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**James Kennedy Public Library
Report to the Mayor and City Council
January 20, 2025**

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

- 6,703 items were checked out. This is a 5.2% decrease from December 2023. Fiscal year to date, circulation is down 4.3%
- 21 library cards were issued to new patrons. Fiscal year to date, 159 new library cards have been issued.
- 70 programs were offered in person, virtually, remotely, and as activity kits. 2,513 people engaged with these activities.
- Four public access computers and three children's computers were available and were used for 155 hours and 355 sessions. Year to date computers were used for 1,206 hours and 2,549 sessions.
- WiFi Use: 132 sessions, 116 visits, and 47 unique users. Year to date WiFi use included 735 sessions, 663 visits, and 192 unique users.
- There were 3,700 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 program on sustainable landscaping presented by Dubuque County Conservation, mini-golf in the library, an armchair travel program about South Africa, and the Bear Creek Carvers open house. It is also time to start signing up for the Free Trees program. For February, the fundraising committee has planned a Jigsaw Puzzle Competition partnering with Textile Brewery, the annual Mystery Dinner Fundraiser, and the Love My Library event. The Friends of the Library Used book sale is also in January.

Prepared by: Shirley Vonderhaar, Library Director

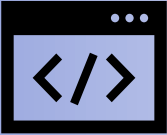
JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY MONTHLY REPORT

Librarian's report to the Board of Trustees

Month: December-24
YTD: July-24 to December-24
Previous YTD: July-23 to December-23

Library visits			Items loaned		Library cards issued		
					City resident	Total	
Month	3700	(↓ 7%)	6703	(↓ 5.2%)	10	21	(↑ 16.7%)
YTD	28977	(↓ 4.7%)	45725	(↓ 4.3%)	79	159	(↓ 12.6%)

Website traffic




Visits


1162

Average visit duration

1:26




Computer use




Hours			Sessions		
Month	YTD	Prev. YTD	Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
155	1206	1117	355	2549	2370

Wifi use



Sessions		Visits		Unique visitors	
Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
132	735	116	663	47	192

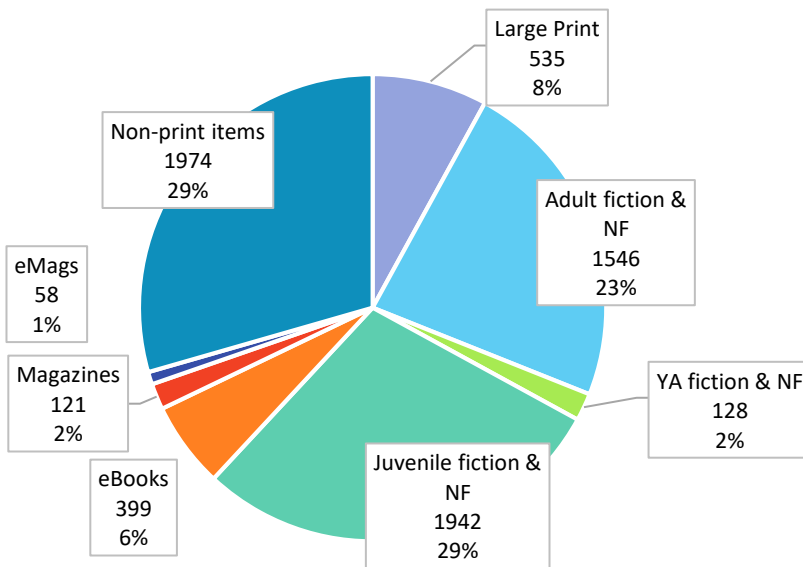
Meeting room use



Month	YTD	Prev. YTD
33	348	434

Circulation

Circulation: Month



Music

Downloads: 7
Total YTD: 67



Video (film and TV)

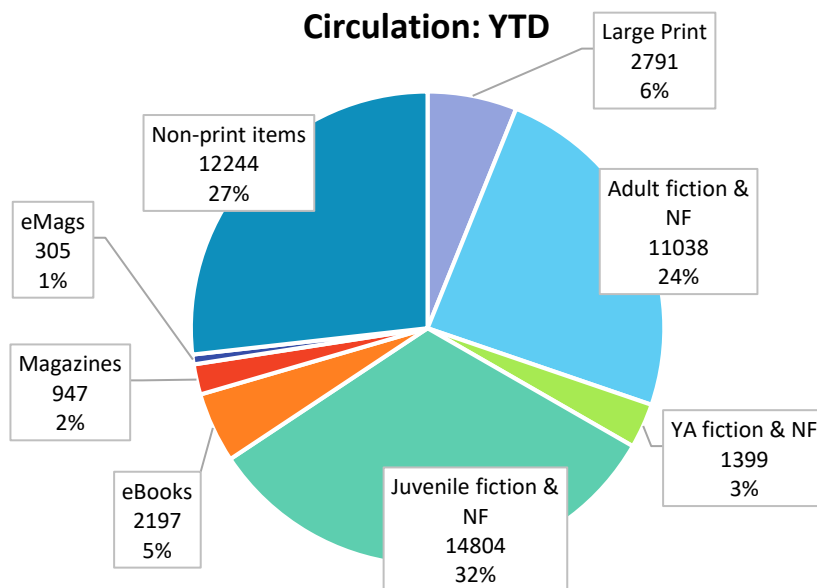
Downloads: 10
YTD: 58



Visits: 249
YTD: 962



Circulation: YTD



Online Learning

Sessions: 34
YTD: 128



Languages

Sessions: 11
YTD: 84



Genealogy

Visits: 465
YTD: 3463



Non-print items	Month	YTD
eAudio	561	3435
Adult & YA audio	72	515
Juvenile audio & kits	13	99
Adult & YA video	699	4010
Juvenile video & DVD	289	1882
Games, LoT, etc.	340	2303
	1974	12244

Collection

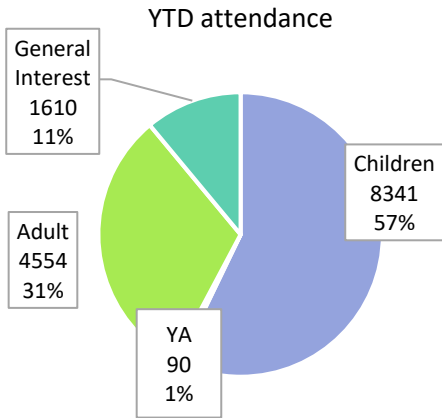
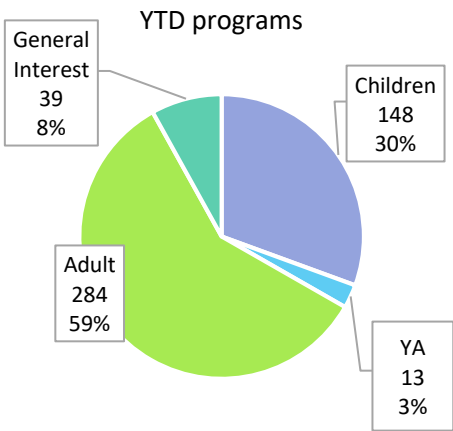
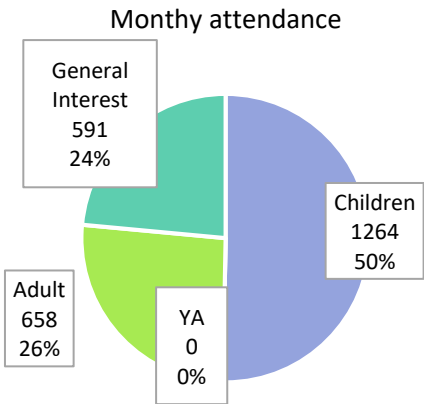
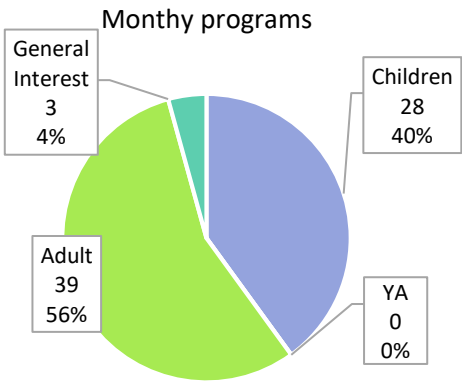
Items purchased	
Month:	92
YTD:	1295

Items donated	
Month:	49
YTD:	396
Prev. YTD:	294

Items withdrawn		
	Month	YTD
Books	101	2343
Audio	6	8
Video	4	27
Other	1	53
Total	112	2431

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	9	32	17	14	33	0	0	5	1	23	0	7	141
Previous month	11	77	25	6	30	4	16	3	0	21	5	3	201
Current YTD	130	455	213	92	369	91	46	34	2	178	49	32	1691
Previous YTD	83	507	154	90	433	71	68	36	5	155	56	43	1701

Programs



Upcoming Events in January:

HOLIDAY HOURS:

Tuesday, December 31: Library closes @ 5:00 pm

Wednesday, January 1: Library is closed



Winter Wonderland Library Challenge: January 2—February 28

The JKPL is once again offering a winter library program. This year, participants will be using a new game board to track their participation. Complete activities and read to earn prize entries!

- For each square completed, the participant will earn an entry into the prize drawings.
- Several prize options, for various ages and interests, will be available to choose from.
- Those that complete the program, (finish all 24 squares), will earn a special canvas book bag and be able to adopt an item to be added to the library collection.
- All ages of readers are welcome and participants can sign up as individuals or as teams.
- Everyone will get a free book just for signing up!
- 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.
- This winter Library Challenge will run from January 2 thru February 28 and all entries must be received by March 5 to be included in the drawings.



Children's Pretend Play Station: Pizza Restaurant: January 2—31. Area families are invited to come to the library and explore what it has to offer in Pizza Restaurant play!

Children's Scavenger Hunt: Pizza: January 2—31. Area children and their families are encouraged to participate in our "Pizza" scavenger hunt to earn a sticker! One sticker per child per library visit.



Kids Can Craft: Pizza Flavor Challenge: January 2—31. Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to draw and color a brand-new pizza flavor idea. Chocolate and sardines? Frogs and yule logs? Get creative with some gross concoction ideas! Every coloring page qualifies artists for an entry into the drawing for a surprise food basket but is limited to one entry per day. Winner will be announced in early February.

Creation Station Craft: Sparkly Hedgehog: January 2—31. Stop in and craft in the Creation Station at the library or grab a kit and create at home! This month's craft is a hedgehog made from clay and sequins! Kit includes all needed supplies, except for optional markers or paint. A video demonstration may also be available to view on the JKPL Facebook and YouTube channel. Kits available while supplies last.



Upcycled Greeting Card Kits: January 2—31. Want a unique card for someone special? Pick up one of these kits that use the front of an old greeting card combined with glue and cardstock to make an entirely new card. Each card kit includes a greeting card front with coordinating cardstock and an envelope. You will need to supply the glue. If crafting in the library, glue sticks may be borrowed from the desk for in-library use.

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 *I Love Iowa*. 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®: "I'm Going to Build a Snowman" by Jashar Awan: January 2—February 28. (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. *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 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, & 30 @ 9:30 & 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 Registration Begins: Thursday, January 2

Join us this winter and spring for three sessions of Kids Can Cook, which 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 series, children who have participated in over half of the classes they registered for will receive an apron.



- Sessions will be offered February 6, 13, 20; March 6, 13, 20; and April 3, 10 & 17.
- Registration for each session is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session.
- A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must be on file for a child to attend.
- *This program is funded by Theisen's More for Your Community, Dyersville Area Community Foundation, Jeanne M. Coppola Endowment for Education, the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library, and various library fundraising events.*

Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31 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, January 4 from 10:00—11:00 am. This month's theme is "Sci-fi Adventure". 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. All children who participate have their names entered into a quarterly drawing for a special LEGO® related prize provided by DuTrac.



Game Changer: Saturday, January 4 @ 4:00 pm

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



Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, January 6 @ 12:00 noon. This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *The Matzah Ball* by Jean Meltzer. 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.

Food is Medicine—KEYS to Dementia Prevention: Tuesday, January 7 @ 4:00 pm. Curious to see what foods have documented medicinal benefits? Join us for this virtual discussion about what common foods and spices can complement your health goals. Presented by Dr. Emily Beckett, Pharmacologist at Broadlawns Medical Center. This presentation will be presented via Zoom so guests may join at the JKPL or participate from home using a personal computer or other device. Email BrainHelpandHope@outlook.com to receive the Zoom link. KEYS Chats will be presented via Zoom by Help and Hope for Brain Health, typically on the first Tuesday of each month.



Creative Smartphone Photography for Teens: Tuesdays, January 7—February 25 from 4:00—5:00 pm

Teens can join local photography expert Erin Labelle to visually explore the library and downtown Dyersville using smartphone cameras!

- Teens will meet every Tuesday in January and February to learn about digital photography including timing, light, composition, portraiture, and self-portraiture techniques.
- A weekly photo walk will get the group outside and moving, then they'll return to the library to edit and enhance images taken with the Snapseed app.
- On the final day, teens will print four of their favorite photos from the workshop to keep.
- Registration is requested as there is a maximum of 10 participants.
- By registering and committing to the eight sessions, teens will receive a book on photography for at-home learning.



Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 1:00—3:00 pm. Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via Zoom. 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 but Zoom is only set up if someone is planning to attend virtually.

Mock-A-Movie Night for Teens: Friday, January 10 @ 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 *Madam Web* (PG-13)—a terrible movie involving Spider-man characters. Refreshments will be provided. For ages 12-18 only.



Movies @ Your Library presents “Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice”: **Saturday, January 11 @ 1:00 pm.** After an unexpected family tragedy, three generations of the Deetz family return home to Winter River. Still haunted by Beetlejuice, Lydia's life is turned upside down when her rebellious teenage daughter, Astrid, discovers the mysterious model of the town in the attic and the portal to the Afterlife is accidentally opened. With trouble brewing in both realms, it's only a matter of time until someone says Beetlejuice's name three times and the mischievous demon returns to unleash his very own brand of mayhem. Rated PG-13 (114 minutes).



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

Soup Lunch and Dinner Fundraiser: Monday, January 13 from 11:30 am—1:00 pm & 4:30—6:30 pm

Enjoy a bowl of homemade chili or chicken noodle soup. Or make it a meal with crackers, roll, and a cookie. Again this year, we are offering carryout service for lunch as well as dinner.

- Lunch will be available from 11:30 am—1:00 pm and dinner will be offered from 4:30—6:30 pm (or until we run out).
- Price is \$7.00 per meal or \$5.00 for a bowl of soup only. Quarts of soup may also be available for \$10.00 each.
- The soup is made and served by the JKPL staff, Library Board and Fundraising Committee members.
- Limited seating may be available for guests to eat on site. Otherwise, guests can call ahead to have their order ready, or step into the Hoffman Room to order and pick up their soup.
- Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to support library programs, services and collections.
- *Thank you to Dollar Fresh Market, and all of our donors, for your donations to support this event.*



Adult Crafternoon: Sock Snowman: Monday, January 13 from 1:00—3:00 pm. Join us this month to make a Sock Snowman. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a take-and-make kit and craft on your own at home. Kits will be available while supplies last.

Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, January 14 @ 7:00 pm. Join us for this book club that features a variety of books that weave religious faith into the characters and storylines. For this month we will be reading *No Other Will Do* by Karen Witemeyer. Books are available to borrow from the library. Participants are welcome to attend in person or remotely via Zoom. If you want to attend via Zoom and haven't attended before, please 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.

Tween Zone: Drop in to Hang Out: Wednesday, January 15 from 4:00—5:00 pm. 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.*



Genealogy with Ann: Thursday, January 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. Appointments with Ann can be made if that is more convenient.



Teen Turing Tumble Coding Puzzles: Sunday, January 19 from 2:00—3:00 pm. Want to learn more about how computers, coding, puzzles and games work? Join us for this new monthly program using Turing Tumble, a tactile programming board game that uses marbles, ramps, crossovers, bits, inceptors, gears and gear bits to understand how computers and simple switches work. Snacks will be provided. This program is designed for those age 13—18.



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

Armchair Travel—South Africa: Tuesday, January 21 @ 1:00 pm

Grab your travel buddy and join us on this virtual visit to stunning South Africa! Chelsea Middendorf, from Eagle Pointe Place Senior Living in Dubuque, will take you on this tour. You will ride along the breathtaking Garden Route to explore a safari, hike Tsitsikamma National Park, catch a whale sighting, walk a few of the historic steps with Nelson Mandela, and much more! The trip begins in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) and ends in Cape Town with several stops along the way to get the full sensory experience of what makes South Africa so special. 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.

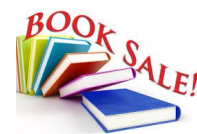


Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, January 23 @ 11:15 am. Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler will be at the library to talk about Fiber: Your Health's Best Friend plus the Live Healthy Iowa 10-week Wellness Challenge. There will be food samples to try! All are welcome.

Used Book Sale: Friday, January 24 thru Monday, January 27

Join us for the Friends of the Library used book sale, which will be held in the basement of the James Kennedy Public Library. Bags of books are \$2.00 on Monday, the last day of the sale. Hours are:

Friday, January 24: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Saturday, January 25: 9:00 am—3:00 pm
Sunday, January 26: 1:00-4:00 pm Monday, January 27: 9:00 am—6:00 pm



Family Movies @ Your Library presents "The Wild Robot": Saturday, January 25 @ 1:00 pm. After a shipwreck, an intelligent robot called Roz is stranded on an uninhabited island. To survive the harsh environment, Roz bonds with the island's animals and cares for an orphaned baby goose. Based on the book by Peter Brown. Rated PG (101 minutes).



Game Night @ Your Library: Saturday, January 25 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, January 27 @ 6:30 pm. Do you have a ukulele, guitar or other string instrument that you would like to play more often? Do you want to grow your skills by jamming with others? Then come join the JKPL Strings Club! Teen and adult musicians of all skill levels are welcome. NOTE: This is not a class but a jam session so participants should know basic chords. Facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month from October to April. Registration encouraged. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows.



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

National Puzzle Day Celebration: Wednesday, January 29

Each year on January 29th, National Puzzle Day recognizes how exercising our brains with puzzles is just one of puzzlings many benefits. National Puzzle Day is the perfect day to set aside time for you and your family to solve puzzles. To celebrate, the JKPL is putting together Puzzle Take-and-Make kits for you to enjoy.



The kit will include paper puzzles of different types and different skill levels; a blank jigsaw puzzle so you can create your own puzzle; and tea and hot cocoa mix for you to make and enjoy. Kits will be available starting January 20.

If the kit is not enough, there are paper puzzles of various types (sudoku, crossword, etc.) available to pick up at the library as part of the Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library passive program. Still need more puzzles? There are also jigsaw puzzles for all ages to either put together at the library or check out and assemble at home.

Free Trees for Earth Day!

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

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



Want to stay current on all that is going on at the library? Here's how:

- *Sign up for our weekly email newsletter
- *Visit our website at www.dyersville.lib.ia.us
- *Like us on Facebook
- *Follow us on X: @dyersvillelib
- *Follow us on Instagram: jameskennedylibrary
- *Follow us on Goodreads: James Kennedy Public Library
- *Follow us on YouTube: James Kennedy Public Library



Use the QR code to see our events!

Upcoming EVENTS

Find the latest information on library events
and programs at www.dyersville.lib.ia.us
or scan the QR code



Love My Library Giving Tree Fundraiser Begins February 1, 2025

Do you "Love Your Library"? Then consider participating in this annual fundraising activity that will improve the collections, programs, and services the library is able to offer.



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

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



Join us in celebrating National Puzzle Day at this fun new fundraising event to support the JKPL! This event will be held at Textile Brewery.

- Teams of up to 4 individuals are invited to buy a table for \$40.00, which includes a 300-piece puzzle.
- Complete the 300 piece puzzle first to win!
- Prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place.
- Teams can buy twists like freezing the competition, making them wear gloves, wearing beer goggles, and more!
- Participation is limited to 12 teams.
- Textile Brewery will donate 10% of food sales during the event to the JKPL.
- All proceeds will benefit the James Kennedy Public Library.

Nerf War @ Your Library Saturday, February 1 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.



Sustainable Landscaping with Dubuque County Conservation Thursday, February 6 from 6:00—7:30 pm

Join us at the JKPL to learn about sustainable options for landscaping. Be ready to write down ideas and draw out your landscape design to implement native plants, rain water harvesting systems, and more.



Miniature Golf @ Your Library Sunday, February 9 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 tee off between the stacks and navigate our book obstacles which will be designed by library staff and/or volunteers. All ages welcome but those under age 6 must be accompanied by an adult.



Bear Creek Carvers Open House and Demo Saturday, February 22 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm

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



Murder Mystery Dinner & Trivia: *Fast Times at Kennedy High* Saturday, February 22 @ 6:30 pm

The JKPL is excited to announce the 2025 Mystery Dinner Fundraiser. This event will feature a totally tubular 80s trivia night with murder, mayhem, and mixtapes performed by the Brew Ha Ha Players. The meal will be catered by J & D Catering and the event will be held at the Dyersville Social Center. Snow date is March 1.

- Tickets are \$75.00 each or a group of six (6) for \$400.00.
- Seating is limited and tickets must be purchased by February 14.
- Visit the library website for more details: www.dyersville.lib.ia.us



Friends Bus Trip to Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse Wednesday, April 30

The annual Friends of the JKPL bus trip will be going to Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse in Rock Island, IL to see *Heartbreak Hotel*. Seats are \$125 each and include one ticket to the show, lunch, and transportation. Tickets must be bought in advance and will be going on sale in January 15.



January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
January 1-31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pizza Flavor challenge Sparkly hedgehog craft kits Coloring, Creating, & Doing Upcycled Cards kits National Puzzle Day kits (starting January 20) 	Winter Wonderland Library Challenge Begins! January 2—February 28	31 Library closes @ 5pm	1 Library closed	2 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Kids Can Cook Registration Begins!	3 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	4 Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program from 10-11am Game Changer @ 4pm
5	6 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Books For Lunch @ 12pm	7 Food is Medicine @ 4pm Creative Smartphone Photography @ 4pm	8 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm	9 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am	10 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm Mock-A-Movie @ 6pm	11 <i>Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice</i> (PG-13) @ 1pm Dungeons & Dragons @ 3:30pm
12	13 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Soup Lunch & Dinner from 11:30am-1pm / 4:30-6:30pm Adult Crafternoon from 1-3pm	14 A Novel Approach to Faith book club @ 7pm	15 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm Tween Zone @ 4pm	16 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Genealogy with Ann from 1-3pm	17 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	18
19 Teen Turing Tumble Coding Puzzles @ 2pm	20 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Bingo Party from 1-3pm	21 Armchair Travel @ 1pm	22 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm	23 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Health & Wellness 365 @ 11:15am	24 Used Book Sale from 9am-5pm Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	25 Used Book Sale from 9am-3pm <i>The Wild Robot</i> (PG) @ 1pm Game Night from 4-6pm
26 Used Book Sale from 1-4pm	27 Used Book Sale from 9am-6pm Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am Strings Club @ 6:30pm	28 JKPL Writing Group @ 6:30pm	29 Sit & Stitch from 1-3pm	30 Strength Training @ 9:30am & 10:30am	31 Euchre Card Party from 1-3:30pm	January 1-31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get Puzzled StoryWalk® Children's Pretend Play Station & scavenger hunt

Upcoming Events for FEBRUARY 2025

Love My Library Giving Tree Fundraiser: February 2025. Do you “Love Your Library”? Then consider participating in this annual fundraising activity that will improve the collections, programs, and services the library is able to offer. Library staff have identified books and other materials, furnishings, equipment, programs, supplies, and more that the library needs. Select one or more items and donate the funds needed for purchase. Or purchase the items yourself and donate them to the library. Donations will be written on a heart and displayed on the library windows as well as acknowledged on the library website and social media. Where appropriate the library will attach a tag or book plate acknowledging the donation and the donor will be the first to check it out. Some items are listed on the bulletin board in the entry to the library as well as being featured on the library webpage and social media. The complete list can be viewed at the front desk or from the home page of the library’s website (www.dyersville.lib.ia.us). Not finding something you want to “love”? Bring your ideas to a librarian!

Winter Wonderland - Library Challenge: February 1-February 28. The JKPL is once again offering a winter library program. This year, participants will be using a new game board to track their participation. Complete activities and read to earn prize entries. For each square completed, the participant will earn an entry into the prize drawings. Several prize options, for various ages and interests, will be available to choose from. Those that complete the program, (finish all 24 squares), will earn a special canvas book bag and be able to Adopt an item to be added to the library collection. All ages of readers are welcome and participants can sign up as individuals or as teams. Everyone will get a free book just for signing up! 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. This winter Library Challenge will run thru February 28 and all entries must be received by March 5 to be included in the drawings.

Free Trees for Earth Day! The JKPL is celebrating Earth Day again this spring by participating in the Annual Neighborhood Forest free tree program, whose aim is to provide free trees to kids every Earth Day. Since 2010, Neighborhood Forest has reached over 100,000 families and planted over 50,000 (mostly urban and residential) trees through the hands of children and parents across North America. The JKPL is excited to be participating in this wonderful program that teaches kids stewardship through the magic and wonder of planting and watching trees grow. Parents can find more information and sign their children up to receive a tree at this link: <https://bit.ly/FreeTrees24>. 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.

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

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

Kids Can Craft: Create Your Own Ice Cream Sundae Challenge: February 1-28.

Kids of all ages are invited to stop in the library to create and color a drawing of an ice cream sundae. Every coloring page turned in qualifies artists for an entry into the drawing for a book basket but is limited to one entry per day. Winner will be announced in early March.

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

Coloring, Creating and Doing @ Your Library: February 1-28. The JKPL is continuing to offer coloring pages, dot to dot, crosswords, sudoku, and other activity pages 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 1-28. Stop in the library this month to help us put together a new jigsaw puzzle. This month's puzzle TBA. The puzzle is located on the table under the skylight and everyone is welcome to add a piece or two or more. Everyone who works on the puzzle is encouraged to put their name into a drawing to win the puzzle. Please stop at the front desk to get your name entered.

Westside Park StoryWalk®: "Snowflakes on Our Tongues" by Mike Ornstein: February 1-28. (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. 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.

Building Creativity One Block at a Time: a LEGO® program: Saturday, February 1 from 10:00-11:00 am. This month's theme is "Snowed In". 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 “Conclave”: Saturday, February 1 @ 1:00 pm.

Cardinal Lawrence is tasked with running the conclave process after the unexpected death of the beloved Pope. Once the Catholic Church’s most powerful leaders have gathered from around the world and are locked together in the Vatican halls, Lawrence uncovers a trail of deep secrets left in the dead Pope’s wake, secrets which could shake the foundations of the Church. Rated PG (120 minutes).

Nerf War @ Your Library: Saturday, February 1: 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.

Strength Training for Older Adults: Mondays and Thursdays, February 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27 @ 9:30 and 10:30 am. Older adults of any age and fitness level are invited to join this special exercise program made possible by a partnership between the Geri-Fit® Company and the James Kennedy Public Library. Participants will exercise to a Geri-Fit® DVD and most of the exercises will be performed seated in a chair. There is no dancing or aerobics involved. Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays and last approximately 45 minutes. For best results, participants should attend as many of the sessions as possible. Each participant will need a set of 2 or 3-pound dumbbell weights, a medium weight stretch band, and water to drink. Space is limited so registration is required.

Books for Lunch Book Discussion: Monday, February 3 @ 12:00 noon. This group gathers on the first Monday of each month at noon. This month the group will discuss *Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters. 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.

New Science on Preventing Dementia - KEYS to Dementia Prevention Chat: Tuesday, February 4 @ 4:00 pm. Presented by Patty Quinlisk, more details coming.

Sit & Stitch: Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 from 1:00—3:00 pm. Grab your hobby or craft and join other crafters at this fun gathering. There are lots of laughs, great company, conversation, and even some crafting! Participants are welcome to attend in person in the Hoffman Room or remotely via Zoom. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you are a new participant and wish to join virtually, please email librarian@dyersville.lib.ia.us 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, February 5 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.*

World Read Aloud Day: Wednesday, February 5. World Read Aloud Day is celebrated on the first Wednesday in February and takes place on February 7 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. Activities to be decided.

Family Storytime: Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 6:30—7:15 pm. Stop in to attend Family Storytime, where children are introduced to books, words, letters, reading, and writing through fun yet educational picture books, movement songs, visual prompts, crafts, motor activities, and pretend play opportunities. Family storytime is open to all ages and abilities but most beneficial to ages and age-ability of 1-6 years old. Adult participation is required. No registration is necessary.

Kids Can Cook: Thursdays, February 6, 13 & 20 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. The menu for February is: Simple Scones (February 6); Pizza sandwiches (February 13); and Creamy chicken noodle soup (February 20). Classes will also be held March 6, 13, 20 and April 3, 10 & 17. Registration for each session is required as there is a limit of 12 children per session. A waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian must be on file for a child to attend. *This program is funded by Theisen's More for Your Community, Dyersville Area Community Foundation, Jeanne M. Coppola Endowment for Education, the Friends of the James Kennedy Public Library, and various library fundraising events.*

Sustainable Landscaping with Dubuque County Conservation: Thursday, February 6 @ 6:00 pm. Join us at the JKPL to learn about sustainable options for landscaping from a Dubuque County Naturalist. Be ready to write down ideas and draw out your landscape design to implement native plants, rainwater harvesting systems, and more. This will be an interactive class with time for questions throughout, in order to make it work for your property. Registration is encouraged as a minimum of 10 people is required for this program to be held. Please contact the JKPL to sign up.

Fit the Pieces Jigsaw Puzzle Fundraiser: Thursday, February 6 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Join us in celebrating National Puzzle Day at this fun new fundraising event to support the JKPL! This event will be held at Textile Brewery. Teams of up to 4 individuals can buy a table for \$40.00 which includes a 300-piece puzzle. Complete the puzzle first to win! Prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place. Be sure to bring some cash to buy some fun twists like freezing the competition, making them wear gloves, wearing beer goggles, and more - with

all proceeds going to the library! Participation is limited to 12 teams. Textile Brewery will donate 10% of food sales during the event to the JKPL. All proceeds will benefit the JKPL.

Euchre Card Party & Games: Fridays, February 7, 14, 21, 28 from 1:00-3:30 pm.

Join us Friday afternoons for cards, dominoes, or other games in the Hoffman Room. Come meet, teach, and play with other players. The library has some games or you are welcome to bring your own.

Dungeons & Dragons Players Club: Saturday, February 8 @ 3:30 pm. Join us for this monthly gaming event for D & D players that meets in-person or you can join remotely via Discord. This group meets the second Saturday of every month and new players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. The library has materials available but feel free to bring your own. To join via Discord, contact Paul at Pzurawski@dyersville.lib.ia.us by 2:00 pm the day of the program to receive the server invite.

Miniature Golf @ Your Library: Sunday, February 9 from 5:00-7:00 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 tee off between the stacks and navigate our book obstacles which will be designed by library staff and/or volunteers. All ages welcome but those under age 6 must be accompanied by an adult.

Adult Crafternoon: Monday, February 10 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Join us this month to make a fun craft. Stop in the library to create and take home your finished project. If you prefer, you can pick up a take-and-make kit and craft on your own at home. Project to be decided.

Inspirational Fiction: A Novel Approach to Faith Book Club: Tuesday, February 11 @ 7:00 pm. Join us for this book club that features a variety of books that weave religious faith into the characters and storylines. For this month we will be reading *He Should Have Told The Bees* by Amanda Cox. 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.

Build-A-Basket Fundraiser Begins: Saturday, February 15: 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 10 to April 13. 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.

Turing Tumble Coding Puzzles for Teens: Sunday, February 16 from 2:00-3:00 pm. Want to learn more about how computers, coding, puzzles and games work? Come check out our Turing Tumble - a tactile programming board game that uses marbles, ramps,

crossovers, bits, inceptors, gears and gear bits to understand how computers and simple switches work. Snacks will be included! Program is designed for ages 13 to 18.

Bingo Party: Monday, February 17 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Come enjoy bingo at the JKPL! There is a two-card limit, there is no cost to play, and there are prizes! Registration is recommended as space is limited. Bring your friends!

Cricut with Christopher: Monday, February 17 @ 6:00 pm. Come learn about the Cricut Maker from local expert Lisa Christopher. 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 monthly on the third Monday of each month.

Armchair Travel: Tuesday, February 18 @ 1:00 pm. Grab your travel buddy and join us on this virtual visit to a location to be announced. Chelsea Middendorf from Eagle Pointe Senior Living in Dubuque will take you on this tour - complete with snacks! 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.

Genealogy with Ann: Thursday, February 19 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Staff member Ann will be on hand to help you start, or continue to work on, your five-generation ancestor chart. Ann will also share information on free websites good for genealogy research. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own laptop, if they have one. Some library laptops will be available for use. Appointments with Ann can be made if that is more convenient.

Bear Creek Carvers Open House and Demo: Saturday, February 22 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Members of the Bear Creek Woodcarving Club will be at the library to demonstrate carving techniques and display their carvings. Questions are welcome! Everyone is invited to stop in during this open house and view the carvers and their work.

Murder Mystery Dinner & Trivia Fundraiser "Fast Times at Kennedy High": Saturday, February 22 @ 6:30 pm. This event will feature a totally tubular 80s trivia night with murder, mayhem, and mix tapes performed by the Brew Ha Ha Players. Tickets are \$75.00 each or a table for six (6) for \$400.00. Seating is limited and tickets must be purchased before Monday, February 17. Doors open at 5:45 pm and the performance starts promptly at 6:30 pm. Themed dress is welcome! The meal (salad, entree, and dessert) will be catered by J&D Catering. The meal will include: Salisbury Steak, Sliced roasted pork loin, Mashed potatoes, Glazed carrots, Italian pasta salad, Dessert, Coffee and milk. Note: A vegetarian option is available if requested at the time the ticket is purchased. Soda and water will be provided but guests are welcome to bring their own drinks (alcoholic or non-alcoholic). Additional beverages may be available for a donation. There is not a bar at the venue location. Snow date of March 1.

Description of show:

This show is 50% murder, 50% trivia, and 100% fun!

It's been several years since you last roamed the halls of James Kennedy High, even though the school is now closed, the memories (good and bad) live on. According to the reunion planning committee, the majority of whom graduated in the 80s, it's time to bust out those shoulder pads and flip up those collars for this all-year high-school reunion party. As the invite reads:

COME IN 80s ATTIRE! But this reunion party is all in good fun until the night takes a dark twist... One of your former classmates (or perhaps a teacher, coach, or staff member???) is out for some righteous revenge. But why? What buzzkill is about to share why dreams were shattered and lives ruined? Brace yourself for a gnarly night of surprises, suspense, and, most of all, big hair! The trivia contest is gonna get WICKEDLY competitive and the actors will join the guests at their tables for each of the three rounds of trivia and unveil the murderous plot!

Strings Club: Monday, February 24 @ 6:30 pm. Do you have a ukulele, guitar or other string instrument that you would like to play more often? Do you want to grow your skills by jamming with others? Then come join the JKPL Strings Club! Teen and adult musicians of all skill levels are welcome. NOTE: This is not a class but a jam session so participants should know basic chords. Facilitated by Gary Bramel. This group typically meets on the fourth Monday of each month from October to April. Registration encouraged. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows.

JKPL Writing Group: Tuesday, February 25 @ 6:30 pm. Join us this month in person at the library, or remotely via Zoom, for a sharing session with writers of all types including poetry, memoir, fiction, or nonfiction. New members are welcome to join at any time. If you want to participate via Zoom, please call by 5:30 pm on the day of the event.

Health & Wellness 365 with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging: Thursday, February 27 @ 11:15 am. Presented by Nutrition Specialist Colleen Lawler.

Engineer's Week: Sun, Feb 16, 2025 – Sat, Feb 22, 2025: Activities to be decided.

Game Night @ Your Library: Friday, February 28 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Bring your favorite game (card game, board game, role playing game, or video game) and meet, teach, and play with others! Game night is held on the 4th Friday of every month. All ages welcome but those under the age of 7 need a teen or adult companion.

All Inclusive Programs and Activities: Starting in February. Dates, times and activities to be decided.