

Better Building, Better Service

Beginning this month, you will notice changes in the Library as part one of a two-part renovation project gets underway.

The Iowa City Public Library has responded to our community's needs with the "Better Building, Better Service" project – a renovation that will result in greater accessibility, service enhancements, and a more positive Library experience for all.

Service improvements are already underway. In September, the Library made changes to its telephone system so callers would no longer have to listen to a long menu of option choices. When you call the Library at 319-356-5200 during normal hours, a staff member who can answer most questions will be the first person you speak to.

Please pardon our dust this fall as the Library continues to make these and other improvements.

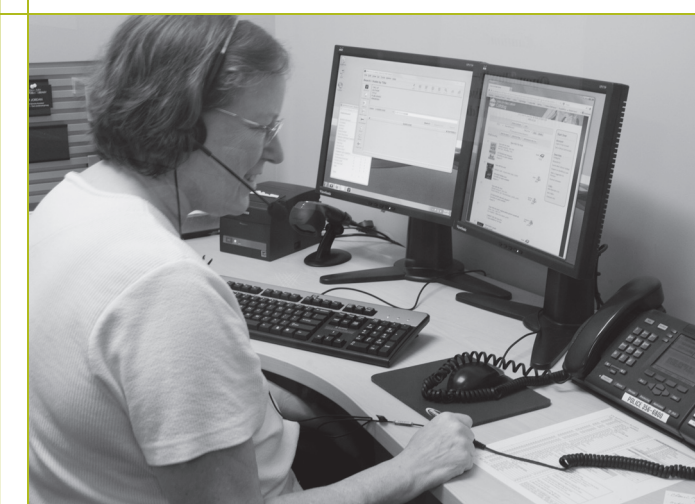
"This Library just keeps getting better."

- Library patron, June 2012



By the end of fall, the Library's improvements will include:

- The ability to place up to eight holds at a time (up from five), and hold on-shelf materials to pick up at the Library.
- Adding more than 100 digital magazine titles and moving the magazines to the new reading room downstairs.
- Moving the Young Adult Fiction collection upstairs to add additional space for these items.
- Adding more self-check stations and DVD unlockers.
- Providing one centrally-located HELP Desk on the first floor.
- Raising the fine threshold that would stop you from using your library card.
- More seating around the adult area on the first floor.
- Re-carpeting the main traffic areas.



see Renovation, continued inside



The Library's grand reading room (top) will accommodate both digital and print magazine collections on the first floor. Service changes are underway this fall at the Library, including reinstatement of a staffed switchboard (above left) so there will be no more recorded messages during business hours. It will be even easier for the public to get information when the new HELP Desk opens on the first floor (above right). More shelving for holds will be nearby when the Library expands this service to include the option to hold on-shelf items that are in-stock at the Library for easy pick-up.

Another record-setting year

The Iowa City Public Library remains the busiest public library building in the state of Iowa. This year saw ICPL launch the Local Music Project, an innovative way to deliver local music content to Iowa City. The Library also strengthened its partnerships in the community by supporting the first growing season of the successful City Plaza Children's Garden. ICPL brought Johnson County together for a first in the country public art show of the BookMarks gigantic book statues, expanded outreach programs to underserved members of the community and continued to find new ways to encourage lifelong learning for all.

ICPL has increased circulation, offered new technology support, improved the

look and feel of the library catalog, offered a variety of programs and displays from U.S. Olympic Wrestling to Charles Dickens, and was involved in the creation of a new children's literature festival sponsored by the City of Literature. By the numbers, it was another record-setting year:

- 69,306 cardholders
- 1,576,755 checkouts
- 764,911 visits
- 211,220 computer users
- 76,111 questions answered
- 62.9% of checkouts done by self-check
- 94.5% increase in eDownloads

The Library's full annual report is available online at www.icpl.org/about/annual-report-12.



Friends Foundation Board

Welcome to the following community leaders who are new to the Board of Directors of the Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation. The Library's Development Office works together with the volunteer members of the Friends Foundation board on Library fundraising efforts. For more information about the Library's Friends Foundation, visit www.icpl.org/friends-foundation/. To donate to the Library, visit www.icpl.org/support/donate/ or mail the form on the preceding page.



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Iowa City Public Library Board of Trustees

The nine-member Board of Trustees meets monthly as the governing board of the Iowa City Public Library.



Board members for 2012-2013 are (l to r, front row) Mary New, Holly Carver (Secretary), Meredith Rich-Chappell (President), and (l to r, second row) Thomas S. Martin, Mark W. Edwards (Vice President), Linzee Kull McCray, Robin Paetzold (Johnson County representative), Thomas Dean, and Jay Semel.



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