

ELGIN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

freedom

Once you learn to Read, you will be forever Free.
F. Douglass

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Library Poem

by Julia Donaldson

Everyone is welcome to walk through the door.
It really doesn't matter if you're rich or poor.
There are books in boxes and books on shelves.
They're free for you to borrow, so help yourselves.

Come and meet your heroes, old and new,
From William the Conqueror to Winnie the Pooh.
You can look into the mirror or read The Times,
Or bring along a toddler to chant some rhymes.

The librarian's a friend who loves to lend,
So see if there's a book that she can recommend.
Read that book, and if you're bitten
You can borrow all the other ones the author's written.

Are you into battles or biography?
Are you keen on gerbils or geography?
Gardening or ghosts? Sharks or science fiction?
There's something here for everyone, whatever your addiction.

There are students revising, deep in concentration,
And school kids doing projects, finding inspiration.
Over in the corner there's a table with seating,
So come along and join in the Book Club meeting.

Yes, come to the library! Browse and borrow,
And help make sure it'll still be here tomorrow.

Twelve years ago this month, I was hired as the librarian with the first task being to move the library from its corner in City Hall to the 1100 square foot building next door. I was told at that time, it would be the last move, since the library had been in three previous locations. An explosion of growth and usage happened and the next thing you know, in September 2018 we moved to our current location. When we moved, we appreciated the extra space, but we knew we would have to add on or build new to accommodate the needs of a growing community. (This is becoming more of a necessity with each month.)

Staff is better trained than in any time during the library's 38 year history. I am a level 3 state certified librarian, and Tori has completed all the courses needed for level 1. (We are just waiting on the certificate to arrive.) CEU's are required each year to maintain that certification. I am also active in the state library association, and the national organization specifically for small libraries.

Who thinks the growth within the library just happened, with no planning, or thought behind it? My day doesn't end when the doors are locked. There are always new programs being planned, new books to consider purchasing, what are good projects for the teens, or how to make STEAM fun and exciting. Or what things would entice adults to participate?

There are so many things I would love to do within these walls, but there is not enough space. I would also love to be open on Mondays, but that requires more staffing, which means more funds. The list goes on...

What can you do? Advocate for the library. Sing its praises loud and long. When wish lists are posted, consider making a purchase from it, or when you purchase a new book or DVD, consider donating it after you are done. Do you have a skillset that you can share with the teens or STEAM group? And let's not forget the power of sales tax. Without it, we wither and die.

A few weeks ago, I spoke to the excise board about funding from the county. I told them we had a 5A school, and we needed a 5A library. The services provided have untold monetary value. A library is ESSENTIAL to any community that wants literate, well-adjusted citizens.

If you have ideas, thoughts, or just want to visit about the library, feel free to contact me. I am always open to dialogue.

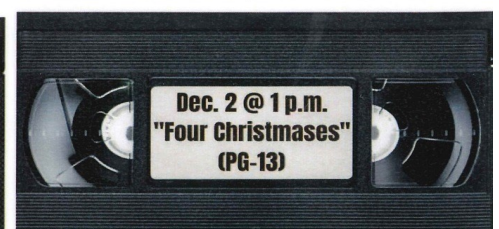
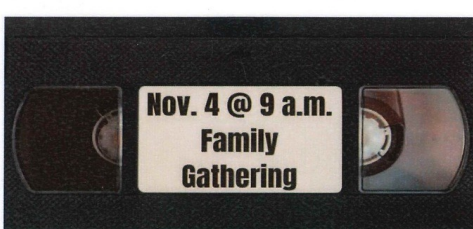
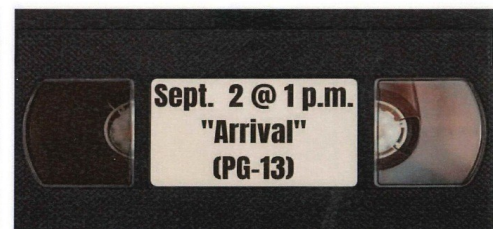
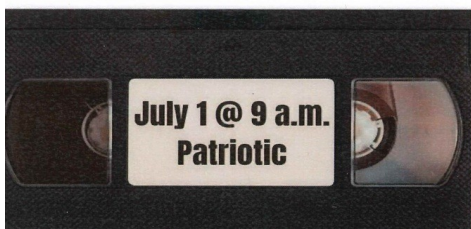
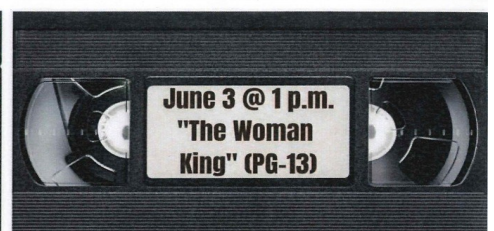
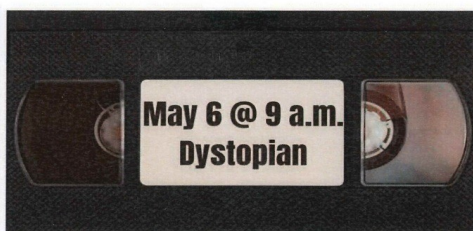
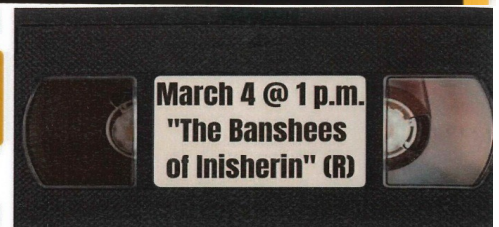
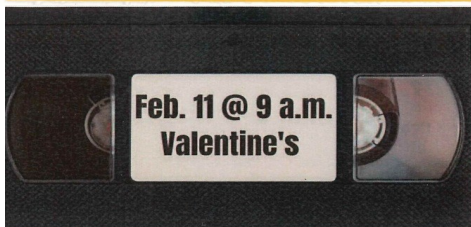
Leslie

BIBLIOPOSSE 2023



LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 9 A.M.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



August 2023

Sun closed	Mon closed	Tue 9-6	Wed 9-6	Thu 9-6	Fri 9-6	Sat 9-1
		1	2 Wigglers @ 10:30 Teen Café @ 4:30	3 STEAM @ 10:30	4	5 Cine- maniacs @ 9 Book n'Hookers
		8 Chamber @ 12 City Council @ 6	9 Wigglers @ 10:30 Teen Café @ 4:30	10 STEAM @ 10:30	11	12 Book n'Hookers
13	14	15	16 Wigglers @ 10:30 Teen Café @ 4:30	17 STEAM @ 10:30	18	19 Book n'Hookers
20	21	22	23 Wigglers @ 10:30 Teen Café @ 4:30	24 STEAM @ 10:30	25	26 Book n'Hookers
27	28	29 Bibli- oposse @ 9	30 Wigglers @ 10:30 Teen Café @ 4:30	31 STEAM @ 10:30		