



IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

# WINDOW

Spring/  
Summer 2019



## Librarians bring books to kids

Maybe you've seen our librarians leaving ICPL with bags of books in their wheeled Library suitcases and wondered "How many books can one librarian read?"

The answer is a lot, but that's not what they're doing.

Karen Gordon, Casey Maynard and Anne Wilmoth are responsible for the Library's Children's Outreach Services storytimes. Combined, this trio makes 40 monthly visits to sites in Iowa City—including preschools, daycare centers, and Neighborhood

Centers—to promote early childhood literacy through 30-minute storytimes. The storytimes are interactive and participatory, with songs and activities that reinforce early literacy concepts and classroom curriculum.

"I love preschool visits," Maynard says. "It's always so much fun to see little faces light up, curious about what surprises you have in your bag of tricks. Sometimes the kiddos are so excited about reading books together that we sit for the entire half an hour reading and none of the games or other fun things I've brought get used."

Each year, the Library's Children's Outreach program reaches more than

It's no surprise that ICPL's new Library Director Elsworth Carman loves libraries. Growing up, his family frequently visited theirs and he still recalls the day he truly understood that books went home with multiple families, not just his.

"It was a big revelation. I can recall a sense of wonder once I grasped the concept that these materials were shared with the whole community," he says.

While reading is one reason why Carman chose to pursue library science, earning his master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Information Studies, what really drew him

to the profession was a love of people and an interest in equity. "Libraries are one of the only truly public places left in modern society and I consider that one of the most important elements of what we do," Carman says. "Not only does this mean we're open and welcoming to everyone, the Library also models inclusivity and helps maintain a sense of diversity in the community. We are living in a time when people all over the world are being actively persecuted for their skin color, economic status, religion, gender identity, etc. Being a welcoming space and serving our patrons authentically is critically important to the overall wellness of our community."

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## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.

## CONTACT US

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OUTREACH, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

11,000 children, bringing ICPL to children who might not otherwise visit the Library.

“It’s important to me to establish relationships with children so they’ll think, throughout their lives, of the library and of us librarians as people who are compassionate, knowledgeable, friendly, and have the key to exciting learning opportunities and fun activities,” Wilmoth says. “It’s also just really fun! I like to sing and dance and read books aloud that I love, and kids don’t judge. They give you enthusiasm right back.” Sometimes that enthusiasm leads to cheerful waves at the grocery store as little ones spot their favorite librarians

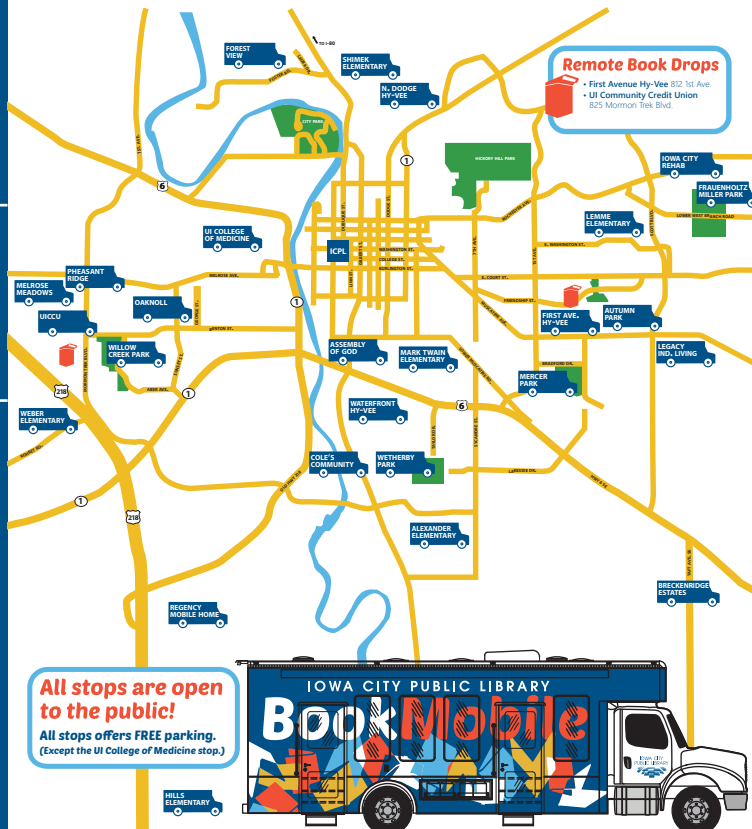
out and about. Luckily, our trio is well-versed in explaining how they know the excited children. Usually their explanation is met with equal enthusiasm from the parents, who have heard stories of the librarians’ visits.

“(My daughter) is only two and comes home raving about Karen,” a parent wrote in an email praising the program. “In all of the photos her daycare sends, she is always in the front row as close as she can be to Karen. It’s literary love!”

“I love that the parents tell me their child is so excited to talk about the library visit they had that day,” Gordon says. “It makes my heart sing.”

# BookMobile

IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY



## June 3 - Aug. 16 Schedule

### Monday

9:00-9:45 Mark Twain Elementary  
10:30-11:30 Willow Creek Park  
11:45-12:30 Resurrection Assembly of God  
1:30-2:00 Legacy Independent Living  
2:15-2:45 Iowa City Rehabilitation  
3:00-3:30 Frauenholtz-Miller Park  
3:45-4:30 Helen Lemme Elementary

### Tuesday

9:30-10:15 Irving Weber Elementary  
10:30-11:30 Oaknoll Retirement Comm., George St.  
11:45-12:15 Pheasant Ridge Neighborhood Center  
12:30-1:00 Melrose Meadows  
2:00-2:30 First Avenue Hy-Vee  
2:45-3:15 Autumn Park Apartments  
3:45-4:15 Hills Elementary

### Wednesday

9:00-9:45 Archibald Alexander Elementary  
10:30-11:30 Wetherby Park  
1:30-2:00 North Dodge Hy-Vee  
2:30-3:00 Bohumil Shimek Elementary  
3:30-4:00 Forest View  
4:30-5:30 UI Comm. Credit Union Mormon Trek Blvd.

### Thursday

11:00-1:00 UI College of Medicine Courtyard  
4:00-4:15 Cole's Community  
4:30-4:45 Regency Mobile Home Community  
5:15-5:45 Waterfront Hy-Vee  
6:30-7:30 Party in the Park Various Locations

### Friday

10:30-11:30 Mercer Park  
Noon-1:00 Breckenridge Estates

[icpl.org/bookmobile](http://icpl.org/bookmobile)

# ICPL open during construction

The second phase of the Pedestrian Mall Improvements Project is underway. All businesses will remain open and accessible during construction, including the Library.

The project is part of the larger Downtown and Pedestrian Mall Streetscape Plan, improving accessibility, infrastructure and the overall aesthetic of the area.

The first phase of the project was completed in the fall of 2018. It focused on Dubuque Street from College to Washington streets, including the Dubuque and College Street intersection, as well as Black Hawk Mini Park. The second and final phase, located on College Street, from Clinton to Linn streets, is expected to be finished in fall 2019.

*To stay updated during construction:*  
 Subscribe to the Ped Mall Improvements Project email list:  
[www.icgov.org/e-subscriptions](http://www.icgov.org/e-subscriptions)

Follow the City of Iowa City on Facebook and Twitter using **#PedProject**

To learn more about the project, visit:  
[icgov.org/downtownstreetscape](http://icgov.org/downtownstreetscape)

There's also an information bulletin board inside the Library.



IOWA CITY  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

FOUNDATION

# Friends

Every contribution has a positive impact on your Iowa City Public Library! Thank you for giving as generously as you can to ensure the Library's continued success.

### Giving is easy

**Online** - Visit our secure site at [www.icpl.org/support/donate](http://www.icpl.org/support/donate) to use your Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express.

**Payroll deduction** - Give through Iowa Shares if you work for the City of Iowa City, Johnson County, University of Iowa, Iowa City Community School District, and other local public and private employers.

**Check or Credit Card** - Use the form below. Mail to ICPL Development Office, 123 S. Linn St., Iowa City, IA 52240.

**Questions?** Contact Patty McCarthy, Development Director, at (319) 356-5249 or [patty-mccarthy@icpl.org](mailto:patty-mccarthy@icpl.org)

I am proud to support the Iowa City Public Library with a contribution to the Friends Foundation Annual Fund at the following level:

- Literary Circle \$2,500 and more
- Publisher's Circle \$1,000-\$2,499
- Editor's Circle \$500-\$999
- Author's Circle \$250-\$499
- Reader's Circle \$100-\$249
- Book Lovers \$50-\$99
- Bookplate \$1-\$49

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Get ready to explore ***A Universe of Stories***, the theme for this year's Summer Reading Program, **June 1 through August 10**. The adventure includes programs and events for adventurers of all ages, babies to adults, because reading benefits everyone!

### **Babies and Toddlers**

Research has shown the most reliable predictor of school success is being read to during early childhood. Reading to children not only promotes a lifelong love of books and reading, it helps close the vocabulary gap and prepares them for kindergarten.

### **School-Age Children and Teens**

On average, children lose approximately two months of their reading achievement if they do not read during the summer. To succeed in school and life, children and young adults need ongoing opportunities to learn and practice essential skills. Reading for just 20 minutes a day helps kids maintain the reading skills they developed during the school year and fuels their imagination.

### **Adults**

According to Yale researchers, people who read books for 30 minutes daily live an average of 23 months longer than nonreaders. Reading creates cognitive engagement that improves vocabulary, thinking skills and concentration. It also can affect empathy, social perception and emotional intelligence.

Now that you know how reading can benefit you this summer, be sure to sign up! Pre-registration begins May 13. You can register online at [srp.icpl.org](http://srp.icpl.org) or in-person at the Library. June 8 is the first day participants can turn in game cards for prizes.

The Library thanks the following sponsors for supporting the Summer Reading Program: The ICPL Friends Foundation, Aspen Leaf Frozen Yogurt, Bruegger's Bagels, The Iowa Children's Museum, McDonald's, and Pancheros Mexican Grill.



*Special Access programs are for individuals with autism and their families.*

### **Special Access Exotic Animals Meet & Greet Thursday, June 27, 5pm Meeting Room A**

Lacey from Wild Times Exotic Animals will be sharing 7 exotic friends with us! Everyone will have a chance to get up close and even touch some of her animals from around the world!



[SRP.ICPL.ORG](http://SRP.ICPL.ORG)



# ADULTS

**ICPL Astronomy Night at the Palisades-Dows Observatory**  
**Saturday, June 8 | 8:30-10:30 pm**  
**Palisades-Dows Preserve**  
**(1365 Ivanhoe Road in Ely)**

Join members of the Cedar Amateur Astronomers for a special ICPL Astronomy Night at the Observatory at the Palisades-Dows Preserve. Tours of the facility begin at 8:30 p.m. followed by a short program about what's in the night sky at this time of year. Everyone will get multiple chances to look through the telescopes. Attendance is limited, advance registration is required. Go to [icpl.org/calendar](http://icpl.org/calendar) or call the Library to register.



# TWEENS

**Totally Tweens:**  
**Universal Stories Club**  
**Tuesday, June 11 | 3-4 pm**  
**Storytime Room**

Our stories are universal, let's read together. First up, we'll talk about the "All Iowa Kids Read" book of the year "Amina's Voice" with the author herself, Hena Khan! If you haven't read it, the Library has plenty of copies. Snacks will be provided.



**Outer Space Odyssey!**  
**Thursday, July 18, 10:30 & 12:30**  
**Meeting Room A**

Ever wonder what it's like to visit other planets in our solar system? When the Science Center of Iowa visits, you'll do just that! We'll follow the amazing journey of the Voyager spacecraft, see some of the awe-inspiring images and attempt some out-of-this-world experiments.

# TEENS

**Nerf Battle**  
**Wednesday, August 7 | 2-3 pm**  
**Meeting Room A**

Ready to join your friends in an epic Nerf battle? Let the games begin! Bring your own blaster (some will be available) and we'll supply the darts.

# KIDS



Pick up a **Kids Program Guide** in the Iowa City Public Library's Children's Room or on the Bookmobile for a complete list of our Summer Reading Programs!

**Martika, One Woman Circus Act**  
**Thursday, July 25**  
**10:30-11:30 am & 12:30-1:30 pm**

Martika is an expert performer in the fire, sideshow, and circus arts. Impossible to pin down, her show contains diverse elements such as sword swallowing, daring escapes and more! During her visit, kids will have the opportunity to create their own unique circus routines to share using all kinds of fun circus props.



**Try It Out Friday:**  
**Soul Food & Book Tasting**  
**Friday, August 9, 1-2 pm**  
**Tween Space**

Circulate through several different stations, each featuring an array of carefully-selected books across a wide range of ages, all highlighting the African American experience. Sift quickly through the pile in front of you and grab a book, reading a bit of it just to get a "taste." While you read, eat a delicious snack-size portion of an authentic soul food dish cooked up by Johnson County Supervisor Royceann Porter.



Prior to his employment at ICPL, Carman spent two-and-a-half years working in Marion, first as director of the Marion Public Library, then as a city administrator. He previously was a manager at the Oak Park Public Library in Illinois. While he enjoyed the challenge of working at City Hall, Carman knew the library world was where he belonged. When former director Susan Craig announced her retirement, Carman says he had to apply for the position.

“Even as a library science student, I saw ICPL as a great example of a library that is focused on serving the local community in a compassionate, thoughtful way,” Carman says. “Add to that a staff made up of truly amazing, dedicated people and a legacy director with a sterling reputation, ICPL is a powerhouse.”

Being part of a UNESCO City of Literature; the engaged, progressive, and thoughtful community; and a dedicated, strong local government are added benefits to what he calls a dream job.

Nearly six months have passed since Carman’s first day. While he’s more familiar with the business-end of internal functions, and has a deeper grasp of the Library’s policies, procedures, and practices, his early impressions haven’t changed.

“I continue to be impressed with the expert staff, the services provided, and the facility we all work in,” he says. “I hope to honor the legacy of exceptional, community-focused work that ICPL is known for by continuing to evaluate, assess, and measure current and potential services and making intentional decisions about what to end, what to try, and what to change. I look forward to diving into our next strategic planning cycle and working with the Iowa City community to write the Library’s next chapter.”

Carman and his wife, Lia, live in Iowa City with their two children, ages three and one, and what he describes as “a very sweet geriatric Japanese Chin.” When he’s not at the Library, you’ll find him tackling home improvement projects. He’s teaching himself how to quilt and sew, adding that his enthusiasm for the craft makes up for his lack of talent. He also enjoys spending time with his family and, of course, reading. “I’m thankful to have the opportunity to serve as the director of ICPL,” Carman says. “This is a special community and a special library. Community feedback is a critical part of a library’s success, so please let me know what you think is going well and what you have concerns about. I’d love to hear from you via phone, email, or office visit!”



## LITERARY Q&A

We asked Library Director Elsworth Carman to share some of his favorite books.



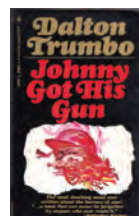
### FAVORITE CHILDHOOD BOOK

*The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame  
"It's still a favorite."



### FAVORITE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOOK

The Baby-Sitters Club series  
"I consider myself an expert on the first 75 books and would love to talk to you about favorite characters, outfits, and plots!"



### FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL BOOK

*Johnny Got His Gun* by Dalton Trumbo  
The Weetzie Bat books by Francesca Lia Block  
Anything by Robert Cormier



### FAVORITE BOOK IN COLLEGE

*Rubyfruit Jungle* by Rita Mae Brown  
*Stone Butch Blues* by Leslie Feinberg  
"And I started to get into all kinds of poetry."



# Lobby Stops bring ICPL to patrons

Last fall, ICPL's Outreach Services piloted a new program for patrons with mobility issues: Lobby Stops.

"The Bookmobile is doing a great job reaching community members away from the downtown Library, but we learned from stops at retirement residences that there are people unable to use the Bookmobile because of mobility issues," Community Services and Access Coordinator Kara Logsdan says.

Lobby Stops consist of Library staff bringing materials to retirement communities, setting up a pop up library in the lobby for residents. Each stop includes materials for check-out, holds placed for future delivery, and assistance from



“Lobby Stops create a fun atmosphere of **community** that is greatly appreciated by residents and staff.”



## A BOOK YOU READ RECENTLY THAT YOU ENJOYED?

"I just revisited *The Carrying* by Ada Limón and was reminded of how much I loved it."



## WHAT IS THE FIRST BOOK YOU RECOMMEND PEOPLE READ?

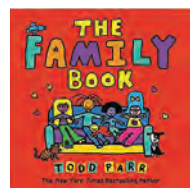
Morgan Parker's 2017 *There Are More Beautiful Things Than Beyoncé*

"It's amazing in so many ways."



## A BOOK YOU'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO IN 2019?

"It came out in February but I haven't read it yet: *Magical Negro* by Morgan Parker. Parker is a powerhouse of a writer and, in my opinion, she's redefining and refreshing modern poetry."



## WHAT DO YOU READ TO YOUR CHILDREN?

"I love to read Todd Parr and Sandra Boynton books to my kids, and we read a lot of Donald Crews."

## WHAT'S BETTER – THE BOOK OR THE MOVIE?

"I love movies and really enjoy the whole movie theater experience, but I'll almost always pick the book over the movie. My two exceptions are *The Neverending Story* and *Jurassic Park*."



ICPL staff. During the pilot period, Library Assistant Heidi Kuchta visited Walden Place, Bickford Senior Living and Legacy Assisted Living in November and December, visiting each location once.

"Over the course of all three Lobby Stops, I checked out 32 items and issued 18 library cards," Kuchta says. "I fielded questions about Libby and other digital resources, accepted book donations, placed holds on materials, and signed up several patrons for At Home services."

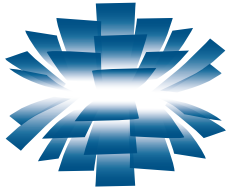
This response led to continuing Lobby Stops at the three locations in 2019 and adding Emerson Point. Kuchta visits the four locations every other week. West side stops on the first and third Mondays of the month, and the east side stops take place on the second and fourth Mondays. The visits provide access to books and information, and give residents the opportunity to socialize as they browse.

"Lobby Stops create a fun atmosphere of community that is greatly appreciated by residents and staff," Kuchta said.

This was demonstrated during a recent stop at Walden Place. Kuchta was greeted with smiles and hand squeezes from a few of her regulars. "What have you brought for us today?" one woman asked in a teasing tone as she looked through the stack of books lining the table just outside the cafeteria. As she was browsing, a resident who earlier said "No, thanks" to the selection returned for a second look.

She checked out four books.





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& ILLUSTRATORS!  
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COSTUMES!  
PRIZES!

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young adult  
**MATERIALS!**



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for more information.