Volunteer Support Available for Public Libraries

Would you like to get more volunteers to help in your library? And would you like them to be highly skilled with expertise in areas like marketing, fundraising, and succession planning? If so, there is a grant for you.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is partnering in the “Get Involved Collaborative: A Multi-State Approach to Increasing Volunteer Engagement,” which is a three-year grant that will help participating libraries develop successful volunteer management programs. In addition, full access will be provided to “VolunteerMatch,” which is the premier online volunteer recruitment tool for non-profit organizations. It offers training in all aspects of volunteer management, and access to a clearinghouse with such resources as volunteer job descriptions and sample volunteer handbooks.

This three-year continuing education initiative will change the perception concerning the use of volunteers, improve volunteer engagement practices, and teach new methods to recruit skilled volunteers. For those selected, all training and access to VolunteerMatch will be paid.

Skilled volunteers are a valuable resource for any library, especially those lacking in financial and/or human resources.

The selection of participants for the first year of the project has begun, but there is still time to apply. For more information, please contact the ICfL’s Library Consultant, Sue Walker, at 208-334-2150 or via email at: sue.walker@libraries.idaho.gov.

Don’t miss out on this opportunity to increase the service you provide to your patrons.

**Volunteer Week**

April 23 - 29, 2017

National Volunteer Week is an annual celebration observed in the United States and Canada, to promote and show appreciation for volunteerism. This year, Volunteer Week will be celebrated April 23 through April 29.

Volunteers greatly help the ICfL carry out its mission. Without them, programs and services, like Read to Me and Talking Books, would not be supported to the extent they are. In 2016, 94 individuals and three groups volunteered 7,050 hours to the ICfL.

Every year, during Volunteer Week, the ICfL staff shows their appreciation to those who volunteer their time and talents to the Commission with events like the “Volunteer Cafe,” where treats and goodies are provided to the volunteers all week.
Deputy State Librarian Presented to Education Committees

In early March 2017, Deputy State Librarian, Stephanie Bailey-White, presented to the Idaho House and Senate Education Committees.

Bailey-White briefly highlighted the history and mission of the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) before illustrating such important data as how many hours the average student spends in school versus the available time in their day.

Bailey-White also revealed the exciting increases in attendance in Idaho’s public libraries and showed the committee members the ICfL’s “College and Career-Ready” video, which was very well-received. The video may be accessed through the ICfL’s YouTube page at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdmqxgS8Ojg&t=10s.
The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is a Congressional Act that was passed in 2014. It is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy. For more information, please visit: https://www.doleta.gov/WIOA/Overview.cfm.

The Idaho Department of Labor, in concert with the Idaho Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and other state agencies, is working to implement the framework for this program, which will certify American Job Centers operated in the local areas across the state.

The Idaho one-stop service delivery system is designed to provide a high level of service across the state, including rural areas, with one-stop network partners connected to Live Better Idaho. The Live Better Idaho website, https://www.livebetteridaho.org, is a collaborative effort between the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and community partners in the Gem state to help Idahoans seek, find, and access services online.

WIOA acknowledges the role public libraries play in workforce development and identifies public libraries as potential partners in the American Job Center network. Every day, people in communities across Idaho use libraries to access the Web for career development -- boosting their skills through online learning, improving their English and digital literacy, and finding work.

The following are some ways Idaho public libraries might participate:
- Leveraging digital literacy activities.
- Training library staff on employment and training resources.
- Being a stop on the route of mobile American Job Centers.
- Providing library space for career assistance.
- Sharing workforce and labor market information.

For more information, or questions concerning how your public library might participate, please contact Shirley Biladeau, ICfL Program Supervisor, at 208-639-4149 or via email at: shirley.biladeau@libraries.idaho.gov.

Leadership to Make a Difference Institute

The Library Leadership Advisory Committee is hosting a two-day leadership event at the Coeur d’Alene Public Library on April 17 and 18. Kathee Tifft and Mary Schmidt from the University of Idaho Extension Service will present an intensive two-day leadership basics training for individuals from public, academic, and school libraries. Next fall, the institute will be replicated in southwest and eastern Idaho -- dates and locations to be announced. Notices for registration will be sent via LibIdaho.

Trustee Connections Workshop

The Idaho Commission for Libraries will host four Trustee Connections workshops for public library directors and trustees during the week of August 7. This one-day event will focus on leadership development, community-building strategies, and strategic planning. Registration is currently open until June 15. Registration information, the agenda, and event locations may be accessed at: http://libraries.idaho.gov/trustee_connections.
LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT (LSTA)
The Library services and Technology Act (LSTA) is a federal program administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), whose mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement.

IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries. LSTA funds are allocated annually to the state library agency (SLA) in each state and US Territory, to be expended according to each SLA’s approved state plan.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is the designated recipient of Idaho’s LSTA funds, which have averaged about $1,280,000 per year, over the past five years. LSTA funds and mandated state matching funds support virtually all of the statewide programs and services the ICfL provides to Idaho libraries.

LSTA now represents 30 percent of the ICfL’s annual operating expenditures, with 29 percent of the staff being fully supported with LSTA funds.

FUNDING:
In state fiscal year (SFY) 2016, the ICfL was appropriated $3,583,400 in state funds.
The ICfL’s LSTA allotment for federal fiscal year 2015 (spent primarily in SFY 2016), was $1,285,415, which equates to about .78¢ per Idahoan.

In SFY 2017, the ICfL’s state appropriation was $3,822,300.
The ICfL’s LSTA allotment for federal fiscal year 2016 (spent primarily in SFY 2017) was $1,298,817, which equates to about .77¢ per Idahoan.

STAFFING:
Of the ICfL’s 37.5 positions, 26.5 are state-funded and 11 are LSTA-funded. Seven state-funded positions are used as match for the federal funds.

POTENTIAL IMPACT:
Elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, as proposed by the Trump Administration’s FY2018 Budget Blueprint, would fundamentally change the impact of the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

• Loss of 11 full-time positions, which is 29% of the staff
• Loss of more than 20% of the personnel budget
• Loss of more than 36% of the operating budget devoted to programming and services for Idaho libraries

The Idaho Commission for Libraries would need to cut most programs entirely and focus on just one or two programs that are identified to be the most critical to building the capacity of Idaho libraries.

Or the ICfL would change its mission.
Continuing Education (CE) -- public, school, & academic libraries
- Individual CE grants: 1st time attendance at a conference or formal library/information service course (40 grants w/local matching requirement)
- Online courses: ABLE/SABLE series (220 completions); vendor-provided courses (73 completions); Info2Go! monthly webinars
- Events: Public Library Directors’ Summit, Library Leadership Advisory Committee & leadership development activities; SPLAT (19 local events); Trustee development workshops

Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) -- public, school, & academic libraries
- LiLI Databases training via webinars, tutorials, & Steering Committee meetings
- LiLI Unlimited interlibrary loan cost sharing gap

Read to Me (RTM)
- 1.5 full-time positions
- Fun with Math & Science (17 public & school libraries)
- Child Care Reads workshops (135 teachers & child care providers)
- My First Books (27 public libraries w/59 partner organizations, 25,300 books to 2,800 children)
- Every Child Ready to Read family workshops (13 public libraries)
- Jump Start Kindergarten (55 libraries with 143 schools, 8,792 families)
- RTM Rendezvous workshop for youth services staff (99 librarians)
- Supporting Beginning Readers workshop for elementary school library staff (75 library staff)
- Dia de los Ninos/Dia de los Libros (16 library events, 1,600 books given away)
- Idaho Family Reading Week (114 public & school libraries, 2,800 classic books distributed to the libraries)

Summer Reading Program (SRP)
- SRP manuals for all public libraries (52,000 children in-library, 55,500 children through partners in 2016)
- Stop Summer Slide (720 children)
- Literacy in the Park (5,142 children in 2016)
- Bright Futures outreach to strengthen school partnerships (16,000 children) & reach underserved children (19,000 children)

Talking Book Service (TBS)
- 8 full-time positions for daily program operation & patron support (3,200 users)
- TBS Advisory Council, outreach/promotion of the service, recording supplies
- Contracts for Braille materials & automation system

Library Capacity Building
- Public Library Statistics statewide contract

School Library Development
- Summer Summit for school library staff
- Staff development: workshops, webinars, presentations, newsletter, partnerships

Teen Services
- Teen Tech Week (47 public & school libraries, more than 1,600 teens)
- Teen Read Week (48 public & school libraries)

MakeIt at the Library, STEM, & maker programming (16 libraries w/122 community organizations, more than 5,100 attendees)
- 0.5 full-time position
- MakeIt library staff training (16 libraries, 48 hours of training)
- MakeIt tools (3D printers, robots, Makey Makeys, circuit blocks, & books)

MidLife Adults
- Get Involved at Your Library (11 libraries) with VolunteerMatch database
- Money Smart Week @ Your Library (11 libraries, 23 local programs)
- Let’s Talk About It (16 public libraries)
Library Edition of *Idaho at a Glance*
Available

The library edition of *Idaho at a Glance* is available. The document is produced by the University of Idaho’s James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research. Collaborating on this edition were the ICfL and the University of Idaho Library.

*Idaho at a Glance* is a series of policy briefs for Idaho’s state and local decision makers. This detailed document is an excellent engagement tool for local legislators, trustees, mayors, city council members, and others.

The McClure Center will mail a copy to each County Commissioner, and the ICfL will mail copies to all public libraries and hopes to share it widely with Idaho media members.

The ICfL will produce a toolkit of materials to aid libraries in the communication of this document. Please check the Idaho Commission for Libraries’ (ICfL) website for more information: [http://www.libraries.idaho.gov](http://www.libraries.idaho.gov). The entire series of *Idaho at a Glance* publications is available at: [http://www.uidaho.edu/idahoataglance](http://www.uidaho.edu/idahoataglance).

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Grant Opportunity

*May 1st Deadline*

Located in Twin Falls, Idaho, the Janice Seagraves Family Foundation funds grants to nonprofit organizations located, or providing services, along the old Highway 93 corridor, north of the Nevada border and south of the Custer County, Idaho border.

The focus of the grant for 2017 is child safety. Eligible are non-profit organizations that are classified as 501(c)(3), such as churches, schools, and governmental entities, and located along the Highway 93 corridor in one of the following counties: Minidoka, Cassia, Twin Falls, Blaine, Gooding, Lincoln, Jerome, and Camus.

If interested, submit a letter of inquiry concerning the issue of child safety. The Janice Seagraves Family Foundation is looking for “out-of-the-box” thinking that addresses this topic in either a typical, or non-typical, way.

Letters of inquiry must be received at the Janice Seagraves Family Foundation by **May 1, 2017**. The mailing address is: P.O. Box 5199, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83303.

The letters that meet the foundation’s criteria will be invited (in writing) to submit a full grant application and make a presentation at the foundation’s grant meeting, which is scheduled for June 12, 2017.

Please visit the foundation’s website for more information: [http://www.seagravesfamilyfoundation.org/grantmaking.html](http://www.seagravesfamilyfoundation.org/grantmaking.html).
Changes Coming to LiLI Unlimited
By Gina Persichini

“Progress is impossible without change.”
-- George Bernard Shaw

In the coming weeks, the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) will be introducing you to the renewed statewide resource sharing program. It will have a new name and new features that will provide flexibility for long-term sustainability for access to library materials.

The Past
In January 2005, Idaho debuted the LiLI Unlimited program. It was the first phase of implementation of a program that introduced the library community to cataloging and resource sharing services carried out completely online, to improve access to information for Idaho’s residents. The initial enrollment group included 57 library sites. Twelve years later, there are 157 library locations taking part in the LiLI Unlimited program. During that time, over a million items were borrowed and loaned through the OCLC system that supports Idaho’s resource sharing network.

LiLI Unlimited introduced significant progress in providing access to library materials, but the program participation has dropped in recent years for a variety of reasons. In some cases, the costs to provide the service, even at a discounted rate, were too large a burden for the amount of activity.

The Present
The full quote from George Bernard Shaw, above, is “Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.” The Commission recognized the importance of changing our minds for the purpose of progress and began a systematic evaluation of the LiLI Unlimited program. A needs assessment was carried out, potential solutions sought from resource sharing vendors, and with input sought from the library community and the LiLI Steering Committee, a vision was formed.

The Future
The result of the work is LiLI Steering Committee’s vision for Idaho’s Resource Sharing Future. The vision puts the user experience at the top -- access to materials with an easy-to-use interface. The vision calls for a scalable model that works for all sizes of libraries. It includes building community support with both patrons and staff buy-in, and support of library staff through marketing, promotion, and training. This updated program will be called ShareIdaho.

Now, Commission staff are putting the final touches on the ShareIdaho implementation plan. Libraries currently participating in LiLI Unlimited will receive a personalized packet from the Commission with next steps. For many, the changes will be minimal.

• ShareIdaho will continue to utilize the OCLC’s platform for cataloging and resource sharing.
• The annual fees in the cost-sharing formula will have been adjusted, resulting in lower fees for most libraries.
• A new ShareIdaho Central ILL service will be established at the ICfL to assist with resource sharing at libraries with low ILL activity.

The Commission for Libraries, alongside the Idaho library community, continues our progress in providing access to information. We are excited by the opportunities ShareIdaho provides.
New Broadband Consultant at the ICfL

Dylan Baker recently joined the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) in the newly created position of Library Consultant for Broadband Services.

In his role, Baker develops, implements, and evaluates statewide plans and programs for broadband services and management in Idaho’s 147 public libraries. He works to improve access to high-speed broadband for public libraries, and, by extension, the communities they serve. Baker consults with library staff and boards on such topics as: technology planning; contracting and procurement for E-rate eligible services; and laws and regulations that apply to libraries in regard to Internet use, security, privacy, and much more.

Prior to joining the ICfL, Baker held several positions at the Ada Community Library, beginning in 2004, when he worked as an Assistant in the Children’s Department. Baker went above and beyond the typical duties of his role to create unique children’s programs, such as “Gadget Garage,” which was a precursor to today’s Maker craze. In addition, Baker applied his computer know-how to the library’s website, which was in need of a modern upgrade. This work led to a new position for him -- that of Webmaster and IT Assistant -- and four years later, IT Division Coordinator.

Baker received his B.S. in Chemistry from the College of Idaho, in Caldwell (previously Albertson College of Idaho), but his heart has been in library service since his first job in high school at the Boise Public Library.

“I am so excited to bring what I have learned about technology to libraries throughout Idaho,” Baker said. He added, “Before joining the Idaho Commission for Libraries, I was familiar with their ability to make opportunities available for libraries, and, also, to present programs and information in ways that are easy for librarians and their staff to understand and execute. I look forward to being a part of that culture of assisting libraries to better serve their communities.”

State Librarian Ann Joslin said, “Dylan is a great addition to our staff. He will help Idaho libraries navigate the multitude of issues and laws related to broadband Internet -- a service that becomes more critical for library patrons every day.”

Get to Know NoveList Plus!

Whether your patron is looking for a fiction or non-fiction reading recommendation, NoveList Plus is there for you.

Consider NoveList Plus a one-stop guide to great reading. It contains lists of recommended reads and award-winning books. It covers both fiction and non-fiction titles for all ages. It also has extra content, such as reviews, book discussion guides, curriculum guides, and other book-oriented articles. Teachers and book groups find these resources especially helpful.

There are two NoveList databases for Idaho users. Get to know them both!

NoveList Plus is the full database.

http://guides.lili.org/c.php?g=607322&p=4211084

NoveList Plus K-8 is content for readers in 8th grade or younger.

http://guides.lili.org/c.php?g=607322&p=4211085
The mechanism to partially fund the construction costs of bringing broadband Internet service to school and public libraries in Idaho is in place -- and could reduce libraries’ cost to zero.

Known as BIIG, the Broadband Infrastructure Improvement Grant fund, was passed by the Idaho State Legislature in 2016, as Title 33, Chapter 910.

Administered by the Idaho State Department of Education (SDE), the BIIG Fund is used to invest in special construction projects to bring the necessary infrastructure into the school or library for broadband Internet access. This fund would even allow for infrastructure construction into a town, if there was none existing, and then into the school or library.

Schools, grades K through 12, and public libraries that receive, or are eligible, for E-rate* funding may qualify for BIIG funding, up to 10 percent of the cost of an eligible special construction project.

The BIIG funding is supplemental to the federal E-rate funding, which ranges from 20 to 90 percent, under the original program, plus up to an additional 10 percent under the Federal Communication Commission’s (FCC) Second E-rate Modernization Order**, which was put into effect December 11, 2014.

As an example, if a public library receives (or is eligible to receive) a discount of 80 percent for their Internet construction costs under E-rate, and they receive a 10 percent reimbursement under BIIG, the remaining 10 percent of the cost could be matched under the Second E-rate Modernization Order -- bringing the construction cost for the library to zero.

The SDE determines eligibility qualifications and applicant priority for BIIG funding, which has been appropriated at $2.7 million.

These funding programs help achieve the FCC’s goal of ensuring that the nation’s schools and libraries have access to robust, high-speed broadband connections.

The number of Idahoans visiting libraries and attending library programs has never been greater and is among the highest, per capita, of all states. And the number of people accessing the Internet through library computers and wireless networks continues to grow. For fiscal year 2015, which ran October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015, nearly 2.6 million Idahoans utilized the Internet at their public library. This was up from 1.8 million users in just four years.

State Librarian Ann Joslin said, “Whether through books, computing, Internet access, and as places for hands-on learning, libraries have always helped people explore ideas. And these state and federal funding sources for broadband Internet access are powerful tools for our libraries to provide Idahoans with a gateway to 21st-century education and learning.”

Anyone considering special construction should contact Michael Bartz at the State Department of Education, mbartz@sde.idaho.gov, to register your interest. And you must include initial installation and configuration as part of your E-rate application (the deadline for Form 470 for the 2017 Funding Year is April 13, 2017). For more information and resources, please visit: http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/dylanbaker/funding-broadband-construction-available.

*The E-rate program is formally known as the Schools and Libraries universal service support program.
**The Federal Communications Commission’s Second E-rate Modernization Order is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC).
2017 Public Library Directors’ Summit

The 2017 Public Library Directors’ Summit was held on March 2 and 3 at the Red Lion Downtowner Hotel in Boise, Idaho. Fifty public library directors gathered for two days to focus on re-thinking libraries and connect with current library trends.

Miguel Figueroa, Director of the Center for the Future of Libraries, presented some intriguing thoughts regarding future trends, plus he led the group in a futuring exercise. Phil Eastman, of Leadership Advisors, Inc., served as facilitator and led a discussion on leadership-driven strategic planning.

The group spent time discussing issues identified at the 2016 Summit, as well as categorizing some key topics for this summer’s Trustee Connections Workshop. Participants also spent time sharing ideas, networking, and building relationships with other directors from throughout the state.

For more information about the outcomes of the Summit, the final report and other event materials may be viewed at: http://libraries.idaho.gov/pldirectors.

2017 Public Library Directors’ Summit

Call to Action

1. Connect with local school district to discover how the district is spending the money provided by the Idaho legislature for college and career ready activities. Remind school district teachers and administrators of college and career ready resources. Identify partnership opportunities.
   For more information, visit: http://lili.org/collegecareer.

2. If you are in communities served by the Department of Labor Americorps or Vista programs for college and career ready activities, reach out to the Americorps or Vista volunteers to inquire about partnership opportunities at the library, particularly during the summer months.
   For more information, visit: http://labor.idaho.gov/dnn/idl/IdahoCareerInformation/VISTA.aspx.

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<th>Northern Idaho</th>
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<td>Cameron Cushings</td>
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<td>Pocatello, ID 83205-4087</td>
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<td>(208) 773-5773 ext. 3709</td>
<td>(208) 334-3705 ext. 3664</td>
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3. See what area Department of Labor offices are doing with WIOA (more information on page 3) and discover how you might be a network partner.

Continued on Page 11.
Call to Action

4. Connect with your local College, Career and Coffee group. For more information, visit: [http://www.educateidaho.org/regional-groups/](http://www.educateidaho.org/regional-groups/).

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<th>Boise College, Careers &amp; Coffee</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:jeralyn.mire@lposd.org">jeralyn.mire@lposd.org</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>

Points of contact for other regions are:

**South Central Idaho Education Partnership**: Janet Avery, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development, Jerome School District: [janet.avery@jeromeschools.org](mailto:janet.avery@jeromeschools.org).

**Southeast Idaho Education Partnership**: Sheldon Eakins, TRIO Director, Idaho State University: [eakishel@isu.edu](mailto:eakishel@isu.edu); Chris Wiersema, United Way of Idaho Falls and Bonneville County: [c.wiersema@unitedwayif.org](mailto:c.wiersema@unitedwayif.org).

**North Central Idaho Education Partnership**: Traci Birdsell, Director of TRIO programs, LCSC: [TBirdsel@lcsc.edu](mailto:TBirdsel@lcsc.edu).

5. Encourage your trustees to attend the 2017 August Trustee Connections and to access the Trustee Short Takes video. For more information, visit: [http://libraries.idaho.gov/trustee_connections](http://libraries.idaho.gov/trustee_connections).

6. Join and participate in the Facebook Community of Practice for public library directors. For more information, visit: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/publiclibrarydirectors](https://www.facebook.com/groups/publiclibrarydirectors).

7. Consider and/or encourage staff to participate in LiLAC and SPLAT, as openings become available. For more information, visit: [http://www.splat.lili.org](http://www.splat.lili.org) or [http://libraries.idaho.gov/leadership](http://libraries.idaho.gov/leadership).

8. Look for resources from ICfL regarding communications tools for social networking and other resources to get the word out about the value of libraries.

9. Brainstorm potential partnerships in your community and/or nearby communities. Seek partners for literacy, teen, and adult programming.

10. Take the free, online course for Story Telling to enhance your skills in telling your library’s story. Please visit: [https://www.khanacademy.org/partner-content/pixar/storytelling](https://www.khanacademy.org/partner-content/pixar/storytelling).

2017 Public Library Directors’ Summit
Help Tell Your Library Story with

Snapshot Day

Snapshot Day is celebrated during National Library Week, which is April 9 - 15, 2017. Libraries select one day that best represents their library’s activities to document all of the happenings. All types of libraries are encouraged to participate.

Idaho Library Snapshot Day is designed to capture the impact Idaho libraries have on their communities during a typical day.


Other materials to assist with Snapshot Day are also available on the ICfL website, such as flyers and comment forms.

Our collective statistics, photos, and stories are a wonderfully unique and telling way to showcase the growth and importance of libraries in Idaho, which is particularly important at this pivotal time.

TruIdaho

TruIdaho is an email discussion list for the trustees of Idaho's public libraries. Membership is not limited to trustees, Idaho residents, or members of the Idaho Library Association (ILA), but the list will be of greatest interest and value to those who are serving as library trustees in Idaho.

TruIdaho is provided by the ILA, which welcomes respectful discussion of professional issues.

To subscribe to TruIdaho:
2. Select “Subscribe” in the sidebar.
3. Enter your email address, then click “Submit.”
4. Check your email inbox for an authentication request. This verifies that the subscription request is from a person who really wants to be subscribed. Then click the URL provided in the email message to verify. Follow any other instructions, if provided.

To unsubscribe from TruIdaho:
2. Select “Unsubscribe” in the sidebar.
3. Enter your email address, then click “Send me a validation link.” This validates your request and prevents anyone else from removing you from the list.
4. Check your email for the verification of the removal and follow any other instructions, if provided.
Adult Summer Reading Success

Rexburg is one of the fastest growing cities in Idaho, with nearly 50 percent of its population being between the ages of 20 and 45. Not surprisingly, the Madison Library District in Rexburg historically concentrated much of their resources on young families.

But seven years ago, the library expanded its offerings to include an adult summer reading program, which has grown in attendance each year. In the first year of the initiative, 400 adult patrons participated, and that number has doubled since -- primarily, from word of mouth.

The summer reading program is designed to encourage adults to read and to have some summer-time fun. When they sign up to participate, the patron receives a log book, so they may easily track their reading. The goal is 3,000 pages by the end of the eight-week session. The log book also includes activities, which, if completed, earn the patron points toward their goal.

Catherine Stanton heads up the Adult Services department for the Madison Library District. She and her team work with patrons to create a unique book list for the program to appeal to the patron’s individual interests. This approach helps keep participants motivated to complete the reading challenge.

Stanton said, “As I see it, summer reading should be about two things -- encouraging people to read and having fun. And neither of those things should be restricted to those under 18. Big kids want to have fun, too.”

The library throws a party for the patrons who complete the challenge. And along with drawings for prizes, the staff also sets up a table of donated books so each participant is able to take home a new read.

State Librarian Ann Joslin said, “Adult program attendance in Idaho public libraries has increased 35 percent in the past five years, and it is very exciting to see a library recognize that trend and create such a successful program to meet the needs of that audience.”

Source: https://www.rexburg.org
The Valley of the Teton Library was chosen as one of only three libraries in the country to pilot a new educational program sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The program is called “NASA @ My Library,” and is run by the Space Science Institute and the nonprofit organization, StarNet.

The Valley of the Teton library system was brought to the attention of the Space Science Institute due to the dogged efforts of Driggs librarian Susie Blair. Her outreach led to the Idaho library being selected as a pilot site, where programming will be developed for other locations.

The first project the pilot sites and StarNet will undertake centers around the summer 2017 solar eclipse, and will include activities such as distinguishing between an eclipse and the phases of the moon. But this project has a much larger focus than just the upcoming eclipse.

“The idea is we are trying to bring NASA science mission directorate information to libraries across the country,” said Anne Holland, public engagement manager, Space Science Institute. Holland continued, “Valley of the Teton will be helping us develop programming around the different NASA directorates, like the helio-physics directorate, some things that don’t get talked about in libraries very much.”

The programming will be fun, rather than dry and academic, and is designed to appeal to anyone with an interest in science -- kids and adults.

Idaho State Librarian Ann Joslin said, “For the Valley of the Teton library system to be selected as only one of three libraries in the country to pilot this prestigious program is a true testament to the staff’s commitment to bringing the very best programming and services to their community.”

Joslin continued, “The NASA @ My Library initiative is another example of the innovative ways today’s libraries educate, engage, and entertain people of all ages.”

Free Eclipse Glasses Available

Free eclipse glasses are available to public libraries, while supplies last. Visit this website to submit your request: http://www.starnetlibraries.org/2017eclipse.

August 21, 2017 is the day of the total solar eclipse. Visit this website for more information about the path the eclipse will take across Idaho: https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/idaho.
Glenns Ferry Librarian Named
“Citizen of the Year”

Jennifer Trail took on the role of director at the Glenns Ferry Public Library in late 2015. And in the amount of time, she accomplished so much that the conversation turned from possibly closing the library to naming her Glenn Ferry “Citizen of the Year.”

What Trail may have lacked in formal library science training, the young farm wife more than made up for in enthusiasm and dedication to her community. Trail knew the importance of the library and stepped up to make sure it remained a valuable resource for Glenns Ferry.

Trail said, “We all pull together for the community, and the library is a great place to do that.”

Trail made significant improvements to the library’s services, including expanding the summer reading program and securing funding to enhance STEAM programming for all ages.

“Princess-Palooza” Raised Nearly $4,000

The Friends Group for the Iona Branch of the Idaho Falls Public Library held its third-annual “Princess-Palooza” event in January. Between 350 and 400 people attended the fundraiser, which netted almost $4,000 for the library.

Dads brought their daughters for an evening of dancing, refreshments, and fun activities, such as crafts and face-painting. A photo booth was manned by two professional photographers who captured the special moments for participants.

The entrance fee was $10 for a dad and one princess, or $15 for multiple princesses.
Idaho Day Celebrated in the Gem State

March 4, the official Idaho Day, was established to commemorate the creation of the Idaho Territory by President Abraham Lincoln on that day in 1863. Idaho Day is an opportunity to showcase Idaho’s rich history, such as the fact that Idaho’s state seal is the only one in the United States created by a woman.

As part of the 2017 celebration, the ICfL worked with ten public libraries from around the state that held a special book read for their patrons. The libraries chose an Idaho-themed book and facilitated discussion groups for their patrons.

The libraries that participated were: the Caldwell Public Library; Eastern Owyhee County Library; Emmett Public Library; Grangeville Centennial Library; Kamiah Community Library; Kellogg Public Library; Lewiston City Library; Lizard Butte Library; Marshall Public Library; and the Mountain Home Public Library.

On Friday, March 3, 2017, Idaho State Controller Brandon D. Woolf kicked off the annual Idaho Day festivities at the Capitol in Boise, which included performances and projects by area elementary school children. The ICfL hosted a table to demonstrate Make It technology, like circuitry, to the attendees.

The ICfL staff enjoyed a special lunch during the week, complete with a potato bar and Idaho-shaped cookies, along with trivia games, a photo contest, and plenty of prizes.

Celebrating Idaho Day is a time for communities to come together and celebrate the Gem state.
Make It Training Held Around the State

In March, ICfL Library Consultants Tammy Hawley-House and Sue Walker conducted three Make It training sessions around the state. The two-day events were held in Pocatello, Boise, and Lewiston.

Staff from school and public libraries participated in the training, which was designed as facilitated, self-directed learning. It allowed for each participant to learn and create programs and services that would work best for their library. Many participants brought in partners to team up with, which expanded the learning process. For example, some school and public librarians worked with teachers from their schools.

The participants learned low-cost Making programs, coding, and basic circuitry.

Hawley-House said, “We wanted to get beyond the idea that staff have to be experts before they can offer Make It programs in their library. We demonstrated how facilitated learning is a great model for Make It and is easier to implement than many might think.”

ILA Spring Conferences

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For registration and other information, visit: [http://www.idaholibraries.org/conferences.](http://www.idaholibraries.org/conferences)
Comings and Goings

April Lacey is the Library Director of the Bruneau Valley District Library.

Jana Chase is the Library Director of the Armoral Tuttle Public Library in New Plymouth.

Chris Johnson is the Library Director of the Valley of the Tetons District Library in Victor.

Cynthia Durbin is the Library Director of the Cascade Public Library.

Pinky Humphrey is the Library Director of the St. Maries Public Library.

Shirley Biladeau has taken the position of Program Supervisor at the ICfL.

After nearly 17 years, ICfL Northern Idaho Field Consultant Jan Wall has retired. Not only was Wall an invaluable resource for the libraries in her region, but she was also the ICfL’s E-rate and EOR expert. (Duties Dylan Baker assumes for the Commission.)

Technical Assistance Available

For information about technical assistance programs, please visit: https://www.communitybuilders.org/how-we-help/community-assistance/2017-technical-assistance.

Applications for the second round of technical assistance in 2017 are due by May 5.

For questions or assistance, please contact Jillian Sutherland at Community Builders via email at: jillian@communitybuilders.org or at 970-928-3411.

Trustee Changes?

If you have changes in the contact information for a trustee of your library, please update that information with the ICfL’s Tina Schilling at: tina.schilling@libraries.idaho.gov.

For those who think Boise is the big city, here’s a view from the ICfL office window of Dian Scott, Office Services Supervisor, on March 15, 2017.