The Bookmobile’s Summer Schedule begins in June, bringing library resources to a variety of diverse locations in and around Iowa City. The new service marks the ICPL’s biggest service extension since the downtown building opened in 2004.

The idea for the Bookmobile stemmed from discussions with patrons, focus groups and staff during a planning process that determined the Library’s 2016-2021 strategic plan. There were multiple comments regarding extended Library services, so the question became “What is the best and most affordable way to accomplish this?”
ICPL BOOKMOBILE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The answer was mobile.

“The Bookmobile will offer collections and services beyond our downtown location, and increase Library services throughout the community,” Susan Craig, Library Director, said. “The Bookmobile will connect with our community in new places; engage with new partners and patrons; and enrich lives through better access to Library collections and services.”

The Library’s Bookmobile services also align with a goal of the City of Iowa City’s Strategic Plan: Fostering a more inclusive, just, and sustainable Iowa City through a commitment to healthy neighborhoods throughout the City, a strong and resilient local economy, enhanced community engagement, and advanced social justice and racial equity.

“To be able to share the Iowa City Public Library experience with our community neighborhoods is a very exciting opportunity,” Bookmobile Assistant Shawna Riggins said. “We’re looking forward to connecting with the community on the road.”

The Bookmobile is a 32-foot vehicle built on a truck chassis. There are three service doors; two with steps and one with a wheelchair accessible lift. It has two solar panels and generator to power the lights and computer system.

The Bookmobile holds more than 2,500 items, including popular books and DVDs currently being circulated.

“You’ll find the best books and movies on the Bookmobile -- the ones that are in the most demand and are hardest to get downtown,” Collection Services Coordinator Anne Mangano said.

Beginning June 1, patrons can have holds from the Downtown Library delivered to the Bookmobile for an on-the-go pick-up opportunity. They can also return Library items at the Bookmobile.

In addition to circulation services, the Bookmobile will offer special programs. It will be staffed by two Library staff members at all times and will operate on three annual schedule periods.

The Summer Schedule runs from June 1 through August 18, and will focus on serving children and visits to high visibility locations. A complete schedule can be found on the back of this newsletter.

ICPL’s Bookmobile staff are also working with Antelope Lending Library, a privately run bookmobile in Iowa City, with the goal of both entities complementing each other’s services. More information about Antelope can be found at antelopelendinglibrary.org. For more information about upcoming Bookmobile events, visit icpl.org/bookmobile.
A passion for learning is partially responsible for the new ICPL Bookmobile. A generous estate gift from Mary Gilbert to the Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation funded half of the cost to create the state-of-the-art Bookmobile.

Gilbert retired to Iowa City in 2002 after living most of her life in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She was passionate about dogs, gardening, and learning through reading, talking, and listening.

“When we talked about the best ways to spend time, Mary’s smile brightened every time while describing the latest books she borrowed from the Iowa City Public Library,” Development Director Patty McCarthy said. “She was curious about everyone and everything. Nothing was better than days spent reading, walking in Hickory Hill Park with her beloved dog, Mercer, or talking with neighborhood children and friends.” Before she died in 2013, Gilbert named the Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation as a beneficiary in her will. We are grateful to have been able to thank her. Her very generous bequest will strengthen our community for a long time through the Bookmobile.

The result? Special Access Saturdays, during which the Library opens an hour early at 9 a.m. to serve individuals with autism and their families.

“We jumped right in, not knowing if anyone would come or if we would have a huge group. In the end, 62 people showed up on a bright, sunny Saturday morning,” Pilkington said. “Every face that came through the door had a smile. They knew we did this just for them.”

Now a regular Library event, Special Access Saturdays happen every other month. The North Liberty Community Library hosts an autistic-friendly hour on a Friday evening during the opposite months.

Individuals who attend Special Access Saturdays enjoy the same Library services as the general public, but in an environment tailored to accommodate their needs. This includes dim lighting and a quieter, less busy, environment. There are also therapy animals and storytime entertainment geared towards audiences on the autism spectrum.

“It sends a message to autistic people that they, too, belong in our community, and we care enough to try to make this community a place that is more welcoming, inclusive, and accepting of them,” Bishara said.

Special Access Saturdays are for any person of any age on the autism spectrum.

“We would love to encourage more adults to come and participate. There are no ‘rules’ when it comes to age appropriate activities and we would love for anyone to participate in whatever they find enjoyable,” Witherell said. “We want everyone to know that the Library truly is a resource for everyone.”
City of Iowa City Recycling Coordinator Jen Jordan will talk about the City’s landfill, recycling and composting programs. Then we’ll upcycle some items that you might see as trash into new, usable items, and learn about resources and projects for fixing stuff.

Meet us in the Koza Family Teen Center on the 2nd floor of the Library. We’ll walk to the Free Lunch Program together and start helping. You’ll receive volunteer hours for your work! Registration Required. Must be registered by July 21.

The Library thanks our 2017 Summer Reading Program sponsors: Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation; Aspen Leaf Frozen Yogurt; Blank Park Zoo; Brueggers’ Bagels; Buffalo Wild Wings; The Iowa Children’s Museum; Iowa City Parks & Recreation Department; McDonalds; Pizza Ranch; Walmart; Westdale Bowling Center & Lazer Tag; and Z’Mariks Noodle Café.
The Longfellow neighborhood’s Front Porch Music Festival is a neighborhood celebration of music-making. Now in its third year, the festival includes musicians of all ages and experiences, performing in a wide range of musical styles and traditions. Trevor Harvey, Ph.D., Lecturer in Ethnomusicology from the UI School of Music, and one of the co-founders of the Front Porch Music Festival will share the Front Porch story. He will be joined by other festival organizers and neighborhood musicians to get us in the mood for the 2017 Festival happening this weekend!

Trevor Harvey, Ph.D., Lecturer in Ethnomusicology from the UI School of Music, and one of the co-founders of the Front Porch Music Festival will share the Front Porch story. He will be joined by other festival organizers and neighborhood musicians to get us in the mood for the 2017 Festival happening this weekend!

Studies have found that participation in summer reading programs helps babies and toddlers develop early literacy skills, alleviates summer vacation learning loss for school-age children and teens, and improves memory skills in adults. Keep your mind active, your imagination strong and your hands helpful with Build a Better World.

Registration begins June 1. Register online at srp.icpl.org, in person at the Library, or at the Bookmobile!

Jim Gill’s concert is an active sing-along and clap-along. He bangs out energetic rhythms on his banjo while everyone claps, jumps, dances and even sneezes along.

The ICPL is a stop on Dan Wardell’s Reading Road Trip! Join us to meet this incredible TV celebrity, who is hitting the road this summer to visit libraries across Iowa as part of “Dan’s Reading Road Trip.” Kids can track his progress and read his stories from the road at IPTV’s website, www.iptv.org/kids.

There is a rich diversity of plant and animal species native to eastern Iowa, but they continue to be threatened by development. Bur Oak Land Trust is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to protect and conserve the natural areas of Johnson and surrounding counties.

Tammy Wright, Executive Director of Bur Oak Land Trust, will tell us about the organization and give us an overview of their properties, including Big Grove, which we will tour on Saturday, June 24.
NANCY

Chicken Story Time
by Sandy Asher
“ This book was made for me to share. What’s better than chickens in the Library?”

Ride, Fly Guy, Ride!
by Tedd Arnold
“Fly Guy books are great for beginning readers or for those who have already mastered reading, they’re so much fun! Everyone loves Fly Guy!”

ANGIE

Off We Go!
by Will Hillenbrand
“This is a cute picture book about learning to ride a bike — and for a reward, he gets to visit the storymobile!”

MARI

Anything is Possible
by Elizabeth Strout
“This as a lyrical novel that explores family bonds, relationships, and reconciliation. The reader cares for the characters and finds contentment in the hope for a better future.”

PAUL

The Road
by Cormac McCarthy
“Post-apocalyptic, dystopian, bleak, with all too fleeting glimmers of hope. But above all, well written and worth the often arduous journey.”

Moone Boy: The Blunder Years
by Chris Ó'Dowd & Nick V. Murphy
“Watch the TV show first to get the Irish accents in your head, and then laugh along with the witty and absurd stories of a not-so-bright kid and his imaginary friend set in the late 1980s/early 1990s.”

TOM

The Monkey Wrench Gang
by Edward Abbey
“Do you like madcap pagan vandal fantasy? Check out The Monkey Wrench Gang.”

STACEY

Ride, Fly Guy, Ride!
by Tedd Arnold
“Fly Guy books are great for beginning readers or for those who have already mastered reading, they’re so much fun! Everyone loves Fly Guy!”

JAWS
by Peter Benchley
“As warm weather approaches I turn to my favorite summer read. Check it out for a well-rounded novel filled with the drama of small town politics, midlife woes, and a man-eating shark.”

KARA

Anything is Possible
by Elizabeth Strout
“This as a lyrical novel that explores family bonds, relationships, and reconciliation. The reader cares for the characters and finds contentment in the hope for a better future.”

SHAWNA

Need a book recommendation?
Our Bookmobile staff give these books two thumbs up!

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The Iowa City Public Library recently added mobile hotspots to its list of circulating materials.

Users can connect to the Internet anywhere on any wireless-enabled device, such as a laptop, tablet, or smartphone, expanding Internet access to patrons who don’t have it at home.

ICPL HotSpots are available to Library users living in Iowa City or a contract service area – Hills, Lone Tree, University Heights, or unincorporated Johnson County. A HotSpot can be borrowed for seven days.

Did you know there’s an Iowa City Public Library app?

Launched in December, you can use the MyICPL app to keep track of your library account information, including items you have checked out, materials on hold, and fines. You can also renew items through the app.

The app allows for multiple accounts, so if you’re a parent who wants to make sure your kids are returning books on time, you can add their account to the app – you’ll need their Library card number and password – to see their due dates. The app even makes a copy of your Library Card barcode, so there’s no reason to dig your card out when you’re checking out Library materials.

One of our favorite features is the scan tool. If you’re at a bookstore and see a book you’d like to read, scan the barcode to see if we have it in our collection. If we don’t, ask that we request it from another library or suggest we purchase it. You can also check out what’s happening at the Library from our event page or connect with us on social media.

We want to improve the app, so please share your suggestions. There’s a Feedback page within the app under the menu. Include your email address you’d like to hear back from us.

The MyICPL app can be downloaded from the Apple Store or from Google Play.
BookMobile
IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
June 1 - August 18 Schedule

Monday
10:30-11:30am Willow Creek Park
Noon-1:00pm Lemme Elementary
2-3:00pm Grant Wood Elementary
3:30-5:30pm Pepperwood Plaza

Tuesday
9:00-10:00am (1st & 3rd Tues) Legacy Senior Living
9:00-10:00am (2nd & 4th Tues) Melrose Meadows
10:30-11:30am Oaknoll, George St.
Noon-1:00pm North Dodge Hy-Vee
2-3:00pm Forest View, Laura Dr.
3:30-4:30pm Iowa City Marketplace

Wednesday
10:30-11:30am Wetherby Park
Noon-1:00pm Creekside Market
2-3:00pm Cole’s Community, Riverside Dr.
3:30-5:30pm UI Community Credit Union, Mormon Trek Blvd.

Thursday
Noon-1:00pm Frauenholtz-Miller Park
1:30-2:30pm (1st & 3rd Thurs) Sunrise Village
1:30-2:30pm (2nd & 4th Thurs) Modern Manor
3-4:00pm Saddiebrook Association
4:30-6:30pm Gateway One
6:30-7:30pm Party in the Park (various locations)

Friday
10:30-11:30am Mercer Park
Noon-1:00pm Breckenridge Estates
2-3:00pm Lake Ridge
3:30-4:00pm Regency Mobile Home Park

icpl.org/bookmobile