June 2025

The Word on the Shelves



Your Monthly Dose of Books News and Library Happenings

Press Start on Summer—Level Up at the Library!

School's out, the sun is shining, and we've got a summer full of fun, discovery, and community waiting for you at the library! Whether you're here for exciting performances, epic movie days, or just a quiet moment away from the chaos—we're glad you're here.

So flip-flop your way in, bring the kids (or drop by on your own), and make the library part of your summer story. We're here for the fun, the learning, and everything in between.

Let the summer adventures begin!

On the Shelves Now:

"Summer Light on Nantucket" by Nancy Thayer

Secrets, sparks, and summer heat—escape to Nantucket's irresistible charm; a must-read for lovers of beach reads and heartfelt romances.

"Bitter Rain"

by Shannon Baker

Twists, danger, and dark secrets—this thriller won't let you go; perfect for mystery fans who love a fast-paced, suspenseful ride.

"The Let Them Theory" by Mel Robbins

Break free from stress and take control with bold, life-changing advice—ideal for anyone ready to stop overthinking and start living.

"The Summer of You and Me" by Denise Hunter

A summer storm, a shared past, and a second chance at love—perfect for fans of heartfelt romance and seaside settings with emotional depth.

Coming in June:

"Finders Keepers"

by Brett Battles/Stuart Woods (Jun 3)

Stone Barrington dives into a deadly game of secrets and old enemies—perfect for fans of fast-paced thrillers and gripping suspense.

"A Mother's Love"

by Danielle Steel (Jun 24)

A widowed author uncovers new threats and old wounds while seeking strength and love in Paris—great for fans of emotional dramas.

"It Happened on the Lake" by Lisa Jackson (Jun 24)

Returning to a mysterious Oregon town, Harper faces haunting secrets and an eerie presence—ideal for readers who love thrillers & a Hitchcockian twist.

"The President's Shadow" by James Patterson (Jun 24)

A buried secret in the Rose Garden triggers a deadly conspiracy—fast-paced, high-stakes suspense for political thriller fans & Patterson devotees.

Level Up At Your Library - Summer 2025



Dan Kirk June 10th at 1 pm

Prepare to be amazed! Dan Kirk brings high-flying fun and laugh-out-loud comedy in his action-packed juggling show. With his signature yellow shoes and interactive style, Dan keeps all ages entertained. Don't miss this lively performance that's perfect for the whole family!



Aaron Fowler June 24th at 1 pm

Singer, songwriter, and storyteller Aaron Fowler brings heart, humor, and inspiration to the library! With guitar in hand and stories to share, Aaron's interactive performance gets kids singing, moving, and thinking in new ways. A joyful experience you won't want to miss!



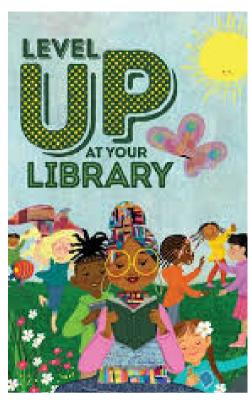
Sonic The Hedgehog June 17th at 6 pm

Zoom into summer with Sonic the Hedgehog! Join us at the King Theater for a special screening of this hit movie, where the world's fastest blue hedgehog teams up with his new best friend to save the planet from the evil Dr. Robotnik. A fun, fast-paced film for kids and families!



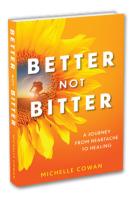
The Last Starfighter July 1 at 6 pm

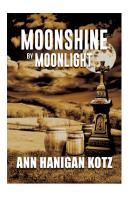
Relive a sci-fi classic at the King Theater with The Last Starfighter! When a teenager beats a mysterious arcade game, he's recruited into an interstellar war. With action, adventure, and 80s nostalgia, this movie is a great way to enjoy a stellar summer.



A Few Notes To Remember

- All summer events are free and open to everyone—just come and have fun!
- No registration needed for individual events, but we'd love for you to register for the Summer Program - it helps us track participants and reading!
- Kids under 8 should be accompanied by a grown-up.
- Reading logs can be turned in anytime —each one earns a cool incentive and your first completed reading log earns you a FREE water bottle.
- Be courteous—silence phones and enjoy the show, or join in when it's interactive!
- Follow us on social media for any schedule changes or updates.







Library News: A magical May at the library

May was packed with memorable moments, heartfelt conversations, and a whole lot of community connection. From inspiring talks to creative programs, the library was buzzing with activity—and we're still smiling about it.

Better Not Bitter with Michelle Cowan

We kicked off the month with an uplifting visit from Michelle Cowan, whose Better Not Bitter program left a lasting impression. With honesty, humor, and a powerful message about resilience, Michelle shared her personal journey of overcoming adversity and choosing growth. Attendees left feeling empowered, and encouraged to face life's challenges with strength and grace.

Moonshine by Moonlight with Ann Hanigan Kotz

Later in the month, the legendary Skate Palace turned into a speakeasy of sorts for Moonshine by Moonlight, a captivating historical program by Ann Hanigan Kotz. Ann brought the Prohibition era to life with gripping stories of bootleggers, secret stills, and small-town legends—topped off with a whiskey tasting that gave the evening an extra kick. It was an unforgettable night of history, storytelling, and a little moonshine magic.

Storytime Highlights

May was a joyful month for Storytime, as our youngest readers gathered to share sweet books celebrating moms, springtime, and the joy of reading together. Laughter filled the room as little hands explored colorful picture books, and got creative with fun crafts they proudly took home. If you've been thinking about joining us, now's the perfect time to mark your calendar—Storytime is

on break for the summer, but we'll be back in September! New families are always welcome come make memories with us this fall!

Looking Ahead:

Local Author Visit with Jackie Reinig

Mark your calendars for June 26 at 5:30 pm when Jackie Reinig—a local author from Panama, lowa—joins us to share her writing journey, creative process, and her latest book. This is a wonderful opportunity to support local talent, ask questions, and maybe find your next favorite read. Stay tuned for more details! We love seeing our community come together through books, stories, and shared experiences. Thanks for making May so special—we can't wait to see what summer brings!

Good to Know

As a quick reminder, during the summer, our preschool story times are paused. This gives us time to plan out new adventures and prepare for the upcoming school year.

Library Hours:

Monday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Tuesday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Thursday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Friday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Saturday: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sunday: Closed

Whether you're hunting down your next page-turner, leveling up at a summer event, or just chilling with a cool book and cooler vibes—we're so glad you're part of the story. Happy summer and happy reading!



Good things are coming

Building Community Outdoors With A New Library Gazebo

We're excited to share some wonderful news for our community—a beautiful new 16-foot gazebo will soon be installed behind the library, thanks to the generous support of a grant award from the Ida County Community Betterment Foundation, heartfelt memorial donations, and contributions from local donors.

This new outdoor space will provide a versatile spot for library programs and events, as well as a comfortable place where visitors can enjoy free Wi-Fi while spending time outside. Designed to extend the library experience beyond our walls, the gazebo will offer a fresh, inviting space for relaxation, learning, and connection for everyone who visits.

We are preparing to break ground soon, beginning with the installation of a concrete pad to support the structure. Our goal is to have the gazebo completed by the end of July, creating a welcoming gathering place just in time for the warm months ahead.

This project reflects our ongoing commitment to serve as a vibrant community hub—a place where people of all ages can come together, share stories, learn new things, and simply enjoy being part of this wonderful community. We believe this new space will become a favorite spot for everything from storytelling and workshops to quiet reflection.

We are deeply grateful to all who have made this project possible. Your support strengthens the library's role as a welcoming and essential resource for Ida Grove and the surrounding area.

Stay tuned for updates as construction moves forward—we can't wait to welcome you to this exciting new addition!

Sel you soon @ your library!

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