

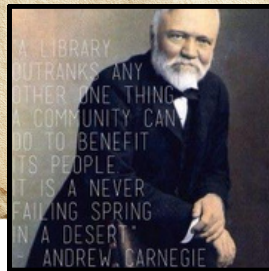
SPRING '26

OFF THE SHELF



Montezuma Public Library's Official Newsletter

Generous Gifts Help Support Library's Next Chapter



In honor of our country's 250th anniversary, the Carnegie Foundation has gifted every Carnegie Library in the country \$10,000. Yep, Montezuma is on the list!

IN THIS ISSUE

Carnegie Foundation Gift

Norma Jean Warner Estate Gift

Play The Game On Thursday

Author Donates Historical Fiction Books

Free Career Planning Services

Get Ready For An Epic Summer

FIND US ON



Andrew Carnegie...

a 19th-century industrialist, funded 2,509 libraries globally between 1883 and 1929, with 1,689 in the U.S., earning him the title "Patron Saint of Libraries." He donated over \$56 million to build these institutions, driven by his belief in providing free, universal access to knowledge as a means of self-improvement.

- Carnegie Foundation: \$10,000
- Norma Jean Warner Estate: \$941.69
- Montezuma Community Foundation: \$1100
- Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation PCA Grant: \$4000



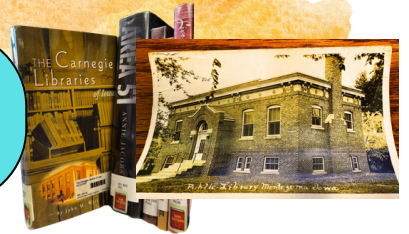
Photo Credit: Simone Bates, The Record Newspaper

Did You Know?

In 1917, Montezuma applied for a Carnegie grant to build a free public library. It was the last in a long line of Iowa communities that had procured funds from the Carnegie Foundation. This brought to a close the Carnegie period of public library grants in Iowa. In all 99 communities in Iowa had been granted a grand total of \$1,565,616.00 dollars in funding. (Source: The Carnegie Libraries Of Iowa by John M. Witt) We have this book available to check out if you're interested in learning more about Carnegie Libraries!



The Record Newspaper Covered This Big News Wonderfully! *February 19th, '26 Edition



A Kind, Generous Soul Leaves Quite The Legacy For The Future



Pictured Above is Norma Jean Warner with Elvis.

Norma Jean Warner, a Des Moines resident who lived a modest life, left nearly her entire estate - amounting to over \$3 million - to various Iowa charities upon her death. Her trust specifically directed approximately \$500,000 to be distributed directly to 485 public libraries in Iowa towns with populations under 7,000.

Guess what? This wonderful gift includes your favorite local library!

Warner believed that "books belonged in homes--not just institutions," viewing public libraries as gateways to getting stories into the hands of individual readers.

In fact, instead of flowers at her funeral, Warner requested that attendees donate books to be given to children, ensuring her final tribute would be a direct contribution to literacy. What an amazing legacy Warner left behind! So...this means your favorite local library will receive **\$941.69** from her estate. That's pretty amazing given the fact that Warner doesn't have any local ties to Montezuma that we know of. It's just simply amazing.



Author Chat

Local author Terri Leedom is coming back to the library this **Thursday, April 16th**, to share her amazing new book "Play The Game: A Caregiver's Journey Of Navigating Dementia With Patience, Humor And Love." This program starts at 4:30PM and is open to everyone who would like to learn more about the daily challenges of living with dementia...whether you're a caregiver or not. Terri brings a lot of expertise to this topic & we're excited to hear more about her newly published book!

**THURSDAY,
APRIL 16TH
4:30PM**

DID YOU KNOW?

***The Friends Of The MPL receives \$10 for every item purchased!**



New Product Alert!
LIBRARY GEAR FOR EVERYONE!
Get yours now!

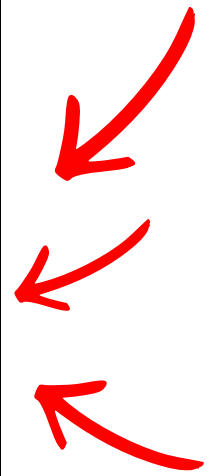
THE LIBRARY IS FOR EVERYONE

RAISED BY LIBRARIES

WOW!

www.montezumalib.ia.us

The image shows a promotional graphic for library gear. It features a blue t-shirt, a maroon t-shirt, a black hoodie, and a white tote bag, all with the text "THE LIBRARY IS FOR EVERYONE" or "RAISED BY LIBRARIES". A QR code is also present. A cartoon woman with purple hair and a speech bubble saying "WOW!" is at the bottom right. The website address www.montezumalib.ia.us is at the bottom left.



NEW VENUE ALERT!





museum of danish america
Elk Horn






*Plus you can still visit any of these great Iowa venues!


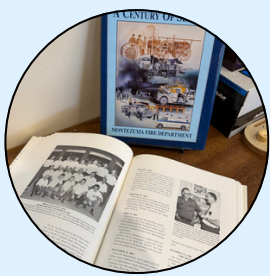
CLICK HERE 

Or Visit www.iowaadventurepass.org

*Enter your library card #
*Use "books" for the pin

Get 'Em While They're Hot!

You can pick up your copy of the Montezuma Fire Department's historical book "A Century Of Service" right here at the library. This is a very nice, hardcover book filled with photos & history of well, fires & happenings over the years with our amazing local fire department. We have several copies available. You can also pick up a copy at Three Sisters Fabrics in Montezuma. You can make a donation to the Montezuma Fire Department if you wish.


PATRONS
saved **\$228,000**

BY CHECKING OUT BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY

IN 2025!

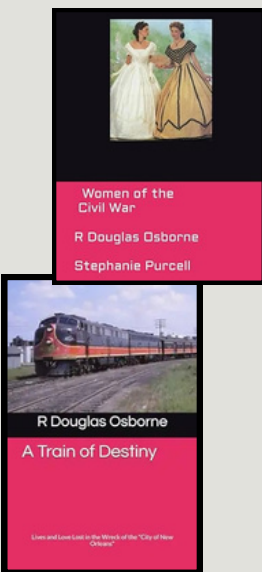
Author Shares Love Of Literacy With Library

Author Doug Osborne recently gifted two of his historical fiction books to the library. Osborne has deep ties to the Deep River area, having attended school at Deep River-Millersburg School throughout his elementary years. Osborne published his first book in 2010. To date, he's written 10 books in all.

Now, the public can check out his two books: "Women Of The Civil War" and "A Train Of Destiny: Lives And Love Lost In The Wreck Of The City Of New Orleans."

"I have always believed that free lending libraries are at the foundation of our right of free speech."

-Doug Osborne



Resources

The digital library is **always open.**



OPEN 24 HOURS

Libby.
The library reading app

DID YOU KNOW? WE HAVE AN APP FOR OUR CATALOG!

- 1. DOWNLOAD THE APP**
Get instantly connected to the library by visiting Google Play or the App Store.
- 2. CHOOSE "MONTEZUMA PUBLIC LIBRARY"**
Sign in with your library card # & use temporary password "books" if you haven't already set one.
- 3. START SEARCHING**
Check your account, reserve books & search for books in our online catalog!

Montezuma Public Library

BOOK DASH GIVES READERS A MYSTERY



- Not sure what to read next? Well, let us help you! Stop in the library during regular hours to grab your next read! Our "Book Dash" program is similar to "Blind Date With A Book," where the reader checks out a book based on a short description without actually knowing the book title. Find one you think you'd like & check it out like any other library book.

Borrow ebooks & audiobooks

Libby.
The reading app from our library, built by OverDrive.



CAREER PLANNING SERVICES

TUESDAY, MAY 12TH 10AM-3PM

IowaWORKS
A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network
Marshalltown

***LOCATED IN LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM**

JOBS



FRIENDS

***By donating to the Friends, you are actually helping the library with purchasing books, supplies for programs & more!**

Pay safely & easily by scanning either of the QR Codes below!

Or Use:

paypal.me/FriendsoftheMPL



venmo



Scan. Pay. Go.



We'd like to say "THANK YOU" to our wonderful community for donating to the Montezuma Community Fund & for selecting the Friends Of The Montezuma Public Library as a recipient of just over **\$1100!** This goes to show that our community is VERY supportive of the library & its efforts to provide meaningful, engaging services & programs...and of course books!

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

The library is an important part of our community and patrons want to ensure it continues to be so for generations to come. For anyone wishing to support the library, here are valuable ways to do so:

Friends of the Montezuma Public Library: FOTMPL is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization directed by a volunteer board and supported by the community through fundraisers and sales of donated books. FOTMPL supports costs that might fall outside of the annual budget of the library such as programming and community outreach.

Book Donations: The library accepts book donations anytime throughout the year. We can accept your good, used children's books, young adult and adult books. They may be paperback or hardcover. We also accept games, puzzles and DVDs. Cookbooks are good also. Just ask us for a donation receipt if you need one.

What We Don't Accept: VHS tapes, old encyclopedias, college textbooks

Volunteer: Sometimes it's nice to have extra hands on deck during some of our different programs. If you're interested in helping out--call the library at 623-3417 or email Christine at: montepl@montezumaiowa.org for more information on volunteering.

Amazon Wish List: The library has a wish list on Amazon where anyone can choose to make a purchase and then it'll ship directly to the library. This is a great way to help support the library.

WE ACCEPT DONATIONS...

- Hardcover & paperback books (both new & gently used)
- DVDs
- Puzzles
- Games
- Toys & Stuffed Animals

WE DO NOT TAKE...

- Old Encyclopedias
- VHS Tapes
- College Textbooks



WHAT'S ON *in the* SUMMER

EPIC stuff

Summer EVENT SCHEDULE

@MONTEZUMA PUBLIC LIBRARY

JUNE 10 2PM SEE A JUGGLER... BE A JUGGLER!
*Join us for non-stop, interactive juggling fun for all ages w/ Jason Kollum!



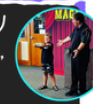
JUNE 11 NOON MUSH W/ SOPHIA, THE SLED DOG
*Learn what it feels like to ride behind a team of dogs with a loaded sled & how to care for a team of Alaskan Huskies with Sophia & her human, Karen.



JUNE 30 4PM MACARONI SOUP W/ MISS CAROLE
*Parents & young kids (even older ones too) come ready to boogie down with Miss Carole's fun, family concert! This is a very participatory event.



JULY 6 11AM FARM FRESH MAGIC SHOW
*Magician Jeff Quinn is bringing his funniest, freshest farm show for all ages! Get ready for some great "dad jokes" too!



JULY 14 11AM SPOCK'S SANCTUARY... REPTILES!
*If you like exotic pets, this is the program for you! This will be a fun, hands-on experience for everyone!



JULY 21 1PM INCREDIBLE BATS!
*Learn more about these amazing nocturnal creatures! Yep, you'll get to meet these creatures up close!



2026 Summer Reading Program



June 1st-July 13th 2026



Celebrate NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April 19-25, 2026

upcoming EVENTS

- April 19** Bob Ross Painting Class--FULL
- April 19-25** National Library Week
- May 13** MPL Board of Trustees Meeting @ 5:30PM
- June 1-July 13** Plant A Seed, Read Summer Reading Program Kicks Off

