



**MORTON-JAMES
PUBLIC LIBRARY**
923 1st CORSO
NEBRASKA CITY, NE 68410
Phone: 402-873-5609
Email: mortonjameslibrary@gmail.com
Website address:
<https://libraries.ne.gov/nebraskacity/>
Find us on Facebook and Instagram!

Help us save paper by signing up for the electronic version of our newsletter. Send an email to mortonjameslibrary@gmail.com to switch today!

OPEN

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 AM to 6 PM
Friday: 9 AM to 5 PM
Saturday: 9 AM to 1 PM
CLOSED Sunday

Funny Stuff!

Did you read that new book about mazes? I got lost in it!

May Holidays

1st - May Day
4th - Star Wars Day
4th-10th - Children's Book Week
5th - Cinco de Mayo
10th - Mothers Day
16th - Armed Forces Day
25th - Memorial Day

The services below are FREE with your library card! Access them through our online catalog. Ask us for more details and assistance!



creativebug

Stream thousands of fine art and hand-crafting classes



Morton-James Public Library May 2026 Newsletter

Tween Reading Challenge

Saturday, May 2nd
10:00AM - 1:30PM

Lego Club

Monday, May 4th
3:30PM - 5:00PM

AM Story Time

Wednesday, May 6th
10:00AM - 10:30AM

Yarn Crafters Club

Wednesday, May 6th
1:30PM - 3:00PM

PM Story Time

Thursday, May 7th
4:00PM - 4:30PM

HN Behind "The Meaning of Names"

Thursday, May 7th
7:00PM - 8:00PM

Library Closed for Staff Training

Friday, May 8th
All Day

Engaging Mature Minds Lilac Field Trip

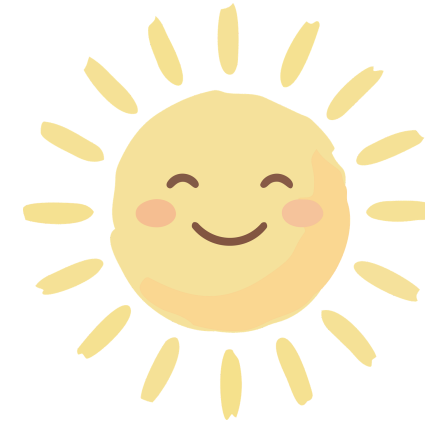
Wednesday, May 13th
10:00AM - 11:30AM

Library Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 13th
4:00PM - 6:00PM

Domino Day

Friday, May 15th
5:00PM - 6:30PM



**"Exuberance is beauty."
— William Blake**



Morton-James Public Library

923 1st Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410
402-873-5609
mortonjameslibrary@gmail.com
<https://libraries.ne.gov/nebraskacity/>

Writers Workshop

Saturday, May 16th
10:00AM - 11:00AM

Lego Club

Monday, May 18th
3:30PM - 5:00PM

Afternoon Book Club

Tuesday, May 19th
2:00PM - 3:00PM

AM Story Time

Wednesday, May 20th
10:00AM - 10:30AM

Evening Book Club

Wednesday, May 20th
5:30PM - 6:30AM

PM Story Time

Thursday, May 21st
4:00PM - 4:30PM

Library Closed for Memorial Day

Monday, May 25th
All Day

Engaging Mature Minds

Wednesday, May 27th
10:00AM - 1:00PM

Adult Craft Class

Wednesday, May 27th
6:00PM - 7:00PM

Chess Club

Every Thursday
4:00PM - 6:00PM





Be a 2026 Morton-James Public Library Sponsor!

Thank you for supporting your Library!

- \$10 Novel
- \$20 Notable
- \$25 Classic
- \$50 Best Seller
- \$100 Award Winning OR
- \$500 Lifetime Gift

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Annual sponsor donations will be used to fund Summer Programs for children and teens, special adult programs and educational exhibits. Fill out this form and return it to the Library with your donation. Your support of the Library is always appreciated!

Remit Check To: Morton-James Public Library
923 1st Corso Nebraska City, NE 68410



2026 Morton-James Public Library Sponsors

Lifetime Sponsors:

Sue & Mike Little
John & Jayne James
Chris & Ron Crunk
Jacquelyn Kraenow
Dr. Dan & Alice Holtz
David & Connie Sackles
Teresa & Jeff Fields

Nancy Baragary
Gary & Martha Schaffer
Jim & Mary Callen
Carol Crook
David & Darcy Carpenter
Anonymous
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Helen Lundak
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Sara & John Crook
Tim & Linda Engel
Ruth McMaster
Bill & Kathy Grundman

2026 Annual Sponsors:

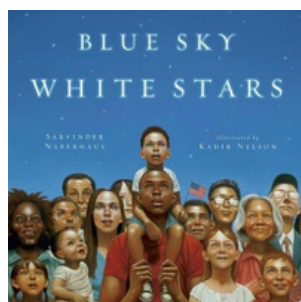
Sharon Hersemann
Mary Stevenson
Jane Thomas
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Dave & Sandy Silcox
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William Sweeney, USN Retired
Claudette Wielechowski
John & Teresa Schlorholtz
Tom & Deb Berger
Sonya & Randy Kummer

thank you

Individual gifts of more than \$500 will be recognized on the donor wall located in the Grace Moller Technology Center.



Take a trip to Steinhart Park to read the story "Blue Sky White Stars" by Sarvinder Naberhaus!

The StoryWalk® is located on the side of the park with the tennis courts. It begins at the pedestrian bridge and ends at the Stone Cabin.



Book Clubs



You are invited to join a Morton-James Public Library Book Club!

Book Club meets the 3rd Tuesday at 2:00 PM or the 3rd Wednesday at 5:30 PM of every month. The titles are available in either print or CD, or may also be available as ebook or audiobook through Libby.

Afternoon Book Club Tuesday, May 19 @ 2:00 PM

The Book Club for Troublesome Women by Marie Bostwick

By 1960s standards, Margaret Ryan is living the American woman's dream. She has a husband, three children, a station wagon, and a home in Concordia--one of Northern Virginia's most exclusive and picturesque suburbs. She has a standing invitation to the neighborhood coffee klatch, and now, thanks to her husband, a new subscription to A Woman's Place--a magazine that tells housewives like Margaret exactly who to be and what to buy. On paper, she has it all. So why doesn't that feel like enough?

Margaret is thrown for a loop when she first meets Charlotte Gustafson, Concordia's newest and most intriguing resident. As an excuse to be in the mysterious Charlotte's orbit, Margaret concocts a book club get-together and invites two other neighborhood women--Bitsy and Viv--to the inaugural meeting.



Evening Book Club Wednesday, May 20 @ 5:30 PM

Bug Hollow by Michelle Huneven

When Sally Samuelson was eight years old, her golden boy brother, Ellis, went missing the summer he graduated from high school. Ellis finally turned up at the bucolic Bug Hollow, a last gasp of the beautiful Northern California counterculture of the seventies. He had found joy in the communal life there, but died in a freak accident weeks later.

From that point, the world of the Samuelsons never spins on the same axis, especially after Julia, Ellis's girlfriend from Bug Hollow, shows up pregnant on their doorstep. Each Samuelson has sought their own solace: Sybil Samuelson pours herself into teaching and numbing her pain after the loss of her beloved son; her husband, Phil, had found respite in a love that developed while he was working as an engineer in Saudi Arabia; Katie, the high-achieving middle Samuelson, comes home to try and make peace with her mother after a cancer diagnosis. And Sally has become the de facto caretaker to Eva, the child Ellis never knew.



Book Club is currently meeting in person! Zoom is an option for members who would like to join the group from a remote location. Monthly Book Club details will be emailed and posted on Facebook.

Behind "The Meaning of Names"

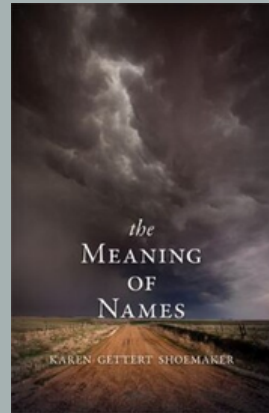
with Karen Gettert Shoemaker

Karen Gettert Shoemaker, the author of the One Book One Nebraska 2016 selection, reads from and discusses the role of family stories and historic research in the writing of her historic novel *The Meaning of Names*. This presentation includes discussions of World War I, the Influenza Pandemic of 1918, the experiences of immigrants and first-generation Americans in the early 1900s, and the role of men and women in a changing society, as well as the many subjects readers bring to the conversation.

Thursday, May 7

7:00 PM

Morton-James Public Library
923 1st Corso Nebraska City



Humanities Nebraska (HN) provides major funding for this program. HN receives support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Nebraska State Legislature, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment, and private donations like MJPL's Harry and Grace Moller Endowment.

Writers Workshop

Saturday, May 16th

@ 10:00 AM

Join us to get feedback on your own writing and to learn more about the craft of writing!

Email MJPLibraryww@gmail.com to get a Zoom link if you are unable to join in person.

Free to attend. Everyone 18+ welcome!

This program was made possible through MJPL's Harry and Grace Moller Endowment.

Between the Pages Book Club

The public is invited to join 'Between the Pages' book club that meets at the Morton-James Public Library every third Thursday of the month 9:30-10:30 am.

April 16

The Last Year of the War
by Susan Meissner

May 21

The Book Club For Troublesome Women
by Marie Bostwick



For more information, contact MJPL 402-873-5609

The Library Will be closed on the following dates:

Friday, May 8th (Staff Training)



Monday, May 25th (Memorial Day)



Books can still be returned through the book drop.

Morton-James Public Library
Presents



ENGAGING MATURE MINDS

Join us to engage your mind by connecting with other seniors while acquiring wisdom through community.

Wednesdays 10:00-11:30
May 13 (Outdoors, meet at Arbor Lodge)
May 27 (Newspaper funnies)

Different Topics/Speakers
each week! Free to attend,
no reservation needed.

Optional free will donations to support the library accepted

923 1st Corso
Questions? Call us! (402) 873-5609

Yarn Crafters Club

Wednesday, May 6th

1:30-3:00 PM

Join us to work on your crocheting or knitting.

First Wednesday of each month

This is for all levels of crafters. Bring your own hooks, yarn, needles, whatever you need to make your yarn craft. Club members will be here to help those beginning, and MJPL will have some patterns available. Free to attend. Everyone welcome 15 and older! For questions call 402-873-5609.



The Harry and Grace Moller Library Endowment Fund & Morton-James Public Library Present

Who Is Eligible?

Children under the age of five
in Nebraska City

What Are My Responsibilities?

1. Be a resident of Nebraska City
2. Submit an official registration form, completely filled out by the authorized adult.
3. Notify Morton-James Public Library any time your address changes. Books are mailed to the address listed on the account. Note: If the child's address changes, you must contact your friends at the address on this brochure in order to continue receiving books.
4. Read with your child and have fun!



What Is It?

Each month a new, carefully selected book will be mailed in your child's name directly to your home. The first book is always the children's classic *The Little Engine That Could™*. Best of all it is a FREE GIFT to your child through our partnership with local organizations! There is no cost or obligation to your family.

When Will I Receive Books?

Eight to ten weeks after your registration form has been received, books will begin arriving at your home and will continue until your child turns five or you move out of the covered area.

Sign your child up today! Simply fill out the form below and mail to:

Morton-James Public Library
923 1st Corso
Nebraska City, Ne 68410
(402)873-5609

Dolly Parton's Library Official Registration Form

1st Preschool child's FULL Name. _____ MI _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Sex: M F Phone _____

2nd Preschool child's FULL Name. _____ MI _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Sex: M F Phone _____

Authorized Adult Name _____

Child's Mailing Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zipcode _____

Email Address _____

I hereby explicitly consent to allow the Dollywood Foundation, Inc. to use the information provided herein for the purposes of participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library book gifting program. To measure the benefits of this program we may create datasets with the information provided herein and share them with research and educational advancement partners. You agree to review our full Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy by visiting imaginationlibrary.com

By signing and submitting this form you expressly consent to the terms set forth herein.

Signature of Authorized Adult _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Group Code: _____

"Stop and Go" Story Time

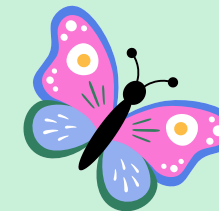
Wednesday, May 6th at 10:00 AM
Thursday, May 7th at 4:00 PM
Morton-James Public Library



Story Times are geared toward children ages 2-6. Free!
Families are welcome! There is no registration.
Questions? Call the Library at 402-873-5609.

Butterfly Story Time

Wednesday, May 20th at 10:00 AM
Thursday, May 21st at 4:00 PM
Morton-James Public Library



Join us in the Kimmel Gallery for a Beaded Plant Craft

Must register ahead of time in person or
by calling 402-873-5609

Wednesday, May 27

6:00 PM

Must be 13 or older to attend

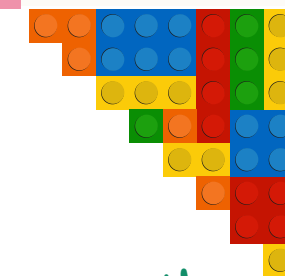
Morton-James Public Library



This free program was made possible through
MJPL's Harry and Grace Moller Endowment.

Ages 8+ can join us for LEGO CLUB


Kimmel Gallery
First and Third Mondays every month
3:30-5:00 pm




The Library now has a Notary Public!
Services available by appointment.



Call us at 402-873-5609



TWEEN READING CHALLENGE



Saturday, May 2nd | 10AM-1:30pm

The Morton-James Public Library

Ages 10-13

Whoever can spend the most time reading books in the library gets a \$100 giftcard of their choice!
(snacks and water provided)

Do you have what it takes to be crowned the winner?
Register by April 30th to secure your spot in the competition.

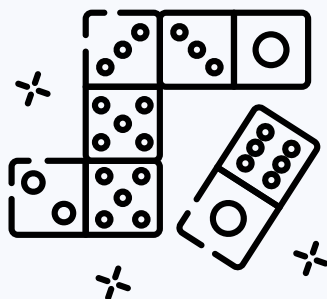
No electronics, no talking, no leaving the room. Competition ends after 3 hours. Winner must read for at least 30 minutes, but up to 3 hours. If there are multiple winners, prize will be split.

923 1st Corso, Nebraska City (402) 873-5609

DOMINO DAY

at the Morton-James Public Library

Friday, May 15th
5:00PM - 6:30PM



Adults are invited to a social evening of Dominoes. Choose how you want to participate:

- Play the classic game
- Line them up, then knock them over
- Have your fortune told through dominoes

A variety of Black and white snacks will be provided at no cost.

Add to the fun by wearing your most fashionable black and white outfit.

No cost, no registration. Adults only.

DEAR MR. OAKLEY,

I heard that the Library has a new thing called a seed library! What is that, and how do I use it?

-Gardening Greg



Greetings, Gregory!

Our seed library made its debut in March, and it is located upstairs in the fiction section. It's basically a bunch of seeds that are organized alphabetically and stored in an old card catalog. If you need help finding it, just ask! Anyone is welcome to take the seeds that they want, and we accept seed donations at the circulation desks. There is no limit on the number of free seed packets you are allowed to take, but we encourage you to leave some for others! Unlike everything else in the Library, you don't have to check the seeds out before you leave. Happy Gardening! - Oakley

ABOUT MR. OAKLEY

The mascot of Nebraska City's Morton-James Public Library is a lovable gnome by the name of Mr. Oakley. He hangs out in the children's library and is available for checkout. If your child or grandchild will be traveling, you can take Mr. Oakley with you and tag the Morton-James Public Library in pictures of his adventures! We love sharing his travels on the Library's Facebook and Instagram accounts.

March Library Statistics (3/1 - 3/31)

Total Patron Visits

2908

Items Circulated

5211