

# ELY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Summer Programs

June 2026 – August 2026

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# PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

## SUMMER BLOCK PARTY

Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00 pm

The whole family is invited to join us for a FREE family night of fun, entertainment, prizes and food! A FREE light meal will be served. Pick up the reading logs for children, teens and adults and be sure to grab your FREE copy of our One Book One Community selection.



## One Book One Community - "Front Desk" by Kelly Yang Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> @ 10 am Book Discussion

Ten-year-old Mia Tang doesn't live in a house like her friends. She doesn't have a dog. Instead, Mia and her parents live and work in a motel! Mia manages her family's motel, hides immigrants from the owner, and dreams of becoming a writer despite challenges with English as her second language. **There will be FREE copies of the book available (one per family) at the library!** Join us on August 1st to discuss the book. Refreshments will be served.



## Iditarod Musher Karen Land Tuesday, June 9 at 6:30 pm

Don't miss this unforgettable all-ages program! Former Iditarod musher Karen Land shares an engaging look into the world of dog sledding, complete with stories from the trail, a real sled dog meet-and-greet, and a hands-on look at authentic gear and equipment. This program was possible thanks to a grant from New Leader Manufacturing.



## Dinosaur Adventure Tuesday, July 7 at 5:00 pm

Join Professor Montague Tobias Wobblebottom IV in a fantastical romp through time where laughter and learning go hand in hand. Children will giggle and laugh at the jokes, magic and antics throughout this creative and original prehistoric adventure. After the show, there will be a photo opportunity with Professor Wobblebottom and his life-like looking baby T-Rex. This program was possible thanks to a grant from New Leader Manufacturing.



# SUMMER MONDAYS

## 10:00 AM: Toddler Story Time

Toddler Story Time features stories, rhymes, songs, and interactive activities designed to get babies and toddlers acclimated to loving the library. Big siblings are welcome!

## 2:00 PM: Movies, Munching, & Movement

On most Monday afternoons, take a break from the heat and join us for an interactive family movie favorite, and a snack. An interactive movie is a film experience where the audience participates by using props, singing along, making sounds, or enjoying themed treats at key moments of the movie. We'll be showing the following movies on a movie-sized screen:



- **June 8 – Cars; Rated G; 1h 56 min.**

- Create your own drive-in movie experience! Come to the library at 2:00 pm to make your own car to sit in using a cardboard box.



- **June 15 – Toy Story; Rated G; 81 min.**

- Every time you see a rocket or space ship yell "Blastoff." Every time Woody appears, make your cowboy doll reach for the sky.

- **June 22 – Monster's Inc.; Rated G; 92 min.**

- Make Roz glasses and Randall coloring sheets before you watch the movie Monsters Inc. We'll have instructions and props to make the movie even more fun.



- **June 29 – Coco; Rated PG; 105 min.**

- Use a skeleton mask and streamers for the interactive movie.

- **July 6 – Lilo and Stitch; Rated PG; 102 min.**

- Pretend to ride a bike and play an air guitar as part of the interactive Lilo and Stitch movie party.

- **July 13 - Special Guest - Rick Eugene's Magic Show** — Get ready for an afternoon of magic and fun! Rick Eugene brings an entertaining magic show full of surprises, laughter, and audience participation that's perfect for all ages.

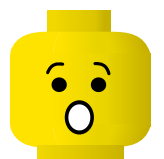


- **July 20 – Shrek, Rated PG; 90 min.**

- Wear your *Shrek* ears, eat a mint when Donkey tells you to, and much more will make *Shrek* more than just a movie.

- **July 27 – The Lego Movie; Rated PG; 90 min.**

- Play the maracas and eat Hershey's kisses as part of your interactive movie experience watching *The Lego Movie*.

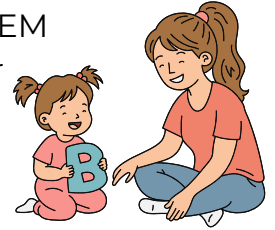


# SUMMER TUESDAYS

## 10:00 AM: STEAM for littles

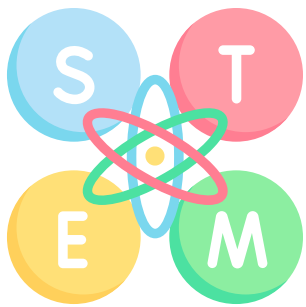
Escape the summer heat and stop by the library Tuesday mornings in June and July! Starting on June 9 at 10:00 a.m. in our conference room, this relaxed, drop-in time is perfect for kids to play, explore, and socialize with others. We'll have toys, STEM toys, crafts, and building activities ready to spark creativity and fun. Bring your coffee, settle in, and enjoy connecting with other parents while the kids play!

**Please note: Librarian will be available, but will not be facilitating. This is a free-play and socializing time for children and caregivers.**



## 2:00 PM: STEM Fun!

Tuesdays at 2 pm are for hands-on STEM fun! Each week, we'll explore science, technology, engineering, and math through creative experiments and take-home projects. Perfect for school-aged kids, but curious minds of all ages are welcome—check out the weekly lineup below!

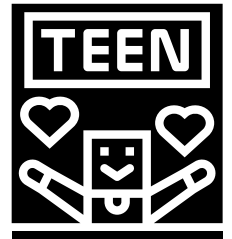


- **June 9 – Invisible Ink**
- **June 16 – Fireworks in a cup**
- **June 23 - Slime**
- **June 30 - Moon Sand**
- **July 7 – Penny Spinner**
- **July 14 – Swirling Glue**
- **July 21 – Egg Carton Geodes**
- **July 28 – Clothespin Cars**

## 4:00 PM: TEEN Fun! Tuesdays at 4 pm are for our teens ages 13-18.

### Check out the line-up:

- **June 16 – 2010s Trivia** - Test your 2010s knowledge with our custom, multiple choice game of trivia, created just for teens! Think you know the top song of 2016? Do you know what year the “they did surgery on a grape” meme went viral? Who was the most subscribed YouTuber in 2012? If you know the answer to these and more, stop in and put your 2010s wisdom to the test!
- **June 23 - Slimy Worms** - It's slime day at the Ely Public Library, and we have slime-based worms to make and take!
- **June 30 - VR Headsets** - Use our virtual reality headsets and play games or try VR curated experiences. We have Beat Saber, the rhythmical action game that equips you with lightsabers to slash to the beat. If you're feeling inquisitive, try I Expect You to Die, a spy-themed puzzle game where you escape planes, infiltrate factories and try your best to avoid dying in the process.
- **July 14 - MarioKart Tournament** - Pit your racing skills against other participants in this competition for glory, snacks and bragging rights. Racers will decide between MarioKart 8 or MarioKart World and drive their way to victory. Drop in and do what it takes to bring home first place!
- **July 21 - International Snacks** - Come and try some snack foods from another country! Food is provided for free with a variety of flavors and tastes.
- **July 28 - Foil-dip Canvas** - Using acrylic paints, water and ruffled tinfoil create stunning abstract art on canvas.



# SUMMER WEDNESDAYS

## 10:00 AM: Music & Movement

This time together combines music with physical movement. This includes singing, dancing, playing instruments, and moving to the beat.



## SPECIAL GUESTS

### Joe's Feathered Friends



**Wednesday, June 10 at 2:00 pm** — Meet some feathered friends at the library! An Ely resident and his kids will bring chickens, a pet duck, and more for a fun, hands-on experience where kids can see and even gently interact with these backyard animals.

**Miss Rachel Character Visit - Wednesday, June 17 at 10:00 am** — The Ms. Rachel character will sing and read stories for our littlest library lovers.

### Sunshine Craft - Wednesday, June 17 at 2:00 pm

### Iowa Raptor Project

**Wednesday, June 24 at 2:00 pm** — Get up close with incredible birds of prey! The Iowa Raptor Project will visit the library with three live raptors, offering a fascinating look at these powerful animals and the important role they play in our environment.



### Reptiles Through Time

**Wednesday, July 1 at 2:00 pm** — **Live Prehistoric Relatives!** This all-new program features animals with ancient roots, giving you a chance to meet modern-day relatives of prehistoric creatures up close. Our visiting presenters will bring a variety of reptiles and amphibians for an exciting, hands-on experience you won't want to miss.

### Toadally Awesome Amphibians

**Wednesday, July 8 at 2:00 pm** — Join the Toadally Awesome Pets Mobile Amphibian Education Center, for an engaging, hands-on program featuring live amphibians. Learn about their life cycles, habitats, and behaviors while discovering why these fascinating creatures are so important to our environment.



### Cold-Blooded Redhead

**Wednesday, July 15 at 2:00 pm** — Meet some amazing cold-blooded creatures! The Cold-Blooded Redhead will visit with snakes, tortoises, and more from her personal collection, offering a fun and up-close look at these fascinating animals.

### Blank Park Zoo

**Wednesday, July 22 at 2:00 pm and 2:45 pm** — Blank Park Zoo returns with live animals! Due to this program's popularity, we'll offer two shows at 2:00 and 2:45 pm. Please plan to attend the 2:45 show if you arrive after the 2:00 program begins.



### Absolute Foam Mega Foam Blaster

**Wednesday, July 29 at 2:00 pm** — Absolute Science Mega Foam Blaster returns!

A favorite from last year, this high-energy program is packed with foamy fun—come dressed in swimwear or clothes you don't mind getting wet.



# SUMMER THURSDAYS

## 10:00 AM: Preschool Story Time

Come listen to stories, sing songs and make a craft! Preschool Story Time is intended for ages 3-5, but younger siblings are welcome to join the fun!



## 2:00 PM: Build It!

Join us each week for hands-on challenges using everyday materials to design, create, and problem-solve. Each session features a new building challenge, making it a fun and creative experience for all ages.

- **June 11** – Design and create a freestanding bridge using only pipe cleaners
- **June 18** – **Special Guest ECICOG! Garbage Crew to the Rescue!** This year's program from ECICOG is focusing on learning about waste management and everything we can do as a community to take care of our landfill and plan for the future. This program is designed for school age kids, but all are welcome to attend.
- **June 25** - How tall can you make a tower using only spaghetti and marshmallows?
- **July 2** – Can you make life-like farm silos using scotch tape and newspaper?
- **July 9** – Can you build a card castle using only index cards and scotch tape?
- **July 16** – Mystery build it! What can you make with given supplies?
- **July 23** – Can you make the longest paperchain using only one piece of paper?
- **July 30** – Can you make a boat that floats using only tin foil?

# WANT TO EARN PRIZES?

**Celebrate the love of reading all summer long and earn some great prizes!**

We have prizes for ALL ages and earning them is easy! Just complete a reading log and choose your prize! No limitations set on the number of reading logs and prizes earned!



We also have Grand Prize drawings that we draw for at the end of summer! You can enter your earned tickets into as many, or as few, of the prizes you want! Earning an entry ticket is easy - just attend a program, or complete a reading log! Grand prizes will be drawn at our end of Summer Party on Friday, July 31 @ 2PM.

**ENTER TO**

**WIN PRIZES**

Back by popular demand, we will have the weekly estimation jar filled with candies! The person(s) closest to the correct answer will receive the candy as a prize!



# SUMMER FRIDAYS

## 10:00 AM: Stories in the Park

Join us for Stories in the Park on Friday mornings from June 10 through July 31! In June, we'll gather at City Park, then head to Schulte Park in July for more outdoor storytime fun. There's nothing quite like sharing stories under the summer sky, so bring a blanket, enjoy the fresh air, and celebrate the joy of reading together. In case of rain or temperatures above 90°, we'll move the fun indoors to the library.



## 2:00 PM: Craft and Create!

Join us on most Friday afternoons for Craft and Create projects at the library. Bring your creativity and we'll provide the supplies. The activities were chosen with school-age children in mind, but all are welcome to join the fun.

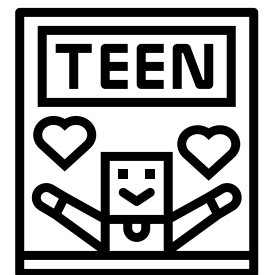
- **June 12 – Rice Mosaics**
- **June 19 – Special Guest - Dr. Bec's Animals - 2:00 & 3:30 pm shows** - Join us for a visit from "Dr. Bec" (Dr. Michael Bechtel), a science educator and animal expert who brings his passion for living things to life through engaging, hands-on presentations. Dr. Bec will share fascinating insights and introduce audiences to some of his live animals. Two shows will be offered at 2:00 and 3:30 pm. Due to expected high attendance, late arrivals for the 2:00 program will be asked to attend the 3:30 show instead.



- **June 19 - Parking Lot Picasso with Parks & Rec @ City Park Parking Lot - 5:30-7:30pm**
- **June 26 - Beaded Suncatchers**
- **July 10 – Pasta Projects**
- **July 17 – Dandelions Craft**
- **July 24 – Butterfly Jar Craft**
- **July 31 – End of Summer Reading Celebration**

**4:00 PM: TEEN Fun!** Fridays at 4 pm are for our teens ages 13-18. Check out the line-up below!

- **June 12 - Dragon Eye Craft** - Sculpt a dragon's eye from air-dry clay to keep!
- **June 26 - String Art** - A fan-favorite returns this summer in the form of string art! Loop colorful strings around nails to create designs.
- **July 10 - Wire Keychains** - Stop by and make some decor for your keys! We have beads, gems and other goodies available to personalize your keychain. Learn how to shape the wire so you can leave feeling confident to create more at home!
- **July 17 - Minecraft Bee Papercraft** - Create the blocky pollinator out of paper! Perfect for a desk decoration or the dashboard of your car, this mug-sized recreation of the bee from Minecraft will allow you to personalize your space and stay on theme with our summer reading program. Enjoy our screening of *A Minecraft Movie* while we glue, tape and cut our bees together!
- **July 24 - Literary Lanterns** - Create lanterns from jars, LED candles and old books to create unique works of art. This craft is a great way to light the way into a new school year.



# JUNE CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>GeriFit</b> 1 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Toddler Time @10am</p> <p>Library Expansion Pop-Up 12:00-1:30pm @ St. John</p> 	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am 2 Chatty Crafters @5pm</p> <p>Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 1 • 4:30-6:30 @City Hall • 5:30-8pm @City Park</p> 	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 3 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am</p> <p>Board Meeting @7pm Friends Meeting @8pm</p> 	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am 4 Story Time @10am</p> <p>Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 1 • 6-8pm @ City Hall • 7-9pm @ House Divided</p> 	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 5 @8am, 12pm Summer Block Party @6-8pm</p> 
<p><b>GeriFit</b> 8 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Toddler Time @10am Cars Movie @2pm</p> 	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am 9 STEAM for littles @10am STEM - Invisible Ink @2pm Chatty Crafters @5pm Iditarod Musher @6:30pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 10 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Music &amp; Movement @10am Joe's Feathered Friends @2pm</p> 	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am 11 Story Time @10am Build It - Bridge @2pm</p> <p>Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 1 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided Thirsty Thursday Trivia@7:30 pm</p> 	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 12 @8am, 12pm Stories at City Park @10am Craft &amp; Create Rice Mosaics @2pm Teen Dragon Eye Craft @4pm</p>
<p><b>GeriFit</b> 15 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Toddler Time @10am Toy Story Movie @2pm</p> 	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am 16 STEAM for littles @10am STEM - Fireworks in a cup @2pm Teen 2010s Trivia @4pm Library Expansion Pop-Up 4:30-6:30pm @ City Hall Chatty Crafters @ 5pm</p> 	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 17 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Miss Rachel Character Visit @10am Sunshine Craft @2pm</p> 	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am 18 Story Time @10am Garbage Crew to the Rescue @2pm</p> <p>Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 1 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided Thirsty Thursday Trivia@7:30 pm</p> 	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 19 @8am, 12pm Stories at City Park @10am Dr. Bec's Critters @2pm &amp; 3:30pm Parking Lot Picasso @5:30pm</p> <p>Library Expansion Pop-Up 5:30-7:30pm @ City Park</p> 
<p><b>GeriFit</b> 22 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Toddler Time @10am Monster's Inc. Movie @2pm</p> 	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am 23 STEAM for littles @10am STEM - Slime @2pm Teen Slimy Worms @4pm Chatty Crafters @5pm</p> 	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 24 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Music &amp; Movement @10am Iowa Raptor @2pm</p> 	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am 25 Story Time @10am Build It - Tower @2pm</p> <p>Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 1 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided Thirsty Thursday Trivia@7:30 pm Banned Book Club @7pm</p> 	<p><b>GeriFit</b> 26 @8am, 12pm Stories at City Park 10 am Craft &amp; Create Beaded Suncatchers @2pm Teen String Art @4pm</p> 
<p><b>GeriFit</b> 29 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am Toddler Time @10am Coco Movie @2pm</p> 	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am 30 STEAM for littles @10am STEM - Moon Sand 2pm Teen VR Headsets @4pm Library Expansion Pop-Up 4:30-6:30pm @ City Hall Chatty Crafters @5pm</p> 		<p>Adult Teen Kids All Ages Drop-In Early Literacy Information Sessions</p>	

# JULY CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Adult Teen Kids All Ages Drop-In Early Literacy Information Sessions</p>		<p><b>GeriFit</b> 1 @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Music &amp; Movement</b> @10am <b>Reptiles Through Time</b> @2pm  <b>Board Meeting</b> @7pm</p>	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am <b>Story Time</b> @10am <b>Build It - Farm Silos</b> @2pm Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided <b>Thirsty Thursday Trivia</b>@7:30 pm</p>	<p>3 Closed for Holiday <b>HAPPY 4TH OF JULY</b></p>
<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Toddler Time</b> @10am Library Expansion Pop-Up 12:00-1:30pm @ St. John <b>Lilo &amp; Stitch Movie</b> @2pm</p>	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am <b>STEAM for littles</b> @10am <b>STEM - Penny Spinner</b> @2pm Library Expansion Pop-Up 4:30-6:30pm @ City Hall <b>Dinosaur Adventures</b> @5pm <b>Chatty Crafters</b> @5pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Music &amp; Movement</b> @10am <b>Toadally Awesome Amphibians</b> @2pm  <b>Friends Meeting</b> @7pm</p>	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am <b>Story Time</b> @10am <b>Build It - Card Castle</b> @2pm Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided <b>Thirsty Thursday Trivia</b>@7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm <b>Stories at Schulte Park</b> @10am <b>Craft &amp; Create Pasta</b> @2pm <b>Teen Wire Keychains</b> @4pm Library Expansion Open House @ Library 6-8 pm</p>
<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Toddler Time</b> @10am <b>Magic Show</b> @2pm </p>	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am <b>STEAM for littles</b> @10am <b>STEM - Swirling Glue</b> @2pm <b>Teen MarioKart Tournament</b> @4pm <b>Chatty Crafters</b> @5pm <b>IA Legislation talks with Lawyer Ellen Kacena</b> @ 6 pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Music &amp; Movement</b> @10am <b>Cold-Blooded Redhead</b> @2pm </p>	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am <b>Story Time</b> @10am <b>Build It - Mystery Build</b> @2pm Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided <b>Thirsty Thursday Trivia</b>@7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm <b>Stories at Schulte Park</b> @10am <b>Craft &amp; Create Dandelion Crafts</b> @2pm <b>Teen Minecraft Bee</b> @4pm</p>
<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Toddler Time</b> @10am <b>Shrek Movie</b> @2pm </p>	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am <b>STEAM for littles</b> @10am <b>STEM - Egg Carton Geodes</b> @2pm <b>Teen International Snacks</b> @4pm Library Expansion Pop-Up 4:30-6:30pm @ City Hall <b>Chatty Crafters</b> @5pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Music &amp; Movement</b> @10am <b>Blank Park Zoo</b> @2pm &amp; @2:45 pm </p>	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am <b>Story Time</b> @10am <b>Build It - Paperchain</b> @2pm Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided <b>Local Author Gin Griffith</b> @6pm <b>Thirsty Thursday Trivia</b>@7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm <b>Stories at Schulte Park</b> @10am <b>Craft &amp; Create Butterfly Jar</b> @2pm <b>Teen Literary Lanterns</b> @4pm</p>
<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Toddler Time</b> @10am <b>The Lego Movie</b> @2pm </p>	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> @8am <b>STEAM for littles</b> @10am <b>STEM - Clothespin Cars</b> @2pm <b>Teen Foil-dip Canvas</b> @4pm <b>Chatty Crafters</b> @5pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm Cuppa &amp; Conversations @9am <b>Music &amp; Movement</b> @10am <b>Mega Foam Blaster</b> @2pm </p>	<p><b>Morning Stretch</b> @8am <b>Story Time</b> @10am <b>Build It -Boats</b> @2pm Library Expansion Pop-Ups: 6-8pm@City Hall 7-9pm@House Divided <b>Banned Book Club</b> @7pm <b>Thirsty Thursday Trivia</b>@7:30 pm</p>	<p><b>GeriFit</b> @8am, 12pm <b>Stories at Schulte Park</b> @10am <b>End of Summer Party</b> @2pm </p>



Thank you to all of our Summer Reading Sponsors!



Hills Bank New Leader Manufacturing

South Slope Gateway Rotary

Blank Park Zoo  
Children's Museum  
Fun Station  
House Divided  
My Mom's Bakery  
Texas Roadhouse

Burger King  
Dan & Debbie's Creamery  
Harger's Acoustics  
Iowa State Fair  
Scooter's  
Thrivent

Caseys  
Friends of the Ely Public Library  
Hoosier Creek Wash  
Kernels  
Spare Time  
Waste Management

## DROP-IN PROGRAMS

Drop-in programs are back starting in August!

These are activities designed to welcome everyone to the library with quick activities that appeal to all different ages and interests. One day there may be information on health and wellness, another day there may be a craft, game or puzzle. All ages are always welcome to attend and the day's activity will be shared on our Facebook page, website, and in our newsletters and calendars. Feel free to call 319-848-7616 for more information.

## AUGUST DROP-INS

**August 3 - Watermelon Day** - Enjoy the start of a new month with a watermelon-themed craft.



**August 5 - Mars Landing Anniversary** - In honor of the Mars landing, create a space shuttle craft that features the Red Planet.

**August 6 - Root Beer Float Day** - Stop by and enjoy a root beer float, while supplies last!

**August 7 - Sea Serpent Day** - Make a paper chain sea serpent.



**August 10 - Suzanne Collins' birthday** - Celebrate the author of *The Hunger Games* and the upcoming film adaptation of *Sunrise on the Reaping* with Hunger Games Trivia!

**August 14 - Navajo Code Talkers Day** - In honor of Navajo Code Talkers Day, make a cipher wheel and crack our codes!

**August 18 - Bad Poetry Day** - No matter your poetry skill, stop by and write some lyrics, limericks, free verse, and more! Think you're a poetry pro? Try writing in a new style or genre!

**August 19 - Aviation Day** - Test your knowledge about planes, flying, and airports with our Aviation Quiz.



**August 21 - Senior Citizens Day** - Create a custom card for the senior citizen in your life.

**August 24 - Back to School** - Regardless of if you're going back to school, celebrate the start of a new school year with a silly bookmark craft.

**August 26 - National Dog Day** - Create a dog craft to celebrate National Dog Day.



# ADULT PROGRAMS IN A SERIES

## MONDAYS:

### Low-Impact Exercise Classes @ 8am & 12pm

Attendees select between an assortment of low-impact DVD guided classes, including Geri-fit.

### Cuppa & Conversations @ 9am

Bring your favorite morning beverage and join the conversations!



## TUESDAYS:

### Tai Chi @ 8am

Come gather with Tom for a relaxing morning session of Tai Chi! Available in-person and via Zoom. The link for Zoom can be found on [www.ely.lib.ia.us](http://www.ely.lib.ia.us).

### Chatty Crafters @ 5-7pm

Crafters are invited to bring their own crafts and socialize.



## WEDNESDAYS:

### Low-Impact Exercise Classes @ 8am & 12pm

Attendees select between an assortment of low-impact DVD guided classes, including Geri-fit.

### Cuppa & Conversations @ 9am

Bring your favorite morning beverage and join the conversations!

## THURSDAYS:

### Morning Stretch @ 8am

Join Paula as she incorporates elements of yoga for all mobility levels.

### Banned Book Club

#### Typically the fourth Thursdays @ 7pm

Join us as we peacefully discuss a challenged and/or banned book each month.

We meet In person and via Zoom. Visit [www.ely.lib.ia.us](http://www.ely.lib.ia.us) for Zoom link.

- 6/25 - *Breathless* by Jennifer Niven
- 7/30 - *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson
- 8/27 - *The Circle* by Dave Eggers

### Thirsty Thursday Trivia at House Divided

#### Thursdays @ 7:30 pm in June and July

Back by popular demand, Thirsty Thursday Trivia at House Divided Brewery, hosted by the Ely Public Library. Join in for fun facts, bonus puzzles, and locally brewed beer!



## FRIDAYS:

### Low-Impact Exercise Classes @ 8am & 12pm

Attendees select between an assortment of low-impact DVD guided classes, including Geri-fit.



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## July 14th @ 6pm - Discuss Iowa legislation with Lawyer Ellen Ramsey-Kacena

Join Attorney Ellen Ramsey-Kacena for a discussion on Iowa legislation on topics such as censorship, government overreach and more that may have gone under your radar! Learn how you use your rights to make meaningful change in your communities. Open to teens, young adults, and adults!

## July 23 at 6pm - Local Author Gin Griffith Visits

Gin Griffith is a traditionally published romance author based in Swisher, IA, where she writes action-packed love stories set in vibrant fantasy worlds. Her Hellbound series revolves around a tight-knit team of elite fighters as they battle demons and desire under the cover of darkness. Join us on July 23rd at 6pm to meet Gin, learn about her writing process, and grab a signed copy of her special sprayed-edge editions.

# A Message from the EPL Board President

With summer nearly upon us, the staff at Ely Public Library have once again stepped up to provide high-quality daily programming for the friends and neighbors of our community. There truly is something for everyone this summer, and we hope EPL becomes part of your summer bucket list!

One thing we hope you'll notice this season is just how integrated the library has become within downtown Ely's culture. Bikers visiting our community stop for a drink and discover the new businesses and homes in town. Anyone who pauses at Dan & Debbie's Creamery for a cool treat on a sweltering day also experiences the updated streetscape, the American Legion, and the Main Street Legacy building. The library plays an important role in keeping our downtown vibrant and welcoming.

The library expansion project is another exciting opportunity for Ely Public Library to contribute to the revitalization of downtown Ely. This expansion will ensure our ability to continue offering outstanding programming while also creating additional community and rental space for public use.

We encourage you to visit one of the library's open houses or pop-up events this summer. Staff members, board members, and volunteers will be happy to answer questions and hear your thoughts and ideas about the project.

Whatever else you have planned this summer, Ely Public Library looks forward to being a part of it.

On behalf of the Ely Public Library Board,



Ely Public Library Board President



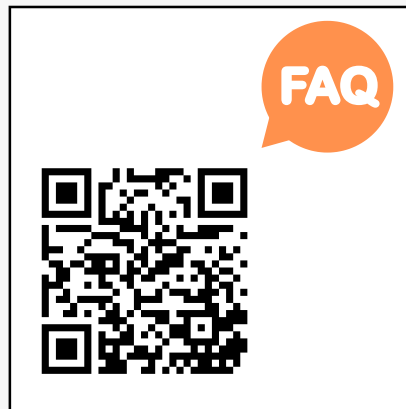


# Open House Information Sessions

Open Houses will be more of a formal presentation about the process, project and timelines. Questions will be answered and suggestions gathered. These occur at the library monthly on different days of the week. See below for the scheduled Open Houses:

Date	Place	Time
June 13, 2026 (Saturday)	Ely Library	10:00 - 1:00 PM
July 10, 2026 (Friday)	Ely Library	6:00-8:00 PM
August 9, 2026 (Sunday)	Ely Library	2:00 - 5:00 PM
September 17, 2026 (Thursday)	Ely Library	6:00-8:00 PM
October 21, 2026 (Wednesday)	Ely Library	6:00-8:00 PM

**Learn more about this exciting project by checking out our website and FAQ section. Be sure to sign up for our expansion newsletter!**



# Pop-Up Information Sessions



Pop-Up Sessions will be more informal gatherings to address any questions and gather suggestions regarding the Library Expansion Project. These take place at various locations city-wide concurrently with other events. See below for the schedule:

Date	Place	Time	Event
May 7 - August 20 (Thursdays) weather permitting	City Hall	6:00 - 8:00 PM	El Sol Food Truck
May 18 (Monday)	City Park	5:30 - 8:00 PM	Youth Leagues
June 1 - October 5 (1st Monday of the month)	St. John	12:00 - 1:30 PM	Senior Meals
June 2 (Tuesday)	City Park	5:30 - 8:00 PM	Youth Leagues
June 2 - October 6 (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) - weather permitting	City Hall	4:30 - 6:30 PM	Farmer's Markets
June 4 - July 30 (Thursdays)	House Divided	7:00 - 9:00 PM	Trivia
June 19 (Friday)	City Park	5:30 - 7:30 PM	Parking Lot Picasso
August 20 (Thursday)	Odie's	5:00 - 8:00 PM	Dining Specials
August 21 (Friday)	Library	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Ice Cream Social
September 20 (Sunday)	City Park	9:00 - 11:00 AM	Fall Fest 5K
September 26 (Saturday)	Downtown Ely	9:00 - 3:00 PM	Craft Fair Fall Fest
October 9 (Friday)	Legion	7:00 - 9:00 PM	BINGO
Oct 28 (Wednesday)	Downtown Ely	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Trunk or Treat

# BE INVOLVED

## Be a Part of the Discussion

The Library Board and Friends of the Library are actively looking at how best to serve our community with our town's growth and the library space needs. Please consider this invitation to be part of this discussion! The Library Board Meetings and Friends of the Library meetings are open to the public. We hope to see you there!

## Library Board Meetings

### First Wednesday of the month @ 7pm

Library Board Meetings are open to the public. Join us in person or get a link for zoom at [www.ely.lib.ia.us](http://www.ely.lib.ia.us). Our next scheduled meetings are:

- **June 3, 2026**
- **July 1, 2026**
- **August 5, 2026**

## Friends of the Ely Public Library Meetings

### Second Wednesday of the month @ 7pm

We are looking for some good friends to help us plan some fun upcoming programs, and to advocate for the library! Join us and learn how you can be involved! Our next scheduled meetings are:

- **June 3, 2026 - @ 8pm**
- **July 8, 2026**
- **August 12, 2026**



Avoid **FOMO!** Stay Informed by following us on our socials @elylibrary and sign up for our e-newsletter by scanning the QR code!



## Ely Public Library

1595 Dows St.

Ely, IA 52227

319-848-7616

[www.ely.lib.ia.us](http://www.ely.lib.ia.us)

## Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9am-7pm

Friday: 9am-5pm

Saturday: 9am-4pm

Sunday: Closed

## Library Closures:

July 3 & 4 - Fourth of July Holiday