April 25 from 6:30—9:00 pm**

Join us for a trivia fundraiser celebrating National Library Week and Drop Everything and Read Month! This fun event will be managed by Trivial Dudes, hosted by O So Good Winery & Distillery, and co-sponsored by Dollar Fresh Market. Purchase a table for up to six guests for \$120.00.

- Price includes two bottles of wine of your choice (or equal value in other drinks), a charcuterie board for six, and a dessert to share.
- Menu items and additional beverages will be available to purchase.
- There will be book themed questions as well as general trivia and the contest will include some special twists, prizes, and giveaways.



Guests are welcome to arrive at any time but trivia will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. Visit the library or O So Good Winery & Distillery to purchase a table. Space is limited so tables should be purchased before 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 23.

**Movies @ Your Library presents "The Public": Saturday, April 26 @ 1:00 pm.** A librarian helps a group of homeless people take refuge from a brutal winter night by staging a sit-in at the free public library. A misunderstanding causes his noble act to wrongly escalate into a hostage situation with a political candidate and a TV reporter stoking the drama for their own agendas. Rated PG-13 (122 minutes).



**Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, April 26 from 4:00—6:00 pm.** Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Saturday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

**Strings Club: Monday, April 28 @ 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. This is not a class but a jam session so participants should know basic chords. Facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month from October to April. Registration encouraged. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows. *NOTE: This is the last meeting before a break for summer. Gatherings will likely resume in October.*

**Armchair Travel—Canada: Tuesday, April 29 @ 1:00 pm.** Join us on this virtual trip to "The Great White North!" Come find out what makes our neighbors so special, where Earth's oldest rocks reside, and what in the world is poutine! Guest speaker Chelsea Middendorf from Trustwell Living at Eagle Pointe Place Senior Living in Dubuque is excited to share this cultural program where guests will be able to experience Canadian life through sports, history, nature and more! Complimenting the experience will be some Canadian sweet treats, drinks and savory bites! This program is for older adults, but all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Armchair Travel programs will typically be held on the third Tuesday of most months, except there has been a date change this month.



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## **Introducing Cooking & Crafts Databases!**



**CRAFT & HOBBY**

**Library Chef**—your go-to platform for fun cooking experiences for adults, kids, and teens! You can dive into live cooking classes, on-demand classes and instruction, exciting recipes, and more.

**Craft & Hobby**—Discover what inspires you and unlock your creative potential with this video-on-demand craft and hobby platform. Learn at your own pace with these step-by-step tutorials. Includes 9+ online learning libraries and 4,000 hours of content within 20 different disciplines with classes ranging from beginner to advanced.

For more information, and to get access, visit the Digital Collections page on the library website ([www.dyersville.lib.ia.us](http://www.dyersville.lib.ia.us)). You will need your library card to register.



## New Summer Conservation Camp Coming in May!

Watch for more information about this exciting new program for elementary age students and their parents! Join us in planting a garden at the Dyersville Community Gardens with hands-on learning about gardens and conservation. This program will run May-August with special programs held at the JKPL or the Dyersville Community Gardens every 2 or 3 weeks. Most gatherings will be held on Saturdays from 9:30—11:30 am, starting on Saturday, May 17. Registration will open April 5 and be required by May 5 due to space limitations and planning requirements. Plans for this camp are still being finalized so watch for more details!



## Lessons from the Holocaust Sunday, May 4 @ 2:00 pm

Educator Brad Wilkening will use historical accounts and survivors' stories to show why the genocide of World War II is more relevant than ever, and how this terrible period in human history should be used to build a more compassionate and kind world today. This program is 1.5 hours long. Refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



## Fun and Games with Paul presents Build with TuringTumble Tuesday, May 6 from 9:30 am—12:30 pm

Drop in at this monthly gathering where library staff member Paul will share a fun and interesting activity or item. This month we'll learn about the Turing Tumble puzzle game—a low-tech yet high-fun gaming experience! Each month will feature a specific game or activity that guests will be able to try out or play while at the library. Guests are welcome to come and go as they are able. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 7 need an adult companion.



*This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).*

## Heart Healthy Cooking Class Monday, May 12 @ 5:30 pm

Need ideas for some quick and easy heart healthy recipes for snacks and drinks? This class will be led by Lisa Heitz of the American Heart Association HeartCorps. This class is intended for adults but children are welcome. However, those under the age of 15 require an adult companion. Registration is required as a minimum of 5 people are needed to hold the class and there is a maximum of 15 people allowed. Registration ends May 11.



## Spring Plant Sale Saturday, May 17 from 9:00 —11:00 am

Join Karen Kramer and members of the JKPL Fundraising Committee in the parking lot adjacent to the JKPL to buy plants donated by committee and community members. Plants not selected during the sale may be available to purchase for a donation. All proceeds will be used to support library collections and services.



NOTE: If you have plants you would like to donate, please contact the library at (563)875-8912 to make arrangements to drop them off. Plants of all kinds are welcome!

## Hands-Only CPR Class Wednesday, May 21 @ 5:30 pm

Come learn about hands-only CPR and how to give it. This class will be led by Lisa Heitz of the American Heart Association HeartCorps. This class is for those age 13 and older. Registration is required as a minimum of 5 people are needed to hold the class and there is a maximum of 20 people allowed. Registration ends May 20.



April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Continues!</div> <div>Dubuque County Reads April 1-15</div>	<div>D.E.A.R. Month</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scavenger Hunt</li> <li>Book Exchange</li> <li>Reading Recommendations</li> </ul>	<div>1</div> <div>Fun &amp; Games from 9:30am-12:30pm</div> <div>Let's Get Social @ 4pm</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Kid Librarian Storytime @ 10am &amp; 6:30pm</div> <div>Sit &amp; Stitch from 1-3pm</div> <div>Tween Zone @ 4pm</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Kids Can Cook @ 4pm</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser from 9-11am</div> <div>Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program from 10-11am</div> <div><i>The Pagemaster</i> (G) @ 1pm</div> <div>Nerf War @ 4pm</div>
6	<div>7</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Books For Lunch @ 12pm</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Board Meeting &amp; Social from 6-8pm</div> <div>A Novel Approach to Faith book club @ 7pm</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Kid Librarian Storytime @ 10am &amp; 6:30pm</div> <div>Sit &amp; Stitch from 1-3pm</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Bowling Break @ 10:30am, 2pm, &amp; 6pm</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Kids Can Cook @ 4pm</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm</div> <div>Mock-A-Movie @ 6pm</div>	<div>12</div> <div>NLW Storytime @ 10am</div> <div>Dungeons &amp; Dragons @ 3:30pm</div>
National Library Week: April 6—12 —check out our daily activities!						
<div>13</div> <div>Build-A-Basket Closing Reception from 2-4pm</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Adult Crafternoon from 1-3pm</div> <div>Dubuque County Reads Book Discussion @ 5pm</div>	<div>15</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Sit &amp; Stitch from 1-3pm</div> <div>Genealogy with Ann from 1-3pm</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Kids Can Cook @ 4pm</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Watercolor Painting from 9:30am-12:30pm</div> <div>Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm</div>	<div>19</div>
<div>20</div> <div>Library closed</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Bingo Party from 1-3pm</div> <div>Cricut with Christopher @ 6pm</div> <div>Wildflower Hike @ 6pm</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Author Visit @ 6pm</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Sit &amp; Stitch from 1-3pm</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Health &amp; Wellness 365 @ 11:15am</div> <div><i>Champions</i> (PG-13) @ 1pm</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm</div> <div>Trivia Night Fundraiser from 6:30-9pm</div>	<div>26</div> <div><i>The Public</i> (PG-13) @ 1pm</div> <div>Game Night from 4-6pm</div>
<div>27</div>	<div>28</div> <div>Strength Training @ 9:30am &amp; 10:30am</div> <div>Strings Club @ 6:00pm</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Armchair Travel @ 1pm</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Sit &amp; Stitch from 1-3pm</div>		<div>April 1—30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get Puzzled</li> <li>StoryWalk®</li> <li>Children's Pretend Play Station &amp; scavenger hunt</li> </ul>	<div>April 1—30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design a Carrot-Person challenge</li> <li>Spinning Tops craft kits</li> <li>Coloring, Creating, &amp; Doing</li> <li>Upcycled Cards kits</li> </ul>



## Upcoming events for MAY 2025

**Conservation Camp: Youth Summer Gardening Program Coming in May!** Watch for more information about this exciting new gardening program for elementary age students and their parents – offered by the Better Future Foundation. Join Alycia Willenbring and other community experts in planting a garden at the Dyersville Community Gardens as well as hands-on interactive classes about conservation and critters throughout the summer. Special programs will be held at the JKPL or the Dyersville Community Gardens every 2 or 3 weeks, with most gatherings being on Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Participants will receive gloves, garden shovel, and more to help with their gardening journey. The camp will start with a planting day, *Planting the Garden*, on Saturday, May 17 and continue until clean up sometime in September. Registration will open in early April and be limited to 25 families. A fee of \$38.00 per family is required to help offset expenses. Scholarships are available. Registration by May 5 is required due to space limitations and planning requirements. Plans for this camp are still being finalized so watch for more details!

**Free Sweet Potato Plant Program offered to improve community food security!** The Dubuque County Extension Office in partnership with the James Kennedy Public Library is offering a Free Sweet Potato Plant Program to help educate local residents on how to grow a food crop to increase local food security. Program participants will receive a free 8 plant bundle of sweet potato plants and season long updates on good growing practices for raising sweet potatoes throughout the 2025 gardening season. Registration is required by May 14, 2025. More information and registration can be found at <https://bit.ly/dbqpotato>

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

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

**Kids Can Craft: Create a Flower Bouquet Challenge: May 1-31.** Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to design and color a flower bouquet. Every design turned in qualifies artists for an entry into the drawing for a train set but is limited to one entry per day. Winner will be announced in early June.

**Creation Station Craft: Pipe Cleaner Flower: May 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 flower made out of pipe cleaners. Kit includes most needed supplies and instructions. 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: May 1-31.** Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. If crafting in the library, glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk for in-library use. Kits are available while supplies last.

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

**Get Puzzled @ Your Library: May 1-31.** Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Things We Say*. 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®: "Rainbow Snail" by Karin Akeson: May 1-31.** Families are invited to walk the StoryWalk® at Westside Park which begins south of the parking lot by the baseball diamond. Walk the

trail and read the story to your children. The StoryWalk(R) is made possible by the Dubuque Racing Association, Friends of the Library, and the Richard Osterhaus Memorial Fund. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

**Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, May 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, & 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.

**Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 from 1:00-3:30 pm.** Join us Friday afternoons for cards, dominoes, or other games in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players. The library has some games or you are welcome to bring your own.

**Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, May 3 from 10:00-11:00 am.** This month's theme is Mother's Day!. This program is for all ages but children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult or older partner. This LEGO® program is part of a monthly LEGO® building block program at the library sponsored by DuTrac Community Credit Union. Each month there is a theme to help inspire creativity. Photos of the creations are displayed in the children's area of the library and on the library's social media pages. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac.

**Free Comic Book Day: Saturday, May 3.** Activities to be announced.

**Lessons from the Holocaust: Sunday, May 4 @ 2:00 pm.** Educator Brad Wilkening will use historical accounts and survivors' stories to show why the genocide of World War II is more relevant than ever, and how this terrible period in human history should be used to build a more compassionate and kind world today. This program is 1.5 hours long. Refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Brad Wilkening is an Iowa native and Augsburg College graduate with a background in teaching and coaching across the state. He developed a high school Holocaust course after attending a program at the Illinois Holocaust Museum, and later deepened his expertise at Columbia University in New York, and with the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous in New Jersey. Since joining the Iowa Commission on Holocaust Education in 2014, he has shared his Holocaust presentation with schools and libraries statewide. .

**Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, May 5 @ 12:00 noon.** This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *God of the Woods* by Liz Moore. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you plan to attend via Zoom, please email [librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us](mailto:librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 10:00 am on the day of the program and an invitation to the Zoom room will be emailed to you.

**KEYS Chat: Tuesday, May 6 @ 4:00 pm.** Topic and details to be announced. This program is presented via Zoom so guests may join by gathering at the JKPL or participate from home using a personal computer or other smart device. To join from your own device, please email [BrainHelpandHope@outlook.com](mailto:BrainHelpandHope@outlook.com) to receive the Zoom link. KEYS chats are presented by the nonprofit organization Brain Help and Hope, typically on the first Tuesday of each month.

**Fun and Games with Paul presents Build with Turing Tumble: Tuesday, May 6 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.** Drop in at this monthly gathering where library staff member Paul will share a fun and interesting activity or item. Join us today to discover and play with Turing Tumble, a low-tech, high fun puzzle game. Each month will feature a specific game or activity that guests will be able to try out or play while at the library. Guests are welcome to come for a few minutes or stay the whole time—whatever works for them. Not interested in the featured activity? Drop in for other activities like working on a puzzle together or just to socialize. This program is

intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 7 need an adult companion. This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL). Refreshments provided.

***Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, May 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. 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.

***Tween Zone: Drop in to Hang Out: Wednesday, May 7 from 4:00-5:00 pm.*** Do you love snacks, books, puzzles, and games? Join us to hang out, eat snacks, talk about your favorite book, and discover our new Turing Tumble puzzle game, a low-tech yet high-fun gaming experience! Registration is not necessary. Program designed for ages 8 - 12. *The STEM Scale-Up Turing Tumble game sets are funded by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council.*

***Family Movies @ Your Library presents "Sonic Hedgehog 3": Saturday, May 10 @ 1:00 pm.*** Sonic, Knuckles, and Tails reunite against a powerful new adversary, Shadow, a mysterious villain with powers unlike anything they have faced before. With their abilities outmatched in every way, Team Sonic must seek out an unlikely alliance in hopes of stopping Shadow and protecting the planet. Rated PG (109 minutes).

***Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, May 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](mailto:Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us) by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite.

**Library closed for Mother's Day: Sunday, May 11.**

***Adult Crafternoon: Monday, May 12 from 1:00-3:00 pm.*** Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. Project to be decided. 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.

***Heart Healthy Cooking Class: Monday, May 12 from 5:30-7:30 pm.*** Need ideas for some quick and easy heart healthy recipes? Come get hands on and learn how to make a breakfast casserole in muffin tins, ice cream from cottage cheese, and creamsicle flavored water. This class will be led by Lisa Heitz of the American Heart Association HeartCorps. This class is intended for adults, but children are welcome. However, those under the age of 15 require an adult companion. Registration is required as a minimum of 5 people are needed to hold the class and there is a maximum of 15 people allowed. Registration ends May 11.

***Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, May 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 *Bless Your Heart*, Rae Sutton by Susannah B. Lewis. Books are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. If you want to attend via Zoom and haven't attended before, please register by 12 noon on the day of the program at <https://bit.ly/NOVELAPPROACH> so a link to the Zoom room can be emailed to you.

***Drop in and Create - Diamond Art: Friday, May 16 from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.*** Join us at the JKPL as we create with Diamond Art! Participants will make bookmarks, garden decorations, or stickers. 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 13 need an adult companion. Drop in and Create programs will typically be offered the third Friday of each month. This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the

Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).

**Spring Plant Sale: Saturday, May 17 from 9:00 to 11:00 am.** Join Karen Kramer and members of the JKPL Fundraising Committee in the parking lot adjacent to the JKPL to buy plants donated by committee and community members. The plant sale will run from 9:00 to 11:00 am or until all items are taken. Plants not selected during the sale may be available to purchase for a donation. All proceeds will be used to support library collections and services. If you have plants you would like to donate, please contact the library at (563)875-8912 to make arrangements to drop them off. Plants of all kinds are welcome.

**Conservation Camp Kickoff – Planting a Barn Garden: Saturday, May 17 from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Dyersville Community Gardens.** Families who have registered for the Conservation Camp will gather at the Dyersville Community Garden for this Kick-off Event! Come learn about and help plant a barn garden! This session will be led by Alycia Willenbring and other garden experts and is sponsored in part by Ace Hardware and Salt Barn. *Please note: Registration for the Conservation Camp was required by May 5.*

**Bingo Party: Monday, May 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!

**Cricut with Christopher: Monday, May 19 @ 6:00 pm.** Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher. This month's project to be announced. Participants should be 14 or older. Registration is required as attendance is limited to 10. Cricut with Christopher will typically be held on the third Monday of each month.

**Armchair Travel - Ireland: Tuesday, May 20 @ 1:00 pm.** Grab your travel buddy and join us on this virtual visit to stunning Ireland! Chelsea Middendorf, from Eagle Pointe Place Senior Living in Dubuque, will take you on this tour. Chelsea will be providing a small taste of the culture as well, so come try something new! This program is for older adults, but all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Armchair Travel programs will be held on the third Tuesday of most months from 1 to 2 pm.

**Great Give Day is May 21, 2025!** Great Give Day is a day focused on donating to causes or establishments within your community. Looking to support the James Kennedy Public Library? Then consider donating to the James Kennedy Public Library Endowment! The mission of the James Kennedy Public Library (JKPL) Endowment is to provide supplemental financial support to the library. The James Kennedy Public Library enriches the Dyersville community by providing equal access to creative resources for entertainment and education. The James Kennedy Public Library helps create a thriving community to inspire curiosity, creativity, innovation, and connection.

The JKPL Endowment fund, through your charitable contributions, ensures the library will continue to provide these services for years to come. The JKPL Endowment was established in 2019 by Alan Bird. His donation was made in memory of his mother, Irma Bird, a founding member of the original Library Board. Started 60 years after the founding of the library, the Endowment will insure the library's ability to remain dedicated to its original mission and continue to serve the community needs. Want more information? Check out the Endowment Fund's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/James-Kennedy-Public-Library-Endowment-107205744107637/> Want to donate? Visit the following link: <https://www.greatgiveday.org/jkplendowment>

**Hands-Only CPR Class: Wednesday, May 21 @ 5:30 pm.** Come learn about hands-only CPR and how to give it. This class will be led by Lisa Heitz of the American Heart Association HeartCorps. This class is for those age 13 and older. Registration is required as a minimum of 5 people are needed to hold the class and there is a maximum of 20 people allowed. Registration ends May 20.

**Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, May 22 @ 11:15 am.** Topic to be announced. Presented by Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler.

**"The Sandlot" - Sensory Friendly Movie Matinee: Thursday, May 22 @ 1:00 pm.** The best baseball player in the neighborhood helps a new kid with his clumsy ball-handling. Rated PG (100 min.) Refreshments



provided. This program is intended for members of the neurodivergent community, their families and caregivers, but all are welcome. Those under the age of 7 need an adult companion. Please note that this film will be shown with closed captioning enabled, ambient light and potentially other sensory friendly adjustments. *This program is made possible by Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).*

**Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, May 24 from 4:00-6:00 pm.** Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Saturday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

**Library closed for Memorial Day: Sunday, May 25 & Monday, May 26**

**JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, May 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 call by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

**Conservation Camp - Build a Rain Barrel; Whacking Wacky Weeds: Saturday, May 31 from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the Dyersville Community Garden.** Families who have registered for the Conservation Camp will gather at the Dyersville Community Garden to observe how to build a rain barrel as well as learn about the importance of water and weeding in maintaining a healthy garden. This program will be led by Alycia Willenbring, Wayne Hermsen, and other experts. *Please note: Registration for the Conservation Camp was required by May 5.*