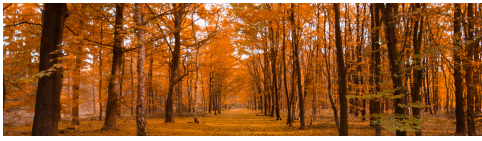


# Garden City Library Foundation Herald

The latest news and updates from your favorite library foundation

## FALL CALENDAR



### Open House by the River

Library supporters, plan to attend the **September 27** Open House in the Courtyard from **6-7:30 pm** to celebrate the Garden City Library's selection as 2019 Idaho Library of the Year. Foundation members will be hosting guests with appetizers and beverages. Meet the Board and your neighbors at this casual event. **Tickets Free, Please RSVP.**

### Treasure Valley Book Club Lunch and Share

Saturday **October 26** from **11-2 pm**. Guest speaker: Idaho's AK Turner, a New York Times best selling author. Area book clubs support this fundraiser for children's programs and Bells for Books (Bookmobile serving Garden City families). **Tickets \$20; Please RSVP.**

### RSVP by September 15

to [gcpl.foundation@gmail.com](mailto:gcpl.foundation@gmail.com) to participate in these two fall events hosted by the the Garden City Public Library Foundation. Be sure to include your name, phone numbers and email so we can follow-up with you. Questions? Phone Sue at 208-340-9450.



## “UNIVERSE OF STORIES”

Summer Reading Program was a Blast!

By Sarah Cox

The “out-of-this-world” Summer Reading Program came to a close on August 1 with grand prize drawings on August 2. It was great fun seeing the wonderful prizes distributed to all the dedicated readers. In addition to the bicycles, swimming lessons, and other cool prizes for the children, the adult’s program prizes included this very amazing telescope.



If you didn't get your entries in for this beauty, you really missed out!

But probably the most fun was seeing how many children from all over Garden City participated. Hundreds of children from every nook and cranny of our community read and collected prizes throughout the program. For every 10 books a child read, they could come into the library and pick out a prize or book of their very own. The selection was great.

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, the goal of the Summer Reading Program is to prevent the ‘Summer Slide’ – children losing reading ability over the Summer.



The Garden City Public Library was selected as the **2019 Idaho Library of the Year** by the Idaho Library Association. Huzzah!

continue reading on next page

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## Meet Jason

Driver of our magic Big Blue Bus



Jason Mick is the driver of the Big Blue Bus and the magician who brings STEM activities and books of all kinds to our children.

Jason is a native Idahoan and has been with the GCPL for two years. He served four years in the Navy as a helicopter mechanic, so he is well qualified to 'talk STEM' with the kids. Prior to his time in the Navy, Jason drove the bookmobile for the Meridian Library for five years. Jason is back in school at BSU now in the engineering program. But Jason is completely devoted to the Library and hopes to find some way to use his engineering training in this environment. Jason's wife works for the Boise Library with the program that helps children learn to read by reading to dogs. Jason and his wife hope to see their dog working at the Garden City Public Library in the not-too-distant future! One only has to spend a little time with our great Library staff to feel extraordinarily fortunate that we have such kind, talented people helping our community. And we also feel extraordinarily fortunate to have you, our Garden City Public Library Foundation donors and friends! Thank you for your support for this great program that helps children learn and reach their potential.



## "UNIVERSE OF STORIES" CONTINUED

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, the goal of the Summer Reading Program is to prevent the 'Summer Slide' – children losing reading ability over the Summer. These figures from the Children's Defense Fund are pretty startling:

- In affluent neighborhoods, there are approximately 13 books for every 1 child. In poor neighborhoods, there's 1 book for every 300 children.
- Children from poor families lose 2 or more months of reading skills each summer.
- Cumulatively, that accounts for at least half of the ninth-grade reading achievement gap between children from high- and low-income families.

These statistics really help us understand the potential impact of the 'Summer Slide' for poor children, AND appreciate the value of the Garden City Public Library Summer Reading Program for our community. The Program puts 'books to borrow' and 'books of your own' into the hands of all our children all Summer long. We are trying to support families and children for success when school starts up again later this month. And you, wonderful donors to the Garden City Public Library Foundation, you made our Summer Reading Program possible with your generosity. We hope you feel proud of this program and proud of yourselves for donating to make this excellent program a reality.

The outreach of the Summer Reading Program through our Big Blue Bus made this Program accessible to children whether or not they could actually get to the Library. The Bus operated 32 hours each week this Summer and made regular stops at Garden City Parks, The Learning Lab

and Lolly Wyatt Headstart, Low-income housing developments, and the Boys and Girls Club.

Many days the Bus stops included a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activity. Stops that crossed the lunch hour were often in conjunction with the Idaho Food Bank's Summer program of Picnic in the Park – a program that helps kids who would otherwise go hungry have a healthy lunch and take home a sack lunch for dinner.

