

rediscover reading



Idaho Falls Public Library

## Community Engagement and Adult/Teen Programming – June 2025

Information gathered from May 5-31, 2025; prepared by Beth Swenson

### Adult/Young Adult Programs

- **4-H:** 0 events, 0 people <sup>1</sup>
- **Caregiver Connections:** 1 event, 10 people
- **Chapter 2 Book Club:** 1 event, 6 people, title: *Drowning* by TJ Newman
- **Chess Club Wednesdays:** 4 events, 9 people
- **Chess Club Saturdays:** 4 events, 8 people
- **Conversaciones:** 4 events, 18 people
- **Crazy Crafters:** 4 events, 57 people
- **Cuéntame un libro:** 1 event, 4 people
- **D&D Days (Dungeons & Dragons):** 4 events, 53 people
- **Family Game Night:** 4 events, 39 people
- **Great Book Giveaway:** 1 month, 49 entries, sets given away: Memoir & Biography; Classic Worth Reading
- **The Heart of Hospice:** 1 event, 3 people <sup>2</sup>
- **INL eWaste:** 1 event, 132 people <sup>3</sup>
- **Lit Fusion:** Runs May 1-31, total entries: 81
- **Literary Society:** 1 event, 4 people, topic: traveling
- **LybraryWyrms:** 3 events, 19 people
- **Meet the Author:** 1 event, 5 people, author: AS Godin
- **Money Matters:** 1 event, 3 people
- **Narcan:** 1 event, 7 people
- **One More Chapter Book Club:** 1 events, 5 people, title: *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman
- **Paper Arts:** 1 event, 22 people
- **U of I Extension programs:** 2 events, 28 people, program titles: Brain Health; Improving Sleep
- **Write Over Here:** 4 events, 28 people
- **Write Over Here for Teens:** 4 events, 21 people
- **Special programs/events**
  - **Mental Health First Aid with Eastern Idaho Public Health:** 2 events, 20 people
  - **Veterans' Fair with TRIO:** 1 event, 60 people
  - **Water Festival Poems Display by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality:** April 30-May 10 (This yearly display is of local students' poetry submissions)

<sup>1</sup> **4-H note:** Due to federal budget cuts to the AmeriCorp program, 4-H had to cancel having this club at the library on May 5. I just heard from the 4-H office and they have secured other funding to be able to provide something during the summer. I met with them, and the program will begin again in July.

<sup>2</sup> **The Heart of Hospice note:** Due to low attendance, the partners and I decided to change the date of the program to see if we can piggyback off some of our other well-attended programs, specifically Caregiver Connections and U of I Extension programs.

<sup>3</sup> **INL eWaste note:** Tien Le, the main contact of the INL eWaste events, sent me this information about how much was collected during the times they held these events:

Event date	Total (lbs)	Number of households
Feb 22	9,317	160
Mar 22	5,693	112
Apr 19	2,394	66
May 17	5,625	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,029</b>	<b>440</b>

**Total events: 51; total people: 642**

## Upcoming Special Events and Programs

- Never Too Late: We've hit another snag with this grant we received from ICfL Our original artist pulled out due to health reasons. Our second artist just informed me she took a teaching position which means she's unable to do this program as it interferes with her new job. I am working with The Art Museum of Eastern Idaho to see what we can do to still continue on with this grant.
- We will be having a literary trivia night on August 6.
- We're doing several special programs in conjunction with Summer Reading. For teens, we're doing a week-long writer's camp in June and a week-long camp in July (called Camp Curiosity – details are still being ironed out, but will include things like self-care, Paper Arts, Lo-Fi music, and other fun, engaging projects or topics).



Figure 1 / Mental Health First Aid Class with Eastern Idaho Public Health, May 12, 2025



Figure 2 / Meet the Author with AS Godin, May 16, 2025



Figure 3 / Veterans' Fair with TRIO, May 17, 2025



Figure 4 / Veterans' Fair with TRIO, May 17, 2025

## Adult/Young Reading Challenges

### **Extreme Book Nerd signups (total since January 8):**

- Adult Extreme Book Nerd: 316 registered; 19 completed (6%)
- Teen Extreme Book Nerd: 52 registered, 0 completed (0%)
- Book Nerd Your Way (adult): 427 registered, 33 completed (8%)
- Book Nerd Your Way (teen): 62 registered, 3 completed (5%)
- Total registered: 857; total completed: 55 (6%)

### **Turn the Page Reading Program for Teens (total since February 24):**

- Registered: 26; Prizes claimed: 11

## Makerspace Programs

- **Brickfast Club:** 4 events, 46 people
- **Coding for Kids:** 15 events, 29 people
- **Tech for Teens:** 12 events, 23 people
- **Teen INC (Innovate & Create):** 3 events, 14 people

**Total events: 34; total people: 112**

## Community Engagement and Outreach

### **Events**

- **Teton Healthcare of Cascadia:** 2 events, 25 people
  - IFPL staff were invited to talk to THC residents about library programs and the Talking Book Service. We also installed a Mini-Library, comprised of large print books that what been weeded from the collection for a variety of reasons. Residents were really excited to have access to Large Print, in addition to learning more about Libby.
- **Ethel Boyes Kindergarten Round-up:** 1 event, 60 people
  - I got to meeting with incoming Kindergarteners and their families as they came to tour the school and see available resources to help them in their learning. I passed out information about Summer Reading, and talked about several Children's services, such as decodable books, early literacy bags, and story times.
- **Chukars Non-profit Nights:** 2 events, 550 people (and probably more, since we didn't get to talk with everyone who came to the games)
  - Aleisha, LaReesa, and I had a booth at two games, where we talked about Summer Reading and other library services. We passed out IFPL branded swag, which went over very well. If patrons

didn't have a membership with us, we explained what was needed to get one.

- **Rotary presentation:** 1 event, 60 people
  - Robert and I attended a Rotary Club of Idaho Falls meeting where we were the speakers. I discussed services and programs the library has, while Robert talked about recent legislation. I think it went well. We had several people come talk to us after the presentation about several things, such as how to access Consumer Reports, how to add more libraries to Libby, or their thoughts on legislation. It was a good, civil discourse.

**Total events: 6, total people: 645+**

### Meetings

- Idaho Out of School Network Recharge Training
  - I attended this training at the CYA building on May 7. I learned how to sustain a program and I was able to network with several agencies that also provide after school programming.
- Weekly Rotary and Kiwanis meetings
- Lunch & Learn with City of Idaho Falls – City staff covered evaluations, workman's comp, and other topics.



Figure 5 / Ethel Boyes Elementary Kindergarten Round-up, May 8, 2025



Figure 6 / Charlie Chukar with IFPL swag, May 30, 2025



Figure 7 / Chukar Nonprofit Night, May 19, 2025



Figure 8 / Chukar Nonprofit Night, May 30, 2025