

ELY PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

319-848-7616


WWW.ELY.LIB.IA.US


@ELYLIBRARY

UPCOMING EVENTS

Drop-in Programs - for everyone

Drop-in activities are designed to welcome everyone to the library with quick activities that appeal to all different ages and interests.

Early Literacy

- Toddler Time - Mondays @ 10am
- Story Time - Thursdays @ 10am
- Music & Movement - 1st Wednesday of the month @ 10am

Adult Programs

- Exercise Classes (Geri-fit and more) Mon., Wed., & Fri. @ 8am & 1pm
- Cuppa & Conversations - Mon. & Wed. @ 9am (bring your morning cup!)
- Tai Chi - Tuesdays @ 8am
- Chatty Crafters - Tuesdays @ 5pm
- Thursday - Morning Stretch @ 8am
- Classic Films - Fridays @ 2pm

Book Clubs

- Silent Book Club - Thurs. @ 6pm
- Books on Tap - 3rd Wed. @ 6pm (meet at House Divided)
- Banned Books - 4th Thurs. @ 7pm
1/22- Angela's Ashes
2/26- Balzac and the little Chinese Seamstress
3/26- Snow Falling on Cedars
- Winter Reading Program - Dec. - Feb.
Prizes for each BINGO and a grand prize drawing for blackout!

BINGO - Friends Fundraisers

At Ely Legion. Doors open at 6:30pm.

Save the following dates: January 9, February 13, March 13 and April 10!

Meal and Screenings

- The Inquisitor - February 20 @ 6pm
- The Tallest Dwarf - March Date TBD

Master Gardener Classes

- Tuesdays in March @ 6:30pm

ELY PUBLIC LIBRARY

FY2024/2025 ANNUAL REPORT

MEMBERS



34,414
4,652
80

Entrances
Active Users
Meetings held



HOURS OPEN



2,860
Hours/Year

CHECK OUTS



35,406 3,734 2,508
Physical Materials Downloads Streaming

169,371+ ITEMS IN COLLECTION

- Books
- Hot Spots
- Audiobooks
- CD players
- DVDs
- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Streaming
- STEM kits
- Games
- Puzzles
- E-Materials



PROGRAMMING



19,080
Attendees
1,156
Offered

VOLUNTEERS



5,035+
Volunteer
Hours

47 + PARTNERS



- Schools
- Daycares
- Businesses
- Community
- Libraries

SERVICES:

- 24/7 Wi-Fi
- 1:1 Tech Help
- Computers
- Scan/Fax/Copy
- Meeting Spaces
- Test Proctoring
- Tutoring
- Job Help
- Summer Reading
- Classes/Programs
- Inter-Library Loans
- Seed Library

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Library Success: Annual Survey Results

Results from our latest annual survey show a significant increase in library usage over the past year. More community members are taking advantage of our expanded services, including digital resources, study spaces, test proctoring, and educational programs. This upward trend highlights the library's growing role as a vital hub for learning, collaboration, and community engagement.

Director Sellon shares, "We are proud to be a place that brings our community together—whether for programs, learning opportunities, or volunteer activities."

As we look ahead to the coming year, we'd love to hear from you: What new offerings or services would you like to see at your library?

A Message from the Board President

As another successful program year comes to a close the Ely Public Library has much for which to give thanks, and even more to celebrate. Of course nothing happens without you, our community patrons and supporters! Your passion for lifelong learning and community connection fuel the excellence of programming, planning, and fun.

But we can't forget the other important part of Ely Public Library's success: the library staff. From taking the Library out to daycare centers, to writing grants, and staying late to assemble gingerbread houses, our outstanding library staff continue to make Ely Public Library a destination for the greater Ely area. Their commitment to cultivating the library as a community hub - providing cultural enrichment, and a safe place for all - deserves heartfelt thanks.

We look forward to all the ways the Ely Public Library will continue to be an asset in our community in 2026, and we hope to see you at one of our many programs.

Erika Uthe, Board President of EPL

EPL Recieves Grant

We are thrilled to announce a grant we received from ITVS and Indie Lens Pop-Up. The funds will be used to enhance events, including a FREE light meal, around each of this season's screenings. We are excited to offer this series with special guests and/or activities regarding these moving documentaries. We hope you will join us!



The Inquisitor
2/20/26 @ 6pm



The Tallest Dwarf
March Date TBD



The Librarians
April Date TBD



The Grocery Show List
May Date TBD

February 20, 2026 @ 6pm - The Inquisitor

Explore the life and legacy of Barbara Jordan in *The Inquisitor*. Jordan was a groundbreaking Texas congresswoman whose sharp intellect and moral clarity transformed U.S. politics. From Nixon's impeachment to civil rights battles, her voice demanded accountability, while she privately faced struggles few ever knew of.

We are excited to announce that Iowa Senator Molly Donahue and Linn County Supervisor Kirsten Running-Marquardt will be joining us for a panel discussion following the screening of *The Inquisitor* on February 20th.

Build Your Child's Home Library for Free!

Thanks to a partnership with the Friends of EPL, you can enroll your child in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. The program mails a new, age-appropriate book to children from birth to age five. This is available for children within the 52227 zip code. Stop by the library to sign up.



Spring Break Programming - March 16-20

Join us at the library from 2-3 pm for a variety of FREE activities. Watch our website and Facebook for more information.

"Winter is here but things don't slow down for the library staff. They have planned additional programs for the community to enjoy over the holidays in addition to their regular program schedule. There is something for everyone with the variety of programs that are offered. Call the library, check out the Ely Library's website or the Ely Library FB page to get the schedule of events and classes."

—Judy Wery, City Council

Hours and Closings:

Monday 9-7	Tuesday 9-7	Wednesday 9-7
Thursday 9-7	Friday 9-5	Saturday 9-4
Closed Sundays		

We will be closed the following dates:

January 1 & 19
February 16

Get 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 Wed. of the month @ 7pm
 - January 7
 - February 4
 - March 4



• Friends of the Ely Public Library Meetings

- Second Wednesday of the month @ 7pm
 - January 14
 - February 11
 - March 11



Explore EPL's Free Digital Resources

Available to residents of Ely and Rural Linn County.

BRIDGES/LIBBY: Check out magazines, audiobooks, e-books, and movies. (Available to residents of Ely and Rural Linn County).

HOOPLA: Instantly borrow up to five movies, TV shows, music albums, e-audiobooks, e-books, and graphic novels each month. (Available to residents of Ely and Rural Linn County).

Kanopy: Stream a wide selection of films and documentaries.

Mometrix: Get free access to online test prep.

Check out our Winter Program Guide!

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Scan me!

