CHARLES CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA

Charles City Public Library, Zastrow Room

Thursday, November 12 at 5:15 PM

Zoom Meeting ID: 730 752 0490 Passcode: 592812
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7307520490 Phone: 1 312 626 6799

1. Call to Order

2. Consider Approval of the Agenda
   Motion
   Discussion

3. Consider Approval of the Minutes of October 15, 2026, meeting
   Motion
   Discussion

4. Correspondence & Communications
   A. Received $959.52 for ERATE Internet Service Reimbursement
   B. Received $8797.31 from Floyd County, Q2 Tax Allocation

5. Financial Business
   A. October Claims
      Motion
      Discussion

   B. October Budget Balance Sheet

6. Committee Reports

7. Old Business

8. New Business
   A. For review: Letter of Interest for the Electrical Panel replacement and list of contractors

   B. Board Education: Article from Library Journal, Vol. 151 No. 9, "On Intellectual Freedom and Freedom of Expression," by Emily Knox

9. Library Reports
   A. Librarian's Report
   B. Circulation Report
   C. Programming Report
   D. FY26 By the Numbers- Annual Survey Report
   E. November Library Newsletter

10. Adjournment

Next scheduled meeting will be on December 10, 2026, at 5:15, in the Zastrow Meeting Room.

CHARLES CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

910 Clark Street, Charles City, IA 50616

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Thursday, October 15, 2026

CHARLES CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY – ZASTROW ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: 5:15 pm by Jim Davis

ROLL CALL: Jessica Gonseth, Angela Holzer, Scott Kendall, Mike Scofield, Jim Davis, Director Annette Dean,

Unless otherwise noted, all motions passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Scofield/Kendall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2026 MEETING: Kendall/Scofield

CORRESPONDENCE and COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Received $2931.18 for Direct State Aid, from State Library of Iowa
B. Received $132.48 from Mooney Trust for Quarterly income payment.
C. Received $2,875 from Dollar General Literacy Grant, to be used to put literacy kits in area businesses

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

A. Motion to approve September Claims (Kendall/Scofield)
B. September Budget Balance Sheet: Per Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Telehealth Tablet Usage Policy
   Approved as presented. (Scofield/Gonseth)
B. Floyd and Colwell Contracts
   Approved as presented. (Scofield/Gonseth)

LIBRARY REPORTS:

A. Librarian's Report: Per report
B. Circulation Report: Per Report
C. Programming Report: Per Report
D. ILA Conference Report: Per Report
E. October Library Newsletter: Copies of October newsletter shared.

ADJOURNMENT: 5:40 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting, Thursday, November 12, 2026 at 5:15 in the Zastrow Meeting Room.

Charles City Public Library

October Claims for November 12, 2026 Library Board

	CLAIMANT	Purpose	Gen. Fund	Rogers	Mooney
6150	Charles City Employees Insurance	Health Insurance	$ 3,656.56		
6151	Charles City Employees Insurance	Life Insurance	$ 56.88		
6152	Charles City Employees Insurance	Dental Insurance	$ 57.08		
6240	Visa	ILA Conference Travel	$ 191.99		
6310	Riverstone Landscaping	Eding Replacement	$ 290.00		
6310	Newbauer	Mat Service	$ 41.00		
6310	Plunkett's Pest Control	Pest Control-yearly contract	$ 547.20		
6310	Hockenson Plumbing and Heating	Filters	$ 181.36		
6310	Proshield	Annual Inspection	$ 439.63		
6310	Fish Window Cleaning	Window Cleaning	$ 983.00		
6371	Omnitel	Internet	$ 99.95		
6371	MidAmerican	Power	$ 2,207.81		
6373	Omnitel	Telephone	$ 137.26		
6420	Carol Case	Contracted Service	$ 1,603.00		
6420	Corey Hawke	Contracted Service	$ 422.00		
6423	The Printery	Pet Election Laminating	$ 50.40		
6502	Midwest Tapes	Child Media	$ 26.99		
6502	Early Childhood Resource Center	Backpacks- Dollar General Grant	$ 1,983.75		
6502	Ingram	Child Books	$ 378.82		
6502	Amazon	Program Supplies	$ 148.54		
6502	Amazon	Book Storage Bins		$ 53.18	
6502	Visa	Haunted Library	$ 57.67		
6502	Hyvee	Program Supplies	$ 56.60		
6506	Staples	Office Supplies	$ 359.50		
6506	Charles City Press	Business Cards	$ 19.00		
6506	Amazon	Supplies	$ 171.96		
6507	Brodart	Processing Materials	$ 328.86		
6507	Access Systems	Copier Lease and Service	$ 230.19		
6507	Annette Dean	Processing Materials	$ 14.67		
6507	Visa	Operating Supplies	$ 31.99		
6508	Visa	Postage	$ 81.04		
6513	Data Axle	City Directory	$ 195.00		
6513	Iowa Poetry Association	Books	$ 12.75		
6513	Kanopy	Digital Videos	$ 355.00		
6513	Midwest Tapes	DVDs	$ 151.84		
6513	Ingram	LP and Reg Print Books	$ 2,843.66		
6513	Amazon	Supplies	$ 65.78		
6513	Ingram	Art Books			$ 13.00
6513	Visa	Hotspot Subscriptions	$ 1,080.00		

Charles City Public Library

October Budget Balance for November 12, Meeting

CODE	LINE ITEM	BUDGET	MONTH	PREVIOUS MONTH'S YTD	CURRENT YEAR TO DATE	REMAINING BUDGET $	% REMAINING
6010	SALARY	$235,417.00	$18,042.92	$61,344.29	$79,387.21	$156,029.79	66.28%
6064	Overtime	$0.00		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	100.00%
6110	FICA	$18,009.00	$1,312.17	$4,480.50	$5,792.67	$12,216.33	67.83%
6130	IPERS	$22,223.00	$1,703.26	$5,790.89	$7,494.15	$14,728.85	66.28%
6150	Health Insurance	$32,866.00	$3,656.56	$10,969.68	$14,626.24	$18,239.76	55.50%
6151	Life Insurance	$678.00	$56.88	$171.12	$228.00	$450.00	66.37%
6152	Dental Insurance	$655.00	$57.08	$171.24	$228.32	$426.68	65.14%
6160	Workers Comp	$400.00		$0.00	$0.00	$400.00	100.00%
6170	Unemployment	$1,000.00		$22.43	$22.43	$977.57	97.76%
6210	Dues	$320.00		$0.00	$0.00	$320.00	100.00%
6240	Travel & Meetings	$1,596.00	$191.99	$645.00	$836.99	$759.01	47.56%
6310	Building & Maintenance	$21,750.00	$2,482.19	$2,703.59	$5,185.78	$16,564.22	76.16%
6371	Utilities	$34,000.00	$2,307.76	$12,174.97	$14,482.73	$19,517.27	57.40%
6373	Telephone	$1,786.00	$137.26	$580.53	$717.79	$1,068.21	59.81%
6402	Advertising	$300.00		$0.00	$0.00	$300.00	100.00%
6406	Tort Liability Ins.	$9,897.00		$0.00	$0.00	$9,897.00	100.00%
6411	Legal	$100.00		$0.00	$0.00	$100.00	100.00%
6420	Contracted Service	$28,300.00	$2,025.00	$8,100.00	$10,125.00	$18,175.00	64.22%
6423	Special Service	$2,000.00	$50.40	$157.85	$208.25	$1,791.75	89.59%
6502	Children's Supplies	$9,500.00	$2,652.37	$3,051.88	$5,704.25	$3,795.75	39.96%
6506	Office Supplies	$2,500.00	$550.46	$441.04	$991.50	$1,508.50	60.34%
6507	Operating Supplies	$5,788.00	$605.71	$3,054.13	$3,659.84	$2,128.16	36.77%
6508	Postage	$750.00	$81.04	$259.43	$340.47	$409.53	54.60%
6513	Books, Tapes,& Updates	$35,780.00	$4,704.03	$14,563.09	$19,267.12	$16,512.88	46.15%
6725	Capital Equipment	$5,873.00		$1,068.00	$1,068.00	$4,805.00	81.82%
TOTAL EXPENSES		$471,488.00	$40,617.08	$129,749.66	$170,366.74	$301,121.26	63.87%

Charles City
Public Library

910 Clark Street
Charles City, IA 50616
641-257-6319
ccdirector34@gmail.com

November 3, 2026

{Company]
[Address]

Re: Request for quote – lighting control relay panel replacement

Dear {Company},

The Charles City Public Library is gathering quotes from qualified area electrical contractors for a lighting control upgrade at our building located at 910 Clark St, Charles City. We are writing both to find out if your company is interested in and available for this project and to invite you to submit a quote.

Scope of work

The project involves replacing the library's existing lighting control relay panel. We expect the work to include:

- Tracing out and labeling the existing lighting circuits to be controlled
- Removing the existing lighting control relay panel and box
- Installing a new relay panel and box, and wiring line and load to the relays
- Installing a new lighting control switch and wiring low voltage
- Labeling relays by the area they serve
- Programming, startup and testing

We welcome your recommendations if you see a better approach or a necessary change to this scope once you have seen the installation.

Please include in your quote:

- An itemized breakdown of materials, labor, and any equipment or trip charges with a total
- The make and model of the relay panel and lighting control switch you propose

- Your estimated lead time and project timeline
- Warranty terms on equipment and labor
- Proof of Iowa electrical license and current liability insurance
- Written confirmation that your quote includes one (1) year of no-cost maintenance and troubleshooting after project completion, with any exclusions listed

Please send your quote in a closed envelope or by email- with the subject heading- Electrical Panel Replacement- so that all quotes remain closed until the appointed time.

Site visit and deadline

We encourage you to see the existing panel before quoting. To schedule a site visit, please contact me using the information below. Quotes are requested by **December 9, 2026.** We will review all quotes received and follow up with each company that responds.

Thank you for your time and interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Annette Dean Director
Charles City Public Library
(641) 257-6319
adean@charles-city.lib.ia.us

Name	Street Address	City	State	ZIP	Phone	Google Rating	# Reviews	Listed Hours	Website
Hobert Electric	900 Freeman St	Charles City	IA	50616	(641) 228-1421	3.7	3	Mon–Sat 24 hrs; Sun closed	https://www.iowa-electrical.com/electrician-in-charles-city/
Perry Novak Electric	1207 S Grand Ave	Charles City	IA	50616	(563) 382-2179	3.0	4	Mon–Fri 7:00 AM–4:00 PM	https://www.perrynovakelectric.com/
Bluhm's Cedar Valley Electric	404 Madison St	Floyd	IA	50435	(641) 257-3000	5.0	4	Mon–Sat 7:00 AM–5:30 PM	
Scharper Services LLC	23404 350 St	Osage	IA	50461	(641) 732-3630	5.0	2	Mon–Fri 7:00 AM–8:00 PM; Sun 7:00 AM–8:00 PM	
J B Electric	3719 Kirkwood Ave	Osage	IA	50461	(641) 732-3474			Not listed	
Charles Koenigs Electric LLC	110 Industrial Dr	Stacyville	IA	50476	(641) 220-2940	5.0	1	Mon–Fri 8:00 AM–5:00 PM	
North Iowa Electric LLC	22 N Hawkeye Ave	Nora Springs	IA	50458	(641) 749-2300	5.0	4	Mon–Fri 8:00 AM–4:30 PM	http://northiowaelectric.com/
New Hampton Electric	207 E Main St	New Hampton	IA	50659	(641) 394-2187	5.0	6	Mon–Fri 8:00 AM–5:00 PM	http://newhamptonelectric.com/
Angell Electric, Inc.	110 W Prospect St	New Hampton	IA	50659	(641) 394-2913	5.0	2	Mon–Fri 8:00 AM–5:00 PM	
Stanton Electric	618 N Sherman Ave	New Hampton	IA	50659	(641) 394-3068	4.3	12	Open 24 hours (as listed)	https://stantonelectricllc.com/
Ryan Meier Electric	2510 240th St	New Hampton	IA	50659	(319) 415-8138	4.2	5	Mon–Fri 7:30 AM–4:00 PM	https://ryanmeierelectric.com/
Blazek Electric Inc	115 8th St SE	Mason City	IA	50401	(641) 423-6686	4.1	32	Mon–Fri 7:00 AM–5:00 PM	https://www.blazekelectric.com/
Linahon Electric, Inc.	817 S Washington Ave	Mason City	IA	50401	(641) 423-5528	4.7	12	Mon–Fri 7:00 AM–4:00 PM	https://linahonelectricia.com/
Moorehead Electric	1205 S Hampshire Ave	Mason City	IA	50401	(641) 424-5878	5.0	5	Mon–Fri & Sun 7:00 AM–8:00 PM	
Bice Electric	1116 N Virginia Ave	Mason City	IA	50401	(641) 390-0038	4.0	4	Mon–Fri 8:00 AM–5:00 PM	http://biceelectric.com/

Notes

Source: Google Places listings, retrieved Nov 3, 2026. Ratings and hours are as listed there and may have changed.

Businesses are within roughly 45 miles of Charles City Public Library; listed in order of approximate proximity by town.

Many businesses have few reviews. Confirm licensing, insurance and job suitability before requesting quotes.

LJ 150 YEARS

On Intellectual Freedom and Freedom of Expression

Understanding foundational library values as essential to human dignity and flourishing

By Emily Knox

Outside of librarianship and some conservative corners of the internet and college campuses, the term "intellectual freedom" is rarely used. People more often use the term "free speech" to convey the idea that one should be able to impart ideas without restriction—but even that is a bit restrictive and seems to refer only to giving speeches or comments on the internet. In the library context, freedom from censorship has a much broader scope than simply "free speech."

Intellectual freedom is, of course, more than simply giving one's opinion on the internet.

UNDERSTANDING INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

Intellectual freedom is a core value of librarianship and is codified in the second article of the American Library Association's (ALA) Code of Ethics. Former director of ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom Deborah Caldwell-Stone has written that "Intellectual freedom means both the

Emily Knox is a professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests include information access and intellectual freedom and censorship. She is a member of the Mapping Information Access research team. The second edition of her book, Book Banning in 21st Century America *(Bloomsbury), was published in January. Emily previously served on the boards of the National Coalition Against Censorship, the Freedom to Read Foundation, and is a former editor of the* Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy. *She received her PhD from the doctoral program at the Rutgers University School of Communication & Information.*

freedom to hold, access, and disseminate ideas and the creation of conditions that uphold and defend those freedoms, including the right to privacy." However, as the 11th Edition of the *Intellectual Freedom Manual* notes, ALA has never adopted an official definition of intellectual freedom.

Philosopher of information Kay Mathiesen provides a hierarchical typology of rights that can help explain the relationships among communication, access to information, and censorship. She argues that there are three different types of rights: primary, lynchpin, and derived. Primary rights are fundamental to human existence, such as the right to food, water, and shelter. Lynchpin rights make other rights possible. Finally, derived rights come from other rights and usually focus on specific circumstances. The right to intellectual freedom is derived from the right to freedom of expression which, in turn, is derived from the lynchpin right to communication.

COMMUNICATION: THE LYNCHPIN RIGHT

In a 2012 article, Mathiesen wrote the following regarding the importance of the right to communication:

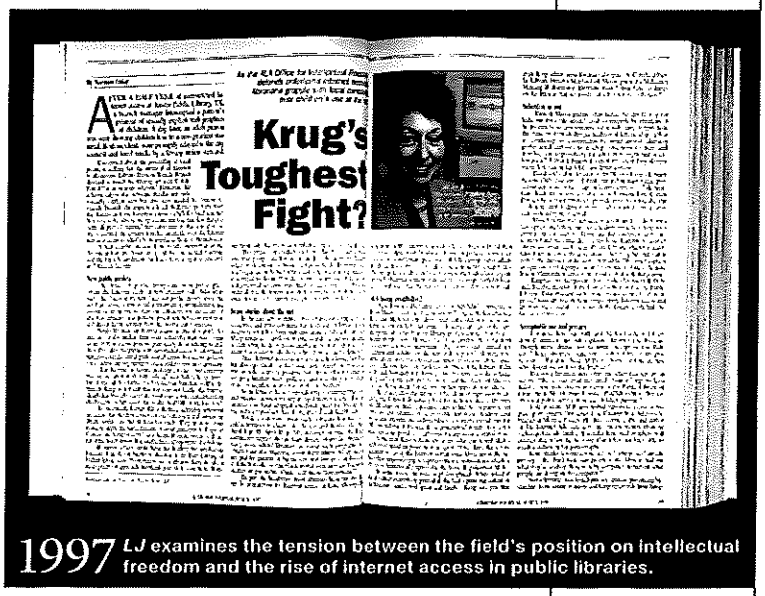
"Indeed, one could argue that, without the ability to communicate, we do not have rights at all. A right licenses a person to speak up for herself.... One cannot claim a right if one does not know that one has the right and one cannot claim a right if one lacks the means to express oneself. The idea of claiming in relation to rights is so important that some philosophers have argued that only those who can make claims can be rights holders. While we might want to include such beings as animals and small children within the realm of rights holders, there is still something of special dignity to adult human rights holders who can take an active role in exercising their rights."

The importance of the right to communication cannot be overstated. Freedom of expression, which is derived from the right to communication, encompasses not just the right to impart opinions but also the freedoms of the press and to protest. It also includes the right to express oneself via the performing and fine arts. Intellectual freedom, which is derived from the right to freedom of expression, focuses more on the right to give and receive information. This right, according to both ALA and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), encompasses the core mission of libraries.

A LEGALISTIC FRAMEWORK

For the past 50 years, United States citizens have tended to base their right to intellectual freedom in a legalistic framework grounded in interpretations of the First Amendment to the Constitution. The First Amendment states that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

In the opening chapter of *A History of ALA Policy on Intellectual Freedom*, Judith Krug, Candace D. Morgan, and Barbara M. Jones argue that librarianship's understanding of intellectual freedom is based on a "strict reading" of the First Amendment. The authors also note that the U.S. Supreme Court has historically given few limits to freedom of speech, press, and other freedoms outlined in the First Amendment. However, this strict interpretation has been called into question in recent years with the increase of book challenges across the United States. Most important, in 2025 the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit found that removing books from public libraries is constitutional. That is, the court found that banning books in a public library is legally allowed by the First Amendment. This case, if it reaches the Supreme Court, would completely overturn current legal precedent for First Amendment law in the United States.



1997 *LJ* examines the tension between the field's position on intellectual freedom and the rise of internet access in public libraries.

ALL PEOPLE POSSESS THESE RIGHTS

The First Amendment has never been an adequate basis for either understanding intellectual freedom as a human right or as a basis for upholding the

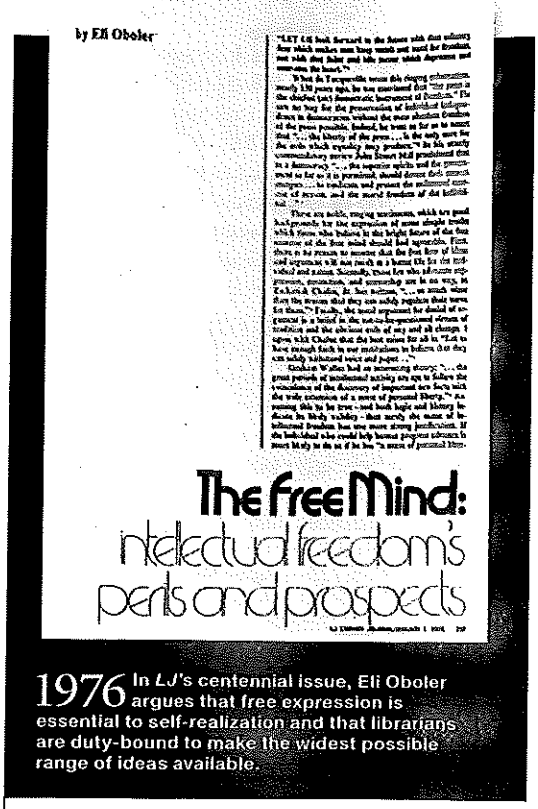
right as a core value of librarianship. Freedom of expression, and, more narrowly, intellectual freedom, are human rights. One way to understand this is to think about all the people on earth who live outside the United States. All of them have the right to intellectual freedom and freedom of expression even though they are not subject to the laws of U.S. Constitution. In fact, the myopia of only considering rights through the lens of constitutional law means that U.S. citizens' rights are often subject to the ideologies and interpretations of the people who sit on the U.S. Supreme Court at any given time.

The right to freedom of expression is codified in Article 19 of the 1948 United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers." Note that this codification is just that. It is a formal statement of a right that already exists. All people still have the right to freedom of expression even without this formal statement.

A LIFE OF DIGNITY, AUTONOMY, AND FLOURISHING

Why do freedom of expression and intellectual freedom matter? Why is it important that they be understood as human rights rather than rights that are merely subject to legal interpretation? Freedom of expression and intellectual freedom allow for human beings to live a life of dignity, autonomy, and flourishing. As Stephen Heyman writes in *Free Speech and Human Dignity*, "four elements of liberty correspond to the major justifications that have been advanced for freedom of speech: that it is an aspect of external freedom; that it is essential for individual self-realization; that it is indispensable to democratic self-government; and that it promotes the search for truth."

Freedom of expression and intellectual freedom allow for human beings to live a life of dignity, autonomy, and flourishing.



1976 In *LJ*'s centennial issue, Eli Oboler argues that free expression is essential to self-realization and that librarians are duty-bound to make the widest possible range of ideas available.

More specifically, autonomy is the ability to make choices for oneself. Freedom of expression allows people to express their own ideas about themselves and the world while intellectual freedom allows for exposure to those ideas. Those ideas are then used to establish our own ideas and values about life. Audrey Barbakoff notes that autonomy is not total independence "but rather ability of an individual to make life choices guided by his or her own values." Flourishing is related to autonomy and concerns living a "good life." As John Burgess writes, flourishing "is the good that results from living in accord with the virtues. In its simplest form, flourishing is the idea that to be good is to fulfill one's purpose in life. Put another way, to flourish is to pursue the ideal self. Since everyone determines his or her ideal self, flourishing is an internally created good." Freedom of expression and intellectual freedom are instrumental for living a life with meaning.

CENSORSHIP, POWER, AND KNOWLEDGE

It can be easier to understand why this is this case when we look at the effects of censorship. As Sue Curry Jansen writes, censorship is the "knot" that combines power and knowledge. It is the use of power within censorship that demonstrates why it is so insidious. By defini-

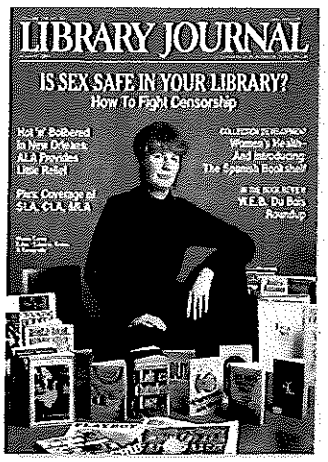
tion, censorship means that an outside entity is exercising control over your right to freedom of expression and your right to access information. That entity is limiting control over your autonomy and decision making.

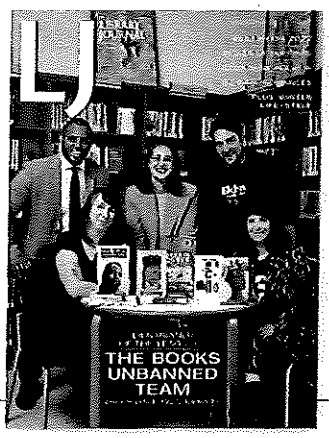
As I have written elsewhere, censorship is not just one action but a constellation of practices. In my work I discuss the four "Rs" of active censorship practices: redaction, restriction, relocation, and removal. I will use books here as an example, but these practices can be used on other types of informational material. Redaction refers to marking through texts or images so that they cannot be viewed. This is a familiar practice for many public librarians who often find books in the return slot that have been defaced. The intended audience of a text or information is important for the definitions of restriction and relocation. For the latter, relocation means that a book or other item has been moved from its proper classification area to another where it is less accessible by its intended audience. This happens, for example, when a picture book for preschoolers is moved to a parenting section. Restriction means that there is some sort of barrier between the intended audience and the book. For example, a book is behind the reference or circulation desk, and you have to ask for permission to check it out. Finally, when most people think about censorship they are thinking about removal. This is when a book is taken out of a collection or curriculum and is no longer available for use. In all these instances, access to the books is controlled by some entity that is not the user or patron. Someone or some group has decided to use their power to control access to certain types of knowledge.

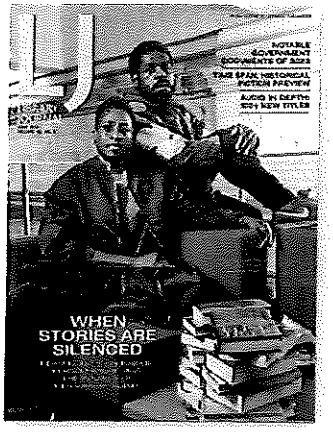
THE RISE IN CENSORSHIP

Why do we see an increase in censorship in public libraries and schools at this time in the United States? There are many different factors, but a few are most salient. First, we live at a time of immense social upheaval. We are approximately one generation out from the successful social civil rights movements of the '60s, and the gains made by those movements were not welcomed by all in society. In fact, one could argue that we are living through a backlash to those changes. We are also

The First Amendment has never been an adequate basis for either understanding intellectual freedom as a human right or as a basis for upholding the right as a core value of librarianship. Freedom of expression, and, more narrowly, intellectual freedom, are human rights.







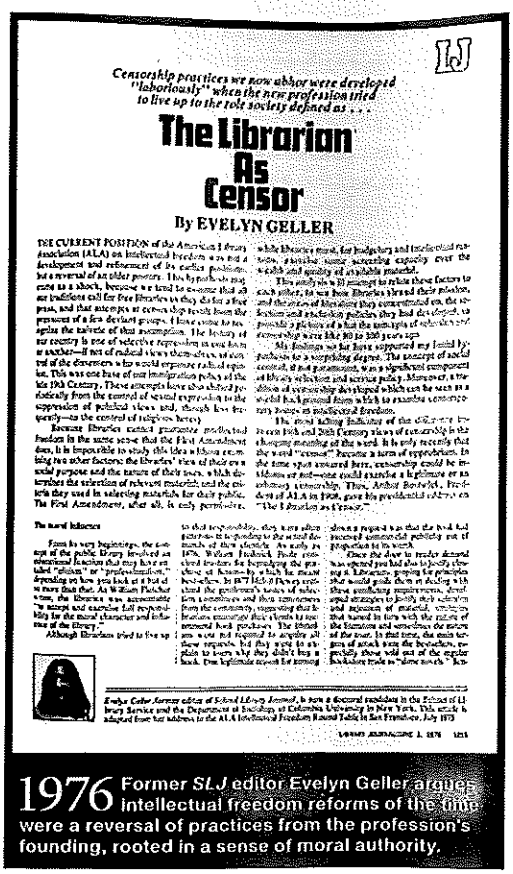
LJ's censorship coverage spans decades, with more recent issues dedicated to providing librarians with information and resources to address a rise in book bans.

living in a time where institutions of all types are under attack. In her book *The Sum of Us*, Heather McGhee argues that "public goods are seen as a worthy investment only so long as the public is seen as good." People who use public institutions like public libraries and schools are not necessarily seen as "good" and are often "othered" in social and civic discourse.

It is also important to remember that we went through a societal upheaval during the Covid-19 pandemic. Over 1 million people died in the United States, and these are losses that we have not grappled with as a society. Another important phenomenon during the pandemic time was remote schooling. School is often a black box for parents, but during the pandemic, school came home. Suddenly you could see and hear how children were being taught at the dining room table.

Also important for understanding the rise of book challenges was the murder of George Floyd, the rise of Black Lives Matter, and subsequent protests. The protests in particular took place all over the country, including in small, predominately white towns. These were grassroots social movements, but some people wondered about the impetus for the protests. Did they come from local schools? From the new, diverse books that people were reading?

Some people responded to these upheavals by trying to exercise control over others' freedom of expression and access to information. They attempted to assert control over public institutions in a given community by stating that they should decide which types of materials should be purchased and how teachers should run their classrooms. Amna Khalid and Jeffrey Aaron Snyder argue that this behavior comes out of a confusion over what public institutions owe the taxpaying public and "confuses public accountability with public control. As taxpayers, we will hold our city accountable for maintaining the local roads, but we won't tell the construction crews what kind of asphalt to use when the potholes need fixing." Our public schools and libraries should be accountable to the public for educating children and youth and what services are offered, but the public does not control the pedagogy in the classroom or which books are on the shelves.



Censorship practices we now abhor were developed "laboriously" when the new profession tried to live up to the role society defined as . . .

The Librarian As Censor

By EVELYN GELLER

1976 Former *SLJ* editor Evelyn Geller argues intellectual freedom reforms of the time were a reversal of practices from the profession's founding, rooted in a sense of moral authority.

Our public schools and libraries should be accountable to the public for educating children and youth and what services are offered, but the public does not control the pedagogy in the classroom or which books are on the shelves.

PEOPLE ALMOST ALWAYS FIND A WAY

Censorship is a futile act even though it is insidious. Human beings almost always find a way to express themselves, and find the information they need or want, no matter what barriers are put in front of them. This is why the right to freedom of expression and intellectual freedom exist outside of the U.S. Constitution or even the UN Declaration of Human Rights. It is impossible to live a flourishing, autonomous life without knowing about what is possible, and we learn about those possibilities through our exposure to knowledge, other people, and other ways of living. ■

Librarians Report:

Annette's October Meetings:

10/13 Roof Inspection
10/15 Calligraphy Program
10/16 Floyd County Librarians Meeting
10/19 Radio-Live for Spookwalk
10/20 County Supervisors Meeting
Priarie Ridge Gen RX
10/21 Washington Elementary visit
10/22 Grant Writing Webinar through State of Iowa
Spookwalk Committee Meeting
Calligraphy Program
Romantasy Book Club
10/23-10/24 Haunted Library
10/26 Erate BEAR form filed
Spookwalk- setup
Radio- Live for Library Events
10/29 Tourism Committee Meeting
11/2 Outlet Covers installed
11/3 Proshield system inspection
11/4 ILA membership committee
11/5 Radio Recording- Library events

Other Announcements

- Working on Final Report for Floyd County Community Grant
- Received Thiessens Community Grant for Summer Library Program
- Will be presenting library services for the CC Leadership Class next week.
- Will be presenting for 8th graders about being a librarian.
- Stacey and I will be participating on the Lighted Parade.
- Telehealth tablet is available for use. I am waiting for my press release to be approved by Public Health.
- Six businesses have committed to being a literacy backpack partner. Stacey and I will be reaching out to other businesses during the next two weeks to find homes for the remaining 19 backpacks.
- Friends of the library will be participating in a membership event at FCM on December 9th
- I think the ducts need to be cleaned. I will provide estimates next month.
- Budget sheets have been handed out by City Hall; the budget is due on Dec. 1st. We will approve the proposed budget at the next meeting.

Charles City Public Library
Circulation Stats Fiscal 2027

Total Circulation (Apollo)



Sep	Oct	YTD
4,623	**5,055**	**19,512**

Computer Usage (Apollo)



Sep	Oct	YTD
234	**203**	**936**

WiFi usage (whofi stats)



Sep	Oct	YTD
1,149	**1,032**	**4,268**

Total Bridges Circulation



Sep	Oct	YTD
939	**953**	**3,790**

Total Kanopy Plays



Sep	Oct	YTD
87	**79**	**439**

Total Hoopla Uses



Sep	Oct	YTD
519	**569**	**2,179**

Total Website Visits



Sep	Oct	YTD
1,293	**1,310**	**5,385**

Reference Questions



Sep	Oct	YTD
134	**145**	**543**

Computer Assistance



Sep	Oct	YTD
78	**54**	**250**

Total Paperback Circulation



Sep	Oct	YTD
197	**68**	**416**

Total Book Club and ILL used by our



Sep	Oct	YTD
137	**118**	**536**

Total Book Club and ILL sent out



Sep	Oct	YTD
100	**32**	**328**

Charles City Public Library
October 2026 Programming Report

Title	Age	Type	Site	Category	In-pe	Event Start Date
Mahjong	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		12	Oct 1 2026 / 1:00 pm
Chair Yoga	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		0	Oct 2 2026 / 10:00 am
Tech Time	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site	Adult	0	Oct 6 2026 / 2:00 pm
Thick Book Book Club - The Odyssey (books 1-12)	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		2	Oct 7 2026 / 10:30 am
Mahjong	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		12	Oct 8 2026 / 1:00 pm
Tech Time	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site	Adult	0	Oct 13 2026 / 2:00 pm
Adult Outreach at Chautauqua	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	Off Site	Adult	13	Oct 14 2026 / 9:00 am
Mahjong	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		12	Oct 15 2026 / 1:00 pm
Calligraphy 101	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		5	Oct 15 2026 / 3:00 pm
Prologue Thursday Night Book Club - Book TBD	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	Off Site	Adult	7	Oct 15 2026 / 5:00 pm
Library Board Meeting	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		6	Oct 15 2026 / 5:15 pm
Cookbook Club: Asian Cuisine	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site	Adult	4	Oct 15 2026 / 6:30 pm
Chair Yoga	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		1	Oct 16 2026 / 10:00 am
Friends of the Library Book Club	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		10	Oct 19 2026 / 6:30 pm
Gen RX Program by Prairie Ridge Integrated Behavior H	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		0	Oct 20 2026 / 11:00 am
Mahjong	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		12	Oct 22 2026 / 1:00 pm
Calligraphy 101	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		10	Oct 22 2026 / 3:00 pm
Romantasy Book Club	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site	Adult	2	Oct 22 2026 / 4:00 pm
True Crime Book Club	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		7	Oct 28 2026 / 5:00 pm
Mahjong	Adult (Ages 19+)	In Person	On Site		12	Oct 29 2026 / 1:00 pm
Stories and More	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	On Site	family	41	Oct 1 2026 / 10:15 am
Central Preschool	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	Off Site	Class Visits	22	Oct 2 2026 / 10:30 am
Central Preschool	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	Off Site	Class Visits	15	Oct 2 2026 / 2:30 pm
Central Preschool	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	Off Site	Class Visits	8	Oct 6 2026 / 10:30 am
Evening Storytime	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	On Site	family	5	Oct 6 2026 / 5:45 pm
IC Preschool visit 3 yr. olds	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	On Site	Class Visits	9	Oct 8 2026 / 9:00 am
Stories and More firestation	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	Off Site	family	50	Oct 8 2026 / 10:15 am
Stories and More	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	On Site	family	20	Oct 15 2026 / 10:15 am
IC Preschool visit 4 yr old class plus mixed 3 & 4 yr. old	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	On Site	Class Visits	33	Oct 16 2026 / 1:45 pm
Family craft Night- yarn letters	Children (Ages 0-5)	Passive Program	Passive	family	4	Oct 20 2026 / 10:00 am
Stories and More	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	On Site	family	45	Oct 22 2026 / 10:15 am
Stories and More	Children (Ages 0-5)	In Person	On Site	family	40	Oct 29 2026 / 10:15 am
Get Messy-	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	family	29	Oct 6 2026 / 3:30 pm
Get Messy-paper bag costumes	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	family	20	Oct 13 2026 / 3:30 pm
4 IC class visit - Schwartzkopf	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	Class Visits	23	Oct 14 2026 / 9:30 am
2 IC Platts & Field	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	Off Site	Class Visits	20	Oct 15 2026 / 1:45 pm
IC Kindergarten - Parsons	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	Class Visits	25	Oct 16 2026 / 12:00 pm
Get Messy-Halloween Party	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	family	70	Oct 20 2026 / 3:30 pm
Fiona the Reading Dog	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	School age atte	2	Oct 20 2026 / 4:15 pm
K IC Schwickerath	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	Class Visits	20	Oct 21 2026 / 9:15 am
Washington first grade visit	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	Class Visits	60	Oct 21 2026 / 12:40 pm
Washington Kindergarten Visit	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	Off Site	Class Visits	80	Oct 22 2026 / 1:00 pm
Spook Walk	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	Off Site	family	1500	Oct 26 2026 / 10:00 am
Get Messy-Diamond Art Pumpkins	Children (Ages 6-11)	In Person	On Site	family	33	Oct 27 2026 / 3:30 pm
Scrabble	General Interest	In Person	On Site		4	Oct 6 2026 / 10:00 am
Scrabble	General Interest	In Person	On Site		4	Oct 13 2026 / 10:00 am
Scrabble	General Interest	In Person	On Site		4	Oct 20 2026 / 10:00 am
Scrabble	General Interest	In Person	On Site		4	Oct 27 2026 / 10:00 am
Mahjong	General Interest	In Person	On Site		16	Oct 31 2026 / 10:00 am
October Break In Bag	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	Passive Program	Passive	Teen	17	Oct 1 2026 / 9:00 am
Get Knotty	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	In Person	On Site	Teen	2	Oct 7 2026 / 3:45 pm
Get Knotty	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	In Person	On Site	Teen	0	Oct 14 2026 / 3:45 pm
Lighthouse HS research project	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	In Person	On Site	Class Visits	19	Oct 16 2026 / 9:45 am
Get Knotty	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	In Person	On Site	Teen	2	Oct 21 2026 / 3:45 pm
Haunted Library	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	In Person	On Site	School age atte	160	Oct 24 2026 / 6:30 pm
Teen and Tween Frankentoy Fun	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	In Person	On Site	Teen	13	Oct 27 2026 / 5:00 pm
Get Knotty	Young Adult (Ages 12-18)	In Person	On Site	Teen	2	Oct 28 2026 / 3:45 pm

FY2026 BY THE NUMBERS

CHARLES CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY USAGE

Charles City Public Library

WHAT CAN YOU FIND IN THE LIBRARY?

ACCESS MATERIALS USING YOUR LIBRARY CARD.



43,372
PRINTED MATERIALS: BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS



2,108
PHYSICAL VIDEO



1,160
PHYSICAL AUDIO



1.6 MILLION
SHARED ELECTRONIC MATERIALS: EBOOKS, EAUDIO, VIDEO, SERIALS, AVAILABLE FROM HOOPLA & BRIDGES/LIBBY APP.



60
OTHER MATERIALS: LIBRARY OF THINGS, GAMES, HOTSPOTS

LENDING MATERIALS

55,973 CIRCULATIONS OF ALL MATERIALS.

ELECTRONIC MATERIALS CIRCULATION:

4,492 EBOOKS
9,982 EAUDIO
1,586 VIDEO
1,295 COMICS/MAGAZINES

UP 56% FROM FY25

8 CIRCS PER CARD HOLDER



DID YOU KNOW...

YOU CAN BORROW THESE FROM THE LIBRARY?



1,696
CIRCULATIONS OF OTHER PHYSICAL MATERIALS IN FY26

ECONOMIC VALUE

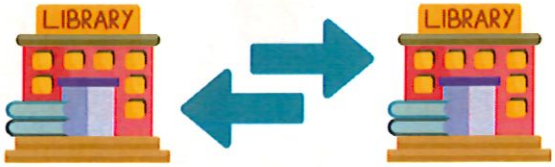
CHARLES CITY RESIDENTS SPENT $44.88 PER CAPITA.

THE LIBRARY RECIEVED GRANTS AND DONATIONS HELPING SUPPLEMENT TAX FUNDS AND ENABLING THE ABILITY TO OFFER SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES LIKE HOOPLA THAT WOULD BE TOO COSTLY OTHERWISE.

USING THE LIBRARY SAVES MONEY! BORROWING 4 BOOKS AND ATTENDING 2 PROGRAMS PER YEAR SAVES A FAMILY OF FOUR AN AVERAGE OF $220.

SHARING BETWEEN LIBRARIES

CCPL PROVIDED 690 ITEMS TO OTHER LIBRARIES.



CCPL BORROWED 1,077 ITEMS FROM OTHER LIBRARIES FOR PATRON REQUESTS.

JUNE 2025 - JUNE 2026 BY THE NUMBERS

CHARLES CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY USAGE

Charles City Public Library

LIBRARY VISITS

35,100
APPROXIMATE VISITS



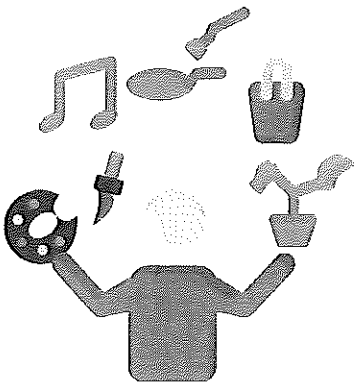
6,926 CARDHOLDERS
66% (OR 2/3) OF CHARLES CITY RESIDENTS ARE CARDHOLDERS

LIBRARY WI-FI USE

13,182
WI-FI SESSIONS IN THE LIBRARY LAST YEAR

12 HOTSPOTS WERE LENT OUT
564 TIMES
TO PATRONS.
CCPL OFFERS EXTERNAL WI-FI. YOU CAN ACCESS THE INTERNET FROM THE PARKING LOT!

LIBRARY PROGRAMS



628
PROGRAMS WERE HELD BY THE LIBRARY INCLUDING 117 OFFSITE PROGRAMS.

9,732
PEOPLE ATTENDED.

MEETING ROOMS & GALLERY

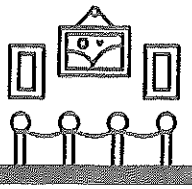
THE ZASTROW MEETING ROOM WAS USED



448 TIMES
152 BY PRIVATE GROUPS
296 BY CITY OR LIBRARY

THE MOONEY ARY GALLERY WAS VISITED

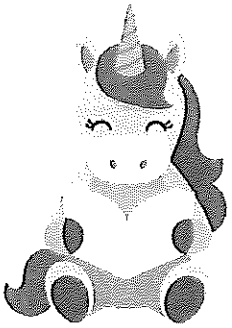
594 TIMES
AND HOSTED 3 BIG TOURS.



SUMMER READING PROGRAM

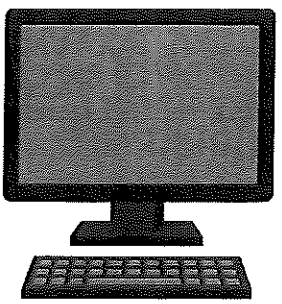
YOUTH

43
PROGRAMS



1,203
ATTENDEES

PUBLIC COMPUTER USE



PATRONS USED LIBRARY COMPUTERS
2,670 TIMES
IN FY26

14 COMPUTERS WERE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE.

Charles City Library Newsletter

910 Clark Street, Charles City, IA 50616 | 641-257-6319 | ccdirector34@gmail.com | www.charles-city.lib.ia.us

Library Hours and Closures

Mon and Tues: 10 - 8
Wed and Thurs: 10 - 6
Fri: 10 - 5
Sat: 10 - 3
Sun: Closed

We will be closed November 11 for Veteran's Day and November 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving and Native American Heritage Day. For updates on unexpected closures, follow us on Facebook or visit our website.

General Announcements

Hoopla, BRIDGES and Libby

Find ebooks and audiobooks to download at home to your computer, Kindle, or smartphone through BRIDGES and its sister app Libby—your password is your phone number! If you're looking for more options, Hoopla provides downloadable audiobooks, ebooks, comics, movies, and music to patrons. Up to six checkouts are available monthly, and all downloads are available for immediate use. Contact us if you need help or have questions when setting up or using your account(s).

Programs for Families

Family Craft Night:
November 17 at 6:00 pm



Families are welcome to come make holiday ornaments! All materials provided; registration required.

Programs for Kids

Get Knotty: Wednesdays at 3:45 pm



Now at a new time! Know a teen who wants to learn to crochet? Join us for this weekly program where we'll tackle making simple projects that teach the basics! **Note: Cancelled 11/11.**

Stories and More: Thursdays at 10:15 am



Join Miss Stacey for stories, songs, and sensory activities! **Note: Held 11/19 at Lou James & Company. Cancelled 11/26.**

Get Messy: Select Tuesdays at 3:30 pm



Join us for more activities where fun and learning collide! This month, participants will make cakeballs (11/3), play with PAWS animals (11/10), and experiment with sound painting (11/17).

Evening Stories and More:
November 3 at 5:45 pm

Join Miss Stacey for stories, songs, and sensory activities! This storytime is typically held on the first Tuesday of each month.

Fiona the Reading Dog:



November 17 at 4:15 pm

Come visit Fiona once a month and read books to her to build confidence! Sign up is appreciated but not required.

Interactive Movie: November 24 at 6:00 pm

Kick off the holiday season by watching *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (2000) where participants get to laugh, yell, and throw items at cues in the film! Movie rated PG.



Twelve Days of Reading Sign-Up: Begins November 16

Starting 11/16, children and families can sign up to receive 11 library books to unwrap and read each day before Christmas, with the 12th book as a gift to keep from the library! This year's Twelve Days of Reading requires pickup by 12/15. We are accepting donations of wrapping paper to supplement costs.

Charles City Library Newsletter

910 Clark Street, Charles City, IA 50616 | 641-257-6319 | ccdirector34@gmail.com | www.charles-city.lib.ia.us

Programs for Adults

Chair Yoga: Tuesdays at 9:30 am



Now at a new day and time! Come stretch in an amateur-led session.

Scrabble/Board Game Club:



Tuesdays at 10 am

Join us for staff-led games! For adults of all skill levels.

Tech Time: Tuesdays at 2 pm

For adults who need 1:1 tech help. Sign up required.

Mah Jong: Thursdays at 1 pm



Interested in learning a new game? Already know how to play but lacking a regular group? Join us once a week to play! **Note: Cancelled 11/26.**

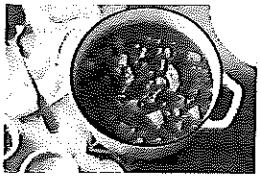
Calligraphy 101:

November 12 and 19 at 2 pm



A local resident will be at the library teaching calligraphy techniques. Attendees are encouraged to sign up for a 15-minute time slot for 1-on-1 instruction between 2 and 4 pm, and an area of the library will be available for additional practice time.

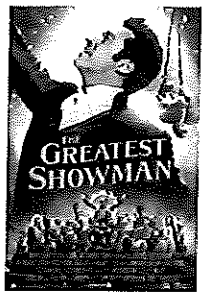
Cookbook Club: November 19 at 6:30 pm



This month's theme is soups and stews. Find a recipe in a library cookbook and make it to share with others at our meeting.

***The Greatest Showman* Movie Matinee**:

November 25 at 11:30 am



Kick off the holidays by joining us for this film celebrating the birth of showbusiness! Attendees should bring their own lunch, but drinks and a light dessert will be provided. Movie rated PG. Registration required.

St. Nick's Book Loot: Begins December 4

Adults can sign up today to receive surprise library books (to return) and small treats and goodies (to keep) this holiday season! Registration required by 11/20.



Book Clubs for Adults

Thick Book Book Club:

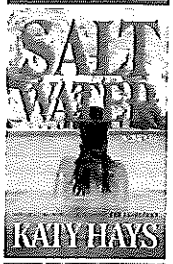
November 4 at 10:30 am

We will discuss books 13-24 of *The Odyssey* (as translated by Emily Wilson) in November, followed by discussions of *The Deluge* by Stephen Markley beginning in January.



Fall Community Book Club:

November 12 at 5 pm in Prologue



Katy Hays's *Saltwater* will be discussed in November, followed by *The Life of Herod the Great* by Zora Neale Hurston in December.

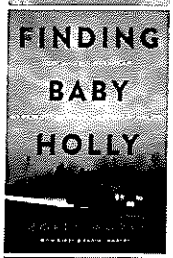
Friends of the Library Book Club: November 16 at 6:15 pm



Held the third Monday of each month. This month's book is *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd.

True Crime Book Club:

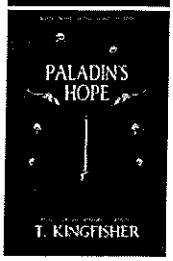
November 25 at 5 pm



October's meeting will feature a discussion on *Finding Baby Holly* by Holly Marie. Reading the book is not required to come to the meeting and discuss the case.

Romantasy Readers Book Club:

December 3 at 4 pm



Join us for a discussion on T. Kingfisher's *Paladin's Hope* at Hotshots! Warning: books may feature adult content.