

Urbandale Public Library Foundation, Inc.

3520 86th Street • Urbandale, IA 50322-4056 • (515) 278-3945

November 12, 2020

Dear Library Friend,

The Urbandale Public Library staff has worked tirelessly this year to keep you connected, engaged, and most of all, *reading* during this period of uncertainty. Being thrown a curve by having to close the Library's doors in mid-March due to coronavirus could have been a problem, but quick, creative thinking allowed Library staff to continue offering services and resources to community members who suddenly found themselves at home and, in many cases, isolated.

We expanded our online collections and we created digital library cards so previous non-library cardholders could access our digital collections from home. We partnered with the City IT department to strengthen our Wi-Fi signal outside the library building for community members in need of Internet access. And we began offering virtual programs for all ages, including Zoom story times and digital book clubs.

These virtual services were important, but Library staff also worked nonstop to get books into your hands. We created a curbside pickup program for library materials—filling more than 11,000 requests so far. With some clever social distancing maneuvers, staff even handed out summer reading prize books from the Library's front patio!

While much this year has been different, the community's use of the Library has been steadfast. From keeping our phone lines buzzing with reference questions to checking out nearly 200,000 physical items, downloading nearly 60,000 digital items, and attending virtual programs by the thousands, both our staff and you have demonstrated that the Urbandale Public Library is more than just a building. *That is why I am personally asking you to consider making a gift this year to ensure the Urbandale Public Library Foundation continues to support the Library's mission by providing funds beyond those of city tax dollars for special programs, materials, and amenities. Your support will help continue to move the Library forward and adapt to new challenges in the best possible way.*

Thank you in advance for your generosity! Stay safe . . . and keep reading!

Sincerely,



Greg A. Robinson, Ph.D.
President, Urbandale Public Library Foundation