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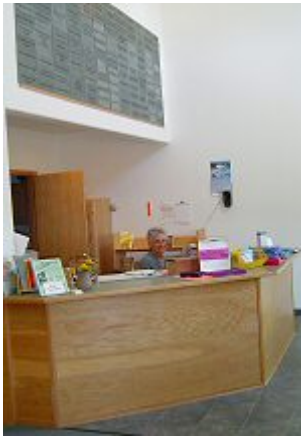
Welcome

Welcome to the April 29th issue of *The Scoop*. Tomorrow is El Día de los Niños / El Día de los Libros, a time to celebrate childhood and literacy. Many libraries and schools across the state are planning special events and programs.

Author Pat Mora captured the spirit of the day when she said, "Let's make April 30th a day for remembering the power of words and of books in the lives of all our young people. One in five children in this country comes from a home in which a language other than English is the home language. By honoring these languages, we celebrate our linguistic and cultural wealth." **We salute you for everything you do on April 30th and every day to open the world of books to ALL children in Idaho. Gracias!**



There are still ten slots open for the State Library's summer institute to be held at Boise State University the first week in August. Two sessions will be offered for elementary school library personnel. The deadline to apply is May 6. Lots of good stuff! See the School Zone article below for more info and check <http://www.lili.org/forlibs/ce/index.htm> for the application. Hope to see you there!



Meet Sue Lundgren

Sue Lundgren is the branch manager at the Kooskia Library. We've had the chance to work with Sue on the Child Care Reads program and more recently as a member of the Summer Reading Daring Dreamers team. Sue's background as preschool teacher prior to her positions at the library helped prepare her to become an advocate for children and a great librarian.

Kooskia is the gateway to the Clearwater and Nez Perce National Forests and the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness area and is located in the northwest portion of Idaho County. The city has a population of 675 with about 2,500 more citizens in the surrounding area. "For many years, our community library was operated by dedicated volunteers. Then came the opportunity to become a branch of the Prairie-River Library District and our voters approved! Soon after, a larger space in the city building was available. Remodeling was accomplished by our Library Friends group through donations, fund-raising, and grant writing. The Friends' vision for the library as a learning center and a 'place to be,'

comfortable and inviting, has become a reality, with oak furniture and shelves, shades of green, plants and artwork, computers, and of course, books!”

We asked Sue what attracted her to library service and she said she has been so happy to share her lifelong love of reading. “Before working at the library, I taught preschool for 15 years and time with books was my favorite part of the day!” she said. Sue has been in the new library about five years. “I was assistant librarian, working one day a week, and doing story time and summer reading, for a couple of years. I’ve been branch manager for almost two years.”



Sue says that “having enough time to do everything I want to in children's services is my biggest challenge.” And her success is “kids being excited about and enjoying books!”

She stays busy with all the activities going on at the library. We asked her what she’s working on and this was her response: “I’ve had the privilege of serving on the State Library’s Daring Dreamers Committee for promoting summer reading in Idaho and am planning and preparing for our library's program. Gathering ideas and requesting books for our weekly story time is



ongoing! I appreciate the chance to be a part of the State Library Jumpstart project and will be at kindergarten registration at our elementary school in May to provide 'Get a Jumpstart on Reading' packets of materials, books, library card applications, and invitations to summer reading to the parents of all the children entering kindergarten in the fall. I meet with our Library Friends group as library liaison and they are my 'staff' for help with story time and summer reading. An annual event, sponsored by the Friends, is Word Jam, this year on April 30, an evening of readings by area and local writers.”

Sue's answer to: What is your favorite children's book/author? "There are so many wonderful books that it's difficult to choose just one, but a childhood favorite, *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett, immediately comes to mind. Right now, I'm reading *Sailing the Wine-Dark Sea: Why the Greeks Matter* by Thomas Cahill (for my book group), *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel, *Through These Portals* by Wayne MacGregor (a Grangeville writer), and *The Vision of Emma Blau* by Ursula Hegi."

When Sue isn't working or reading, she likes to walk/hike, camp, bike, cook, and travel.

Library to Library



Marcia Beckwith, Library Supervisor for the Boise School District, shares this resource:

"Wendy Wilcox, Youth Services Coordinator at West Bloomfield Hills Township Public Library in Michigan, did a particularly spectacular job in developing this resource for early literacy. First of all, she gave parents, teachers, and media specialists a preview of the program materials, invited their comments, and paid attention to them, modifying the materials accordingly. She put together a stylish, professional-looking package of background information, fingerplays and nursery rhymes, and recommended resources for parents, along with a poster full of 100 Best Books To Read in Kindergarten (with stickers that children could use to proudly mark off each one they'd read).

A new mother herself, Wilcox had learned the hard way that mothers rarely have time to sit down and read through an entire portfolio of materials, though. So she also came up with a Countdown to Kindergarten calendar; every day featured one brief activity or read-aloud which even the most stressed-out parent could fit in time to do.

And then Wilcox promoted the program like crazy. The library distributes the packet at every likely venue: local playgroups, daycare centers, and preschools. The library distributes another packet, "Especially for Kindergartners and Their Parents," to every kindergarten child. She also put most of the program materials online at <http://www.growupreading.org/>. The program has gotten rave reviews from parents, teachers, and media specialists, and has drawn an eager audience of children and parents to her library. "



Young Adult Corner: Rockland's Student Aide Program

Kindra Munk is the director of the Rockland School Community Library. Rockland is one of three school community libraries in the state, and Kindra's plate can get pretty full serving all the students in K-12 (about 160) while remaining open to serve the community. Kindra relies on young adults to do a number of important tasks at the library. She said that by giving her student aides a lot of responsibility and by rewarding them as much as she can, they are provided with real world job experience and at least five former aides have gone on to paid library jobs in college or other libraries. We asked Kindra to share some of Rockland's ideas for a successful volunteer program.

I certainly didn't invent using high school students as aides, but when I found out that if they took library as a class and would only get a pass/fail grade and no credit, I felt I needed to think of some way that this would benefit them. I needed a selling point that would also bring in quality students that came ready to work and not feel that it was a 'free period.' Since they are, in a sense, donating their time, I felt it was only right that they should be able to apply it toward those appropriate causes. In evaluating what activities and assignments these students are involved in, we found ways they could fill some of those needs. My students, depending on their scheduling and personal inclinations are responsible for the following things.

Responsibilities

- Organize, make lesson plans, and read during story time for Kindergarten through third grade (I do the 4th – 6th). On the days they don't have a class, they shelve books.
- Help with check in/check out
- Learn how to use a cash register for fines, copies, etc...
- Help with book fairs every year.
- Put information in for cataloging and do everything associated with getting new books on the shelves.

Kindra notes that the lesson plans are important if the aides are gone for that day. I had one student come back as a volunteer the first two years she went to ISU and read to the Kindergarteners weekly because she enjoyed it so much. “The biggest struggle I have every year is matching student and elementary schedules.”

Benefits to student aides and myself

- Junior girls that participate can use these for community service hours for the Junior Miss program. (Two of our girls have won the service award using these and other activities.) Our senior students are required to have service hours for their government class, so they use this to fulfill that requirement. There are also Eagle Scout project possibilities.
- The elementary kids have voted the student that read to them the most influential HS student for the Elementary. The younger kids love having that interaction with the older kids. They are disappointed when they are not there, and I have seen many of my student aides blossom with this responsibility.
- I hope I am creating future adults who will know the importance and joy of doing volunteer work.
- With their help I have been able to improve the accuracy of my shelf lists and get many of my books bar-coded.
- Student aides are computer savvy and they have taught me much!
- I always make sure that they put these things on their college applications and job resumes.
- I have written letters of recommendation for many of them for college and employment opportunities.

Because of their experience in using a cataloging system, I have had students work in two public and one college library, with one more that has applied this summer at a public library. The college library hired one of my students for the reference desk as a freshman because of her experience, which is very unusual. She is still working for them three years later. Another former aide helped organize and run the summer reading program at a public library. She has also used her library experience and connections to fulfill her college practicum by doing all the registration and PR for an ILA Spring Conference. She has hopes to fulfill another practicum by starting an outreach program for the elderly in the community and library she works for currently. I know that other students have used this as job experience when applying for any of their jobs.

I have never been able to hire any of these students, so I am thrilled they are able to receive some benefits for their hard work. I work with the school counselor to insure that the students know that I am looking for those who will participate willingly, and I am fortunate that we have good kids. I have had two boys who were willing to read to the younger classes and they loved it. I have two to four students per year, and in a school this size, those are wonderful odds.”

(Editor's note: *If your library utilizes young adults as student aides or in other volunteer capacities, we'd love to hear your tips and ideas. Please send them to The Scoop and we'll publish them in a future issue. We also wanted to share a tip from another library (although we don't know which one it came from!) – they have their student aides complete the State Library's youth services e-courses (found at www.lili.org/forlibs/ce/sable.htm). The students receive a certificate of completion that they can add to their resumes and it often helps when looking for library-related position as college students.*)



The Idaho State Library also has several books in its professional development collection on using volunteers in libraries.

Student Assistants in the School Library Media Center, by Therese Bissen Bard. Libraries Unlimited, 1999. A thorough guide for planning, organizing, conducting and evaluating a student assistant program. Includes information for developing a program for each grade level from kindergarten through secondary school. The section on implementing the program includes recruiting, recognition and rewards, evaluating and reporting. Appendices include guidelines and examples. References, additional sources, and an index add to the value of this helpful resource.

Library Volunteers – Worth the Effort! A Program Manager's Guide, by Sally Gardner Reed. McFarland & Company, 1994. (027.473 REED)

Managing Library Volunteers: A Practical Toolkit, by Preston Driggers & Eileen Dumas. ALA, 2002. (023.3 DRIGGER)

Both of these books are great hands-on guides to recruiting and managing library volunteers. Forms and examples will help you develop and maintain a successful volunteer program. Topics include setting up the program, recruitment, training, evaluation, rewards and recognition, rules and record keeping.

Volunteers: We Couldn't Do It Without Them! ALA, 1997. (023.3 VOLUNTE)
This 25-minute video covers the basics of a volunteer program, such as what to include in a volunteer handbook or orientation, and other elements of a successful volunteer program.

If you are interested in borrowing any of these items from the Idaho State Library, call 334-2150 (toll-free inside Idaho at 1-800-458-3271) or e-mail: lending@isl.state.id.us. A list of materials for youth services librarians is at www.lili.org/read/readtome/revise-prof-devel-bks.htm.

Book Look

Have you read a good book lately? We would like to include more book reviews from school and public librarians. Please send submissions to Peggy peggy.mcclendon@libraries.idaho.gov or Stephanie stephanie.bailey-white@libraries.idaho.gov.

Who Is That Green Fellow, Anyway? by Kathryn Poulter, Marshall Public Library Youth Services Supervisor



“FRRROOGGY!” The call spreads across at least one page in all thirteen of the *Froggy* books here at the public library. And in answer to the call, a lovable, green fellow flops into our lives, flop, flop, flop. In 1992 when Jonathan London wrote the first *Froggy* book: *Froggy Gets Dressed*, he was recalling his childhood in Minnesota. “On winter mornings,” he remembered, “I’d run outside to play in the snow.”

“‘Johhhnnnyy!’ my mom would yell.

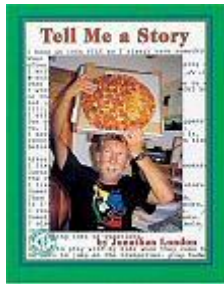


“‘Wha - a - a - t?’ I’d answer.

“‘You have to get dressed!’”

Froggy had a similar experience. First he put on his socks, boots, hat, scarf, and mittens and flopped outside. Then his mother called him back to put on his pants, then his shirt and coat, and finally his underwear—zap! zoop! zum!

Little children will love to hear about Froggy’s innocent and endearing escapades from eating out at a fancy restaurant in *Froggy Eats Out*, to learning to kick, not catch, a soccer ball in *Froggy Plays Soccer*, to practicing “Bubble bubble, toot toot, Chicken, airplane, soldier” in *Froggy Learns to Swim*.



The *Froggy* books are found in the Early Reader section of our public library. In addition, a few of the books are also kits that include a book and an audiocassette so young folks can follow along and be read to at the same time.

Of course, Jonathan London doesn't only write about Froggy. His amazing list of books includes more than seventy picture books, toddler stories, and early reader books, some books for older children, and even a super autobiography, *Tell Me a Story*, in which we learn about Mr. London's real loves: his family and the outdoors, and see his great sense of humor in action. Flop on in to the library to read more about Froggy and find other books by this entertaining and prolific writer.



Upcoming Events: May is Mental Health Month

Each year in May, Idaho communities come together to increase awareness and understanding of mental health during May is Mental Health Month. One in five Americans is affected by various forms of mental health issues, from depression to bipolar disorder. As part of this year's activities for May is Mental Health Month, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare would like to work with libraries to increase public awareness and reduce stigma about mental health issues.

The department has compiled a list of books on various aspects of mental health. They hope libraries will customize the list ([click here for a Word version](#)) and display these books through May. The department also has a bookmark ([click here for a pdf version](#)) you can print. Additional information and speakers are available by contacting Chandra Story, Communications Coordinator at the

Department of Health and Welfare's Idaho System, (208) 334-6681, or e-mailing StoryC@idhw.state.id.us.



Summer Reading News

Idaho is one of 32 states belonging to the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), a grass-roots consortium dedicated to producing quality



summer reading materials for their libraries. Jan Wall, ISL's northern Idaho library consultant, and Karen Yother, children's librarian at the Hayden Branch Library are Idaho's two reps to CSLP. They just returned from the annual meeting in Bismarck, North Dakota, and will give us the scoop on next year's theme and artists.

From Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds to Creature Feature by Karen Yother

The sun has yet to peek over the horizon, but Jan Wall and I are sitting in our seats bound for Bismarck, North Dakota. Excitement brews behind the double mocha java (I am not really a “crack of dawn” person), knowing that children’s and state librarians from 32 states will be gathering to plan the summer reading programs through 2008. Idaho has been a member of the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) since 1999, when there were only 8 members. The CSLP has grown over the years, and the challenge of creating a broad summer program that will appeal to small, rural towns as well as large, metropolitan cities gets harder each year. The CSLP meets annually to plan future programs, but also to evaluate how the last 2 summers have gone. This is where your feedback is important. **Jan and I encourage your comments so we can speak on behalf of Idaho at the annual meetings.**



After 3 days of meetings, including a half-day visit with the CSLP vendor Highsmith/Upstart, previewing the artwork for 2006, brainstorming the 2007 themes and the 2008 general topic, we are happy to report that the future of summer reading looks great! The members are pleased to report the continuation of 2 manuals, one for children and one specifically for our young adult audiences. We are working with Highsmith to create a CD-ROM that includes masters we can manipulate and personalize for our libraries.



Terri Wilhelm, our host from North Dakota, treated us to a dinner and private tour of the North Dakota Historical Society Museum. This is one of the most comprehensive and beautiful state historical facilities I have ever visited. We all wandered around learning about North Dakota history and found that for many of us the similarities outweighed the differences. It was a perfect ending to the day.

Although it is hard work, it is a great deal of fun planning summer reading. One of my favorite parts of attending the meeting is visiting with the librarians from around the country. From Delaware to Iowa, and Alaska to Maine, we all have one important topic in common: we love our youth, including the young adults, and we love our libraries. Next year we are off to New Jersey for bugs and beyond!

Future themes include:



2006: "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales" and "Creature Feature @ your Library". For a preview, go to this website hosted by the California Summer Reading Program Collaborative (<http://www.casummerreading.org/2006.html>), Stephanie Stokes, coordinator.



2007: "Get a Clue @ the Library" - a mystery, puzzler and thriller theme. The YA theme is "YNK - You Never Know."

2008: The general concept for 2008 is BUGS. The specific theme and specific chapter details will be chosen at next year's CSLP annual meeting in April 2006.

For more information about CSLP, visit their web site at <http://www.cslp-reads.org/>.

School Zone

Professional development opportunities for elementary school library paraprofessionals. Deadline for applications is May 6, 2005.

There is still time to apply to attend the State Library's summer institute to be held at Boise State University the first week in August. Two sessions will be offered for elementary school library paraprofessionals:

Building Strong Foundations is a week-long (August 1-5) track covering basic library skills, great books for kids, introduction to the LiLI databases, serving a diverse population, and the importance of the school library.

Taming the Information Jungle is a mini-track to be held on Monday and Tuesday, August 1-2 only. It will cover navigation skills needed to find good information, hands on experience with LiLI databases, and how to promote LiLI-D.

An application can be found on the State Library's web site at <http://www.lili.org/forlibs/ce/index.htm>. Links to applications are at the top of the page. For questions, please contact Marj Hooper, continuing education consultant, mhooper@isl.state.id.us.

Idaho History Comes Alive at the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind

In recognition of National Library Week, the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind (ISDB) library presented an Idaho History Celebration. The celebration opened with Risa Marshall and her visually impaired students singing "Here We Have Idaho," which was interpreted by Rose Trimner.



Three staff members shared stories dealing with Idaho history. Gretchen Spooner was dressed in authentic buckskins as she told and signed about various adventures of Lewis & Clark. Emma Lozada was dressed as a beautiful Indian maiden while she signed "And Still the Turtle Watched"



by Sheila MacGill-Callahan. Roddy Cabbage was dressed as a hunter/trapper with a raccoon-skin cap as he signed a multitude of short stories connected to how life was different in the 1880s than now. He brought deer and elk hides, a rabbit skin, a cast iron pot, a kerosene lantern, and a scrub board to go with his stories also. He demonstrated how pioneers trimmed bark off trees to build log houses. He let some of the children try their hand at trimming logs too. Roddy also referred to several library books that he

recommended from ISDB's extensive collection of Idaho history and American history exploration books.

Two special guests were invited. Tami Becker Anderson, a member of the Kalispel Indian Tribe, shared stories about her family history and the history of the Kalispel Indians of Montana, Washington and Idaho. She brought many of her mother's (Louise Becker of Gooding) authentic Indian clothing and artifacts to display. Tami showed a picture of her great, great grandfather, Baptiste Bigsmoke, who was the last chief of the Kalispel Tribe. She showed a picture of a sturgeon-nosed canoe with her great, great, great grandfather; it was published in "The Story of Idaho" centennial edition written by Virgil M. Young.

The second special guest, Arden Schmitt, came dressed as an old pioneer farmer. He started his stories by sitting in a rocking chair and playing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" on a tin flute. He demonstrated different ways to plant corn, how to separate corn with several different hand crank corn shellers, and how to grind corn into cornmeal. Arden brought a wide variety of antique farm tools, and he let the children take turns using the tools. Samples of Indian foods such as: pine nuts, smoked salmon, turkey jerky and various fruit leather were served to the audience. Idaho history books with the Idaho state symbols and the state song (found on the Idaho State website) as well as Native American history pamphlets were given to the staff and children.

Many of the staff and students dressed as trappers, Indians, cowboys, pioneers and explorers. The elementary students made Indian head bands, vests, and they also colored tepees to display later in the library. The celebration ended with a special lunch prepared by the ISDB hot lunch staff, with ice cream sundaes for dessert. ISDB Librarian, Shirley Cobble, organized the Idaho History Celebration. Students and staff have stated that the celebration was "awesome and one of the most enjoyable events that they had ever attended." A fun time was had by all!

Know the Numbers

SchoolMatters, a new web site for statistics, was created by the National Education Data Partnership, a collaborative effort that includes Standard & Poor's Evaluation Services and the Council of Chief State School Officers. This group is funded in part by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Information includes data at state, school district and individual school level, and can be used in making informed decisions about schools and school systems.

Among the information provided is:

- Student performance on statewide reading and math tests
- District, community and student demographic data
- Expenditures per student

Using Standard & Poor's unique ratios, the data is combined to place academic performance in context to the demographics of the community. Comparisons (up to four at one time) can be made with other schools and school systems.

The web site is easy to navigate; tables and charts are helpful and easy to read. Check out SchoolMatters at www.schoolmatters.com.



A Closer Look: Libraries & Summer Food Programs -- A Great Opportunity to Reach Kids

By Stephanie Bailey-White

I had the chance to hear a presentation on libraries and the Summer Food Program at an ALA presentation last summer. Idaho has 72 communities that participate in this program ([click here to see the list with contact information](#)). In Vermont and a few other states, libraries play a very active role in providing books, story hours and information at summer food distribution sites. Some even distribute lunches at the library. More Idaho libraries are beginning to participate in the program. Talya Nay director of the Armoral Tuttle Public Library in New Plymouth (pictured above) has partnered with the Summer Food Program for three years. I also asked Grace Worcester Greene, the Children's Services Consultant at the Vermont Department of Libraries, to share part of her ALA presentation to get a better picture of the potential to partner with this important program.

The Summer Food Program is the single largest federal resource available for local sponsors who want to combine a feeding program with a summer activity program. During the school year, nutritious meals are available through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. But those programs end

when school ends for the summer. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program helps fill the hunger gap.

Just as learning does not end when school lets out, neither does the need for good nutrition. Children who aren't hungry learn better, act better, and feel better. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) helps children get the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow throughout the summer months when they are out of school.

Last summer, Idaho summer food sponsors served approximately 993,246 meals to children in Idaho, an 18 percent increase over the 2003 numbers.

In New Plymouth, the summer food program distributes lunches at the park in the summer. Any child can get a free lunch with no questions asked and adults can buy a lunch for \$1. Public Library Director Talya Nay goes to the park once a week and reads a story to the children and invites them to the library. "Our summer reading program has about 30 participants and the summer lunch program has over 100. The library is right across the street from where the lunch is served, so I thought what better way to make contact with the parents and children who don't usually come to the library than to take a part of the library to them."

Talya says that on Fridays the library hosts some sort of event or craft activity at the park. "I have had other organizations come over and do presentations. The Idaho Historical Society came over and presented a historical rendition of Jean Baptiste, and the Soil and Water Conservation District showed us about worms. Fish and Game brought over their samples of pelts to go with the Discovering Trails theme last year. Last year I also added a day of reading in the park, but for some reason that wasn't very popular. Although I do think I'll do it again this year."

Talya is the sole librarian and, with no other staff members at the library, her biggest challenges are time and resources. "When I am at the park, the library is closed, but I'm usually only gone for about an hour." To stretch resources she tries to purchase items that can be used for multiple years.

Despite these challenges, Talya would recommend partnering with the Summer Food Program to other librarians. "The children are starting to remember it and look forward to it. This will be our third year, and I'd like to put in a request with National First Book Program to do a book distribution at the park."

This summer will be the fourth year the South Bannock District Library has partnered with the school district's summer food program. District Director Marcy Price said, "The program began in Downey with Lunch and a Book. Staff from the library read daily for 15 minutes while the school was setting up

lunch." Over the years the number of towns serving lunch has increased to three within the library district.

"Last year we arrived with the bookmobile prior to lunch, and held our summer reading in Arimo, reaching 35 to 40 kids. Before we worked with the program, we were only getting 4 or 5 children in that town for summer reading. This has inspired us this year to use the bookmobile at the Downey Park to improve our summer reading program by taking the program to where the children are in hope of reaching more children," Marcy said. "This has been a great experience in partnering. It has opened new doors in partnering with our school district, and it requires minimal effort by the library to carry out the program."

Grace Worcester Greene, the Children's Services Consultant at the Vermont Department of Libraries, is also an advocate for the Summer Food Program and can't imagine why more libraries aren't making this connection. She said during her speech at the American Library Association Conference, "So what are the advantages to this library/lunch program collaboration? At the most basic level, these programs feed both body (through the lunches) and soul (through books). The advantages of bringing food to hungry children are obvious. Less obvious, perhaps, is the impact of contact with the libraries. These programs are creating new readers, providing books and programs to children who previously were underserved or unserved, and they are turning some of these children, we hope, into lifelong library users. Many of the children who never used libraries before are now some of the libraries' most enthusiastic users. These collaborations also bring new connections and respect for the libraries. Townspeople start to see the library not as an elitist organization, but as a vital, integral part of the web that supports and serves children. If you believe, as I do, that reading is as fundamental a need and right as is food, then this is one of the most natural partnerships there is."

"One final note of encouragement: reaching out to the underserved and the unserved takes more courage and more work than hosting programs at the library for regular users. However, the rewards can be far greater. Think about the possibility of helping to turn even one child's life around, of opening doors that he might not have even known existed. Think of the joy on the face of a child who has just learned to read; who has just acquired his first book to own. If you look at library services this way, then I'm sure you'll be planning to incorporate summer meals soon!" Worcester Greene said.

If your community is not currently hosting a Summer Food Program, schools, public agencies, and private nonprofit organizations may apply to sponsor the program. All sponsors receive training before starting the program to learn how to plan, operate, and monitor a successful food service program. In some areas, libraries can provide healthy snacks to children after school or during the summer and get reimbursed through this federal program. For more information about how to do this, contact Lynda Westphal at the State Department of

Education at 332-6833 or lwest@sde.state.id.us and check out more details at www.sde.state.id.us/child/.

If your community is already hosting a summer breakfast or lunch distribution, contacting the local coordinator would be the first step in seeing how the library could provide a reading connection. Ideas for reaching out include a “breakfast and books” session once a week where a staff member or volunteer reads to the kids. Providing a box for a paperback book exchange that children can take home and keep or bring back and exchange for others is another idea for getting more books into the hands of children over the summer. The distribution sites may help advertise your library’s summer reading program and your library could also help promote the food distribution to others in the community.

If your library is able to partner with the Summer Food Program this year, please let [Stephanie](#) at the State Library know! – Thanks.

Tips & Tools

Target Stores Community Giving Grants Program - Deadline May 31, 2005. Target funds early childhood reading programs that promote a love of reading, inspire young readers (birth through third grade), or encourage children to read together with their families. Applications are now available for the Target Stores Community Giving grants program at their website. The deadline for applications is May 31, 2005, and they must be submitted to a local Target store team leader, who will review the application and make funding recommendations. For more information consult their website for more information at <http://target.com/>. (The State Library is not associated with, nor does it administer grant funds for the above mentioned opportunity. Please contact that website identified for further information.)

News Beyond Idaho

A unique floating bookmobile in Alaska, the Kusko Book Express, takes library outreach to a new level. The Book Express consists of two skiffs which travel up and down the river distributing thousands of books to children living in fishing camps during the summer. Children are so excited to see the skiff coming down the river, they run along the riverbank to greet it.

Go to: <http://litsite.alaska.edu/uaa/aklibraries/bookmobile.html> to read more.

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2. Replace the email address at the end (john@example.com) with your own.

3. Surf to that URL and follow the instructions.

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