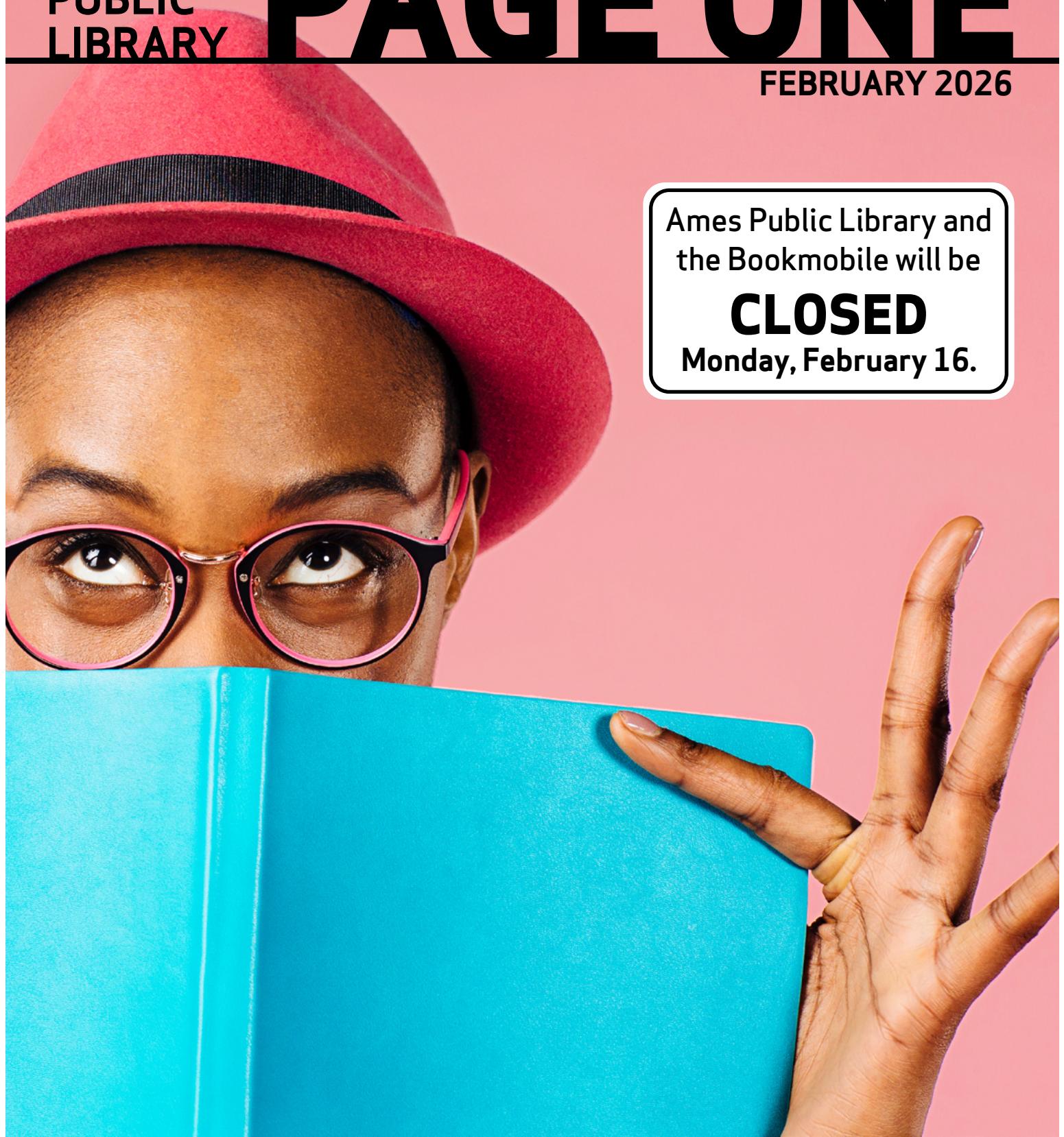


AMES  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

# PAGE ONE

FEBRUARY 2026

Ames Public Library and  
the Bookmobile will be  
**CLOSED**  
Monday, February 16.



Ames  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

515 Douglas Avenue, Ames, IA 50010  
(515) 239-5646 • [www.amespubliclibrary.org](http://www.amespubliclibrary.org)

To view *Page One* online or to sign up  
to receive the *Page One* e-mail newsletter,  
visit our website.

#### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9am-9pm  
Friday & Saturday: 9am - 6pm  
Sunday: 1pm - 5pm

# Conversation Circles



**No meetups Monday, February 16**

## English:

**Mondays, 12:30-1:30pm**  
**Auditorium**

Gather for casual conversations in English. The focus of this group is to help English Language Learners gain confidence and fluency in a comfortable and fun setting. Library staff will pair native and non-native speakers and provide themes, questions, and topics for conversation.

## American Sign Language (ASL):

**Mondays, 5-6pm**

## Spanish: Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

## German: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of Each Month, 7-8pm

## Chinese: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of Each Month, 6-7pm

## Japanese: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of Each Month, 2-3pm

## Russian: Saturdays, 3-4pm

## French: Saturdays, 4-5:30pm

**At the Library or via Zoom**

Gather (in person or online) for casual conversations in different languages. Chat in your native language or get comfortable speaking in another language.

## George Washington Carver Exhibit

**February 3-26, Vestibule**

Come to the Library to see the "Iowa Roots, Global Impact: The Life and Legacy of George Washington Carver" exhibit.

Gain insight into the life of acclaimed scientist George Washington Carver. Follow along from his days as a student at Simpson College and Iowa State University to his groundbreaking work with soybeans, sweet potatoes, peanuts, and other crops at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

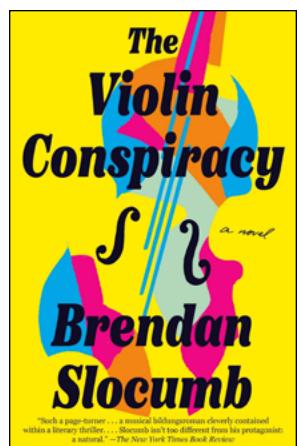
## MYSTERY LOVERS Book Group

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of Each Month  
12pm, Board Room**

Mystery readers, come talk about books by a selected author or on a theme!

February 4:  
**Violin Conspiracy**  
by Brendan Slocumb

March 4:  
Locked Room  
Mysteries



## Kids Chess Club

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month  
(February 3 & 17)  
4pm, Storytime Room

Come play chess! Whether you are just a beginner or already an expert, all kids in grades 1-5 are welcome to come have fun.

Drop in and learn how to play or make new friends with other chess lovers.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.



Ames Public Library

## Homeschool BOOK CLUB



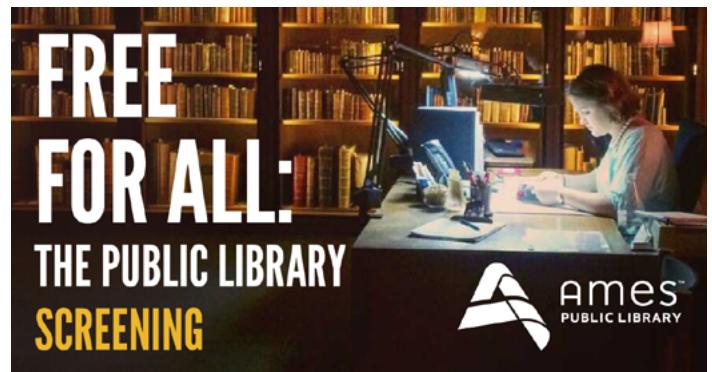
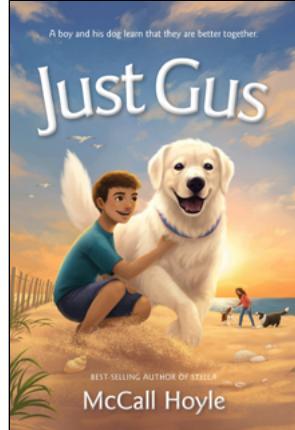
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of Each Month  
10am, Teen Space

Join us for a monthly book discussion and activities just for families that are homeschooling!

This year we have selected a wide variety of books that mirror our world. Families are invited to read the book of the month (together or independently), then come to the Library for a discussion and related activities.

This event and books are geared for school-age kids or middle-grade reading level, but all ages are welcome to attend. We'll also have next month's book available at each event.

February 5: **Just Gus**  
by McCall Hoyle



Thursday, February 5, 6:30pm, Auditorium

Join us for a free screening of **Free For All: The Public Library**, a 90-minute documentary about public libraries and their impact on America. After the screening, join a panel facilitated by the League of Women Voters of Ames and Story County to learn more about the important work of public libraries today.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and League of Women Voters of Ames & Story County. Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

## PARENTING BOOK CLUB



Thursdays, January 22 - February 12  
7pm, Rotary Room

Join the book club for parents struggling to get their kids off screens and back to play! Each week we'll discuss a section of **Until the Streetlights Come On: How a Return to Play Brightens Our Present and Prepares Kids for an Uncertain Future** by Ginny Yurich, founder of 1,000 Hours Outside.

Come to any or all of the sessions, whether you've read the book or not. Meet other parents, share ideas, and discuss how to make outside play a priority.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

## Teen Silent Book Club

**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of Each Month**  
(February 6 & 13)  
**4-6pm, Teen Space**

Hey teens, come to the Library's Teen Silent Book Club to unwind, read, and connect with others. We will enjoy good books and good—but quiet—company as we munch on some snacks.

Bring your own book or grab one from the Library's shelves. We will start each club off with a brief conversation (share what you're reading/introduce yourself) and then settle in for two hours of cozy, distraction-free reading.

The Teen Space main doors will be closed, so enter through the side door near the Young Adult book display wall.

*Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*



**Saturday, February 7**  
**2-4pm, Auditorium**

It is hard to make friends as an adult! Join us for a round of speed friend-matching and casual socializing.

There will be guided one-on-one conversations followed by time to hang out, play games, and chat. Light refreshments will be provided.

Everyone 18 or older is welcome.

*Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*

## Pokémon Club

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Each Month**  
(February 8 & 22)  
**2-4pm, Auditorium/Storytime Room**

Calling all school-aged Poké-Kids! Come learn how to play the Pokémon Trading Card Game and use a Library-supplied deck to battle other players. You can bring your decks to talk and strategize with other players, but card trading will not be allowed.

Don't want to play? Come to watch others, enjoy Poké-art activities, chat with other kids, and build a supportive community of friends!



Kids ages 8 and under need to bring a caregiver along to help.

Caregivers: not sure what Pokémon is all about? This is a great opportunity to learn along with your kids!

*Supported by Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*

## LEGO® Builders

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of Each Month**  
(February 10 & 24)  
**4pm, Storytime Room**

Children in grades 1-5 are invited to get creative and build with lots of LEGO®! We'll provide the bricks while the kids provide the imagination.

All LEGO® will remain at the Library, so bring a camera to capture a photo of your build.

Please leave your own LEGO® at home so they don't get mixed up with the Library's.



*Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*

## Swift Youth Writers Group

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Each Month  
(February 8)  
2-4pm, PEO Room

Teens in 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to escape into creative writing and connect with other teen writers.



Each month, attendees will be led through prompts and exercises to help develop and stretch their creative writing skills. Attendees will be given a chance to share their work and have a chance to support others.

No experience is necessary so all skill levels are encouraged to attend.

At the end of the school year, writers will be asked to submit 1 to 3 pieces (depending on genre) for inclusion in an anthology, and a celebratory reading will be held.

If you have any questions, please reach out to [info@ameswriterscollective.org](mailto:info@ameswriterscollective.org).

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Ames Writers Collective.

## TAG: Teen Advisory Group

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Each Month  
(February 11)  
5-6pm, PEO Room

Register online at [www.AmesPL.org/learn-explore/teens](http://www.AmesPL.org/learn-explore/teens)

Hey 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, help plan exciting Library events for teens, share what you're reading, make new friends, and eat some food!



Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.



## '90s TV Trivia Night

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Each Month (Feb. 11)  
6:30-8:30pm, Auditorium

Adulthood isn't always fun, but at the Library it can be. Connect with other adults for a different fun-filled activity each month to build community.

This month, prove no one knows classic '90s sitcoms better than you do at a trivia night. Play as a team or conquer solo with your memories of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Seinfeld*, *Friends*, and all the nostalgic hits in between. After three rounds of trivia, the three teams or individuals with the most points will earn prizes.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.



## Audio & Iowa Sale

February 12-15, Literary Grounds

Stop by Literary Grounds for \$1 audiobooks on CD! We'll also feature a selection of Ames/Iowa books and photo prints. Check out other Heart of Ames specials at <https://downtownames.org>.

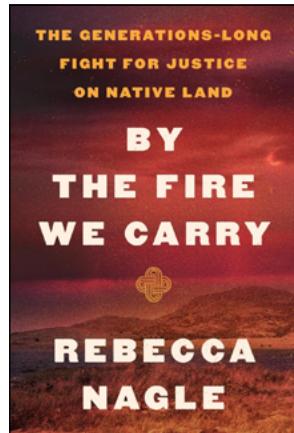
Presented by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation and Downtown Ames. Proceeds are used to enhance Ames Public Library's collections, programs, and services.

## 028: REAL READS Book Group

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Each Month  
7pm, Board Room or via Zoom

028 focuses on recently published, popular nonfiction on a variety of topics.

February 12:  
**By the Fire We Carry:**  
*The Generations-Long Fight for Justice on Native Land*  
by Rebecca Nagle



March 12: **What An Owl Knows:**  
*The New Science of the World's Most Enigmatic Birds* by Jennifer Ackerman

*Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*



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## Movies with **MAINSTREAM**



Thursday, February 12  
10am-1pm, Auditorium

Join the Mainstream Living community for a monthly movie screening and related activity!

Selected movies are appropriate for adults who are neurodivergent and/or have an intellectual disability. Movies with Mainstream is open to all ages! This month, we'll watch **The Wild Robot** with a craft to follow.



*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Mainstream Living.*

## Fiber Arts Meetup

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of Each Month  
(February 14)  
10am-12pm, Rotary Room

Crafters of all ages are invited to join fellow fiber arts enthusiasts and work on their projects. Knit, crochet, embroidery, or any other fiber craft is welcome!



Please bring your own materials.

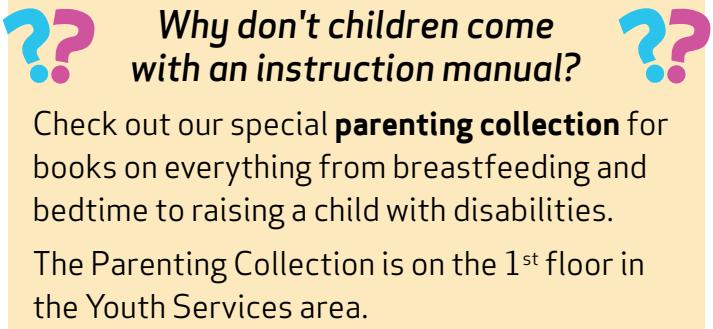


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Saturday, February 14  
10am-12pm, Auditorium

Need support as a new parent and don't know who to ask?

Come meet professionals and community partners to find resources and help for questions about pregnancy, birth, postpartum, and health for you and your child(ren). This drop-in event will feature chiropractors, midwives, lactation specialists and more!

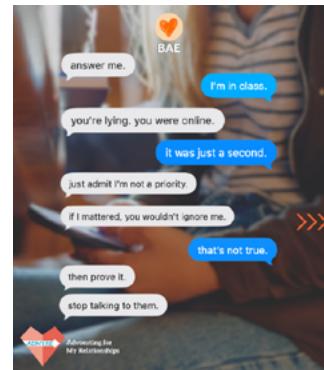


?? Why don't children come with an instruction manual? ??

Check out our special **parenting collection** for books on everything from breastfeeding and bedtime to raising a child with disabilities.

The Parenting Collection is on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor in the Youth Services area.

Ames Public Library and the Bookmobile will be  
**CLOSED**  
**Monday, February 16.**



**TEEN NIGHT:**  
**Advocate for Your Relationships**



## International Community Meetup

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month (February 17)  
5pm, Auditorium

Join fellow international residents on the third Tuesday of each month for fun activities and culture-sharing.



*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Iowa State University's International Students and Scholars Office.*

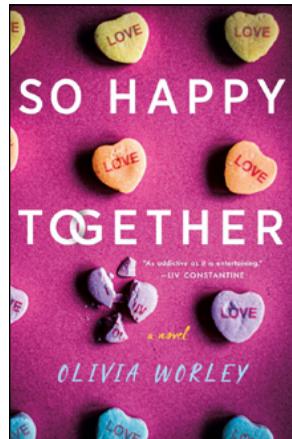
## DOG-EARED BOOKS THRILLS & CHILLS Book Group

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month  
5:30pm, PEO Room

Thrills & Chills is the book club you'll want to join if you love a bit of spookiness while reading. It's led by Jordan, a fan of all types of mystery and thriller novels. Explore the mystery/thriller genre with each read in this chilling but super chill book club.

February 17:  
***So Happy Together***  
by Olivia Worley

March 17: ***Missing Sam***  
by Thrity Umrigar



*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Dog-Eared Books.*

Wednesday, February 18  
5pm, Danfoss Room

Hey teens, join us to talk about what healthy and unhealthy relationships look like. We'll discuss red flags and green flags, supporting yourself and others, and staying safe.

Free pizza and drinks will be provided!

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Parenting: It's a Life (PIAL).*



## Genealogy Plus



Wednesday, February 18  
10am-12pm, Auditorium or via Zoom  
Topic — Comparison of the Big Four Genealogy Websites  
Speaker — Jim Anderegg

Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, FindMyPast.com, and MyHeritage.com are collectively known as the "Big Four" in genealogy research. Which one is best for your needs?

This presentation will address the strengths (and challenges) of each database.

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Story County Genealogical Society.*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>  <b>KEY</b>  <b>COLORS:</b> All Ages/Mix Family Event Teen Event Adult Event  <b>SYMBOLS:</b> 📍 Off Site 📝 Registration Required ↗ Available Online	<b>2</b>  <b>Toddler Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Mary Greeley Medical Center Behavioral Health</b> 11am-1pm Second Floor  <b>Conversation Circles</b> English: 12:30-1:30pm Auditorium ↗ ASL: 5-6pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>3</b>  <b>George Washington Carver Exhibit</b> February 3-26 Library Vestibule  <b>Heartland of Story County</b> 10am-12pm Second Floor  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 1:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>Kids Chess Club</b> 4pm, Storytime Room  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>4</b>  <b>Community &amp; Family Resources</b> 10am-12pm Second Floor  <b>Toddler Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 11am, Storytime Room  <b>Mystery Lovers Book Group</b> 12pm, Board Room	<b>5</b>  <b>Homeschool Book Club</b> 10am, Teen Space  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball</b> 2-3pm, Second Floor  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Chinese: 6-7pm PEO Room or Zoom  <b>Baby Time</b> 6:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>Free for All: The Public Library Screening</b> 6:30pm, Auditorium  <b>Parenting Book Club: Until the Streetlights Come On</b> 7pm, Rotary Room	<b>6</b>  <b>Storybook STEM</b> 10:30am, Auditorium  <b>Optimae Life Services</b> 2-4pm, Second Floor  <b>Teen Silent Book Club</b> 4-6pm, Teen Space	<b>7</b>  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Speed Friending</b> 2-4pm, Auditorium  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Japanese: 2-3pm Russian: 3-4pm French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom
<b>8</b>  <b>Pokémon Club</b> 2-4pm, Auditorium  <b>Swift Youth Writers Group</b> 2-4pm, PEO Room	<b>9</b>  <b>Toddler Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Mary Greeley Medical Center Behavioral Health</b> 11am-1pm Second Floor  <b>Conversation Circles</b> English: 12:30-1:30pm Auditorium ↗ ASL: 5-6pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>10</b>  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 1:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>LEGO® Builders</b> 4pm, Storytime Room  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>11</b>  <b>Toddler Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 11am, Storytime Room  <b>Teen Advisory Group</b> 5-6pm, PEO Room  <b>That's Fun: '90s TV Trivia Night</b> 6:30-8:30pm Auditorium  <b>Conversation Circles</b> German: 7-8pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>12</b>  <b>Heart of Ames: Audio &amp; Iowa Sale</b> February 12-15 Literary Grounds  <b>Movies with Mainstream: The Wild Robot</b> 10am-1pm, Auditorium  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Iowa Aging &amp; Disability Resource Center</b> 1-3pm, Second Floor  <b>UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball</b> 2-3pm, Second Floor  <b>Baby Time</b> 6:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>Parenting Book Club: Until the Streetlights Come On</b> 7pm, Rotary Room  <b>028: Real Reads</b> 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>13</b>  <b>Mothering Circle</b> 9:30-10:30am Teen Space  <b>Storybook STEM</b> 10:30am, Auditorium  <b>Teen Silent Book Club</b> 4-6pm, Teen Space	<b>14</b>  <b>Baby Fair</b> 10am-12pm Auditorium  <b>Fiber Arts Meetup</b> 10am-12pm Rotary Room  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Russian: 3-4pm French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  <b>Library and Bookmobile CLOSED</b>	<b>17</b>  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 1:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>Kids Chess Club</b> 4pm, Storytime Room  <b>International Community Meetup</b> 5pm, Auditorium  <b>Dog-Eared Books Thrills &amp; Chills Book Club</b> 5:30pm, PEO Room  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>18</b>  <b>Genealogy Plus</b> 10am-12pm Auditorium or Zoom  <b>Toddler Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 11am, Storytime Room  <b>Community &amp; Family Resources</b> 4-6pm, Second Floor  <b>Teen Night: Advocate for Your Relationships</b> 5pm, Danfoss Room  <b>Bored? Games!</b> 6:30-8:30pm Auditorium	<b>19</b>  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball</b> 2-3pm, Second Floor  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Chinese: 6-7pm PEO Room or Zoom  <b>Baby Time</b> 6:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>Learn with the League: Free Speech in Public Education</b> 7pm, Rotary Room or Zoom  <b>Library Board of Trustees Meeting</b> 7pm, Board Room	<b>20</b>  <b>Storybook STEM</b> 10:30am, Auditorium  <b>Optimae Life Services</b> 2-4pm, Second Floor  <b>Teen Book vs. Movie: Book Club</b> 4-5pm, Teen Space	<b>21</b>  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Japanese: 2-3pm Russian: 3-4pm French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom
<b>22</b>  <b>Chinese New Year Celebration</b> 2-4pm, Auditorium  <b>Pokémon Club</b> 2-4pm, Storytime Room	<b>23</b>  <b>Toddler Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Mary Greeley Medical Center Behavioral Health</b> 11am-1pm Second Floor  <b>Conversation Circles</b> English: 12:30-1:30pm Auditorium ↗ ASL: 5-6pm Board Room or Zoom	<b>24</b>  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 1:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>LEGO® Builders</b> 4pm, Storytime Room  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom  <b>Deep Roots Book Group</b> 7pm, PEO Room	<b>25</b>  <b>Toddler Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Baby Time</b> 11am, Storytime Room  <b>Ames History Museum Lecture Series</b> 7pm, Auditorium or Zoom  <b>Conversation Circles</b> German: 7-8pm Board Room or Zoom  <b>View from the Margins</b> 7pm, Danfoss Room or Zoom	<b>26</b>  <b>Iowa Aging &amp; Disability Resource Center</b> 10am-12pm Second Floor  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball</b> 2-3pm, Second Floor  <b>Dementia Caregiver Support Group</b> 6pm, Board Room  <b>Baby Time</b> 6:30pm, Storytime Rm.  <b>Outdoor Alliance</b> 7pm, Auditorium or Zoom	<b>27</b>  <b>Storybook STEM</b> 10:30am, Auditorium  <b>Teen Book vs. Movie: Movie Night</b> 4-6pm, Teen Space	<b>28</b>  <b>Lights Out Iowa! Saving Iowa's Birds and Pollinators</b> 10am, Auditorium or Zoom  <b>Generative Writing Workshop</b> 10am-12pm, PEO Rm.  <b>Family Storytime</b> 10:30am, Storytime Rm.  <b>Conversation Circles</b> Russian: 3-4pm French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom

If you are a person with a disability who requires special assistance, please call (515) 239-5646 in advance of a program.

Ames Public Library connects you to the world of ideas through diverse and inclusive resources and programs. We welcome program proposals via our website [www.AmesPL.org](http://www.AmesPL.org).

## Bored? Games!

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Each Month  
(February 18)  
6:30-8:30pm, Auditorium

Will you punch your Ticket to Ride or will your Splendor attract noble patrons? Join us for adult game night every month to find out!

Tabletop games will be available to play, or bring a favorite to share. All gaming experience levels are welcome.

Snacks will be provided. Everyone 18 or older is welcome.



Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

**Learn with the League:**

## Free Speech in Public Education

Ames Public Library LWV

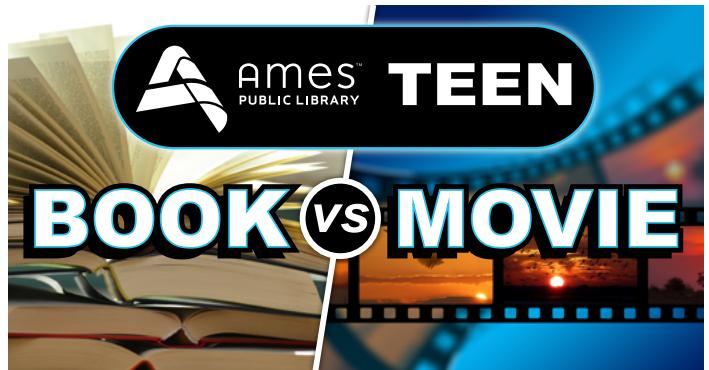
Thursday, February 19  
7pm, Rotary Room or via Zoom

Join League of Women Voters for a free presentation by education professional Joanne Tubbs.

This discussion explores the complex and evolving landscape of free speech within public education, focusing on the rights and limitations faced by public employees—especially educators.

Through a discussion of legal precedents, policy implications, and real-world scenarios, we'll examine how speech on social media and other platforms intersects with professional responsibilities.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and League of Women Voters of Ames & Story County.



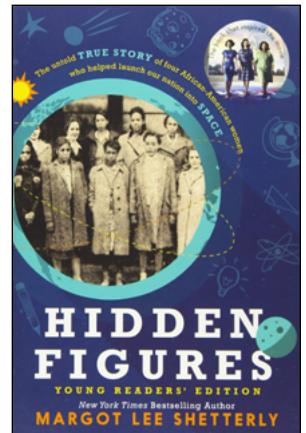
**Book Club:** Friday, February 20, 4-5pm  
**Movie Night:** Friday, February 27, 4-6pm  
Teen Space

Hey teens, take a front row seat in the ultimate showdown: book vs. movie! Every month, we'll feature a teen book that's been made into a movie.

Come to the book club to chat about the book and eat snacks. OR come to movie night to watch the movie version and eat snacks. OR, come to both!

Stop by the Teen Space or Youth Services Desk to let us know if you need a copy of the next book.

This Month:  
**Hidden Figures (Young Readers' Edition)**  
by Margot Lee Shetterly  
and the 2016 movie  
(MPAA rating PG)



Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.



The Ames Seed Library is a community resource that offers free vegetable, flower, fruit and herb seeds. Make sure to check it out!





## Chinese New Year Celebration

Sunday, February 22  
2-4pm, Auditorium

Families are invited to help celebrate the Chinese New Year through cultural food, crafts, and presentations.

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Ames Chinese Language Academy.*

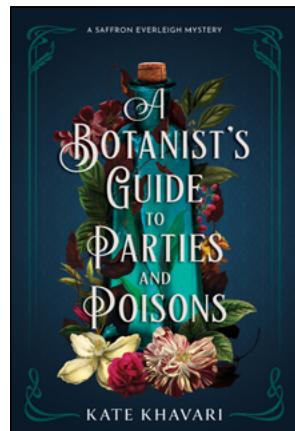
## DEEP ROOTS Book Group

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of Each Month  
7-8:30pm, PEO Room

Join gardeners and nature enthusiasts for deep discussion of books in connection with the Ames Seed Library.

Topics will touch on seeds and plants, gardening, community-building, and the relationship between humans, animals, and plants.

February 24:  
***A Botanist's Guide to Parties and Poisons***  
by Kate Khavari



March 24:  
***When Trees Testify: Science, Wisdom, History, and America's Black Botanical Legacy***  
by Beronda Montgomery

*Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*

## VIEW FROM THE MARGINS Book Group

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of Each Month  
7pm, Danfoss Room or via Zoom

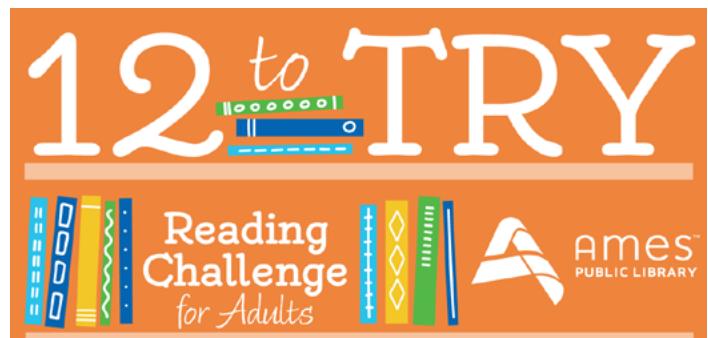
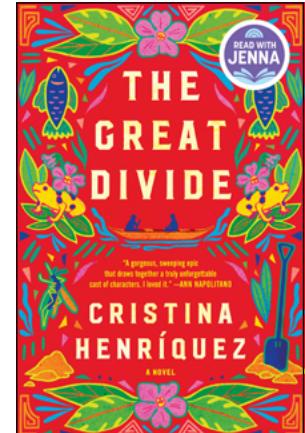
Check out this book group for fresh insights and lively discussion about topics relating to society, identity, and culture.

Book selections include fiction and non-fiction from a wide variety of perspectives and marginalized identities.

February 25:  
***The Great Divide***  
by Cristina Henríquez

March 25:  
***See Me Rolling: On Disability, Equality, and Ten-Point Turns***  
by Lottie Jackson

*Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.*



### Try a reading remix in 2026!

There's still plenty of time to join the "12 to Try" reading challenge for adults!

Read your way through 12 books that fit the 12 challenge categories between now and August to earn a prize.

Pick up a tracking sheet at Ames Public Library or the Bookmobile, or sign up at [AmesPublicLibrary.Beanstack.org](http://AmesPublicLibrary.Beanstack.org) to get started!

## The Ames Connection to WW2's Manhattan Project



Wednesday, February 25  
7pm, Auditorium or via Zoom

Register at [ameshistory.org](http://ameshistory.org) to receive the  
Zoom link by e-mail.

**Topic — The Ames Connection to WW2's  
Manhattan Project**

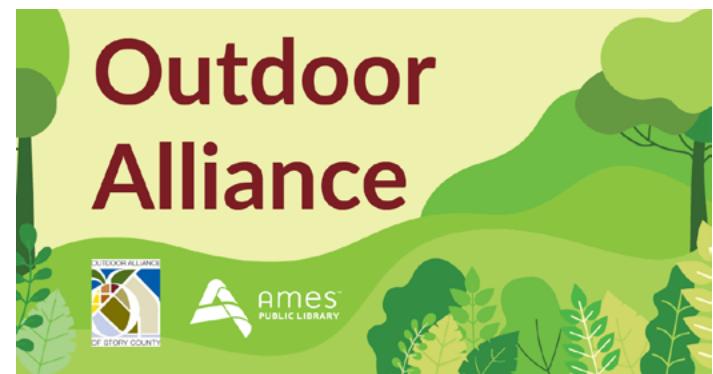
**Speaker — Kathy Svec, daughter of a Manhattan  
Project researcher**

The desperate, top-secret race during World War II to master the military technology of nuclear fission before Nazi Germany played out in 32 sites across the U.S. and Canada.

The story of how Ames became one of these sites will be told by Kathy Svec, whose father, Harry J. Svec, was pulled into the research while a graduate student in Chemistry at Iowa State.

The role that small group of scientists at a Midwest college played was critical to the timing and success of the Project.

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Ames History Museum.*



Thursday, February 26  
7pm, Auditorium or via Zoom

**Topic — Greener and Drier: How the Great Plains'  
Waters Are Changing**  
**Speaker — Dr. Amy Burgin**

From salty lakes to disappearing streams, the Great Plains is home to some of the most extreme and fascinating aquatic ecosystems in North America.

This talk explores how climate shifts, land use changes, and human management are transforming lakes, wetlands, and rivers—and why these changes matter for water quality, biodiversity, and the future of our landscapes.



Join us to discover why the Great Plains is a surprisingly great place to study water.

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Outdoor Alliance of Story County.*

## DID YOU KNOW...

### SPACES



Meeting and study rooms were used 9,058 times serving **23,187 people**.

### VISITORS



The Library served more than **333,945 visitors**.

### EVENTS



The Library had **2,055** online and in-person **events** attended by 44,968 people.

## Dementia Caregiver Support Group



**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of Each Month (February 26)  
6pm, Board Room**

Caring for someone with dementia can bring challenging moments. Join others who understand the journey and share your experiences, and leave with practical, confidence-building tools you can use right away. All caregivers are welcome.

This month, we'll talk about the stages and changes of dementia and Alzheimer's.

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library, Dementia Friendly Iowa, and Home Care Assistance.*



**Saturday, February 28  
10-11am, Auditorium or via Zoom**

Discover how artificial light is disrupting wildlife year-round and right in your backyard. Join us to learn how light pollution affects everything from fireflies and pollinators to migrating birds and butterflies.

The good news? This problem has immediate solutions. You'll leave with practical changes you can make today—plus inspiring success stories proving they work. A brighter future starts with a darker night!

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Lights Out Iowa!*

## Generative Writing Workshop

**4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of Each Month  
(February 28)  
10am-12pm, PEO Room**

Do you dream of writing "someday," but don't know where to start? Perhaps you already write, but you're stuck.

Join this free monthly writing workshop for adults, which provides a safe space for writers of all stages and genres to generate stories inspired by prompts running the gamut from phrases, poems, photography, guest authors and their prompts, or a piece of artwork.



We will read our stories to one another and share only positive feedback.

These workshops are inspired by the Amherst Writers & Artists Method, which believes that everyone is a writer.

*Presented by the Iowa Center for the Book and Ames Public Library in partnership with the Ames Writers Collective.*



## Des Moines Metro Opera presents *The Billy Goats Gruff*

**Saturday, March 14  
3pm, Library Auditorium**

Join the Des Moines Metro Opera for a free performance for the whole family.

*Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and the Ames Chapter of the Des Moines Metro Opera Guild.*



# STORYTIMES & MORE



## Baby Time

Tuesdays at 1:30pm  
Wednesdays at 11am  
Thursdays at 6:30pm  
Storytime Room

Bring your pre-walker to the Library for stories, songs, and baby sign language. Join with other caregivers and older siblings for 20 minutes of fun and learning. Feel free to bring a stuffed animal or doll for the older sibling to learn along with you. Babies and caregivers are welcome to stay and play after the event!

## Toddler Storytime

Mondays and Wednesdays (except Feb. 16)  
10:30am, Storytime Room

Families with toddlers are invited for a storytime filled with music, stories, and fun!

## Family Storytime

Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays  
(except February 14)  
10:30am, Storytime Room

Preschool-age children and their grown-ups are invited to enjoy stories, songs, and movement activities while building early literacy skills.

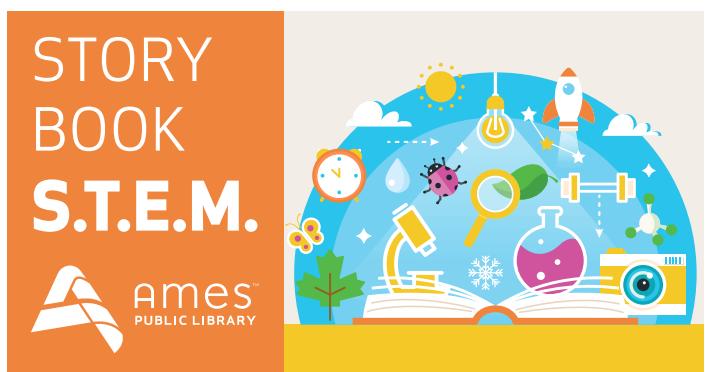


**2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of Each Month**  
(February 13)  
**9:30-10:30am, Teen Space**

Parenting babies and toddlers is full of challenges.

Join this welcoming community of families as we support each other and grow together through the early years of pregnancy, postpartum, and parenthood.

Facilitated by experienced mothers, these monthly meetups connect families to each other and to resources and answers about birth and parenthood.



**Fridays at 10:30am**  
**Auditorium**

Families are invited to enjoy a short storytime and get hands-on with a fun related STEM activity for all ages!

Our February 27 Storybook S.T.E.M. will feature an environmental sustainability book and activity with DiMaucia Phanfil, Engagement Coordinator for Green Iowa AmeriCorps member serving with the City of Ames.

# SOCIAL SERVICES at the LIBRARY

## Mary Greeley Medical Center: Behavioral Health

**Mondays, 11am-1pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

Staff from Mary Greeley Medical Center will be available in the Library to talk about inpatient and outpatient mental health services in the Ames community.

## Heartland of Story County

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Each Month (February 3)  
10am-12pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

Staff from Heartland of Story County will be available in the Library to connect Story County residents who are 60+ and their caregivers with programs and services.

Visitors may apply for Heartland programs, explore ways to stay active and independent, find low income assistance, and learn about other resources.

## Iowa Aging and Disability Resource Center

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Each Month (Feb. 12):  
1-3pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of Each Month (Feb. 26):  
10am-12pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

Community Support Advocates will be available

to help older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers connect with local services and support.



## Community & Family Resources

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of Each Month (Feb. 4):  
10am-12pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Each Month (Feb. 18):  
4-6pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

Staff from Community and Family Resources will be available in the Library to provide information about addiction, substance abuse treatment, problem gambling treatment, and mental health therapy.

They can also provide assistance in getting started in any of these services including filling out some pre-appointment forms.

## UnityPoint Health: Community Mental Health Services

**Thursdays, 2-3pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

Staff from UnityPoint Health-Eyerly Ball will be available in the Library to connect you with mental health services.



## Optimae Life Services

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of Each Month  
(February 6 & 20)  
2-4pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Study Room**

Staff from Optimae Life Services will be available in the Library to connect visitors with resources for mental health, home health, and community integration services.

# THE BOOKMOBILE



## MONDAY

Mitchell School: 2:30-3:30pm (3521 Jewel)  
Sawyer School: 5-8pm (4136 Ontario)

The Bookmobile will be **CLOSED**  
Monday,  
February 16.

## TUESDAY

St. Cecilia School: 3-4pm (Hoover & 30th Street)

## WEDNESDAY

Edwards School: 2:30-3:30pm (820 Miller)  
Fareway on Stange: 5-8pm (Stange & Bloomington)

## THURSDAY

ISU Campus: 11am-1pm  
(Near Kildee Food Truck Court)

# BECAUSE OF YOU LIBRARIES TRANSFORM®



The Ames Public Library Friends Foundation would like to thank these sponsors for their support.



**Friends  
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Help support Page One and other Library services and programs by donating online at [www.aplff.org](http://www.aplff.org) or mailing your check to P.O. Box 1832, Ames, IA 50010.

# Language-learning for all ages!



Did you know you can learn to speak another language for **FREE** with your local Library? Check out Mango or Little Pim and soon you'll be speaking in Spanish, Mandarin, or even Pirate.

Visit [www.amespubliclibrary.org/databases](http://www.amespubliclibrary.org/databases) to get started.



**MANGO**



**GREEN HILLS™**



**Mary Greeley  
MEDICAL CENTER**

