Many families create weekend routines to savor time together. No alarms. No hurry to leave home.

The Neiman-Brown family’s weekend tradition often included a trip to downtown Iowa City where their bikes could be locked and stowed outside the Iowa City Public Library. Then to the Bread Garden Market where two-year-old JJ (Jack Joseph) and parents Maurine Neiman and Bennett Brown, would enjoy doughnuts for breakfast, a special treat. All would be tucked in at a table overlooking the Library.

Maurine said, “JJ would joyfully run across the ped mall ahead of me, absolutely certain of the route through the double doors, and smiling as he rounded the corner to go out of my sight straight into the children’s room. I would catch up and find him playing at the play kitchen making pizza with friends...he called everyone his

New Beginnings

Just after 2021 starts, newborn babies will leave Iowa City’s hospitals with an amazing gift—a just-published unique Begin with Books picture book. *Iowa City Counts* was written, illustrated, and published by Hills Bank to honor the 30th anniversary of Begin with Books. It is a partnership between the Iowa City Public Library and Hills Bank which has presented a book to some 60,000 babies since it began in 1991.

*Iowa City Counts* is perfect for reading aloud. It features colorful scenes of local treasures and words to help reinforce learning numbers from one through ten. Dwight Seegmiller, President of Hills Bank, said, “All of us at Hills bank believe reading is a positive influence in the life of a child. We enjoy being part of the Begin with Books program as it celebrates a special occasion for families in our community. We look forward to helping launch a new generation of children with this book and this program.”

Inside the colorful Begin with Books box, families will find the book, congratulatory letters from Seegmiller and Elsworth Carman, ICPL Director, with information to encourage Library visits and reading. Carman said, “This gift could be the baby’s first book. It’s great that anyone in the family can read it to

Continued on page 2
JJ’s Legacy, cont’d from page 1

friend…’ There’s a tiny strain in her voice as she describes that memory.

Maureen catches her breath before continuing to speak about their last special weekend before JJ died and his Library legacy was born. Sunday, February 2, 2020, was a rare winter day—warm enough for bike rides—and an ice cream treat before several hours in the Library selecting books to borrow and read together at home.

In late afternoon, Maurine said JJ’s flushed cheeks and feeling warm to the touch prompted them to head home. Acetaminophen and a bath brought his fever down enough for dinner and a movie before he fell asleep in her lap. In his crib after a goodnight kiss, he sleepily asked to hold hands as usual until he fell back asleep. He peacefully died in his sleep. Maurine and Bennett later learned JJ, despite being fully vaccinated, had influenza and undiagnosed asymptomatic asthma. Maurine, a biologist, said, “The latter increases the risk of infection by and death associated with the flu, highlighting the importance of community vaccination to protect the vulnerable along with yourselves.”

A month short of his third birthday, the passing of this energetic, curious, friendly child who loved to dance to Prince music, is the reason there are dozens of new children’s Library books on ICPL’s shelves. You’ll know them because each includes JJ’s bookplate as seen in the photo above.

JJ’s parents requested memorials be made to “charities that uplift women and children.” Hundreds of dollars flowed to the Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation in JJ’s name. His legacy is books that reflect his passions: animals, especially birds and from Australia/New Zealand, science, sign language, languages other than English. His favorite story, And Tango Makes Three, mirrors his love of everyone.

Maurine says that sharing JJ’s story doesn’t, “Stop the heartbreak. But it’s eased a little by thinking about other families picking up and reading JJ’s books. We’re amazed at everyone’s generosity and want them to know how much we appreciate them. The Library is a huge part of so many lives. It’s central to our family and it’s a comfort that he lives on there.”

New Beginnings, cont’d from page 1

the baby. Begin with Books is a foundation for reading every day which complements the early literacy programs offered by ICPL.”

“You can make a difference with a financial contribution to the Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation. Mail a check in the envelope from this newsletter or give online at icpl.org/about/donate. Questions? Contact Patty McCarthy, Development Director, 319-356-5249 or development@icpl.org.
Dear Friends,

Did you know the lions outside the New York Public Library are named Patience and Fortitude? They were named by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia during the Great Depression after the qualities he felt New Yorkers needed to get through those trying times. The year 2020 has required all of us to summon our patience and fortitude (so very much!) and I’m proud of how the ICPL and our community have found ways to forge on during this tough time.

As this letter reaches your mailbox, we will have been learning to live with the virus for 10 months. We are so grateful for your patience while the Library found safe ways to offer services and connect during this time. It takes fortitude and innovation to find entirely new ways to offer services, but our wonderful staff has met that challenge head on. Zoom classes, expanded digital offerings, Book Bunches, Grab and Go, the list goes on.

Demand for books and digital offerings has increased dramatically over the past months and your generous gifts have enabled the ICPL to meet that demand. Gifts to the Friends Foundation stock our eBook supply to keep our community well-read, informed, and entertained at home.

The ICPL staff is working tirelessly to prepare the Library for a full return to services. Libraries provide a light in times of darkness, and your support and solidarity will keep the ICPL standing strong during these uncertain times. Please join me in supporting the Library this winter.

Seamus Heaney said “If we winter this one out, we can summer anywhere.” While Heaney referred to the Troubles in Northern Ireland, the quote has significance now.

We will winter this one out with patience and fortitude and may all of our summers come soon. — Laura

Dear Friends,

I hope this edition of The Window finds you feeling safe, warm, healthy, and connected to the people and resources you love. For many of us, winter events will look different this year, but you can count on ICPL to provide you with information and entertainment all winter long, just like “usual”!

Early on in the closure, we developed a phased reopening plan designed to guide us through stages of service development. Maintaining public health and safety is our primary goal. At the time I am writing this letter, services and stages are being revised because the situation is changing. To better navigate between phases, Library service spaces have been retooled and staff have been cross trained to efficiently respond to community needs. We continue to work with Johnson County Public Health to determine safe practices while striving to promote access to the best of our ability during this time.

As a director, it’s hard to put into words the appreciation I have for the work of Library staff and volunteers during the pandemic. Over the last ten months, our Library Board of Trustees, Friends Foundation, and staff have stretched and learned how to continue our shared work in new ways. This has been rewarding, even in the most difficult moments. Traditional programs have been virtualized, meetings have been moved online, and countless other things have shifted, but the commitment to serving our patrons in a safe way has never wavered. With humor, grace, and perseverance, staff and volunteers have made sure ICPL remained an active hub of community life...even when our services are limited.

And our patrons! What a joy it is to see your masked faces back in the lobby. I am so thankful for the ways you have been patient with our process, trusted our plans, followed our new safety guidelines, and kept us on our toes with suggestions for service changes and materials requests. The deep winter months are a great time to explore all the things your Library has to offer; please consider this a personal invitation to participate in our virtual classes and programs, holds pickup, crafts to go, reference and personalized recommendations, and collections.

As always, your feedback is highly valued and welcome any time. Stay well! — Elsworth
Generous donations from the following friends of the Iowa City Public Library made a difference for the thousands of people who interact with the Library. The generous gifts of money, books, movies, music, and other items were received from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Please contact us at development@icpl.org with any questions.

Thank you for showing your library love with your generosity.

---

**Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation Donor Honor Roll**

**Editor’s Circle $2,500 - $500**

Anonymous

Silverton, IA

**Founder’s Circle $1,000**

Anonymous

Silverton, IA

---

**Publisher's Circle**

**$2,499 - $1,000**

Anonymous

Silverton, IA

---

**One best book is equal to hundred good friends, one good friend is equal to a library.**

- Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam
Elizabeth Ahlers
Tiffany Adrain
Lori Ziegenhorn and Sandy Young
Marc Wold and Madeline Shae
Harold Williamson
Ellen Widiss
Gary and LaDonna Wicklund
Jean Whiting
Michael and Ann Welsh
Bruce and Dedi Walker
Timothy and Victoria Walch
Ellen Twinam
Guerin and Mary Kay Thompson
Ron and Pat Schnack
Benjamin Schlesinger
Hutha Sayre
Jayne Sandler
Daniel and Kathryn Runde
Craig Samuels
Chris and Carol Samuelsen
Jayne Sandtler
Hutia Sayre
Franklin and Mary Scaman
Benjamin Schlesinger
Ron and Pat Schnack
Jed and Jana Schnoor
Larry and Judith Schroeder
Ann Seigl
Lynette Seigl
Eileen Shaughnessy
Jesse Singerman
Anne Skinstad
Stephen and Patricia Smith
Bradley Snell and Carol Besler-Snell
Scott Spak and Rachael Carlson
Carol Spaziani
William and Marlene Stanford
Dan and Beth Stence
Landon Stroor
Shel and Ann Stromquist
Lindsey Sullivan
Guerron and Mary Kay Thompson
Mary Trachsel
Dick and Buffie Tucker
Ellen Twann
Cynthia Vanderwicken
William Vincent and Marie Kerbeshian
Tom and Jan Urban
Timothy and Victoria Walch
Bruce and Dedi Walker
Jean Walker
Steven and Nancy Weber
Michael and Ann Welsh
Ryan and Amanda West
Jean Whiting
Gary and LaDonnawicklund
Ellen Widiss
Harold Williamson
Mat and Madeline Shae
Brian Wood
Shirley Wyrick
Sandy Young
Lori Ziegenhorn and Murray Bouschlicher
Book Lovers $99 - $1
Patricia Addis
Tiffany Adrain
Elizabeth Alders
Christine Allen
AmazonSmile Foundation
Anonymous
Kate Aspengren
David and Ann Auer
Mary Anderson
Diane Barrrett
Gary and Susan Beadle
Leighton and Michele Becker
Barbara Behr
Astrid Bennett
Marvin and Darlene Bergman
Glorine Berry
Puja Birla
Jackie Blank
Carol Bradock
Brown Street Inn
Emily Brunner
Mary Burgess
Ruth Burr
Courtney Gorbell
Miriam Carter
Sara Castlebury
Brett Cloyd and Debra Venzke
Rosalind Conrad
Casey Coot and Kate Geller
John and Suzanne Cowdery
Linda Darling
James and Kathryn Davis
Thomas Den and Susan Prepejchal
Eugene Dierking
Caroline Dieterle
Judith Doorenbos
Ann Doyle
Dennis and Martine Dunnwald
Glenn and Charlotte Elbert
Maggie Elliott
Christine Ewert
Dennis and Theresa-Biederbous
Janet Freeman
Benjamin and Jill Galluzzo
Carolyn Gardner
Adrianna Gowin
Geri Goodnight
Stephen Gude
Gary Hagen
Randy and Kris Hardin
John Harper
Cheryl Hartley
Patricia Heiden
Judy Hafner
David and Sue Johansen
Derek Johak
Johnson & Johnson
Matching Gifts
Maggie Keyser
Andrew Kitchen and Jessica Westin
Gene and Carol Knutson
Catherine Koeppen
Marian Koss
Gary Kramer
Nathaniel Kronsedge
Ted and Kathy Kron
Robert Kuchbauer and Margaret Kent-
Kuchbauer
Holly Kunkel
Kemetera Lomen and Ruth Kunkel Rose
and Shelly Kurtz James and Catherine Lane Karyn Larkin
Tim and Deb Lehman
Linda Lacey
Maria Lih
Rachel Lindhard
Carolyn Loops
Bonnie Rae Love
Marsha and Timothy Lowe
Gary and Sharon Lust
Steven and Janice Lyons
Usha Malik
Susan Marks and Steve Hall
Mike and Sarah Marran
David and Diane Martin
Tom and Wanda Martin
James and Karen Martin
Marianne Mason
Mary Jo Mattiello
Johanna McCafferty
Steven and Erin McDowell
Carol McGahan
Otis McGowan
Linda McGuire
David and Anne McLaughlin
Deborah McMan
Edith Merriman
Mary Ann Mulliniks
Hua Jung Murray
Bill and Judith Naussee
Melvin Neeley
Ann Nelson
Laurie Neuerburg
Nineteenth Century Club
Lauren Noble
Mary Noble
Carrie Norton
Dan and Cheryl Nuno
Kathleen Oberley
Helen Oldis
Sherrie and Robert Panther
Diane and Kathy Papke
Jason Paulos
Lisa Paulus
Michael Paulsen and Laurey Eastland
David Peate
Mark and Bonnie Penno
PEO Chapter HJ
Marlene Perrin
James and Laure Peters
Carla Pies
Angela Pickering
Andrea Jones
Andres and Barbara Plakans
Francine Pollack
Margaret Polson
William and Doris Preucil
Anya Princhen
Janice Prochaska
Mark and Carole Ramsey
Dennis and Margaret Reese
Christine Reynolds
Jo Richardson
Stan Ridgeway
Shawna Riggins
Molly Roberts
Ann Robinson
John and Paula Robinson
W.J. and Judith Robison
Diane Rogers
Rubenka Rubenken
Mary Sue Russell
Heather Rutherford
Denise Sadoff
Maricris Saller
Martin and Teresa Salerno-Hugg
Jackie Schnitzius
Robert Saunders
Marla Schlater
Tracy Schoenfeld
Robert and Deborah Schultz
Tammie Schultz
William and Winifred Scott
Melissa Serenda
Daniel ‘Kip’ Sheldon
Hannah Shultz
Candice Simonsen
Greg and Jeri Smith
Kathryn Smith
Ted and Penny Smith
James Smirer
Mary and Eldon Snyder
Society-Maroa Cole
Kimberlee Siers
Joan Swett
Anne Tanner
Jimmie and Loretta Taylor
Kay Thielbaur
Ariane Elizabeth Thomas
Join and Janet Tiffany
Bruce and Bridgeit Tius
Sarah Uron
Cheryl Wiegand
Joel and Cathy Wilcox
Margaret Willett
Roger Williams
Marilyn Wirz
Michelle Wiegand
Karen Zehr
Shaun Ziegler
Gary and Dena Yngve
Karen Zehr
Arts and Crafts Bazaar and Other Inkind Donors
100 Grannyn
Giana Ackerman
Anonymous
Aspen Leaf Frozen Yogurt
Suzanne Aunan
Autism Society of Iowa
Ken Aragon
Amanda Axley and Pier Debes
Suzanne Barlow
Adalia Bean
John and Beth Beasley Family
Sarah Bellows
Mercedes Bern-Blug
Phyllis Black
Julie Blair
Diana Boedgin
Bookas are Kids
Paula Bradman
Janie Braverman
Bristol Strategy Group
John and Ellen Buchanan
Hannah Busse
Beth Butler
Seth Caplan
Gretchen Caracas
Chris Carman
Horacio Castellanos-Moya
Yin Can
Cory Christiansen and Erin Payne-Christiansen
Sue Christiansen
City of Iowa City Parks & Recreation Dept.
Cheryl Clamon
Mavee Clark
Ginny Clemens
Susan Craig
Becky Dannenberg
Lucy David
Jim and Kathy Davis
Tom Dean
Peter and Ellen Densen
Eleanor Dilkes
Amy Dobrian
Linda Eastman
Amy Eckrich
Michelle Edwards
Pat Ethhardt
Chant Eicke and Risa Dotson Eicke
Jen Eilers
Barb Elbert
Greg Evans
FilmScene
Fired Up Iowa City
Jim Fishbaugh
Beth Fishbau
Janice Fisher
Annie Fitzgerald
Edmond Gaines
Edwin Geers
Barry Geier
Fatima Goloshchapova
John Grooss
Margaret Hansen
Alysia Hanson
Mary Hawkins
Barbara Haring
Georgia Head
Julie Hegmann
Chuck Henderson
Elisa Hernandez Perez
Ruth Hexseltine
Cheryl Herhitergion
Margaret Hibbs
John Paul Herbeck
Susanne Humphreys
Eric Johnson
Kristin Johnson
Mandy Johnson
Gretchen Keeser
Kathleen Kindl
Audrey Knox
Jane Lahann Kovaciny
Patricia Knox
Ken Kruse
Lisa Leech
Zhang Lu
Mary MacNeil
Emily Martin
Grant Martin
Patricia McCarthy
Linzee McClay
McDonald’s
Creative Management
Spanish Consulate
MidWestOne Bank
Susan Miller
Sally Mills
Mary Mockaitis
Melissa Morley
Judith Moss
Muddy Feet Yoga
Romona Murrell
Michelle Nagle
Joanne Nelson
Mary New
Deanna Nielson
Jennifer Paige and Wesley Beary
Beth Noyes
Oasis, The Falafel Joint
Jenny Olson
P.E.O. Chapter KP
Marie Lorena Padron
Chris Parizek
Joyce Pattschull
Haley Pearson
Pilot Club of Iowa City
Barbara Plakans
FlexCraft, Inc.
Janice Pong
Loretta Popp
Continued on page 6

Thank you to our Partners of the Month Sponsors:
“Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again” is a fantastic opening line in literature and certainly belongs in the same space as “Call me Ishmael.” Daphne du Maurier’s Rebecca has a woman, a man, another woman’s shadow, a landscape, a house, and a hidden history. These six elements are the heart of this romantic gothic classic. Reading the struggle between two powerful women, one waking up to a new life and one not content to remain a ghost, is a delight which I return to again and again.

Donors, continued from pages 4 & 5

Julie Pulkrabek
Sarah Quinn
Tiffany Ralston
Carole Ramsey
Mari Redington
Meg Richardson
Shawna Riggins
Thomas Rocklin
Becky Ross
Bob and Mary
Jennifer Royer
Jeff Rudolph
Donna Rupp
Victoria Samala
Sue Sanford
Kay Schneider
Linda Schreiber
Robert and Deborah
Emily Schulz
Jo Scott
Steve Semken
Juli Seydell Johnson
Larry Sievers
Jane Skinner
Sara Slee Brown
Corinne Stanley
Anna Stranieri
Sophie Stumbo

Ruth Swiderski
Vicki Tardy
John Tiffany
Marcio Tokita
Jody Turkal
United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties
Andrew and Janeen Van Etten
Victoria Welch
Diane Weir
Rachel Wickelhaus
Rachel Wickersham
Andrea Wilson
Caroline Woods
Emma Yockey

Tribute Gifts/
Honor & Memorials

The following people were
honored by gifts in their names:
Rhonda and John Barr
Teddy and Sam Barr
Merrilee and Bob Beckman
Barb Black
Ellen Buchanan
Maeve Clark
Jim Davis

Ellie Denson
Linda Eastman
Karlen Fellows
Joanna Galluzzo
Melanie Haupert
Josie Hermiston
Mara Hermiston
Robyn Hermiston
Delia and Matt Howard
Becky Johnson
Ted Kron
Mary Lea Kruse
Heidi Laurizen
Kara Logsdon
Patty McCarthy
Ulpi and Dr. Jose Morcuende
Cheryl Nuno
Al Paxton
William Pontarelli
Dana Reisman
Diane Rogers
Chuck and A.K. Traw

The following people were
remembered by memorial
gifts in their names:
Jack Anderson
Ann Bagford
Haywood Barnett Belle
Hulette Belle
Baird Derwiler
Jack and Christine Doyle
Ellen Ewert
David R. Fellows
Bill Fruen
Stan Haring
Carolyn ‘Kay’ Shive Henry
Cheryl Ann Huycz
Gerhard Loewenberg
Robin Manning
Lois Matthews
Karen and Phillip Moeckli
JJ Neiman-Brown
Ron Prosser
Suzanne Richardson
Gerald Roe
Howard Rogovin
Gertrude Sandler
Sam Sandler
Harry and Lucille Seelman
Elaine Semken
Helene Soper
Claire Sponsler
Elizabeth Stromquist
Sheri Dawn Thomas
Judy and David Van Hecke
David Yerkes
Ed Zastrow

STUCK AT HOME?
Stream Kanopy to beat the winter blues!

kanopy

Available to residents of Johnson County.
icpl.kanopy.com

STREAM OVER 30,000 FILMS
entirely free with your Library Card.

IOWA CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

PAGE 6
This novel in verse follows two young women navigating identity, forgiveness, the utter numbness of grief and what family really means. Acevedo is celebrated as a YA author, but her adeptness at developing plot and characters that resonate with what it means to be human transcends a predefined audience.

Fast-paced adventure Fantasy set in a boarding school for magical teens who are desperate to learn enough spells to survive the terrifying monster-gauntlet that is Graduation Day. A good choice for older teen and adult fans of Buffy, The Magicians, or other dark comedy Fantasy stories.

This book has a terrific plot and engaging characters that grab you from the start. The writing is excellent. You get a little bit of everything—love, politics, history, twists—through the view of one man’s life during the Bolshevik era. There is truly something for everyone in this title.

This book is not only a history of the publication of the Green Book, it’s also full of great illustrations and stories of Black Americans across the country making their own spaces during Jim Crow, and a fascinating look at the evolution of road travel in America.

I’m currently reading The Heart’s Invisible Furies by John Boyne. It’s the story of a Irish man who was born to a single mother and adopted by a wealthy, but unaffectionate couple. The book follows him every seven years throughout his life.
The Book End is back in business—taking online requests for items and selling them a bunch at a time to give you a surprise!

$20 for 5 books, OR 10 children's books!

The Book End


2. We'll create your surprise bundle and arrange for you to pick up curbside from the Iowa City Public Library. Or your surprise can be delivered, free of charge, in Iowa City, Coralville, and North Liberty thanks to the Iowa City Downtown District.

3. Two convenient payment options: pay through PayPal or with a credit card.

thebookend@icpl.org
TheBookEnd

EDDM*******ECRWSS****
Local
Postal Customer