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**James Kennedy Public Library
Report to the Mayor and City Council
January 15, 2024**

Highlights from the Librarian's Report to the Board of Trustees for December 2023 are:

- 7,071 items were checked out. This is a 11.3% increase from December 2022. Fiscal year to date, circulation is up 7.3%
- 18 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 182 new library cards have been issued.
- 64 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 2,633 people engaged with these activities.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 170 hours and 310 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 1,117 hours and 2,443 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 38 sessions, 37 visits, and 5 unique users
- There were 3,980 library visits.

Upcoming Events:

Enclosed please find a copy of the January events schedule, as well as a preliminary schedule of events planned for February. Some of the programs scheduled include a free shredding event, a hot tea tasting, a music and movement program for preschool children, mini-golf in the library and a special STEAMfest to celebrate Engineer's Week. It is also time to sign up for the Free Trees program. The Love My Library fundraiser has begun and continues until the end of February. The soup fundraiser will be held Monday, January 29 with carry out service for both lunch and dinner. This year's annual mystery dinner fundraiser will be February 24. It has a western theme and tickets must be purchased in advance.

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director

JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

Month: December-23
YTD: July-22 to December-23
Previous YTD: July-21 to December-22

Library visits

Month	3980	(↑ 20.8%)
YTD	30419	(↑ 24.7%)

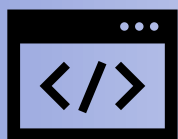
Items loaned

Month	7071	(↑ 11.3%)
YTD	47761	(↑ 7.3%)

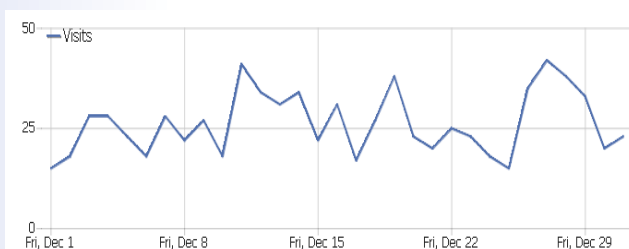
Library cards issued

	City resident	Total
Month	9	18 (↑ 20%)
YTD	95	182 (↑ 4%)

Website traffic



Visits	Average visit duration
815	1:21



Computer use



Hours			Sessions		
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD	Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
170	1117	871	310	2370	2443

Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
38	1606	37	1357	5	195

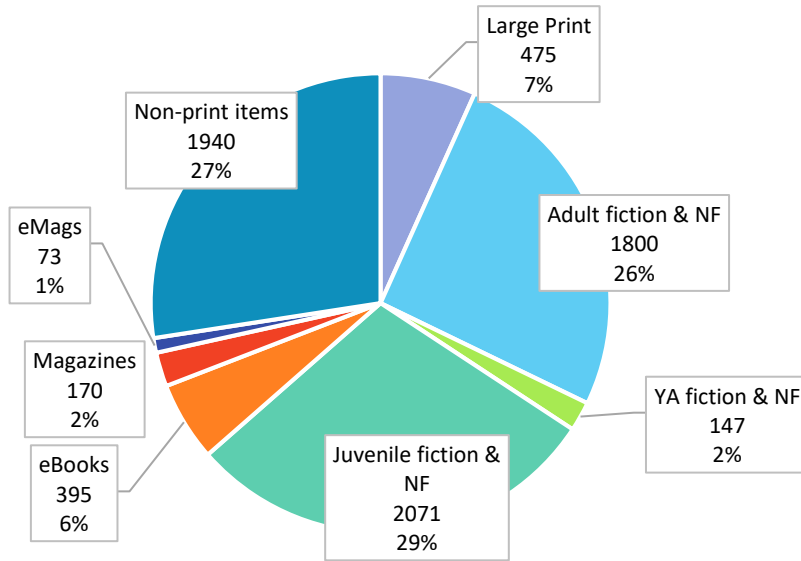
Meeting room use



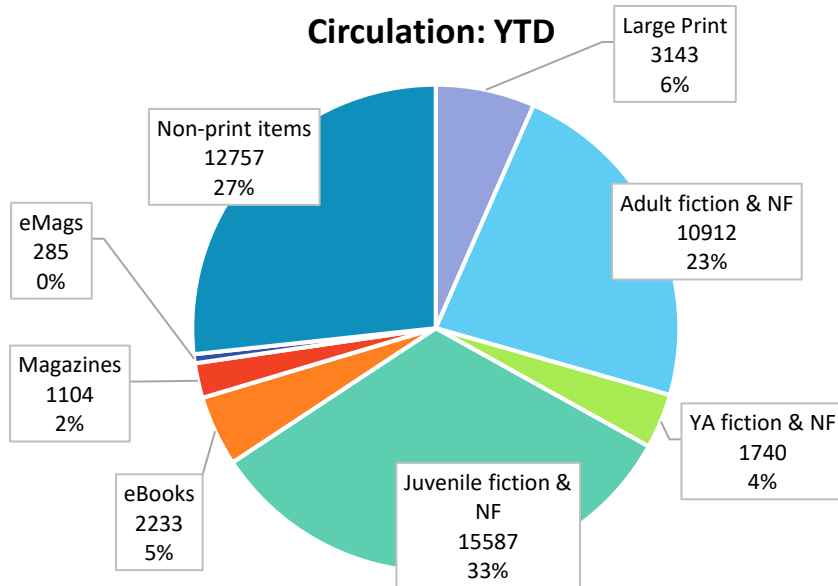
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
61	434	327

Circulation

Circulation: Month



Circulation: YTD



Non-print items	Month	YTD
eAudio	402	2737
Adult & YA audio	65	459
Juvenile audio & kits	17	126
Adult & YA video	731	4723
Juvenile video & DVD	290	1858
Games, LoT, etc.	435	2854
	1940	12757

Music

Downloads: 5
Streams: 0
Total YTD: 25



Video (film and TV)

Downloads: 0
YTD: 9



Visits: 562
YTD: 1648



Online Learning

Sessions: 405
YTD: 625



Languages

Sessions: 219
YTD: 339



Genealogy

Visits: 424
YTD: 2997



Collection

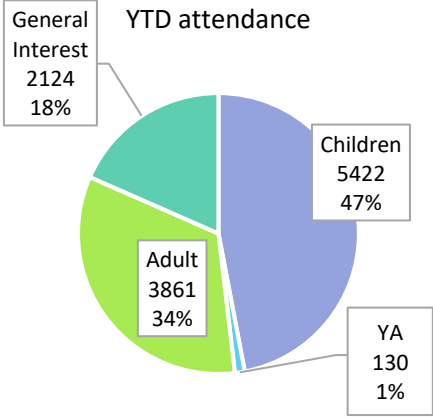
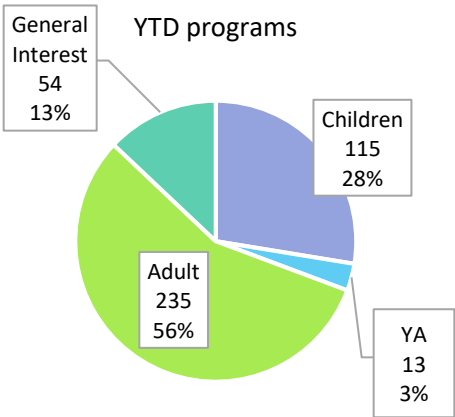
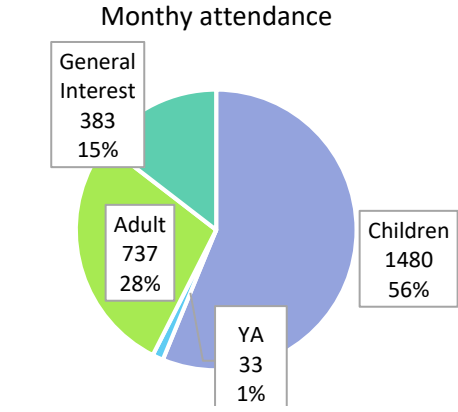
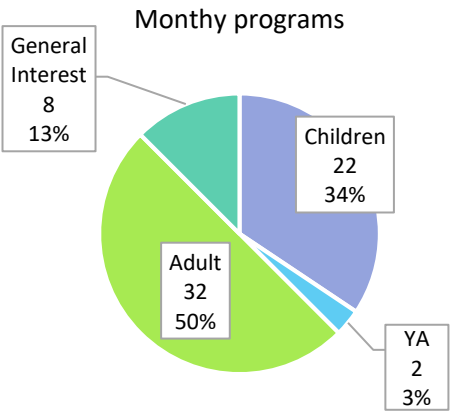
Items purchased	
Month:	133
YTD:	1407

Items donated	
Month:	68
YTD:	294
Prev. YTD:	265

Items withdrawn		
	Month	YTD
Books	133	1742
Audio	26	42
Video	154	265
Other	2	76
Total	315	2125

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	11	77	25	6	30	4	16	3	0	21	5	3	201
Previous month	19	86	33	4	47	6	0	10	0	32	6	6	249
Current YTD	83	507	154	90	433	71	68	36	5	155	56	43	1701
Previous YTD	127	640	193	104	402	75	72	52	5	139	53	75	1937

Programs



Upcoming Events in January:

Sunday, December 31 & Monday, January 1: Library is closed



Kids Can Craft: Sticker Mandala: January 2—31. Kids age 9 and up are invited to stop in and craft at the Creation Station in the library to make a sticker mandala. There will be materials to create a take home kit if you don't wish to make the craft in the library.

Creation Station Craft: Snowy Owl: January 2—31. Stop by the Creation Station this month and pick up a kit to create at home or in the library. The craft we are making this month is a snowy owl made of felt, cotton balls, and a pinecone. Kit includes all needed supplies, except for glue. A video demonstration will be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.

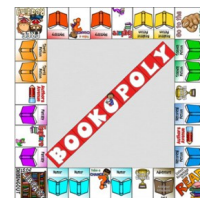
Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: January 2—31. The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages available for you to enjoy at the library or at home. They are intended for adults and teens. Each pack will include at least 10 different 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: January 2—31. Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Cardinals in Winter*. 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.

Winter Bookopoly Challenge Begins: Tuesday, January 2

The JKPL is once again offering a winter library program. This year, participants will be using a Bookopoly game board to track what they are reading or doing at the library and earn prizes. Just like in the classic board game Monopoly, readers in Bookopoly will complete sets of challenges to earn prize entries.

- For each set completed, the participant will be able to select a free book from the prize cart to add to their home library and earn an entry into the grand prize drawings.
- Several grand prize options, for various ages and interests, will be available to choose from.
- There are twelve opportunities to earn entries.
- All ages of readers are welcome and participants can sign up as individuals or as teams.
- Stop in the library to register and pick up your game board on or after January 2, or print the board from the library website.
- The winter Bookopoly Challenge will run through February 29.
- All entries must be received by March 3 to be included in the drawings.



National Science Fiction Day Celebration: Tuesday, January 2.

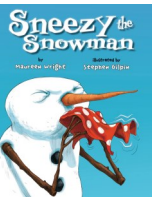
Celebrated on January 2 every year, National Science Fiction Day is a non-official holiday which celebrates everything science fiction in all forms including literature, art, television shows, and films. National SciFi Day also celebrates the birthday of the famed author Isaac Asimov. There are two opportunities to come celebrate with us at the JKPL!

1. **SciFi Activity Kit:** Each kit will include trivia and science fiction facts, activity sheets, coloring pages, plus a gently used science fiction book for adults. Kits will be available January 2-14 or while supplies last.
1. **SciFi Movie Night @ 6:30 pm:** Join your fellow SciFi lovers to watch the 2015 film *The Martian*, based on the book by Andy Weir. Description: A lone astronaut is left behind on the hostile surface of Mars after an exploratory mission goes awry, and must use his ingenuity to create a habitat where he can survive. Meanwhile, his crewmates and a team of scientists work to rescue him, in defiance of NASA protocol. Rated PG-13 (141 min.)



Iowa Duck Stamp Contest Exhibit: January 2—21. The library is happy to have on display the winners from the 2023 Junior Duck Stamp Art Competition. The JDS is the culmination of the Junior Duck Stamp educational program where students may express their newfound knowledge of the waterfowl they studied by drawing, painting, or sketching a picture of an eligible North American waterfowl species. The artwork will be on display through January 21. Come take a look at the work of these talented young artists!

Westside Park StoryWalk®: “Sneezy the Snowman” by Maureen Wright: January 3—February 29. 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. Scan the QR code on the last post and answer the questions to be entered into a monthly prize drawing. No QR scanner? No problem! Use the tiny url listed below the QR code, answer the questions and be entered into the prize drawing. Winter start/end dates for the StoryWalk® are approximate due to weather. *The StoryWalk® is made possible by the Dubuque Racing Association, Friends of the Library, and the Richard Osterhaus Memorial Fund. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.*



Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, January 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, & 29 @ 10:00 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.

Sit and Stitch: Wednesdays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 from 1:00—3:00 pm. Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you are a new participant and wish to join virtually, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us 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.

Upcycled Greeting Cards: Thursday, January 4 from 1:00—2:00 pm. Want a unique card for someone special? Library staff member Ann B. will be on hand to show you how to use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. There are some kits ready to pick up at the circulation desk. Kits available while supplies last.

Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, January 5, 12, 19, 26 from 1:00—3:30 pm. Join us Friday afternoons for cards, dominoes, or other games in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players. The library has some games or you are welcome to bring your own. You can also challenge Ann to a game of Chess, Checkers, Connect 4, or Scrabble. If you want to learn a new game, contact Ann and she can schedule a time to teach you.

Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, January 6 from 10:00—11:00 am. This month's theme is "Snow 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.



Family Movies @ Your Library presents “PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie”: Saturday, January 6 @ 1:00 pm. When a magical meteor crash lands in Adventure City, it gives the PAW Patrol pups superpowers, transforming them into The MIGHTY PUPS! But things take a turn for the worse when the pups' archrival breaks out of jail and teams up with a mad scientist to steal the superpowers for the two villains. With the fate of Adventure City hanging in the balance, the Mighty Pups have to stop the supervillains before it's too late. Rated PG (92 minutes).

Mock-A-Movie: Saturday, January 6 @ 4:00 pm

Join us for an afternoon of terrible cinema, good food, and lots of fun mocking the movie! This evening we will be watching *Spider-Man 3* (PG-13) – an unpopular sequel in the series! Refreshments will be provided. All ages welcome!



Love My Library Giving Tree Fundraiser: Monday, January 8—February 29

Do you “Love Your Library”? Then consider participating in this annual fundraising activity that will improve the collection and services the library is able to offer.

Library staff have identified books and other materials, furnishings, equipment, programs, supplies, and more that the library needs. Select one or more items and donate the funds needed for purchase. Or purchase the items yourself and donate them to the library. Donations will be written on a heart and displayed on the library windows as well as acknowledged on the library website and social media. Where appropriate the library will attach a tag or book plate acknowledging the donation and the donor will be the first to check it out.



Some items are listed on the bulletin board in the entry to the library as well as being featured on the library webpage and social media. The complete list can be viewed at the front desk or from the home page of the library's website (www.dyersville.lib.ia.us). Not finding something you want to “love”? Bring your ideas to a librarian!

Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, January 8 @ 12:00 noon. This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *Christmas by the Book* by Anne Marie Ryan. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you need a link to the Zoom room, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 10:00 am on the day of the program and an invitation to the Zoom room will be emailed to you. *Note: the date of this program was moved due to the holiday.*

Adult Crafternoon: Upcycled Glass Snowman: Monday, January 8 from 1:00—3:00 pm. Join us this month to make a snowman from a beer glass. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a kit and craft on your own at home. The instructional video for how to do the craft will be posted on both the library's Facebook and YouTube pages starting January 9th and kits will be available while supplies last.



Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, January 9 @ 7:00 pm. Join us for this book club that features a variety of books that weave religious faith into the characters and storylines. For this month we will be reading *The Christmas Scrapbook* by Philip Gulley. 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.

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



Come Fly A Drone: Saturday, January 13 from 10:00—11:00 am

Want to try flying a drone? The Library has two drones available in the Library of Things Collection and we want to give you a chance to fly one! Stop by the library and take one for a whirl around the Hoffmann Room! For ages 10 and up.



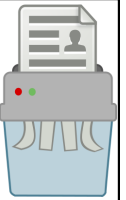
Bingo Party: Monday, January 15 from 1:00—3:00 pm. Come enjoy bingo at the JKPL! There is a two card limit, there is no cost to play, and there are prizes! Registration is recommended as space is limited. Bring your friends!

Cricut with Christopher presents Framed Valentine's Day Picture: Monday, January 15 @ 6:00 pm. Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher and create a framed Valentine's Day-themed picture. Participants should be 14 or older but children age 8 and up are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Registration is recommended as attendance is limited to 10. Walk-ins welcome if space and materials allow. Cricut with Christopher will typically be held monthly on the third Monday of each month.



Free Shredding @ Your Library: January 15—31

The James Kennedy Public Library has partnered with Advantage Archives of Cedar Rapids to offer FREE SHREDDING! Individuals may bring documents to the JKPL to be shredded free of charge. Clean out and prevent identity theft by bringing items like old Tax Records, Medical Records, Banking Information, and more that aren't safe to toss out in traditional trash or recycling. The bin provided will be locked from the time it leaves the library until it is received back at the Advantage Archives facility that is NAID AAA certified for secure destruction. Mark your calendars for this free event open to all!



Hot Tea Tasting: Thursday, January 18 from 6:00—8:00 pm

Join us at the JKPL as we celebrate National Hot Tea Month with a special tea tasting. Heidi from Savvy Salvage will be bringing some delicious tea samples to the library for you to taste. You may discover a new favorite! All attendees may sign up to win a tea-themed door prize provided by Savvy Salvage.



Movies @ Your Library presents "A Haunting In Venice": Saturday, January 20 @ 1:00 pm. Hercule Poirot, the world's most celebrated detective, is retired and living in self-imposed exile in the world's most glamorous city. He reluctantly attends a séance on Halloween at a decaying, haunted palazzo and when one of the guests is murdered, the detective is thrust into a sinister world of shadows and secrets. Rated PG-13 (102 minutes).



Dungeons and Dragons Players Club: Saturday, January 20 @ 4:00 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 (except for this month) and new players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. The library has materials available but feel free to bring your own. To join via Discord, contact Paul at Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite. **Note: this is a new day/time for this program!**

Strings Club: Monday, January 22 @ 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 Sue Engelbrecht and Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month. Registration requested. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows.

JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, January 23 @ 6:30 pm. Join us this month in person at the library, or remotely via Zoom, for a sharing session with writers of all types including poetry, memoir, fiction, or nonfiction. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you want to participate via Zoom, please call by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, January 25 @ 11:00 am

The topic for January is "Intuitive Eating". Founded by registered dietitians, intuitive eating is a flexible approach to food that emphasizes trusting your body's internal signals of hunger and fullness rather than relying on external rules or restrictions. It involves tuning in to your body's needs, desires, and cravings and making food choices that honor your physical and emotional well-being. Presented by Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler. There will be food samples to try! All are welcome.



Used Book Sale: Friday, January 26 thru Monday, January 29

Join us for the Friends of the Library used book sale, which will be held in the basement of the James Kennedy Public Library. Hours are:

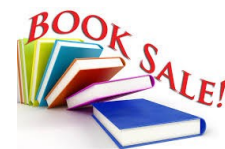
Friday, January 26: 9:00 am—5:00 pm

Sunday, January 28: 1:00—4:00 pm

Saturday, January 27: 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Monday, January 29: 9:00 am—6:00 pm***

***Bags of books are \$2.00 on Monday, the last day of the sale.



Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, January 26 from 6:00—9:00 pm. Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Friday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

Soup Lunch and Dinner Fundraiser: Monday, January 29 from 11:30 am —1:00 pm & 4:30—6:00 pm!

Warm up this winter with the JKPL annual Soup Fundraiser! Enjoy a bowl of homemade chili or chicken noodle soup. Or make it a meal with crackers, roll, and a cookie. Price is \$7.00 per meal or \$5.00 for a bowl of soup only. Quarts of soup may also be available for \$10.00 each.



Lunch will be available from 11:30 am—1:00 pm and dinner will be offered from 4:30—6:00 pm (or until we run out).

Again this year, we are offering carryout service for lunch as well as dinner. Limited seating may be available for guests to eat on site. Otherwise, guests can pull into the library parking lot and call to have their order brought out to them, or step into the Hoffman Room to order and pick up their soup.

The soup is made and served by the JKPL Library Board and Fundraising Committee members. Thank you to Dollar Fresh Market and all of our donors for your donations to support this event. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to support library programs, services and collections. Call the library at 563-875-8912 for more information or advance ordering.



***Foundation Directory* Now Available at JKPL!**

Do you work or volunteer for a non-profit that looks for grants to fund its work? Well the library can now help you with that! The State Library of Iowa has recently subscribed to Candid's *Foundation Directory*, which is a database tool to help libraries and nonprofits find grant-makers to fund their projects. And you can get access to this database through the James Kennedy Public Library!

The tools available on *Foundation Directory* allow you to find funding opportunities beyond open Requests for Proposals. Since 90% of U.S. foundations do not have websites, the insights you need to find funders will not be discovered via standard search engines. You need up-to-date, in-depth information to reach the philanthropists that want to support your mission. With information on more than 242,000+ grant-makers, Candid's *Foundation Directory* can help you find the funders you don't know about yet.

The data in *Foundation Directory* is compiled from IRS Forms 990 and 990-PF, grant-maker websites, annual reports, printed application guidelines, the philanthropic press, and various other sources. Candid's staff continually monitor countless data sources to verify that their information is up to date. Candid's team is also in frequent communication with grant-makers nationwide. Hundreds of funders from the US (and around the world) share their grants data directly with Candid, making them able to quickly update *Foundation Directory* without having to wait for the IRS to release the latest Forms 990.

Foundation Directory gives you access to the information you need to be smart and strategic with your funding requests. You can create an account online and keep track of your research. You can also use the Assessment Tool to evaluate funders and keep track of the tasks associated with prospecting and applying for grants. To see an overview of the database, check out this link: <https://fconline.foundationcenter.org/welcome/features>

Foundation Directory can be accessed on the library website from the Online Reference Page. Access to the database is only available from inside the library.



Folk Art: Creativity with Pen and Ink
Tuesday, February 13 @ 6:00 pm

Join Dianne Kramer as we take a step back in time to the era of our colonial ancestors and create and design replicas of primitive folk art. Folk art is characterized by simplicity, bold colors, and a depiction of everyday life in the 17th century. No art experience is necessary! Each image will be broken down into easy-to-follow steps. This class is designed for adults. Participants will need to bring the following supplies: pencil, eraser, fine black felt-tipped pen, and colored pencils. All other supplies will be provided. Registration is required by Monday, February 12 as space is limited. Come to the library to see a display of the types of drawings we'll do in class!



Miniature Golf @ Your Library
Saturday, February 17

Miniature Golf Course Building from 12:00—3:00 pm

Got a cool idea for a course hole in the library? Join us from 12-3pm to construct and test your idea. Then stay from 3-4pm and help us set it up for people to play through! The hole that is voted as the favorite will get \$20 Dyersville Dollars as a prize.

Mini Golf from 4:00—7:00 pm

Come to the library for this special after-hours event for all ages. For one night only, we'll turn the library into a mini-golf course! Come in to tee off between the stacks and navigate our book obstacles. The course will be designed by library staff and volunteers. All ages welcome but those under age 6 must be accompanied by an adult.



Mystery Dinner Theatre Fundraiser: *Gritty Gritty Bang Bang*
Saturday, February 24 @ 6:30 pm

The JKPL is excited to announce the 2024 Mystery Dinner Fundraiser which will feature a western-themed mystery performed by the Brew Ha Ha Players along with a meal catered by J & D Catering. This event will be held at the Dyersville Social Center.

Themed dress is welcome! Tickets are \$75.00 each or a table for six (6) for \$400.00. Seating is limited and tickets must be purchased in advance. ***Tickets are on sale now!***

Show Description:

With audacious characters like the poker playing One-Eyed Jack; Scarlett, the overly friendly call girl; and Kitty Pinkerton, the new sheriff in town who's dedicated to law and order—this evening is filled with action and laughs as the small town of Fort Wiota tries to figure out who shot the contemptible Callous Crud. Join us as we put the "wild" in the Wild West!



Friends Bus Trip to Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse
Wednesday, May 8

The annual Friends of the JKPL bus trip will be going to Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse in Rock Island, IL to see *Jersey Boys*. Seats are \$115 each and include one ticket to the show, lunch, and transportation. The bus will stop at Tycogo Winery on the way home for a break. Tickets must be bought in advance and will be going on sale in mid-January. Be sure to check back as tickets sell fast!



Upcoming Events for FEBRUARY 2024

Free Trees for Earth Day! The JKPL is celebrating Earth Day this spring by participating in the 13th Annual Neighborhood Forest free tree program, whose aim is to provide free trees to kids every Earth Day. Since 2010, Neighborhood Forest has reached over 100,000 families and planted over 50,000 (mostly urban and residential) trees through the hands of children and parents across North America. The JKPL is excited to be participating in this wonderful program that teaches kids stewardship through the magic and wonder of planting and watching trees grow. Parents can find more information and sign their children up to receive a tree at this link: <https://bit.ly/FreeTrees24>. Trees (6 to 12 inches in size) will be delivered to the JKPL and families will be able to pick them up around Earth Day (April 22nd). Planting instructions and species information will be emailed a few days prior to the trees arriving. Deadline to apply is March 15

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

Build-A-Basket Fundraiser begins!: **Thursday, February 1.** Would you like to help raise money for the library? It is fun and easy! Just pick something you love and build a basket of items around that theme. Or pick a favorite book and build a basket around that book. Create your basket and donate it to the library by early March. The baskets will be auctioned off in a silent auction (in person and virtual) that runs March 1 to 24. The library will provide you with an empty basket if you need one. Or you can just donate your items to the library and we can put them all in a basket for you. All funds raised are used to support library programs, collections, and services.

Winter Bookopoly Challenge Continues! : February 1—29. The JKPL is again offering a winter library program. This year, participants will be using a Bookopoly game board to track what they are reading or doing at the library and earn prizes. Just like in the game Monopoly, readers in Bookopoly will complete sets of challenges to earn prize entries. For each set completed, the participant will be able to select a free book from the prize cart to add to their home library or a prize from the prize basket, and earn an entry into the grand prize drawings. Several grand prize options, for various ages and interests, will be available to choose from. There are twelve opportunities to earn entries and prizes. All ages of readers are welcome and participants can sign up as individuals or as teams. All entries must be received by March 4 to be included in the drawings.

World Read Aloud Day: Wednesday, February 7. World Read Aloud Day is celebrated on the first Wednesday in February and takes place on February 1 this year. This is a day dedicated not just to reading, but to the art and practice of reading aloud. LitWorld founded World Read Aloud Day in 2010 in celebration of the power of reading aloud to create community, to amplify new stories, and to advocate for literacy as a foundational human right. To celebrate, the JKPL will post a smash cut video of library staff members reading aloud brief excerpts from favorite books. Patrons are also encouraged to celebrate and share a brief video or photograph of them reading aloud. Videos can be posted on the library's social media or emailed to librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us between February 2 - 6. Everyone who participates will get their name entered into a special prize drawing!

Kids Can Craft - Huge Candy Designs: February 1-29. Kids of all ages are invited to stop in to the library to design and/or color a huge candy for a coloring contest. Winner will receive a basket of sweet goodies. All designs will be considered for use in an upcoming summer Storywalk. All kids are welcome to take their coloring page home and return to the library at a later date, if they prefer to craft at home. Paints are available for take-home at the front desk, but paints are not allowed in the library. Creativity is king, so get crafty!

Creation Station Craft: February 1-29. Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft is TBA. Kit includes most needed supplies and instructions. A video demonstration may also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.

Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: February 1-29. 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: February 1-29. Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle is *Stitch in Time*. 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®: "Sneezy the Snowman" by Maureen Wright: February 1 thru February 29. (Winter start/end dates for the StoryWalk® are approximate due to weather.) Families are invited to walk the StoryWalk® at Westside Park which begins south of the parking lot by the baseball diamond. Walk the trail and read the story to your children. Scan the QR code on the last post and answer the questions to be entered into a monthly prize drawing. No QR scanner? No problem! Use the tiny url listed below the QR code, answer the questions and be entered into the prize drawing. There will be a new story on the first of the month through November. 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: Thursdays and Mondays, February 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29 @ 10:00 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.

Upcycled Greeting Cards: Thursday, February 1 from 1:00-2:00 pm. Want a unique card for someone special? Library staff member Ann B. will be on hand to show you how to use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. There are some kits ready to pick up at the circulation desk. Kits available while supplies last.

Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, February 2, 9, 16, 23 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. You can also challenge Ann to a game of Chess, Checkers, Connect 4, or Scrabble. If you want to learn a new game, contact Ann and she can schedule a time to teach you.

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

Movies @ Your Library presents "Iron Will": Saturday, February 3 @ 1:00 pm. A brave young man is thrust into adulthood as he and his courageous team of sled dogs embark on a grueling and treacherous cross-country marathon. Together they race through the frozen wilderness, carrying hopes of capturing the \$10,000 grand prize that will save his family from financial ruin. With dogged determination and sheer iron will, they face impossible odds and hardships along the dangerous trail to his dreams. Rated PG (104 minutes).

Nerf War @ Your Library: Saturday, February 3: 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.

Take Your Child to the Library Day: Saturday, February 3. On the first Saturday in February*, thousands of libraries across the world celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day by offering free, fun, fabulous activities for families. Activities to be decided.

Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, February 5 @ 12:00 noon. This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *Go as a River* by Shelley Read. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you need a link to the Zoom room, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 10:00 am on the day of the program and an invitation to the Zoom room will be emailed to you.

Adult Crafternoon: Monday, February 5 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Join us this month to make TBA. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a take-and-make kit and craft on your own at home. The instructional video for how to do the craft will be posted on both the library's Facebook and YouTube pages starting September 12th and kits will be available while supplies last.

Music and Movement: Wednesdays, February 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 10:00-10:30 am. Has the winter weather set you all on edge? Bring your children to the library to wiggle, dance, and shake their energy out! An indoor snowball fight will conclude the dancing. This program is designed for children ages 6 months to 6 years, but all children are welcome to participate. Adult supervision is required. No registration necessary.

Sit and Stitch: Wednesdays, February 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 are a new participant and wish to join virtually, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 10 am on the date of the gathering and an invitation will be emailed to you. The same Zoom room link is used each week.

Dungeons and Dragons Players Club: Saturday, February 10 @ 4:00 pm. Join us for this monthly gaming event for D & D players that meets in-person or you can join remotely via Discord. This group meets the second Saturday of every month and new players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. The library has materials available but feel free to bring your own. To join via Discord, contact Paul at Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite. ***Note: this is a new day/time for this program!***

Folk Art: Creativity with Pen and Ink: Tuesday, February 13 @ 6:00 pm. Join Dianne Kramer as we take a step back in time to the era of our colonial ancestors and create and design replicas of primitive folk art. Folk art is characterized by simplicity, bold colors, and a depiction of everyday life in the 17th century. No art experience is necessary! Each image will be broken down into easy-to-follow steps. This class is designed for adults. Participants will need to bring the following supplies: pencil, eraser, fine black felt-tipped pen, and colored

pencils. All other supplies will be provided. Registration is required by Monday, February 12 as space is limited. Come to the library to see a display of the types of drawings we'll do in class!

Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, February 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 *Cold Light of Day* by Elizabeth Goddard. 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.

Genealogy with Ann: Wednesday, February 14 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.

Miniature Golf Course Building: Saturday, February 17 from 12:00 to 3:00 pm. Got a cool idea for a course hole in the library? Join us from 12-3pm to construct and test your idea. Then stay from 3-4pm and help us set it up for people to play through! The hole that is voted as the favorite will get \$20 Dyersville Dollars as a prize.

Miniature Golf @ Your Library: Saturday, February 17 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Come to the library for this special after-hours event for all ages. For one night only, we'll turn the library into a mini-golf course! Come in to tee off between the stacks and navigate our book obstacles. The course will be designed by library staff and volunteers. All ages welcome but those under age 6 must be accompanied by an adult.

National Engineers Week: February 18-24. This year's theme "Welcome to the Future" is about celebrating today's achievements and paving the way for a brighter and more diverse future in engineering. Activities to be decided.

Bingo Party: Monday, February 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, February 19 @ 6:00 pm. Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher. Participants should be 14 or older but children age 8 and up are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Registration is recommended as attendance is limited to 10. Walk-ins welcome if space and materials allow. Cricut with Christopher will typically be held monthly on the third Monday of each month.

Maple Syruping: Tuesday, February 20 @ 6:30 pm. Hands-on presentation at the JKPL, presented by Dubuque County Conservation. More details coming.

Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, February 22 @ 11:00 am. Presented by Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler. There will be

food samples to try! All are welcome. More details coming.

Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, February 23 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Friday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

STEAMFEST: Saturday, February 24 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Visit the JKPL for this special event celebrating Engineer's Week (February 18-24) and discover some of the exciting S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, art, and music) activities you can try out 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 some activities might have age guidelines or require an older companion for assistance.

Mystery Dinner Theatre Fundraiser: Gritty Gritty Bang Bang: Saturday, February 24 @ 6:30 pm. The JKPL is excited to announce the 2024 Mystery Dinner Fundraiser. This event will feature a western themed mystery performed by the Brew Ha Ha Players and a meal catered by J & D Catering. This event will be held at the Dyersville Social Center. Doors open at 5:45 and the performance starts promptly at 6:30 pm. Western attire is welcome! Tickets are \$75.00 each or a table of six (6) for \$400. Seating is limited and tickets must be purchased by February 16. Watch for more details to be announced or contact the library now to save your seats! Brief description: GRITTY GRITTY BANG BANG by Kyle Klapatauskas. With audacious characters like the poker playing One-Eyed Jack; Scarlett, the overly friendly call girl; and Kitty Pinkerton, the new sheriff in town who's dedicated to law and order—this evening is filled with action, laughs, and some delicious grub, as the small town of Fort Wiota tries to figure out who shot the contemptible Callous Crud. Maybe it was the traveling snake oil salesman or the singing cowboy? Or perhaps it was the homely kitchen wench who has a sweet spot for sour characters. Join us as we put the "wild" in the Wild West!

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

JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, February 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.

Leap Day Celebration: Thursday, February 29. Activities to be announced.