

THE Nexus Newsletter

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Spring / Summer 2018

NEWSLETTER FOR THE IDAHO LIBRARY COMMUNITY

Summer Reading is Relevant for Everyone

Whatever role you play in support of your library -- staff member, trustee, volunteer, or member of the friends group -- you are also a "brand ambassador" for your library and its many amazing offerings -- like summer reading.

One of the biggest and most relevant programs public libraries do each year is summer reading (and learning). Do you know **why** your library's summer reading program is important?

More than 30 years of studies consistently show that students who do not continue reading over the summer can lose several months of academic progress.¹ For example, in Idaho, 76 percent of low-income kindergartners were reading at grade level in the spring of 2016. When they returned to school as first-graders in the fall, only 57 percent were reading at grade level.²

Public libraries throughout Idaho help curtail the "summer slide" of learning loss by offering reading and education programs within their buildings, as well as out in the community. Library staff routinely go where the kids are, which is particularly important for low-income children who tend to have few books in the home and limited access to their local library.

In 2017, more than 53,900 Idaho children and teens participated in their library's summer reading programs, and another 59,600 were served through library outreach programs.³

And summer reading and learning activities are not just for the kids. Plenty of Idahoans who are young at heart enjoy reading and participating in their library's summer fun.

As an advocate (promoter, cheerleader, publicist, and more!) for your library, understanding the importance of summer reading and being able to articulate it to others is critical.

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ATTENTION new or (new-ish) **public library directors:**

Would you like to learn about the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) and its MANY programs and services? If so, the ICfL's "Meet and Greet" event is for you! Much more on page 9 of this newsletter -- but the **deadline** to register is **August 1**. So, hurry!! (The ICfL will cover our travel/lodging costs, plus per diem.)

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ICfL INFO

Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL)

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220 E. 5th St., Ste. 307
Moscow, ID 83843
208-882-8882
Northern Field Office

1820 E. 17th St., Suite 130
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
208-525-7211
Eastern Field Office

<http://libraries.idaho.gov>

MISSION

The Idaho Commission for Libraries assists libraries to build the capacity to better serve their communities.

ICfL COMMISSIONERS

Dave Mecham, Janet Franklin, John Held,
Mark Alldredge, and Pat Raffee.

ICfL CONTACTS

Administrators

Ann Joslin, State Librarian
Dian Scott, Office Services Supervisor
Roger Dubois, Administrative Service Manager
Stephanie Bailey-White, Deputy State Librarian
Open Position, Program Supervisor

Consultants

Allison Floyd, LiLI Librarian
Colleen Schowalter, Volunteer Services Coord.
Dylan Baker, Broadband Consultant
Emily Sitz, Northern Idaho Library Consultant
Jeannie Standal, School Library Consultant
Kevin Tomlinson, Southwest/South Central Idaho
Library Consultant
Kristina Taylor, Youth Services Project Coord.
Patrick Bodily, Eastern Idaho Library Consultant
Staci Shaw, Youth Services Consultant
Sue Walker, TBS / Library Consultant
Tammy Hawley-House, Continuing Education
Consultant
Open Position, Youth Services Consultant

Web & Information Specialists

Ben Bibikov, Web Designer
Donna Eggers, Public Information Officer
Edgar Correa, Web Developer
Open Position, Technical Records Specialist

Grants & Contracts

Jamie Mott, Grants/Contracts Officer

Tell Your Whole Summer Reading Story

by Patrick Bodily

ICfL Field Consultant, Eastern Idaho

To tell the whole story of your library’s summer reading program with statistics, be sure to keep track of inputs, outputs, and outcomes.

Inputs are the things that your library puts into summer reading – dollars spent, staff time, number of programs, etc.

Outputs are the things that happen because of the inputs you had – number of attendees, people who signed up for summer reading, pages read, etc.

Outcomes, on the other hand, are a bit harder to report on. Outcomes are the “so what” of statistics. What happened because of your summer reading program? How many children improved their reading level? How many people reported that they were more likely to read for pleasure?

A great place to learn about collecting outcomes is Project Outcome¹, which is a free tool kit provided by the Public Library Association. It is designed to help public libraries understand and share the impact of library services and programs.

¹<https://www.projectoutcome.org>

Summer Reading Report -- Due by

September 15

Thanks to all of the libraries participating in the summer reading program this year.

Please remember that your summer reading report is due to the ICfL by September 15, 2018.

To access the report and/or other summer reading information, please visit:
<http://libraries.idaho.gov/summer-reading>.

Summer Reading is Relevant for Everyone

Continued from Cover Page.

Here are a few talking points that include state and national data. By localizing this type of information with your library’s results, your outreach will be even more impactful.

- More than 30 years of studies consistently show that students who do not continue reading over the summer lose as much as three to four months of academic progress.¹ Our summer reading program helps students maintain and/or improve their skill.
- By the end of the sixth grade, much of the achievement gap between high-income and low-income children can be attributed to loss of learning over the summer months. Some studies estimate this gap to be as much as three years’ worth of learning.¹ Access to their local public library and its programs and materials ensures that all children have quality reading materials and learning opportunities throughout the year.
- Data shows that 64 percent of fourth-graders in Idaho are not proficient readers.⁴ The library’s summer reading program is a powerful tool to combat this deficit in our community.
- When children choose their own reading material and read for enjoyment, they make the greatest strides in reading achievement.⁵ Public libraries offer a wide variety of reading materials and educational activities that make summer reading and learning an exciting adventure for children and teens throughout the Gem State.

And just like the season, your opportunities to share summer reading information will fade quickly.



So, the next time you’re talking with a neighbor at a yard sale or you spot a local official at a town gathering, take a moment to tell them about the importance of summer reading and the **value** of their library.

Sources:

¹“Summer Reading: Closing the Rich/Poor Achievement Gap,” Richard L. Allington and Anne McGill-Franzen, 2013.

²State of Idaho Department of Education.

³State of Idaho: 2017 Idaho Public Library Statistics

⁴“2017 Kids Count Data Book,” The Annie E. Casey Foundation.

⁵“The Power of Reading: Insights from the Research (2nd ed.),” Stephen Krashen, 2004.

FREE Online Learning Opportunity for Idaho 4-Year-Olds

The Idaho State Department of Education partnered with Achieve3000® to offer free access for 4-year-olds in Idaho to SmartyAnts®, which is an online, interactive, reading-readiness application.

The primary goal of SmartyAnts® is to help youngsters build strong early literacy skills so they are prepared for kindergarten.

SmartyAnts® joins other electronic educational and reading tools, such as Tumblebooks™, that parents and caregivers can utilize in conjunction with more traditional resources to develop and reinforce their child's early literacy skills, which include print awareness, vocabulary, and the identification of letters and their sounds.

State Librarian Ann Joslin said, "This free, online tool is a good resource for Idaho parents as they prepare their children for kindergarten." Joslin continued, "SmartyAnts can be accessed from a home computer or device or from the computer that is as close as the nearest public library."

Parents can activate their free SmartyAnts® subscription by visiting: achieve3000.com/SmartyIDAHO or by calling 1-877-235-2525 and using the code: SmartyIDAHO.

A SmartyAnts® toolkit, which includes a variety of resources, in English and Spanish, may be downloaded by visiting: <http://ww2.achieve3000.com/IdahoToolkit>.



Federal Funding

The federal fiscal year (FY) 2018 budget included increased funding to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which is the source of federal funding for the nation's museums, libraries, and state libraries and library development agencies, such as the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL). Federal funding is utilized in nearly all of the programs and services that the ICfL provides to Idaho libraries and the patrons of the Idaho Talking Book Service.



It is great news that the federal FY18 budget included funding to the IMLS, particularly after the President had previously called for the elimination of the IMLS. But our commitment to sharing the library story must continue.



At the federal, state, and local levels, there are legislators who are unfamiliar with the value of libraries and their ever-increasing importance to the communities they serve. So, it is critical to keep the library message on the minds of those who vote on the legislation and funding that impact Idaho's libraries.

Is Your Internet Traffic

Gridlocked??

Do your staff and patrons travel your library's internet like they're cruising down the open road in a sports car, or is it more like a Southern California freeway at rush hour -- gridlock.

If your broadband could use a boost, there are programs that can make that happen -- **at little or no cost**.

E-rate is the federal mechanism through which libraries and schools obtain high-speed internet access at a rate discounted from the provider of between 20 and 90 percent. In Idaho, the portion of the internet access costs not discounted under E-rate can then be eligible for reimbursement from the State under its Education Opportunity Resource (EOR) Act.

Idaho Code 33-5604 3 requires the libraries and schools that participate in EOR make a good-faith effort to provide their bandwidth utilization data to the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) and the State Department of Education (SDE), so that the levels of internet service can be determined for the state's libraries and schools.

Because many schools and libraries have not gathered their own bandwidth utilization data, the SDE has developed a pilot program to do it for them -- at no cost. The SDE's Broadband Program Coordinator Mike Costa has been assisting libraries to set up small, unobtrusive software "probes" on the networks of schools and libraries, to gather their bandwidth utilization data.

What is bandwidth utilization? Simply put, it is a measure of how much bandwidth (or internet speed) is being used at a snapshot in time. For example, if a library has an internet connection with a 50 Mbps (megabits per second) download speed, bandwidth utilization can show if the library is consistently maxing out its 50-Mbps-connection, and if so, on what days and at what times that is happening.

This data is invaluable for a library to determine the priority of getting a faster internet connection with greater bandwidth. This data can also demonstrate to stakeholders how much the library's internet connection is being used, including increases over time. You can generate reports of this data that cover a time frame of your choice, such as a week, or month, or all of 2018.



Ultimately, all libraries that participate in EOR (and E-rate) will be included in the SDE's pilot program. There will be no cost for the library to participate, and the process to get started is fairly straightforward. A sensor is placed on the library's network to gather its bandwidth utilization data.

If your library participates in EOR and has not been contacted about this utilization pilot, you can expect the ICfL's Broadband Consultant, Dylan Baker, to introduce you to the SDE's Mike Costa sometime soon. (Mike is working hard this summer to get more libraries into the pilot program, while schools are out of session.)

To request your inclusion in this pilot and/or to learn more about it, please contact Dylan Baker at 208-639-4167 or via email at: dylan.baker@libraries.idaho.gov.

Grants / Funding

Kindergarten Readiness Grant

Through its pilot **Kindergarten Readiness Grant**, the Idaho Commission for Libraries will provide up to \$10,000 to each grant recipient in support of library-led, community-based efforts that help prepare preschool children in Idaho for the classroom and success in school.

Libraries play an important role in early childhood success through the expertise of trained librarians, early literacy programs, books, and digital tools that many families can't afford.

The Kindergarten Readiness Grant will provide state funding to assist public libraries in collaborating with their local school districts or other community partners to reach preschool-age children and their families before the child enters school.

Goals of the Kindergarten Readiness Grant include:

- increase the number of Idaho four-year-olds (and their families) who have a public library card;
- increase the number of early literacy activities done in the homes of four-year-olds; and
- increase the number of library, school, and community partnerships that collaborate to achieve reading proficiency by their community's third-graders.

Idaho public libraries may **apply** for this grant **through September 14, 2018**.

To apply and/or for more information, please visit: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/kindergarten-grant>. The grant period is: October 15, 2018 through May 15, 2019.

Deadline for Idaho Community Foundation Grant is Aug. 15

The Idaho Community Foundation is accepting grant requests through August 15, 2018 from southwestern Idaho libraries located in the counties of: Ada, Adams, Blaine, Boise, Camas, Canyon, Cassia, Elmore, Gem, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Owyhee, Payette, Twin Falls, Valley, and Washington.

The Idaho Community Foundation's current grant opportunities for the Southwest Region are:

- Idaho Future Fund- Southwest: \$10,000 - \$20,000 to fill gaps in educational programs. **Public school libraries are eligible**. The application deadline is August 15, 2018.
- Southwestern Region Grant Cycle: \$250 - \$5,000 for a wide variety of projects and programs. All government entities, special taxing districts, public schools, and 501(c)3 organizations are eligible. The application deadline is August 15, 2018.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.idcomfdn.org>.

Grants / Funding

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ICfL's First Time Conference Attendance Grants

One of the grants offered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is the First Time Conference Attendance grant. For more information, please visit: http://libraries.idaho.gov/conference_grants.

Before applying for this grant, you will need to have a consultation with ICfL Continuing Education Consultant Tammy Hawley-House. Tammy's phone number is 208-639-4144 and her email is: tammy.hawleyhouse@libraries.idaho.gov.

Applications for this grant must be received at least 50 days before the conference date. Below are some **upcoming conferences** and the ICfL's grant deadlines.

Conference	Dates	Location	Apply Before (to the ICfL)
ALSC Nat'l Institute http://www.ala.org/alsc/confevents/institute	Sept. 27-29, 2018	Cincinnati, OH	August 7, 2018
ILA Annual Conference https://conference.idaholibraries.org	October 3-5, 2018	Moscow, ID	August 13, 2018
IAEYC Early Years Conf. Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC) https://idahoeaeyc.org/conferences-events/2018/11/15/early-years (For more on ANOTHER funding option for this conference from the ICfL, go to page 12 of the July 2018 edition of the Scoop: http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/Scoop-7-12-18Ktay.pdf .)	October 24-25, 2018	Boise, ID	September 4, 2018
YALSA Symposium (Young Adult Services) http://www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium	November 2-4, 2018	Salt Lake City, UT	September 13, 2018

Idaho Opportunity Scholarship for Adult Learners

During the 2018 legislative session, the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship for Adult Learners was created. This is a great opportunity for Idaho library staff who need to complete their undergraduate degree to pursue further studies in librarianship.

The Opportunity Scholarship for Adult Leaners awards eligible applicants up to \$3,500 per year and is renewable for up to four years. The application period opened on July 1, 2018 and will close three weeks prior to the start of the fall semester.

Some of the requirements are:

- Have an unweighted, cumulative GPA of at least 2.7;
- Be an Idaho resident;
- Must be working toward your first undergraduate degree;
- Must have earned at least 24 credits before any cease in enrollment;
- Must not have attended a postsecondary institution within the last 24 months;
- Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

For more information, visit: <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarships/idaho-opportunity-scholarship-for-adult-learners/>

Grants / Funding

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Financial Assistance Available to Attend Idaho Early Years Conference in Boise

The Idaho Early Years Conference is a two-day event for early childhood educators, practitioners, parents, health professionals, library staff, and library trustees.

The conference is scheduled for **October 24 - 25, 2018** in Boise. Registration will open soon. For more information, visit: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/blogs/jamiemott/financial-assistance-available-to-attend-idaho-early-years-conference>.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) has two options available for funding assistance to library staff and trustees who wish to attend this conference.

Option #1: Funding for Registration Fee and Lodging (if needed)

The ICfL will pay the \$125 Early Bird Registration Fee and lodging at the conference hotel (travel guidelines will apply). Travel and meals will NOT be reimbursed, but breakfast and lunch will be provided on both days of the conference. You must attend BOTH days of the conference to qualify for the financial assistance. In addition, a follow-up evaluation must be completed one week after the conference. More information will be provided in the August issue of *"The Scoop."*

Option #2: First-Time Attendance (Continuing Education) Grant

The ICfL provides Continuing Education grants to library staff to attend their first library-related conference. The Early Years Conference meets this requirement. This is a reimbursement grant to the library.

To apply for this first-time attendance grant, applicants must:

- live at least 50 miles from the site of the conference (Boise, in this case)
- have cost for travel, registration, and hotel totaling at least \$250 (the maximum amount of this grant is \$900)
- agree to submit two follow-up reports to the ICfL (one month after the conference and six months after the conference)

Grant funds will be reimbursed for allowable travel expenses when the one-month follow-up report is submitted. Applicants are responsible for their own registration, travel, and hotel arrangements.

Applications must be received by **September 4, 2018**. To apply for an ICfL first-time attendance grant, please contact ICfL Continuing Education Consultant Tammy Hawley-House at 208-639-4144 or via email at: tammy.hawleyhouse.idaho.gov.

HURRY TO JOIN

ICfL's "Meet and Greet" for Public Library Directors

TO LEARN ABOUT ALL THE ICFL HAS TO OFFER

Are you a new -- or relatively new -- director of a public library in Idaho? Or have you lost track of the services and programs that the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) provides? If so, the (rapidly!) upcoming "Meet and Greet" event at the ICfL may be for you!

The day-long informational session will showcase the ICfL's many offerings and resources in an effort to bring everything the Commission has to offer you and your staff together in a "one-stop-shop." Plus, you will have the opportunity to meet and network with colleagues from around the state.

The ICfL will cover your travel and lodging costs, plus per diem, for you to attend this event in Boise on Thursday, August 16, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To attend, please **complete** the online **registration by Wednesday, August 1** at: <http://bit.ly/IDLidir2018>.

For more information, contact ICfL Continuing Education Consultant Tammy Hawley-House or Library Consultant Sue Walker at 208-334-2150 / 800-458-3271.

New (ish) Directors

Cambridge Community Library -- Lorrie Robertson is the director. After many years serving in public libraries, Nina Hawkins retired in June.

Donnelly Public Library District -- Sarah Roach is the director.

Filer Public Library -- John Swayze is the director.

Jefferson County District Library, Hamer Branch -- Laurel Dalling is the director. (See the story about their AMAZING fundraising success on page 14.)

Kellogg Public Library -- R.J. Keener is the director.

(Let's hope they read the article above about the Meet and Greet!!!!)

Making It Happen

In the spring, the Idaho Commission for Libraries held Make It trainings in Boise, Idaho Falls, and Moscow. Staff from more than 40 public and school libraries learned to use technology and tools like the Cricut Maker, participated in design exercises, and shared information and best practices.

Changes to Idaho's Open Meetings Law

an Opportunity to Try Something New

by Kevin Tomlinson

ICfL Field Consultant, Southwest/South Central Idaho

Effective July 1, 2018, Idaho’s Open Meetings Law (Idaho Statutes -- Title 74, Chapter 2) contain two additional requirements that pertain to agendas for board meetings of public library boards. <https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title74/>

First, in addition to posting requirements for meeting agendas, the meeting notice and agenda notice must also be posted electronically, if the “entity maintains an online presence through a website or a social media platform.”

Second, an item on an agenda **that requires a vote** by the library board must be clearly identified as an “**action item**.” (“Identifying an item as an action item on the agenda does not require a vote to be taken on that item.”)

The new section of Idaho’s Open Meetings Law does not specify how to identify an action item on the agenda, which may be a good thing. This could be an opportunity for you to try something new.

In my opinion, one of the selling points of using a timed agenda is that it includes a “desired outcome” column, which makes every item on the agenda an action item -- easily ensuring the agenda is compliant with Idaho Open Meetings Law.

Action verbs are useful as “desired outcomes” because they identify what actions the board will perform as the result of each agenda item.

Examples of desired outcomes include: achieve consensus; approve; assess; agree; collect (data, facts, information); consider; craft (a solution, a response); discuss; identify; inform; receive (data, facts, information); refer (to a committee, to the library’s attorney, to an outside consultant); report; review; share; and vote.

Requirements for amending the meeting agenda remain the same. However, additional language has been added to allow for action on an item to be taken after the start of a meeting if an emergency is declared. The declaration must be justified and reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) does not give legal advice, so please be sure to consult with your library’s attorney regarding how to label an “action item” on your agenda.

For more information on timed agendas, visit: <https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/productivity/organization/use-an-agenda-to-run-better-meetings>. Also, Microsoft Word includes templates for meeting agendas, many of which are timed agendas.



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Changes to Idaho's Open Meetings Law

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Here is part of a **hypothetical** meeting agenda:

Time	Topic or Activity	Minutes	Who	Desired Outcome
6:00	Call to Order and Roll Call	2	Board Chair	Begin on time
6:02	Agenda Review and approval	5	Board	Action Item: Agree and vote to approve
6:07	Minutes of Previous Meeting held August 1, 2018	5	Secretary and trustees present and voting	Action Item: Amend, achieve consensus; vote to approve
6:12	Approval of Bills	10	Secretary and trustees present and voting	Action Item: Vote to approve
6:22	Director's Report	10	Director	Inform; assess; respond to questions from the board
6:32	Old (Unfinished) Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Report of Building Committee b. Possible consortial partnership with libraries of surrounding communities 	31	Board	Action Item: 5 minutes to review all relevant information provided by Building Committee; 5 minutes to identify and agree on any assumptions needed; 5 minutes to identify and agree on the interests that should be met for any solution; 15 minutes to craft a solution that ideally considers all the interests and is consistent with our relevant information and assumptions; 1 minute to vote.
7:03	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review of First Amendment rights of minors and our library’s related policies b. Policy Review: Collection 	20	Board Chair	Action Item; Inform; discuss; vote on proposed revision to the library’s Collection Development Policy.

UPDATED Trustee Manual

available on ICfL website

In Idaho, the public library board of trustees is a governing, policy-making body that is elected or appointed to govern the library. The library's director is appointed by the board to administer the library and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the library.

The responsibilities of the library board include governance, finance, personnel/human resources, and service and community relations.

For more information and resources, including the "Idaho Trustee Manual," please visit the Idaho Commission for Libraries' website at: <http://libraries.idahogov/landing/trustees>

Resources at the Ready

The website of the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) contains a wealth of **resources** of particular interest to library **directors** and **trustees**, such as information and documents related to current Idaho laws affecting libraries. This type of material is found here: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/trustees>.

There are also a wide variety of resources and training on the "**Continuing Education**" page of the ICfL's website: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/ContinuingEducation>. Although Skillsoft, the e-learning site is no longer available to Idaho library staff, there are a number of Webjunction courses and webinars still available for e-learning. The direct page for these is: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/partner-training-opportunities> or click on the "Partner Training Opportunities" link from the main "Continuing Education" page on the ICfL site.

If you have questions or needs related to continuing education (CE), please contact the ICfL's Continuing Education Consultant Tammy Hawley-House at 208-639-4144 or via email at tammy.hawleyhouse@libraries.idaho.gov. Tammy recently assumed the CE role for the Commission after working as one of the agency's youth services consultants.

Wilder's Levy Failed

For the third time in two years, Wilder voters failed to approve funding for the public library -- leaving staff and supporters with a partially renovated building and no viable funding solution.

Currently, most of the Wilder Public Library District's books are in storage because the library cannot afford bookshelves and other needed renovations. The library operates out of an old fire station that was donated six years ago by the Wilder Rural Fire Protection District.

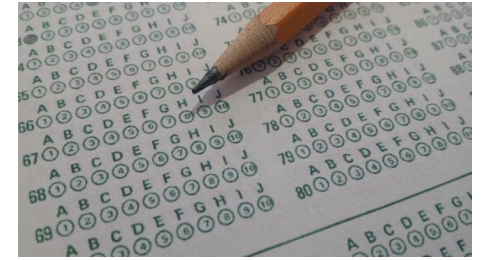
The funds from the levy would have been used to renovate and insulate a garage that previously housed firetrucks. The levy was supported by 51.8 percent of Wilder voters in May but fell short of the 55 percent required for it to pass.

ISAT Test Results -- Improved or Held Steady

The results of the Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) were released in mid-June. The ISAT tests students in the third grade through high school against the state's Common Core standards.

Numbers improved in nearly every grade level, in both math and English language arts (ELA). The biggest improvement: 44 percent of sixth-graders scored proficient or advanced in math, up from 40 percent a year ago.

In other categories, proficiency rates held steady or improved by one to three percentage points. For more, visit Idaho Education News: <https://www.idahoednews.org/news/spring-test-scores-a-mixed-bag/>



Southside Elementary **STEAMS** Toward the Future

Librarian Lynette Leonard of Southside Elementary in Cocolalla has been instrumental in growing the school's STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) program, in an effort to better prepare the children for the future.

Leonard has received several grants from such organizations as the Idaho Community Foundation, the Idaho STEM Action Center, the Idaho Commission for Libraries, and the Panhandle Alliance for Education.

Leonard said, "These are rural kids and their opportunities are really limited. I wanted to open doors for them that they may have never had because of the location where they live. My goal is to provide opportunities that will help them be competitive in the future."

Idaho Day Celebrated Around the Gem State

Idaho Day, March 4, was established to commemorate the creation of the Idaho Territory by President Abraham Lincoln on that day in 1863.



ICfL IT & Telecommunications Resources Technician David Harrell shows some maker tools to a youngster visiting the Statehouse.

The theme for Idaho Day 2018 was a patriotic one, commemorating the 100-year anniversary of the Armistice of 11 November 1918 -- the armistice that ended fighting on land, sea, and air in World War I between the Allies and their last opponent, Germany.

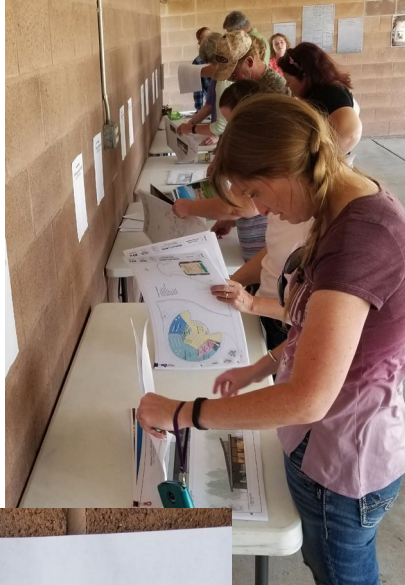


Hailey Public Library

A number of libraries and the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) joined schools and universities, organizations, and other state agencies, such as the Idaho Historical Society, to celebrate Idaho and its history. The four libraries that held special, themed book reads with ICfL support were: the Lewiston City Library, Hailey Public Library, Caldwell Public Library, and Lizard Butte District Library (Marsing). Staff from the ICfL participated in the Idaho Day event at the Statehouse in Boise and celebrated with their own Idaho Day luncheon.

Innovative Fund-Raiser **Super Successful** in *Menan*

The Menan branch of the Jefferson County District Library came up with an innovative way to not only get an architectural design for their new building, but to raise funds for the new space, as well.



The library partnered with an architecture presentation class at BYU-Idaho. For the students' final project, they designed a new library. The 25 future architects created their designs based on the specifications they were given for such parameters as lot size, square footage of the building, and desires of library staff and trustees.

The library held a fund-raising event to showcase the designs to the public, where community members could vote for their favorite. There was no charge to view the designs and vote. But if folks wanted to enjoy the dinner and entertainment that was provided, they needed to purchase a ticket -- \$8 per person or \$15 per couple.

All of the 250 tickets that the library had available were sold, and the event raised **\$14,845!!**

Great job to Director Laurel Dalling, her staff, the trustees of the library, and everyone in Menan who came together for a good time and a great cause.



Sandpoint Branch **Expands**

The Sandpoint branch of the East Bonner County Library District has been undergoing an expansion and remodeling project that brought the addition of approximately 8,000 square feet and a beautiful transformation to the space and will allow for such improvements as: an enlarged children's area; a new teen room and maker space; expanded collections; additional computers; more meeting, tutoring, and programming space; and new emerging technology offerings, including virtual reality and drones.

To find out more, visit: <http://www.ebonnerlibrary.org/index.php/expansion-and-fundraising-info>.



rendering of new reading room

St. Anthony *doubles* Its Space

The St. Anthony branch of the Fremont District Library is doubling its floor space. The library, which is located within St. Anthony City Hall, was given the additional square footage after a tenant in the building vacated its space. The library will add a community room and be able to offer more programs, such as Dia de los Ninos, which St. Anthony held for the first time in April.

Clearwater Memorial **Broke** Ground

In March, ground was broken on the expansion project of the Clearwater Memorial Public Library in Orofino.

Meridian *Tiny* Library -- Coming Soon!

The Meridian Library District (MLD) is a partner of the innovative collaboration called The Hill, which brings Meridian's newest library location, the Tiny Library, together with the Treasure Valley Family YMCA, West Ada School District, St. Luke's Health System, and the City of Meridian Parks and Recreation Department on 22.5 acres in south Meridian.

The project aims to be a place where people of all ages can come together to be active, learn, and have fun.

The Tiny Library is a shipping container that will be repurposed as an interactive learning space for families with young children. It is slated to open in early September 2018.



Rendering of MLD's Tiny Library

Picture This -- Snapshot Day in Idaho

During National Library Week in April, libraries throughout the U.S. select one day that best represents their activities to document all of the happenings. Called **Snapshot Day**, the event is designed to capture the impact libraries have on their communities during a typical day. Much **thanks** to our libraries throughout the Gem State that participated in Snapshot Day 2018.

And extra kudos to the libraries that took the time to complete the survey about their activities (and some even sent photos!): Ada Community Library, Hidden Springs Branch; Boise Public Library; Burley Public Library; Clearwater County Library District; Coeur d'Alene Public Library; East Bonner County Library District; Emmett Public Library; Grangeville Elementary/Middle School Library; Hailey Public Library; Kimberly Public Library; McCall Public Library; Nampa Public Library; North Bingham County District Library (Shelley); O'Leary Middle School Library (Twin Falls); Patricia Romanko Public Library (Parma); Priest Lake Public Library; Salmon Public Library; South Hills Middle School Library (Twin Falls); University of Idaho Library (Moscow); and the Valley of the Tetons Library, Victor Branch.

Here are some fun facts, figures, and photos from Snapshot Day 2018. (If your library hasn't participated, maybe you'll get inspired to join in next year.) By showcasing all that Idaho libraries do, we can get the message out about the value libraries bring to their communities.

On Snapshot Day 2018:

- Boise Public issued **48** library cards.
- 334** patrons visited Burley Public & **213** accessed the internet with their own devices.
- Coeur d'Alene Public answered **135** reference questions.
- The total circulation for the day at Emmett Public was **328**.
- 40** students were taught computer/device/internet skills at the Grangeville Elem./Middle School Library.
- At Hailey Public, **48** people used public access computers.
- Kimberly Public's circulation for the day was **97**.
- 10** job seekers were helped at Nampa Public.
- At No. Bingham Co. District, **130** people visited the library in Shelley and the day's circulation was **418**.
- 50** students accessed computers at the O'Leary Middle School Library in Twin Falls.
- The day's circulation at Priest Lake Public was **75**.
- 221** people visited Salmon Public.

Examples of reference and other questions asked in Idaho on Snapshot Day 2018:

- "Where can I find books on WWII?" "Do you check out computers or iPads?" "Where is Bear Lake?"
- "Do you have a magazine exchange?" "Can I use your computers to scan and send documents?"
- "Looking for a car repair manual for a 1998 Dodge." "Do you have a dictionary of Victorian slang?"
- "Can you help me find books on the health effects of GMOs?"
- "I'm new to Nampa and not that good with computers. Can you help me find where there are apartments for rent?"
- And one of the most frequently asked questions -- "Do you have tax forms?" (Not surprising in April.)

Some of the many patron comments collected on Snapshot Day 2018 in Idaho:

- "Look at this cool necklace I made on the 3D printer."
- "You guys always have something going on here!"
- "She (the director) is the greatest. She fixes all my computer problems and needs."
- "In this rural community, the library is certainly an impactful and necessary hub for all ages."
- "Our library is the heart of this tiny, isolated community."
- "As a homeschooling family, we depend on the library for a majority of our curriculum books."
- And from a patron who has their priorities straight -- "Can we get an ice cream maker?"

Snapshot Day photos on page 18.

Idaho STEM Action Center

Won National Competition

The Idaho STEM Action Center is one of eight groups from across the country named by US2020 as a winner of the 2018 STEM Coalition Challenge, which is a competition for communities to bring hands-on STEM mentoring and maker-centered learning to underrepresented students.

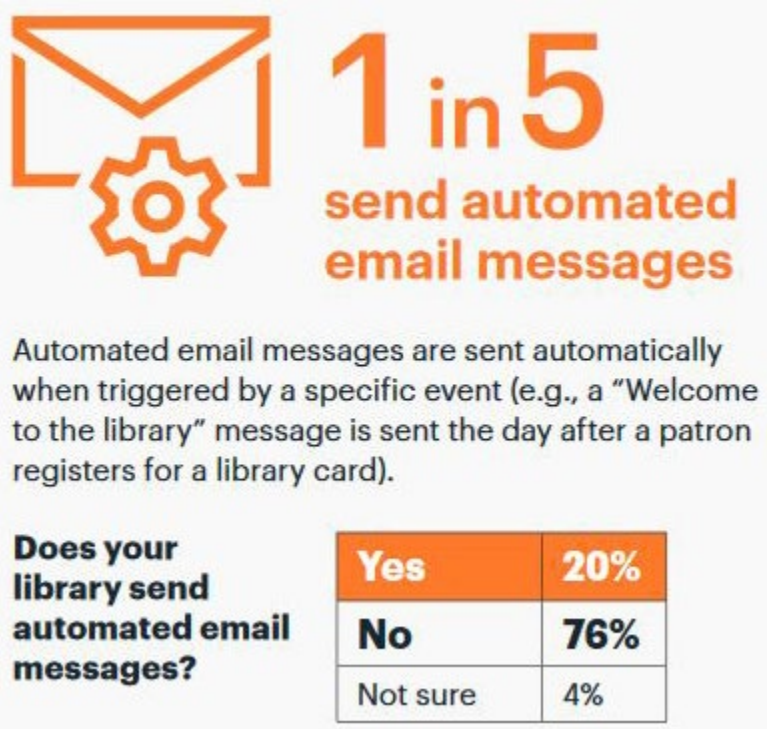
The Idaho STEM Action Center will share \$1 million in cash and support to implement bold strategies and build STEM learning partnerships in Idaho.

The eight winning groups were selected from 92 applications that represented more than 1,900 nonprofits, companies, school districts, and local government partners from 82 communities across 35 states.

The Idaho STEM Action Center was created by the Idaho Legislature in 2015 to help address current and future workforce needs in the Gem State.



National library stats:



Photos from Snapshot Day 2018 in Idaho



Ada Community
Hidden Springs Branch



Coeur d'Alene Public



Clark Fork Branch

East Bonner Co. Lib. Dist.

Emmett Public



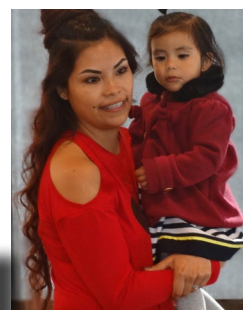
McCall Public



Kimberly Public

Snapshot Day photos continued
on page 19.

Nampa Public



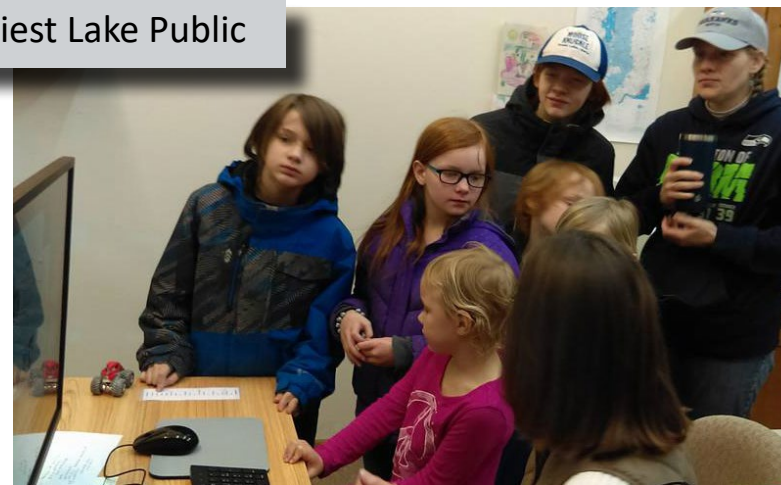
Stanley Comm.
Lib. Dist.



Valley of the
Tetons



Priest Lake Public



Snapshot Day photos continued
from page 18.



Salmon Public



South Hills
Middle School



Why Didn't I Think of That?

Cinderella Visited Boise Public

In May, the main branch of the Boise Public Library brought a puppet show to its littlest patrons (and the young at heart) that told the story of Cinderella's love of reading and losing a library book on the steps of the royal palace during this year's ball. Did she get it back before the due date?

Spring Fling and Story Walk in Emmett

The Friends of the Emmett Library hosted their spring fashion show and luncheon in April. Tickets were sold at the library, which was a great way to attract patrons and supporters -- new and existing -- to the Emmett Public Library. The library also observed National Walk Day by setting up a "story walk" for local kids through Emmett City Park. The "Idaho Press-Tribune" covered the event.

Hagerman's Fund-Raiser Exceeds Expectations

A group of local residents have been working hard for a bigger and better Hagerman Public Library, which has been housed in a 750-square-foot building. After many years and much effort, the library was able to purchase a building that is more than twice the size of the old one and will allow for new services and more space for books.

One of the fund-raisers recently held in support of the library was a fashion show, raffle, and luncheon. Organizers hoped to sell 50 tickets to the event, but they exceed expectations by selling 65 of the \$25 tickets. The Twin Falls location of the retail store Chico's put on the fashion show. Chico's Stylist Kim Sagers said, "Chico's loves to reach out and do fashion shows for the community."

Kuna's Family STEM Day . . .

In March, the Kuna Library District held a Family STEM Day, when kids and adults had a great time learning to code robots, create structures, and complete gravity and laser mazes.

. . . and Fun and Games

The local paper took note of Kuna's new offering -- board games.

Hailey Loves Their Library . . .

Hailey Public Library is part of a Blaine County coalition that launched a new literacy campaign called "5B Reads," in an effort to improve reading skills of area residents.



HAILEY, Idaho (KMYT/KSVT) - The Hailey Public Library held an event to create crafts for the Wood River Animal Shelter pets.

. . . and Their Patrons with Paws



Continued on Page 21.

Why Didn't I Think of That?

Continued from Page 20.

D.E.A.R. and Star Wars Days in Idaho Falls

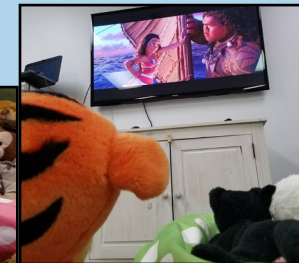
The Idaho Falls Public Library supported D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Day on April 12 and hosted Star Wars Day on May the fourth (be with you).

Lynda Comes to Kuna

This spring, the Kuna Library District began offering its patrons free access to Lynda.com, which contains more than 6,000 online courses, covering a variety of topics and disciplines.

Marshall Public's Stuffed Animal Sleepover

In the spring, Marshall P. Lion hosted his (stuffed) friends in an overnight adventure at the Marshall Public Library. From watching movies and snacking on cookies, to making macaroni necklaces and playing in the



stacks, the furry friends of some of the library's littlest patrons had a fun sleepover at the library. Each animal's child received a packet of pictures of the critters' exploits, which the kids loved. The

two-year-old of the library's reader's advisor carried her photos around for days after the event and liked to point out her Daniel Tigger in the pictures.



Great job to Cresta Harwood and her colleagues at Marshall Public who created a magical adventure for some little ones in Pocatello.

Meridian Celebrated Seuss and Partners with Area Organizations

In March, all were welcome at the Meridian Library District's celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday, where no kid was too small or too big. In April, the Idaho Foodbank held a simulated grocery store tour at the library to show patrons how to find the food options that are the healthiest and the best value. The library also works with the Idaho Humane Society to hold a monthly program that gives patrons the experience of owning a certain kind of pet and learning what it takes to be a pet parent.

"Escape Room" in Mt. Home

The Mountain Home Public Library hosted an afternoon of thrills and chills for patrons who wanted to play the Escape Room game. Players solved puzzles and found codes to escape from the "locked in" area of the library.



Continued on Page 22.

Why Didn't I Think of That?

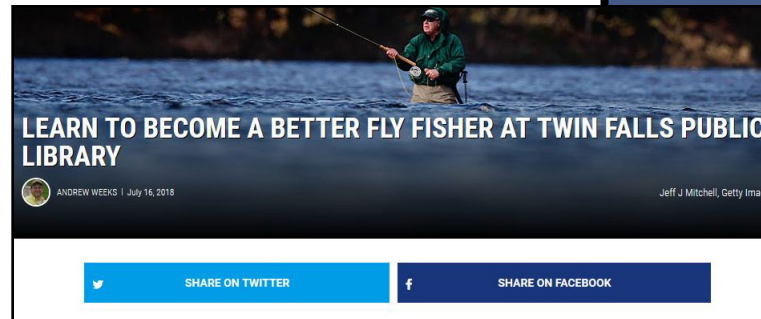
Continued from Page 21.

Teen Volunteers in Nampa

The Nampa Public Library recruited teen volunteers to help with the summer reading program, kids programs, the new library garden, and more. The teens not only helped their community by volunteering, but they learned new skills and made friends, too.

In Twin Falls, there's time for tea, help for dads, and a font of knowledge for fishermen . . .

The Twin Falls Public Library held an "introduction to tea" that included different cultures, various types of tea, and several ways to prepare tea. The library also had a "Daddy Daughter Hair Day," where a stylist helped dads (and male caregivers) of daughters step up their game in the girl-grooming department. And, the library hosted an expert fly fisherman, who shared his knowledge with interested anglers.



DIY and LFL's for the Valley of the Tetons

The Victor branch of the Valley of the Tetons Library has started a tool lending library. The Eagle Public Library lends tools to do-it-yourselfers, as well. (You should review the library's liability policy before implementing a program like this. The American Library Association (ALA) has guidelines for creating policies related to makerspaces, which is also a program for which liability is a factor. The ALA information is here: <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/statementspols/contentcreationQA>).

And the Valley of the Tetons Library has joined the Little Free Library (LFL) movement, with the help of community members, volunteers, and the library's Friends Group. Local builders and artists were enlisted to create five little free libraries, which were auctioned off and raised more than \$3,500 for the library. The LFL's have been placed in nearby towns. One was even purchased by the City of Driggs. The library stocked the LFL's with donated books, and the Friends Group paid the cost to register the little free libraries with <https://littlefreelibrary.org/> -- so anyone will be able to find the Valley of the Tetons' LFL's.



Lunch with Award-Winner in the Wood River

The Community Library in Ketchum offered local students the chance to have lunch with Pulitzer-Prize-winning author Anthony Doerr, who earned the coveted honor in 2015 for his "All the Light We Cannot See." The students were tasked with writing about a moment they felt a sense of wonder in their lives.

Continued on Page 23.

Why Didn't I Think of That?

Continued from Page 22.

Zoo Idaho Supports Literacy

In Pocatello, Zoo Idaho's Zoo Buddies reading literacy program was supported by the Marshall Public Library and the Portneuf District Library.



From a murder mystery dinner (Gooding Public Library) or job-seeking skills class (Priest River Library), to a yoga class (Blackfoot Public Library) or humane education for interacting with dogs (Garden City Public Library), the dedicated and inventive staff of Idaho's libraries meet -- and exceed!! -- the needs of their patrons every day.

Ideas from Libraryland -- Near and Far . . .

Snail Mail

Two libraries in Canada have established a pen pal program for patrons of their libraries. The sign-up lists are shared between libraries and patrons are matched up with pen pals. The organizers hope other Canadian libraries will join the program. Librarian Nicole Shaw said the program was for "our younger patrons who may never have written a letter before, to patrons who have a nostalgic yearning for old-school communication."



Adulting 101

The American Library Association and media outlets across the country have reported on a new library programming trend dubbed "Adulting 101." From Birmingham to Bozeman, libraries are holding classes to teach young adults how to perform a variety of life's necessities, such as: balancing a checkbook; cooking a meal; sewing on a button; shopping for auto insurance; cleaning an oven; and many other basic skills related to such topics as job hunting, news literacy, finances, and apartment living.

When Teresa Lucas, assistant director of library services at the North Bend Public Library in Oregon, started her basic life skills class last year, she was not expecting a huge response -- or a media onslaught. But that is what she got. The buzz even reached Kelly Ripa, cohost of the nationally syndicated morning talk show "Live with Kelly and Ryan," who said of the class: "They should offer this everywhere, not just at the North Bend Public Library."

An Idea Lab in Colorado

Colorado's Ignacio Community Library opened a digital media lab, referred to as the Idea Lab. Some of the services patrons can use the lab for include: converting slides or VHS tape to digital formats; shooting video footage and creating a video or film; learning graphic design; and creating digital content for websites and other applications.

Continued on Page 24.

HELPING HANDS (UH, PAWS)

By jfalcon on June 6, 2018



by Leandra Beabout, courtesy of the Goshen News

This spring, patrons of the Bristol Public Library (IN) got a surprise: little cat feet padding through the stacks. Page Turner, the library's new feline, was a former stray picked up by the Humane Society until the staff found her a home.

Dawn Powell, the library's adult coordinator, explained, "We were looking for a dog, a 'Paws to Read' therapy dog. And then we said, 'What about a rabbit? Something cuddly?'"

The staff spent hours at the Humane Society of Elkhart County. And an older cat — the shelter estimated about 9 years old — with her tongue slipping out through missing teeth, caught a librarian's eye. "We picked her up and she just laid out in my boss' arms. ... She's really cute. Thinking, she's a little



older, she doesn't have her two front teeth, let's give her a forever home. We weren't sure other people would take her," Powell said.

But according to a statement by library director Carol Anderson, the community has welcomed the cat even more than she expected. It makes sense since pets and pages have gone hand in hand for centuries, she said, explaining that in ancient Egypt, librarians kept cats to keep the book bindings from being eaten by rats.

While Page Turner doesn't need to keep the mice away, she helps in her own way. Powell said her presence attracts new visitors to the library. It also makes regular patrons want to settle in and stay a while.

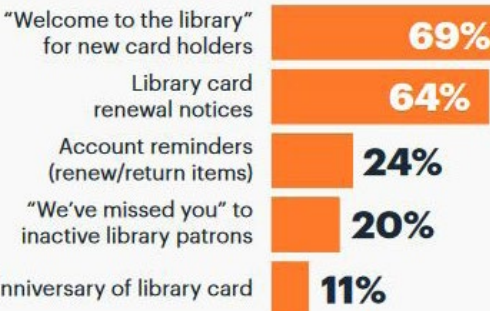
New Idea Takes Root in Montana

Several libraries in Montana have introduced a lending library of seeds. The concept is for patrons to save and share the seeds from fruits and vegetables they have grown that did well. One of the participating libraries is the Livingston-Park County Public Library. Its Outreach Services Librarian Suzanne Catharine said, "The goal is to have a collection of locally adapted seeds. You get that from harvesting the seeds that perform best in our environment -- plants that grow faster or produce more." Because this is Livingston's first year, there were no local seeds to share; so, Catharine started the library's seed collection with seed packets donated by Burpees and local vendors. Patrons check out the seed packets -- which are barcoded and tracked -- but the budding gardeners do not have to worry about overdue notices, as the seeds do not need to be returned.

"We send messages that remind the patron that their library card is going to expire on their birthday. It is a very nice feature."

Library director

What types of events trigger automated emails to your patrons?*



Also: "Welcome back" to returning library users (4%); "Happy Birthday" (3%); Other (5%)



L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, Eau Claire, WI

New Downtown Boise Branch Design Debuted

The design of the new downtown branch of the Boise Public Library was unveiled in June. The proposed \$80-85million project was designed by world-famous architect Moshe Safdie and will feature the library, and events venue, and a center for art and history. The City of Boise aims to break ground on the four-story, 150-000-square-foot building in the fall of 2019, with an opening date in 2021 or 2022. Of the design, Boise Library Director Kevin Booe said, "I was over the moon about it. I don't think there's anything like this in Idaho."



Boise Library Campus - Design Vision View from S. 8th St. at W. River St. The city of Boise has released early renderings of its future Main Library. The \$80-85 million project, which is being designed by world-famous architect Moshe Safdie, is slated to feature an event center, the library and a Center for Arts & History.

Doing Good in Gooding

Gooding School District Librarian Cora Caldwell and Gooding Elementary School Librarian Teresa Miller have teamed up with partners to feed the minds and stomachs of underserved children in their community this summer. With support and assistance from the school district and the Gooding High School's Future Hispanic Leaders of America group, Miller delivers books and food to rural areas around Gooding, with priority given to locations near low-income housing, such as the employee housing for local dairies. For their twice-weekly outreach, the intrepid librarians secured permission to use the school van, which they decked out with a (removable) magnetic banner that says: "Library/ Biblioteca." Because of their inclusion in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), the healthy snacks and lunches are provided at no cost.* Miller checks books in and out to the kids and does a story time for them, as well.

State Librarian Ann Joslin said, "I commend these dedicated librarians and their local partners for finding a way to bring much-needed services to the youngest -- and often most over-looked -- members of their community."

*For more information about the SFSP, please visit: <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/cnp/sfsp/>



Having a *fine* time

The **Portneuf District Library** in Chubbuck recently instituted a new “no fine” policy for overdue books. Library Director Holly Jackson said, “We want to see our patrons who have stopped coming to the library because of concern over late fines return to the library and enjoy our services again.”

At the **Marshall Public Library** in Pocatello, youth who have an overdue book fine can “read for fines” and pay off the fine at a rate of \$1 per 15 minutes of reading at the library.

Idaho Educators Turn to Twitter

Many educators in Idaho are using Twitter for professional development, resources, and to connect with others in the educational arena. Janet Avery, the director of curriculum and instruction for the Jerome School District, said she finds “resources for best teaching practices and technology use in the classroom.” Educators use hashtags like #Edchat, and Avery created #IDedchat, which is a place Idaho educators gather on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. “A lot of teachers don’t see professional development as something they can control,” Avery said. “They see it as something that is done to them -- Twitter is participant-driven.”

Talking Food

Darla Gunning, librarian/manager of the Hayden branch of the Community Library Network, recently shared a website related to cookbook clubs via LibIdaho. The site is: <http://bookclubcookbook.com/>. It includes a lot of resources for book clubs that want to focus on food themes, plus an index of recipes, and more. Darla recommends exploring this website for “lots of fun ideas!”

Volunteers Help It Happen at the ICfL

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) builds the capacity of the more than 850 public, school, academic, and special libraries in Idaho to better serve their communities through statewide programming and resources, like Read to Me and Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI); consulting; continuing education; partnerships; and aid to underserved populations, such as the visually impaired through the Talking Book Service. The ICfL’s small staff is greatly assisted in their work by a group of more than 100 dedicated volunteers, who gave more than 6,000 hours of service to the Commission in 2017. Each spring, the ICfL honors its volunteers with a luncheon, outing, and a “volunteer café,” where staff provide goodies for a week.



1st row, from left: Patricia Kelley (15 years), Melody Lynch (1,000 hours), Nancy Bunch (15 years), Truman Stewart (15 years), Donna Onn (1,000 hours), Liz Carpenter (wearing the gray hoodie -- 6,000 hours), and Maryann Stephens (25 years) 2nd row, from left: Barry Estes (5 years), Becky Blake (5 years), Colette Cowman (10 years), Cindy McLean (10 years), and ICfL Volunteer Services Coord. Colleen Schowalter

The 2018 ICfL volunteers honored with a milestone award, with their years/hours of service.

Communication Corner

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) has some communications resources available on its website (with more to come!), such as Facebook posts (text and images), memes, and media training materials.

Visit <https://libraries.idaho.gov/communication> to check it out.

Summer Learning ... Future-Ready



To download an image from the ICfL site:

- open the image
- right-click and select "save image as"
- then save to your computer (you can rename the file)



Contact Info Changes?

If you have changes to the contact information for your library and/or trustees, please let John Shinn at the ICfL know.

Email John at: john.shinn@libraries.idaho.gov or call the ICfL at: 208-334-2150 / 800-458-3271.

IMLS Conducts Site Visit in Idaho

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries. The IMLS administers the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), through which the federal funding is granted to states.

As Idaho's state library development agency, the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) is the designated recipient of Idaho's LSTA funds, which have averaged approximately \$1.3 million per year (over the past five years).

The IMLS conducts site visits of all states and U.S. Territories that receive LSTA funds. Recently, the IMLS senior program officer responsible for Idaho, Dennis Nangle, visited the Gem State to meet with staff of the ICfL to review its programs and services that utilize LSTA funding. In addition to those meetings, Nangle's whirlwind trip to Idaho included a day at the ICfL's school library summer summit, which brings school librarians from around the state together for an intensive three-day training workshop.

Nangle also toured four libraries in the Treasure Valley, which were: the Bown Crossing branch of Boise Public, the unBound branch of the Meridian Library District, Middleton Public, and Caldwell Public.

Nangle particularly enjoyed the library visits, where he had the chance to speak with staff and trustees and see, firsthand, various ways that LSTA funds are being utilized to better serve the community. For example, Caldwell Public uses LSTA funds in its Maker Space, to allow staff to attend library conferences, and through participation in ICfL Read to Me initiatives, including the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start My First Books program.

The federal LSTA funds and the mandated state matching funds support virtually all of the statewide programs and services the ICfL provides to the more than 850 public, school, academic, and special libraries in Idaho.



Photo (taken at the Caldwell Public Library): Back row, left to right: Caldwell Public Library Trustee Larry Blackburn, IMLS Senior Program Officer Dennis Nangle, Caldwell Public Library Director Lacy Welt, ICfL Trustee John Held, Caldwell Public Library Trustee Rex Hanson, Caldwell Public Library Youth Services Coordinator Fiona May, and Caldwell School Superintendent Shalene French.

Front row, left to right: Caldwell Public Library Technology Services Coordinator Abraham Valadez and Caldwell Public Library Youth Services Assistant Ellie Epperson.