

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE

**13600 Juneau Boulevard
Elm Grove, WI 53122**

LIBRARY BOARD

Monday, March 23, 2026 * 5:00 PM * Park View Room

Rescheduled from March 16, 2026

AGENDA (revised)

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting**



A. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the February 16, 2026, Library Board Meeting

Documents:

[*Draft Minutes 2-16-26 Library Board Mtg.pdf*](#)

4. Hearing of the Public

- FOEGL Report

5. Confirm dates in the Village Hall

1. April 20, 2026
2. May 18, 2026
3. June 15, 2026

6. Treasurer's Report

Documents:

[*02. 2026 Library Cash.pdf*](#)

[02. 2026 Library Expenditures.pdf](#)
[02. 2026 Library Gift Expenditures.pdf](#)
[02. 2026 Library Gift Revenue.pdf](#)
[02. 2026 Library Revenue.pdf](#)
[AP Payments March 2026.pdf](#)
[Credit Card Payments March 2026.pdf](#)
[FOEGL GIFTS - March 2026.pdf](#)
[LGIP4 Gifts Accts - MARCH 2026.pdf](#)
[OB Accts - MARCH 2026.pdf](#)

A. Treasurer's report

- a. O.B. accounts payable March 2026 \$10,067.40
- b. LGIP4 gift fund accounts payable March 2026 \$12.36
- c. LGIP10 gift fund accounts payable March 2026 - no activity
- d. FOEGL gift fund accounts payable March 2026 \$1,012.99
- e. Status of accounts

7. Director's Report

- 1. Gift: Amy Koetting gave \$75.00 for Jacqueline Hinkle memorial
- 2. Library activity, statistics, adult programming and other news

Documents:

[EG Library Activity Report 2-2026 3.pdf](#)
[EG Library Activity Report 2-26 pt. 2.pdf](#)
[Youth Department Report for February 2026.pdf](#)
[Upcoming Programs for Adults.pdf](#)
[Staff Recommends March.pdf](#)

8. Old Business

- 1. Update on County Library Standards (ACT 150) discussion and next steps

9. New Business

- 1. No new business

10. Adjournment

Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act who requires that the meeting or materials for the meeting has to be in an accessible location or format must contact the Village Clerk at 262-782-6700 or 13600 Juneau Boulevard by 3:00 PM Friday prior to the meeting so that any necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate your request.

NOTICE: It is possible that members of, and possibly a quorum of, other governmental bodies of the Village may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information. No action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to in the above notice.

DRAFT

ELM GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 16, 2026

For Approval at the March 16, 2026 Meeting

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm. Board members present were: Jennifer Morris, Laurie Leahy, John Alexander, Tom Castile, Kristin Olson, Patty Kujawa. Excused: Karen Steen. Also present: Sue Daniels, library director.

2. Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion made by Patty Kujawa and seconded by John Alexander, the agenda was approved with a change in the order of items to facilitate Kristin Olson's schedule. A motion to make a second change in the order of items was made by Patty Kujawa and seconded by Kristin Olson. Both motions and the agenda were approved. *(These minutes are taken in the order in which they were revised.)*

3. Minutes of the January 19, 2026 meeting

Upon a motion made by Patty Kujawa and seconded by Kristin Olson, the minutes from the January 19, 2026 meeting were approved.

4. Confirm Future Meeting Dates in the Village Hall—Parkview Room

March 16, 2026 at 5pm

April 20, 2026 at 5pm

May 18, 2026 at 5pm

5. Director's Report

a. Gifts

- i. A gift in the amount of \$163.00 was received from the Elm Grove Women's Club.
- ii. Memorial donations for Jacqueline Hinkle were made by James and Donna Pellegrini in the amount of \$100.00, by Peter and Jennifer Schweinert in the amount of \$75.00 and by Carol Pritzlaff in the amount of \$50.00.

On a motion made by Kristin Olson and seconded by John Alexander, the board voted to accept these gifts.

- b. Library statistics, staff activity, adult programming and other news as noted in the monthly report.
- c. Youth Report—statistics, staff activity, youth programming as noted in the monthly report.
- d. Project Updates:

A new Youth Services Librarian has been hired. Olivia Raasch will join the Elm Grove Library team on February 25, 2026.

6. New Business

- a. The Waukesha County Board Chair has appointed a Library Planning Committee to update the County Library Services Plan 2027-2031. One step in the approval of the proposed updated Waukesha County Library Plan requires endorsement by the individual Library Boards of the Waukesha County Library Standards. Jennifer Morris facilitated a lengthy discussion on the proposed plan and changes in the library standards. Upon the motion made by Tom Castile and seconded by Patty Kujawa, the board voted to not endorse the proposed standards.
- b. Library Annual Report: 2025 Certification: After reviewing the report, completed by library director Sue Daniels, a motion was made by Patty Kujawa and seconded by John Alexander, the board voted to approve the Library Annual Report.

7. Hearing of the Public: FOEGL president Kayte Parkin reported there are currently 150 active members. Upcoming is the recruitment of candidates for board members including secretary and treasurer. The annual Book Sale is scheduled for March 5-8.

8. Old Business

Change in meeting dates: A change in library board meeting dates was considered to ease scheduling issues. Upon further discussion of library director Sue Daniels with Village staff, no changes are recommended

9. Treasurer's Report

- a. O.B. accounts payable February 2026: \$5531.56

On a motion made by John Alexander and seconded by Tom Castile, the board approved the expenditure of the amount noted above.

- b. LGIP4 gift fund accounts payable February 2026: No activity.

- c. FOEGL gift fund accounts payable February 2026: \$437.95.

On a motion made by John Alexander and seconded by Laurie Leahy, the board approved the expenditure of the amount noted above.

- d. Government grant fund accounts payable February 2026: \$0.

- e. Status of Accounts

The following Gift Fund Account Balances as of February 2026:

- i. LGIP-4 = \$19,716.27
- ii. FOEGL = \$48,995.72
- iii. Total LGIP-4 = \$68,711.99
- iv. LGIP-10 = \$5,092.53
- v. Overall Gift Fund Total = \$73,804.52

10. Adjournment

On a motion made by John Alexander and seconded by Tom Castile, the board adjourned the meeting at 6 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Laurie Leahy

Acting Secretary

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE
Library Expenditure Summary
FEBRUARY 2026

03/09/26 3:09 PM

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Account Descr	MTD Amount	YTD Amount	Budget	Balance	% of Budget Remain
006 Library Operating Fund					
E 006-5511000 Library wages	\$23,797.24	\$52,468.18	\$360,000.00	\$307,531.82	85.43%
E 006-5512000 Library WRS	\$2,242.98	\$4,693.14	\$41,125.00	\$36,431.86	88.59%
E 006-5512001 Library Employee WRS	-\$1,121.50	-\$2,346.58	-\$20,550.00	-\$18,203.42	88.58%
E 006-5512005 Library- life insurance	\$101.64	\$116.67	\$1,250.00	\$1,133.33	90.67%
E 006-5512010 Library FICA	\$1,843.97	\$4,077.42	\$28,125.00	\$24,047.58	85.50%
E 006-5512015 Library health/dental insura	\$720.91	\$1,441.82	\$40,000.00	\$38,558.18	96.40%
E 006-5512016 Library health opt out	\$435.20	\$1,088.00	\$0.00	-\$1,088.00	0.00%
E 006-5512017 Library- HRA Expense	\$186.57	\$375.96	\$0.00	-\$375.96	0.00%
E 006-5512025 Library Disability Insurance	\$22.00	\$44.00	\$245.00	\$201.00	82.04%
E 006-5512030 Library -Unemployment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
E 006-5513100 Books	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	100.00%
E 006-5513103 Children/Young Adult	\$493.66	\$573.15	\$9,500.00	\$8,926.85	93.97%
E 006-5513105 Adult Audiobooks	\$39.60	\$39.60	\$5,000.00	\$4,960.40	99.21%
E 006-5513106 Adult DVDs	\$150.74	\$150.74	\$0.00	-\$150.74	0.00%
E 006-5513107 Adult Music	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
E 006-5513110 Magazines/newspapers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	100.00%
E 006-5513120 Electronic materials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	100.00%
E 006-5513130 Books-Reference	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
E 006-5513131 Books Adult Fiction	\$1,480.44	\$1,553.19	\$0.00	-\$1,553.19	0.00%
E 006-5513132 Books Large Print	\$115.94	\$115.94	\$0.00	-\$115.94	0.00%
E 006-5513133 Books Non Fiction	\$276.78	\$276.78	\$0.00	-\$276.78	0.00%
E 006-5513134 Books Non Fiction	\$308.57	\$432.37	\$0.00	-\$432.37	0.00%
E 006-5513135 Books Non Fiction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
E 006-5513136 Books Travel	\$140.91	\$153.41	\$0.00	-\$153.41	0.00%
E 006-5513137 Books NF 800	\$62.92	\$166.62	\$0.00	-\$166.62	0.00%
E 006-5513200 Dues/Memberships	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	100.00%
E 006-5513210 Professional Subscriptions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	100.00%
E 006-5513220 Training/Conferences	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	100.00%
E 006-5513300 Library Supplies	\$190.95	\$190.95	\$8,000.00	\$7,809.05	97.61%
E 006-5513310 Library Copy Machine	\$201.04	\$201.04	\$2,000.00	\$1,798.96	89.95%
E 006-5513320 Computer Expense	\$1,369.07	\$1,369.07	\$12,000.00	\$10,630.93	88.59%
E 006-5513321 Bridges System	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,783.00	\$15,783.00	100.00%
E 006-5513400 Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
E 006-5513420 Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	100.00%
E 006-5513430 Adult Programing	\$668.78	\$682.06	\$2,500.00	\$1,817.94	72.72%
E 006-5513432 Youth Programing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	100.00%
E 006-5513435 Mileage	\$13.20	\$13.20	\$750.00	\$736.80	98.24%
E 006-5513499 Printing & Miscellaneous	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$1,000.00	\$990.00	99.00%
E 006-5513800 Library deposit over/short	-\$0.52	\$1.99	\$0.00	-\$1.99	0.00%
006 Library Operating Fund	\$33,751.09	\$67,888.72	\$554,078.00	\$486,189.28	87.75%
	\$33,751.09	\$67,888.72	\$554,078.00	\$486,189.28	87.75%

((FUND="006"))

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE
Library Gift Expenditure Summary
FEBRUARY 2026

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Account Descr	MTD Amount	YTD Amount	Budget	Balance
004 Library Gift Fund				
E 004-5513500 Lib Gift Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 004-5513600 Lib Gift Exp-K Schmidt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 004-5513900 FOEGL gift expenditures	\$437.95	\$738.13	\$0.00	-\$738.13
E 004-5514000 Lib Private Grant Exp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
E 004-5515000 Lib Govt Grant Exp	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
004 Library Gift Fund	\$437.95	\$738.13	\$0.00	-\$738.13
	\$437.95	\$738.13	\$0.00	-\$738.13

((FUND="004")) and [Act Status]="Active"

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE
Library Gift Revenue Summary
FEBRUARY 2026

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Account Descr	MTD Amount	YTD Amount	Budget	Balance
004 Library Gift Fund				
R 004-4610000 Library Donations	\$236.59	\$405.07	\$0.00	-\$405.07
R 004-4611000 FOEGL Donation	\$0.00	\$67.45	\$0.00	-\$67.45
R 004-4612000 Library Private Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
R 004-4613000 Library - Govt Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
R 004-4811000 Interest on Invested Fu	\$160.15	\$337.40	\$0.00	-\$337.40
004 Library Gift Fund	\$396.74	\$809.92	\$0.00	-\$809.92
	\$396.74	\$809.92	\$0.00	-\$809.92

((FUND="004")) and [Act Status]="Active"

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE
Library Revenue Summary
FEBRUARY 2026

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Account Descr	MTD Amount	YTD Amount	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Balance	2026 % YTD Balance
006 Library Operating Fund					
100 R 006-3600110 Library Tax Levy	\$0.00	\$467,250.00	\$467,250.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	\$0.00	\$467,250.00	\$467,250.00	\$0.00	
R 006-4289000 Misc State Aids	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$774.00	\$774.00	100.00%
R 006-4289010 Misc County Rev	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
200 R 006-4461100 Crossover Lending/Borrowing	\$207.00	\$207.00	\$49,715.00	\$49,508.00	99.58%
	\$207.00	\$207.00	\$50,489.00	\$50,282.00	
R 006-3220200 Interest Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
322	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
R 006-4461000 Library - Misc Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	100.00%
R 006-4661000 Library Fines	\$402.05	\$925.35	\$0.00	-\$925.35	0.00%
R 006-4662000 Library Photocopies	\$109.85	\$728.58	\$0.00	-\$728.58	0.00%
R 006-4663000 Library Computer Printouts	\$19.03	\$19.03	\$0.00	-\$19.03	0.00%
R 006-4663500 Library - Faxes	\$15.22	\$15.22	\$0.00	-\$15.22	0.00%
R 006-4664000 Library Cards	\$173.00	\$337.00	\$0.00	-\$337.00	0.00%
R 006-4665000 Library Lost/Used Materials	\$210.56	\$298.75	\$0.00	-\$298.75	0.00%
450	\$929.71	\$2,323.93	\$9,500.00	\$7,176.07	
R 006-4811000 Interest on Invested Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,600.00	\$12,600.00	100.00%
600	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,600.00	\$12,600.00	
R 006-4852000 Transfer from General Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
700	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
006 Library Operating Fund	\$1,136.71	\$469,780.93	\$539,839.00	\$70,058.07	
	\$1,136.71	\$469,780.93	\$539,839.00	\$70,058.07	

((FUND="006"))

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE

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Payments

Current Period: MARCH 2026

Payments Batch 2026-03 LIB			\$9,949.66		
Refer	14069 TAYLOR COMPUTER SERVICES,IN				
Cash Payment	E 006-5513320	Computer Expense	ANNUAL SERVICE ITEMS		\$2,700.00
Invoice	29007	1/31/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513320	Computer Expense	UPDATE FIRMWARE		\$67.50
Invoice	29089	1/31/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$2,767.50
Refer	14070 MIDWEST TAPE				
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$23.24
Invoice	508411781	2/6/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$25.49
Invoice	508411780	2/6/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$38.99
Invoice	508457933	2/17/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$20.39
Invoice	508457935	2/17/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$49.48
Invoice	508457936	2/17/2026			
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	DVDS		\$23.24
Invoice	508457937	2/17/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$26.24
Invoice	508491863	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$23.24
Invoice	508491865	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$24.49
Invoice	508491867	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$23.24
Invoice	508491866	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$62.23
Invoice	508497157	3/2/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$49.48
Invoice	508539269	3/6/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106	Adult DVDs	DVDS		\$24.74
Invoice	508539300	3/6/2026			
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	DVDS		\$24.74
Invoice	508539302	3/6/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$439.23
Refer	14071 WI LIBRARY ASSOC,INC				
Cash Payment	E 006-5513200	Dues/Memberships	MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - MP		\$63.00
Invoice	25098	2/9/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$63.00
Refer	14072 CENGAGE LEARNING INC/GALE				
Cash Payment	E 006-5513132	Books Large Print	BOOKS		\$131.25
Invoice	999102348138	2/10/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$131.25
Refer	14073 COAST TO COAST SOLUTIONS				

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE

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Payments

Current Period: MARCH 2026

Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	LIBRARY BAGS		\$359.06
Invoice	INC0119329	2/10/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$359.06
Refer	14074	COMPUTYPE, INC.	-		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	LABELS		\$623.37
Invoice	713585	2/12/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$623.37
Refer	14075	DEMCO	-		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	BOOKS		\$103.17
Invoice	7764859	2/13/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	BOOKMARKS		\$32.93
Invoice	7774420	3/5/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$136.10
Refer	14076	CONLEY MEDIA	-		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513110	Magazines/newspapers	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION		\$282.00
Invoice	0018555	3/6/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$282.00
Refer	14077	BLACKSTONE PUBLISHING	-		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513105	Adult Audiobooks	AUDIOBOOKS		\$189.85
Invoice	2226142	2/18/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513105	Adult Audiobooks	AUDIOBOOKS		\$88.20
Invoice	2226996	2/25/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$278.05
Refer	14078	LIBRARY STORE, INC. THE	-		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	DVDS		\$110.59
Invoice	775821	2/13/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$110.59
Refer	14079	FORWARD TS	-		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513310	Library Copy Machine	LIBRARY PRINTER		\$272.05
Invoice	AR276640	2/27/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$272.05
Refer	14080	INGRAM	-		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$20.23
Invoice	94787602	2/26/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS		\$32.00
Invoice	94806370	2/26/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS		\$46.22
Invoice	94858044	3/2/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$63.13
Invoice	94858045	3/2/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$85.96
Invoice	94858046	3/2/2006			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$63.69
Invoice	94858047	3/2/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$16.94
Invoice	94858048	3/2/2026			

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE

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Payments

Current Period: MARCH 2026

Cash Payment	E 006-5513137	Books NF 800	BOOKS	\$26.57
Invoice	92375949	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$18.06
Invoice	92375950	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513136	Books Travel	BOOKS	\$15.27
Invoice	92375951	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$108.86
Invoice	92375952	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$38.58
Invoice	92375953	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$48.87
Invoice	92375955	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$18.03
Invoice	92500710	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$75.55
Invoice	92500714	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$35.28
Invoice	92500715	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$20.31
Invoice	92500717	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$10.94
Invoice	93395672	1/5/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$71.34
Invoice	93395673	1/5/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513137	Books NF 800	BOOKS	\$37.82
Invoice	93395674	1/5/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513132	Books Large Print	BOOKS	\$22.41
Invoice	93395675	1/5/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$33.57
Invoice	93395677	1/5/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$69.57
Invoice	93395678	1/5/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513137	Books NF 800	BOOKS	\$19.07
Invoice	94376148	2/10/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$23.75
Invoice	94376150	2/10/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$121.46
Invoice	94376151	2/10/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$12.07
Invoice	94376152	2/10/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513135	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$106.53
Invoice	94376153	2/10/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513137	Books NF 800	BOOKS	\$31.97
Invoice	94376154	2/10/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	-\$17.23
Invoice	94358922	2/9/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS	\$445.05
Invoice	92375956	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS	\$17.98
Invoice	92375957	12/1/2025		

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Payments

Current Period: MARCH 2026

Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS	\$11.24
Invoice	92500712	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS	\$10.60
Invoice	93395676	1/5/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS	\$12.28
Invoice	94376149	2/10/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	-\$11.39
Invoice	94460785	2/12/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	-\$17.09
Invoice	94460786	2/12/2026		
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	BOOKS	\$17.84
Invoice	92375954	12/1/2025		
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	BOOKS	\$18.05
Invoice	92500713	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	BOOKS	\$19.39
Invoice	92500716	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 004-5513500	Lib Gift Expenses	BOOKS	\$12.36
Invoice	92500711	12/4/2025		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$17.49
Invoice	94545515	2/17/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$17.99
Invoice	94545516	2/17/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$11.57
Invoice	94545518	2/17/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$68.64
Invoice	94545519	2/17/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$36.02
Invoice	94545520	2/17/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$35.14
Invoice	94545521	2/17/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS	\$46.59
Invoice	94545517	2/17/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$21.91
Invoice	94579187	2/18/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$35.98
Invoice	94637738	2/20/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS	\$45.07
Invoice	94637739	2/20/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$102.93
Invoice	94637740	2/20/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$13.33
Invoice	94837741	2/20/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS	\$100.73
Invoice	94637742	2/20/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	-\$18.91
Invoice	94627696	2/19/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$61.94
Invoice	94625447	2/19/2026		
Cash Payment	E 006-5513135	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS	\$134.61
Invoice	94625446	2/19/2026		

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Payments

Current Period: MARCH 2026

Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$73.21
Invoice	94625449	2/19/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$102.55
Invoice	94625450	2/19/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$17.99
Invoice	94722551	2/19/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS		\$36.23
Invoice	94722552	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$17.95
Invoice	94722553	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513137	Books NF 800	BOOKS		\$23.80
Invoice	94722554	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$38.28
Invoice	94722555	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$109.57
Invoice	94722556	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$18.14
Invoice	94722557	2/24/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$38.18
Invoice	94658708	2/20/2026			
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	BOOKS		\$11.27
Invoice	94625446	2/19/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS		\$13.59
Invoice	94967535	3/5/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$18.02
Invoice	94967536	3/5/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$18.23
Invoice	95035570	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513135	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$27.34
Invoice	95035571	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513137	Books NF 800	BOOKS		\$19.40
Invoice	95035572	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513133	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$19.34
Invoice	95035573	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$17.12
Invoice	95035574	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513134	Books Non Fiction	BOOKS		\$20.49
Invoice	95035575	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513131	Books Adult Fiction	BOOKS		\$20.76
Invoice	95035577	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS		\$45.12
Invoice	95035569	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS		\$64.02
Invoice	95035576	3/9/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513103	Children/Young Adult	BOOKS		\$14.87
Invoice	95035578	3/9/2026			

Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$3,329.63
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Refer 14081 ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC

Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	KLEENEX	\$72.08
Invoice	458200664001	2/10/2026		

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE

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Payments

Current Period: MARCH 2026

Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	BINDERS		\$36.22
Invoice	458208722001	2/11/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	COLD PACKS		\$19.74
Invoice	458208725001	2/12/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	GALLON BAGS		\$37.38
Invoice	458208725002	2/17/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	PAPER		\$95.04
Invoice	459455357001	3/2/2026			
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	TONER		\$827.38
Invoice	460270452001	2/27/2026			
Transaction Date	3/9/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$1,087.84
Refer	14083	VANLIESHOUT, SARAH J			
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	REIMBURSEMENT FOR REPLACEMENT COST OF PLAYAWAY		\$69.99
Invoice	030126	2/23/2026			
Transaction Date	3/11/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$69.99

Fund Summary

	1110300 Town Bank	
004 Library Gift Fund		\$196.88
006 Library Operating Fund		\$9,752.78
		<u>\$9,949.66</u>

Pre-Written Checks	\$0.00
Checks to be Generated by the Computer	\$9,949.66
Total	<u>\$9,949.66</u>

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE

Payments

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Page 1

Current Period: MARCH 2026

Payments Batch 2026-03 LIB CC		\$1,142.09	
Refer	14084	AQUATIC REALMZ	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	MONTHLY SERVICE OF AQUARIUM
Invoice	AR3601	2/13/2026	\$90.00
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$90.00
Refer	14085	INFOWORKS TECHNOLOGY	
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	PAPER LABELS
Invoice	250015	2/2/2026	\$172.00
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$172.00
Refer	14086	NETFLIX	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	MONTHLY STREAMING SERVICE
Invoice	2851CC34FF76AD9	2/23/2026	\$26.24
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$26.24
Refer	14087	CANVA.COM	
Cash Payment	E 006-5513320	Computer Expense	ANNUAL RENEWAL
Invoice	04809-0371492	3/2/2026	\$119.40
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$119.40
Refer	14088	DISNEY PLUS	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	MONTHLY STREAMING SERVICE
Invoice	030126	3/7/2026	\$31.49
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$31.49
Refer	14089	SENDIKS	
Cash Payment	E 006-5513300	Library Supplies	STAFF WATER
Invoice	030126	2/23/2026	\$22.47
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$22.47
Refer	14090	ELM GROVE WOMANS CLUB	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	AUTHOR EVENT - WEDDING PEOPLE
Invoice	030126	2/27/2026	\$282.50
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$282.50
Refer	14091	MILWAUKEE BREWER BASEBALL	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	READING PROGRAM PRIZE - BREWERS GIFT CARD
Invoice	030126	2/26/2026	\$115.00
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$115.00
Refer	14092	CHOCOLATE FACTORY	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	WINTER READING PROGRAM - PRIZE
Invoice	030126	3/4/2026	\$20.00
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$20.00
Refer	14093	GREAT HARVEST	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	WINTER READING PROGRAM - PRIZE
Invoice	030126	3/4/2026	\$20.00
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300
		Total	\$20.00
Refer	14094	HORWITZ-DEREMER PLANETERIU	
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900	FOEGL gift expenditures	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
Invoice	030126		\$200.00

VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE

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Payments

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Current Period: MARCH 2026

Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$200.00
Refer	14095 ZISTERS				
Cash Payment	E 004-5513900 FOEGL gift expenditures	-			
Invoice 030126	3/6/2026				
					\$20.00
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$20.00
Refer	14096 WI SUPPER CLUB				
Cash Payment	E 006-5513106 Adult DVDs	-			
Invoice 3726	2/16/2026				
					\$22.99
Transaction Date	3/12/2026	Town Bank	1110300	Total	\$22.99

Fund Summary

	1110300 Town Bank	
004 Library Gift Fund	\$805.23	
006 Library Operating Fund	\$336.86	
	<u>\$1,142.09</u>	

Pre-Written Checks	\$0.00
Checks to be Generated by the Computer	\$1,142.09
Total	<u>\$1,142.09</u>

**ELM GROVE LIBRARY
FOEGL GIFT EXPENDITURES
March 2026**

Ingram	(4 invoices)	\$66.55
Aquatic Realmz (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$90.00
Sarah J. Vanlieshout (reimb.)	(1 invoice)	\$69.99
Milwaukee Brewers (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$115.00
Midwest Tape	(3 invoices)	\$71.22
Elm Grove Woman's Club (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$282.50
The Chocolate Factory (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$20.00
Great Harvest Bread Company (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$20.00
Horwitz-DeRemer Planetarium (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$200.00
Zisters (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$20.00
Disney+ (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$31.49
Netflix (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$26.24
TOTAL		\$1,012.99

ELM GROVE LIBRARY
LGIP4 GIFTS ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
March 2026

Ingram	(1 invoice)	\$12.36
TOTAL		\$12.36

ELM GROVE LIBRARY O.B. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

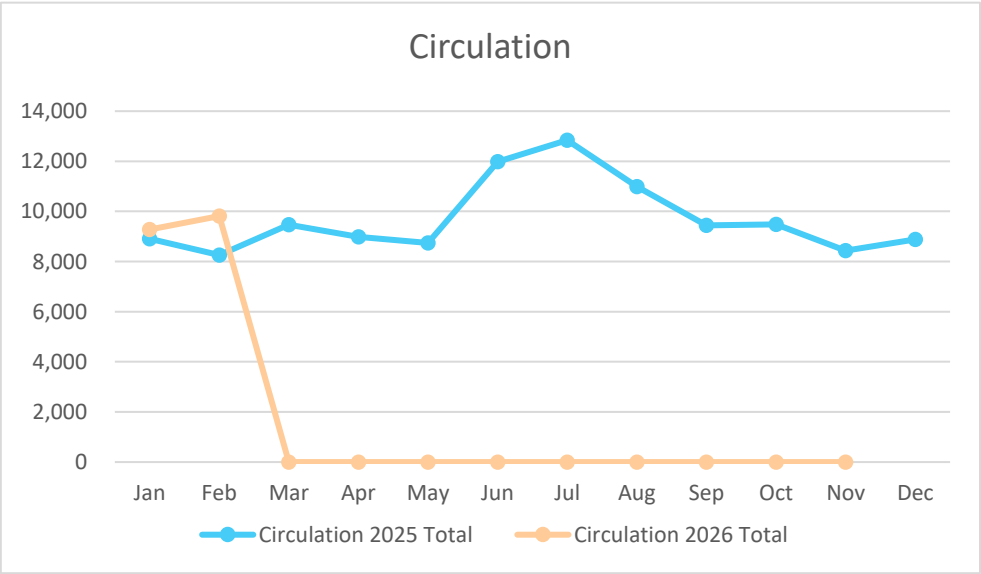
March 2026

551.3100 ADULT BOOKS			
Ingram	(61 invoices)	\$2,409.86	
GALE Cengage	(1 invoice)	\$131.25	
			\$2,541.11
551.3103 CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULT BOOKS			
Ingram	(14 invoices)	\$840.86	
			\$840.86
551.3105 ADULT AUDIOBOOKS			
Blackstone	(2 invoices)	\$278.05	
			\$278.05
551.3106 ADULT DVDS			
Midwest Tape	(11 invoices)	\$369.01	
Wisconsin Supper Clubs (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$22.99	
			\$392.00
551.3110 PERIODICALS			
Waukesha Freeman	(1 invoice)	\$282.00	
			\$282.00
551.3200 DUES/MEMBERSHIPS			
WLA	(1 invoice)	\$63.00	
			\$63.00
551.3300 LIBRARY SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT			
Computype	(1 invoice)	\$623.37	
Coast to Coast Solutions	(1 invoice)	\$359.06	
InfoWorks Technology	(1 invoice)	\$172.00	
Demco	(2 invoices)	\$136.10	
Sendik's (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$22.47	
ODP	(6 invoices)	\$1,087.84	
The Library Store	(1 invoice)	\$110.59	
			\$2,511.43
551.3310 LIBRARY COPY MACHINE			
Forward TS	(1 invoice)	\$272.05	
			\$272.05
551.3320 COMPUTER EXPENSES			
Taylor	(2 invoices)	\$2,767.50	
Canva (c.c. paid)	(1 invoice)	\$119.40	
			\$2,886.90
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			\$10,067.40

Elm Grove Public Library
Activity Report

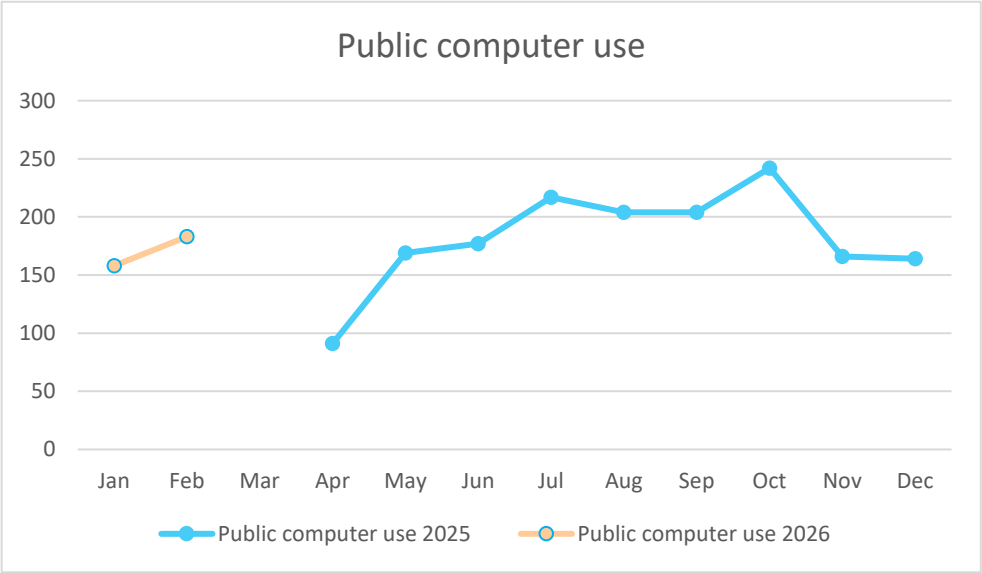
Circulation

	2025			2026			Y-T-Y Change	
	Shelved	Overdrive	Total	Shelved	Overdrive	Total	Total Circulation	
Jan	7,141	1,764	8,905	7,764	1,508	9,272	367	4.12%
Feb	6,654	1,605	8,259	6,936	2,878	9,814	1555	18.83%
Mar	7,632	1,834	9,466					
Apr	7,252	1,727	8,979					
May	7,068	1,669	8,737					
Jun	10,174	1,813	11,987					
Jul	11,046	1,797	12,843					
Aug	9,277	1,709	10,986					
Sep	7,830	1,619	9,449					
Oct	7,666	1,820	9,486					
Nov	6,721	1,714	8,435					
Dec	7,183	1,694	8,877					
Y-T-D	95,644	20,765	116,409	14,700	4,386	19,086	-97323	-83.60%



Elm Grove Public Library
Activity Report

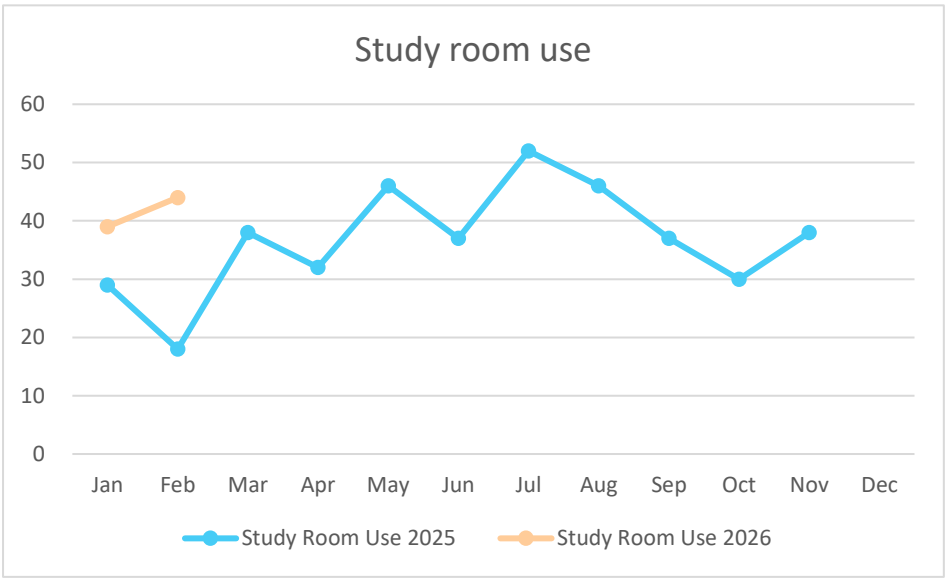
Public computer use				
	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan		158	158	
Feb		183	183	
Mar				
Apr	91			
May	169			
Jun	177			
Jul	217			
Aug	204			
Sep	204			
Oct	242			
Nov	166			
Dec	164			
Y-T-D	1634	341		



Elm Grove Public Library
Activity Report

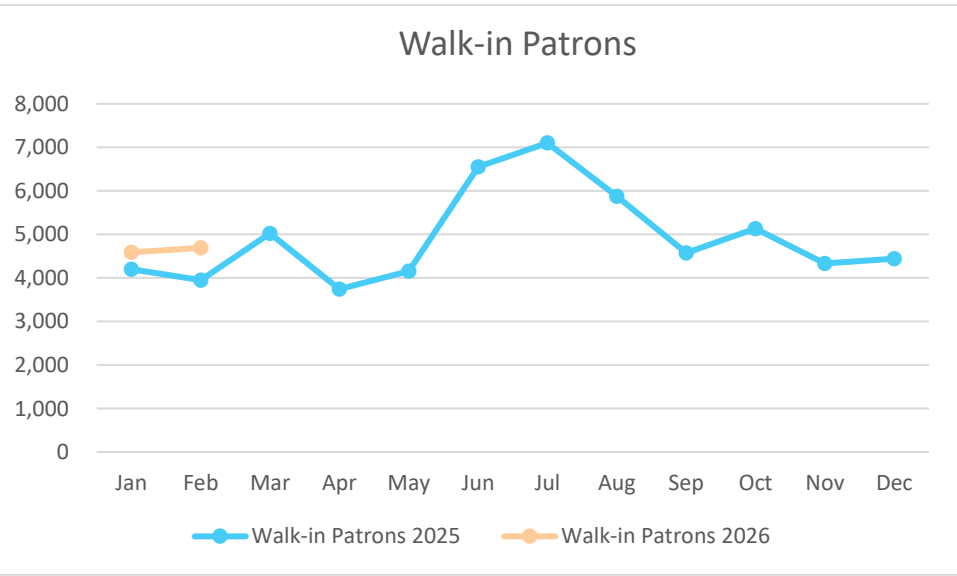
Study Room Use

	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	29	39	10	34.48%
Feb	18	44	26	144.44%
Mar	38			
Apr	32			
May	46			
Jun	37			
Jul	52			
Aug	46			
Sep	37			
Oct	30			
Nov	38			
Dec				
Y-T-D	403	83	-320	-79.40%



Walk-in Patrons

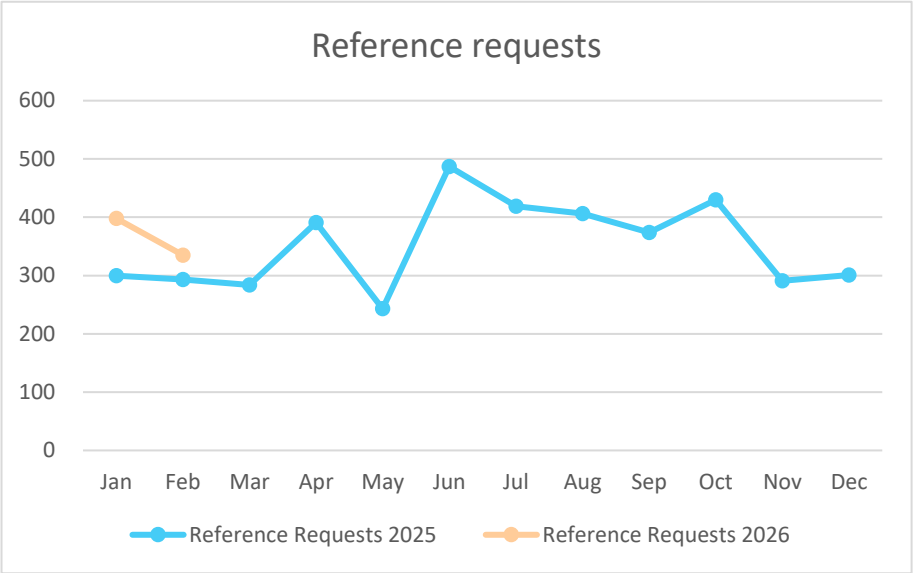
	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	4,197	4,589	392	9.34%
Feb	3,953	4,690	737	18.64%
Mar	5,023			
Apr	3,742		-783	-100.00%
May	4,158			
Jun	6,553			
Jul	7,101			
Aug	5,880			
Sep	4,578			
Oct	5,132			
Nov	4,329			
Dec	4,443			
Y-T-D	59,089	9,279	-49810	-84.30%



Elm Grove Public Library
Activity Report

Reference Requests

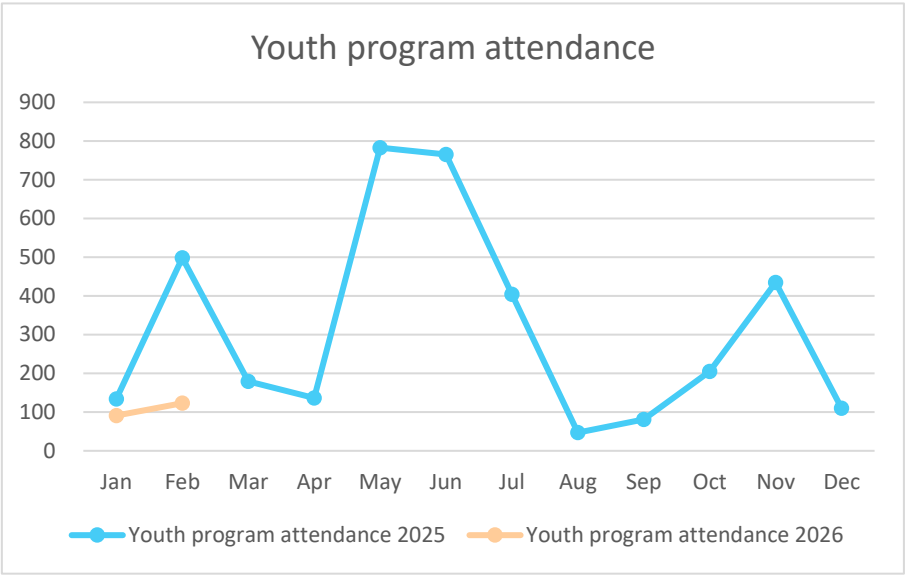
	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	300	398	98	32.67%
Feb	293	335	42	14.33%
Mar	284			
Apr	391			
May	243			
Jun	487			
Jul	419			
Aug	406			
Sep	374			
Oct	430			
Nov	291			
Dec	301			
Y-T-D	4,219	733	-3486	-82.63%



Elm Grove Public Library
Activity Report

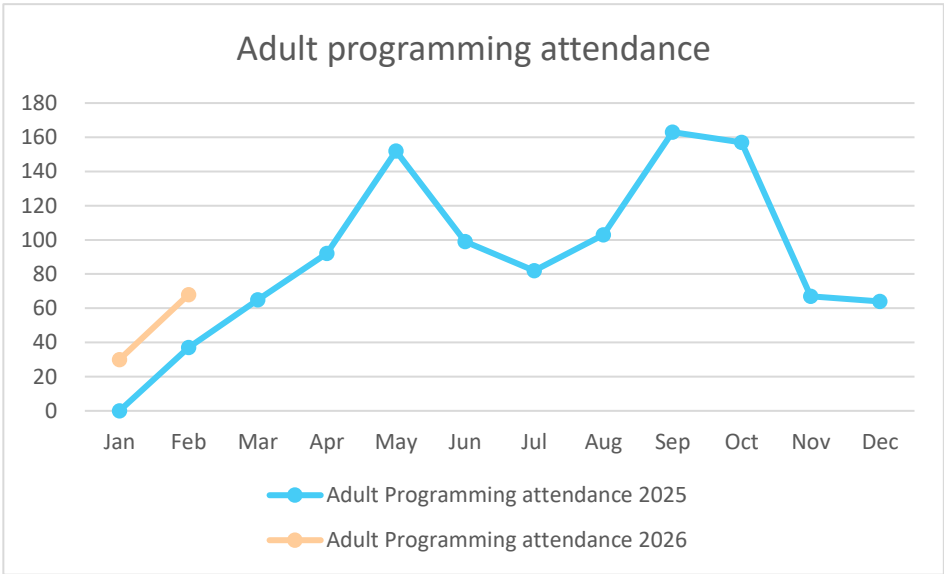
Youth program attendance

	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	134	91	(43)	-32.09%
Feb	498	123	(375)	-75.30%
Mar	179			
Apr	136			
May	783			
Jun	765			
Jul	404			
Aug	47			
Sep	81			
Oct	205			
Nov	435			
Dec	110			
Y-T-D	3,777	214	-3563	-94.33%



Adult Programming attendance

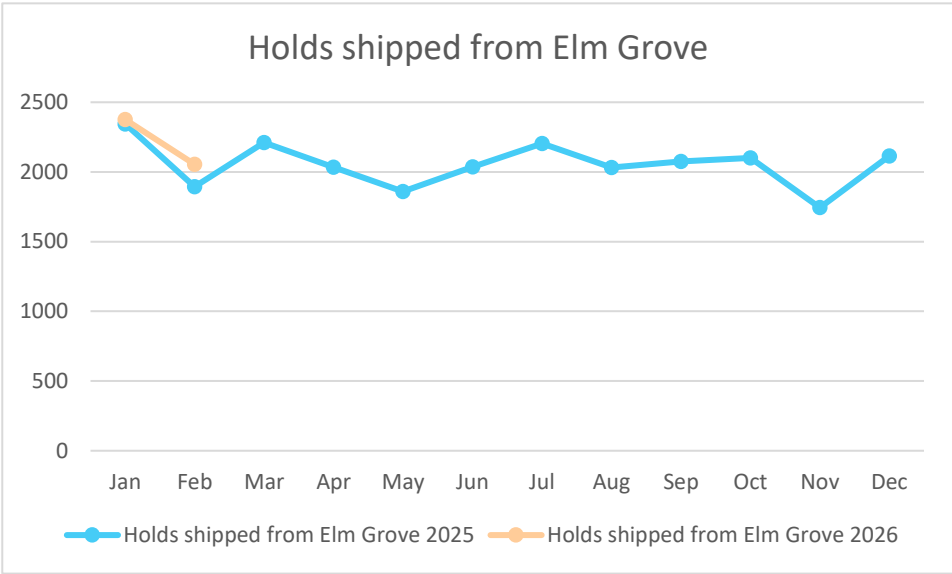
	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	0	30	30	#DIV/0!
Feb	37	68	31	83.78%
Mar	65			
Apr	92			
May	152			
Jun	99			
Jul	82			
Aug	103			
Sep	163			
Oct	157			
Nov	67			
Dec	64			
Y-T-D	1,081	98	-983	-90.93%



Elm Grove Public Library
Activity Report

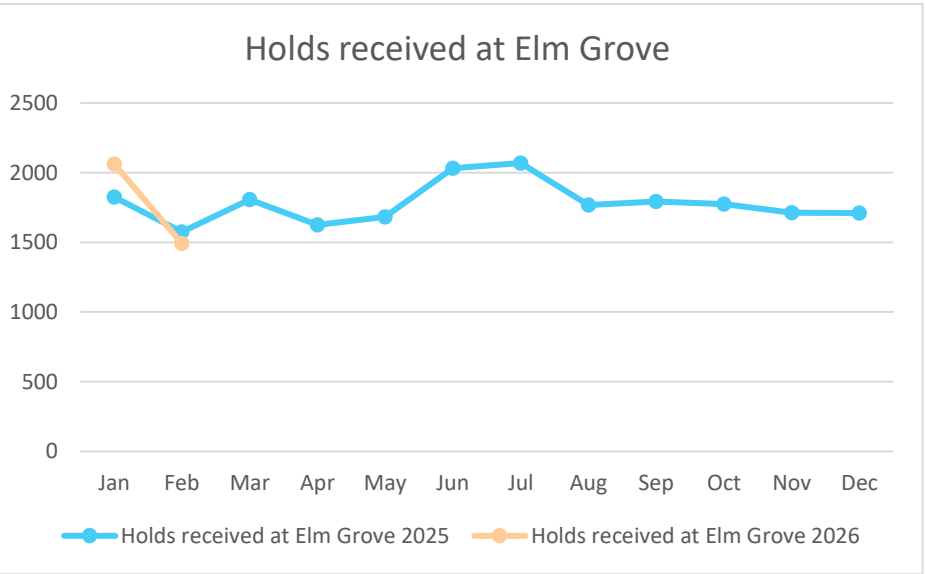
Holds shipped from Elm Grove

	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	2345	2376	31	1.32%
Feb	1893	2054	161	8.51%
Mar	2211			
Apr	2035			
May	1860			
Jun	2037			
Jul	2204			
Aug	2031			
Sep	2076			
Oct	2100			
Nov	1744			
Dec	2115			
Y-T-D	24,651	4,430	-20221	-82%



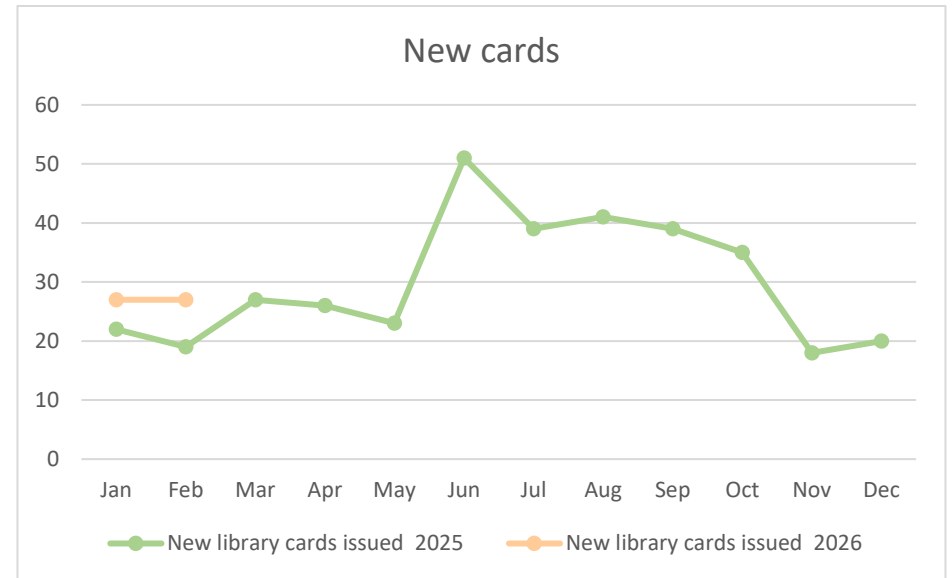
Holds received at Elm Grove

	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	1826	2062	236	13%
Feb	1575	1493	(82)	-5%
Mar	1806			
Apr	1626			
May	1682			
Jun	2033			
Jul	2069			
Aug	1768			
Sep	1793			
Oct	1774			
Nov	1713			
Dec	1710			
Y-T-D	21375	3555	-17820	-83%



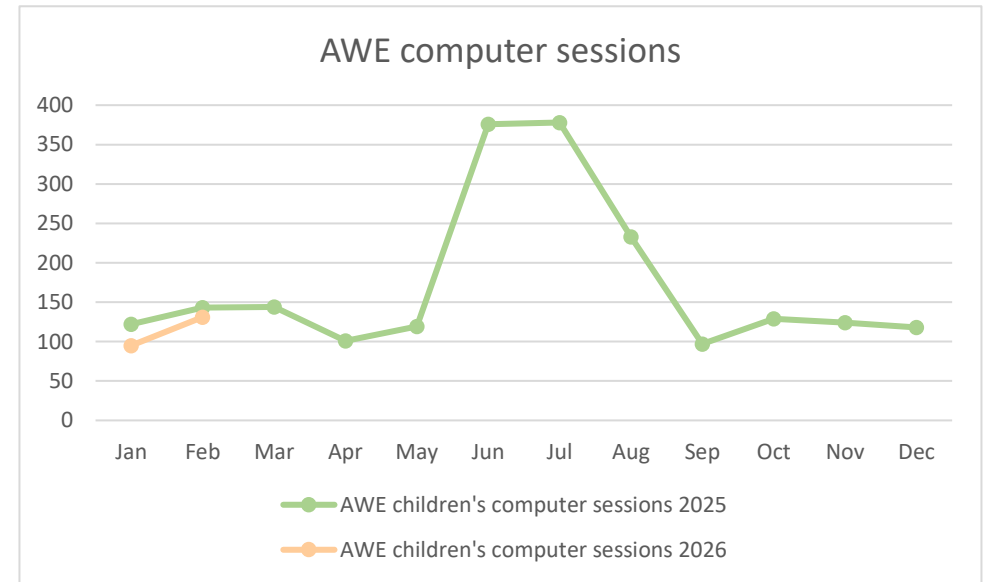
New library cards issued

	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	22	27	5	
Feb	19	27	8	
Mar	27			
Apr	26			
May	23			
Jun	51			
Jul	39			
Aug	41			
Sep	39			
Oct	35			
Nov	18			
Dec	20			
Y-T-D	360	54	-306	-85.00%



AWE children's computer sessions

	2025	2026	Y-T-Y Change	
Jan	122	95	71	
Feb	143	131	4	
Mar	144		-11	
Apr	101		28	
May	119		31	
Jun	376		96	
Jul	378		126	
Aug	233		-7	
Sep	97		15	
Oct	129		6	
Nov	124		1	
Dec	118		15	
Y-T-D	2084	226	-1858	



Elm Grove Library Youth Department Report for February 2026

Monthly Programs

Date	Program	Participation
February 3	Bright Beginnings Story Time Ages 1-3	13K, 11A = 24 people
February 5	Morning Break Story Time Ages 3-4	8K, 8A = 16 people
February 10	Bright Beginnings Story Time	15K, 11A = 26 people
February 12	Morning Break Story Time	3K, 4A = 7 people
February 24	Bright Beginnings Story Time	16K, 11A = 27 people
February 26	Morning Break Story Time	12K, 7A – 19 people
Total	6 programs	119 people

Special Programs and Activities

Date	Program/Activity	Participation
February 2	Therapy Pet Reading Program Marty (cat)	No readers
February 17	Therapy Pet Reading Program Blumi (dog)	2 readers
February 19	Therapy Pet Reading Program Clover (dog)	2 readers
Month of February	1000 Books Before Kindergarten	No new registrations or completions

AWE Computers use for February

Computer	Number of Sessions	Number of Minutes
#1	67	1349 minutes
#2	64	1298 minutes
Total	131	2647 minutes (about 44 hours)

Cup of Health: Heart Disease & Stroke

Tuesday, March 24, 1:30 PM

Cardiovascular conditions like heart disease and stroke kill 1 in 3 people each year, but because there are no warning signs, many women and men are unaware of their risk. Learning personal risk factors and making small lifestyle changes is vital for protecting your health – maybe even saving your life.

This is the first of five "Cup of Health" programs in 2026, presented by a community health educator with the Waukesha County Public Health Department. Advance registration is appreciated at elmgrovelibrary.org.



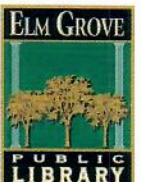
2026 Cup of Health Schedule

5/26: Better Sleep

7/28: Brain Health

9/22: Emergency Preparedness As We Age

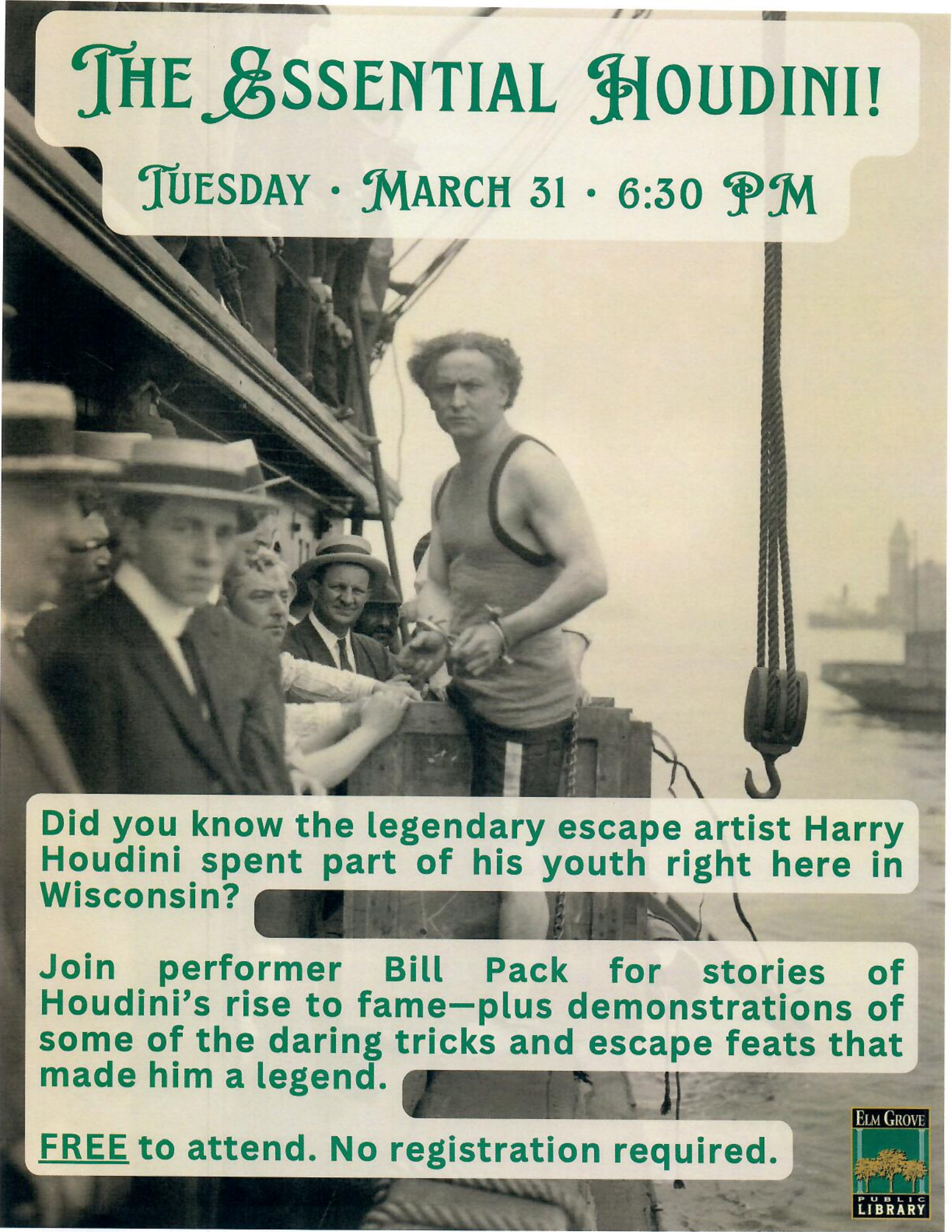
11/17: Self-Care



13600 Juneau Blvd. Elm Grove, WI 53122
262-782-6717 | elmgrovelibrary.org

THE ESSENTIAL HOUDINI!

TUESDAY · MARCH 31 · 6:30 PM



Did you know the legendary escape artist Harry Houdini spent part of his youth right here in Wisconsin?

Join performer Bill Pack for stories of Houdini's rise to fame—plus demonstrations of some of the daring tricks and escape feats that made him a legend.

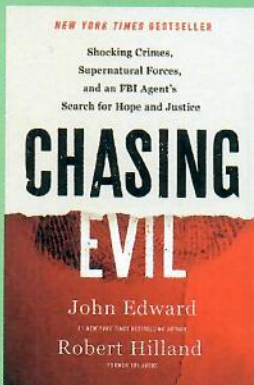
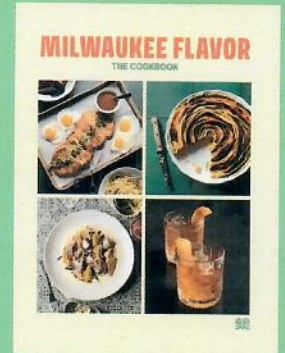
FREE to attend. No registration required.

March

Elm Grove Library Staff Recommends / March 2026

Milwaukee Flavor: The Cookbook with text by Ann Christenson

Milwaukee Flavor is much more than a cookbook; it celebrates the people and spirit of Milwaukee. The over 90 recipes by local chefs range from soups to main meals; desserts to drinks. Each creation is unique to the restaurant featured and includes not only chef bios but also personal stories of family traditions and cultural roots. Enjoy distinctive Milwaukee tastes such as Dutch Baby, Smoked Salmon Dip and Pork Schnitzel. Try global dishes like Bibimbap, Shakshuka, or Albondigas. As a bonus, if you have our copy checked out and intend to visit one of the restaurants highlighted, please encourage the chef to autograph their page ~Lori Kreis~

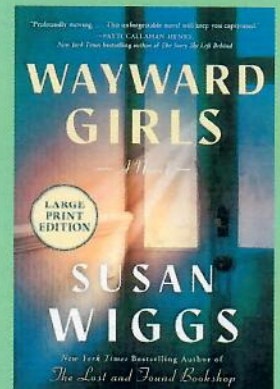


Chasing Evil: Shocking Crimes, Supernatural Forces, and an FBI Agent's Search for Hope and Justice by John Edward and Robert Hilland

I'm not a huge fan of true crime, but the subtitle of this book was intriguing. It follows the professional relationship of skeptic FBI agent Robert Hilland and famous psychic medium John Edward. The first half of the book reads like a thriller. A fast-paced telling of how Hilland and his team solved two cold case disappearances and caught a serial killer with the secret help of Edward and his supernatural guides. The second half of the book chronicles other crimes that were solved based on tips from beyond the grave. Great detective work or help from spirits? Either way, this book was a fascinating look at true crime, especially cold cases, and the men and women who doggedly pursue justice for families desperate for closure. ~Mary Hartwig~

Wayward Girls: A Novel by Susan Wiggs

During the Vietnam War in Buffalo, girls find themselves at the Home of the Good Shepherd for various reasons—a place for those considered “in trouble” or simply troublemakers. They are placed in what is essentially an industrial laundry and Catholic reform school run by the Sisters of Charity—a misnomer if I’ve ever heard one. The story follows eight girls confined to this institution. Mairin is sent there to be kept safe from her predatory stepfather, but she becomes the ringleader in efforts to escape their unbearable conditions. Seven other girls form close bonds with her, and the story follows them from their time at the Home into the present day. It’s a tough subject to tackle, but the author handles it well. A must-read. ~Sharon Passick~

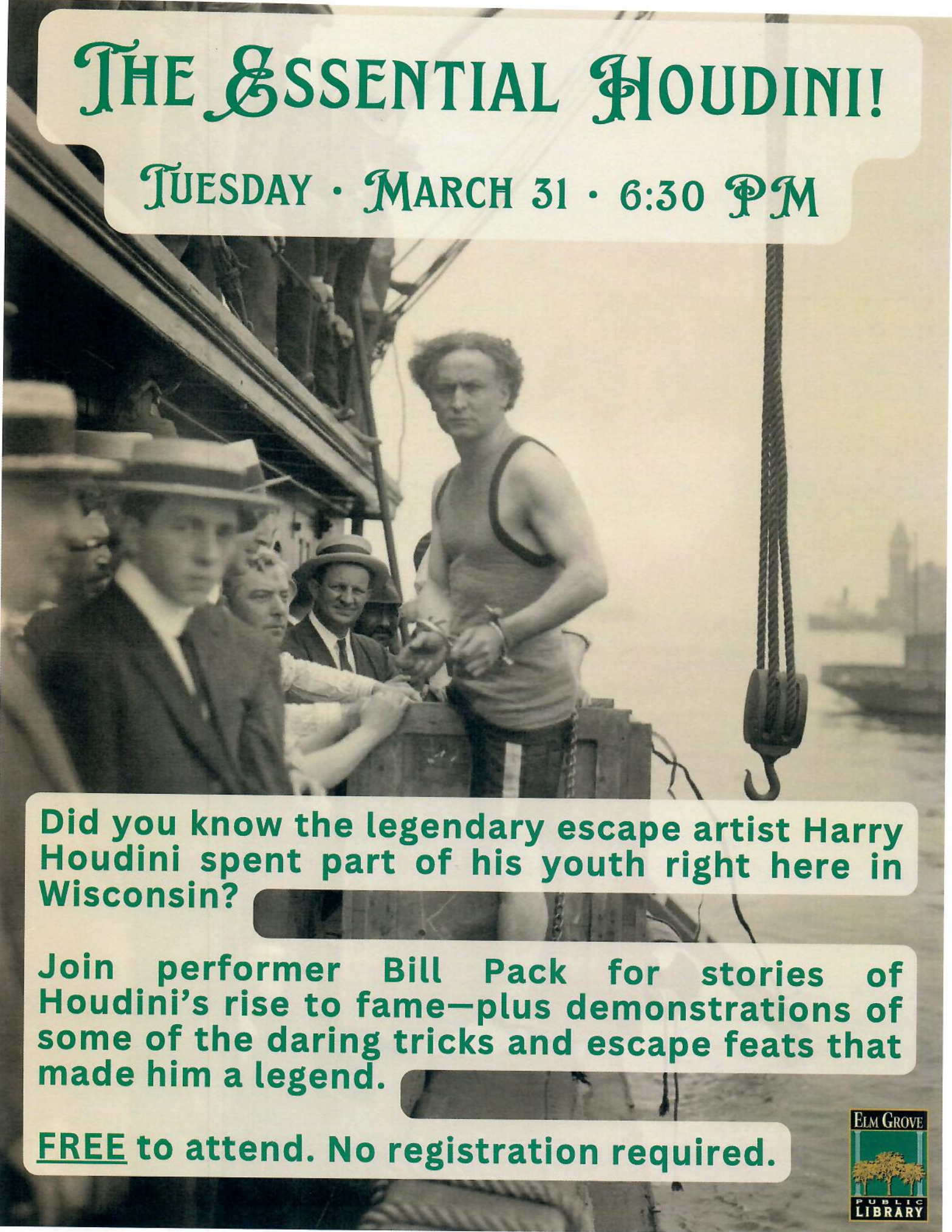


Kindred by Octavia Butler

For Black History Month, I decided to read *Kindred* by Octavia Butler. The story follows Dana Franklin, a young Black woman who is inexplicably transported back to 1800s Maryland to save the life of her ancestor, a slave-owning white man named Rufus Weylin. Whenever Rufus' life is in danger, Dana is forcibly returned to the past to help him, but she is also forced to live and work there as a slave until danger to her own life compels her back to the present. Her experiences on the plantation scar her both physically and mentally as she experiences whippings, constant fear and anxiety, and dehumanizing disregard for her autonomy. What makes the book so fascinating is how Dana's modern-day attitudes are challenged by her experience of the horrors of slavery firsthand. An important, compelling, page-turning read. ~John Bogdal~

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