

Library develops take home kits for youth in summer reading program

by Haley Pijl

The Salmon Public Library, striving to provide a safe option and still engage youth who have been stuck at home for months now, produced take-home kits for the annual summer reading program.

The four week series featured two different sets of kits for each week. One kit was developed for families of pre-readers, children ages two to six. These kits were designed for youth just learning to read and were intended to be completed with their families. A kindergarten readiness grant funded these kits.

"When I came up with the idea of the preschool program, we really wanted to do something for the older kids," said Francesca Bessey. A grant from the Salmon Rotary Club for \$1,366 allowed them to do just that.

The second kit developed was intended for children ages seven to eight years old. The national theme for this year's summer reading program was *Imagine Your Story* and the kits revolved around that theme featuring creative storytelling methods.

Claymation kits were handed out to both age groups for one of the weeks. The younger children were given Play-Doh and googly eyes to create their own mythical creatures. The older age group were also given Play-Doh as well as directions for downloading a free app where they could make Claymation films with their creations. Another week gave youth supplies to create their own graphic novels.

Bessey says around 70 to 80 kits were distributed to each age group each week. Although the current situation is challenging, Bessey says



TAMMY BAILEY (LEFT), on behalf of the Salmon Rotary Club, presents Francesca Bessey with a check for \$1,366 for the Salmon Public Library's summer reading program. As an alternative to what the library usually provides (in person programming), take-home kits were created.

she believes there are opportunities to learn from it. "In some ways we were able to reach more families with these take home kits. Either because peoples' schedules don't allow them to come in right at the time when we usually offer in person programming or their kids just feel more comfortable working on the kits at home at their own pace."

They are currently conducting a survey with parents to see if there is anything they should keep from the take home kit program when in person programming can resume. "It

seemed like families really enjoyed the kits," said Bessey.

The Salmon Public Library was also able to work closely with community child care centers for distributing the packets.

Packets were distributed at Kids Creek Early Education Center, Head Start, Adventure Academy, Summer Creek Day Camp and the Crossfit Kids program at Lat 45 Crossfit. "We were able to reach more youth by having those packets be available in places they already frequent.

Fair features varied contests, rodeo and

The Lemhi County Fair kicked off earlier this week with the 4-H Green Horse Show and 4-H Equine Driving Show on August 18. Tonight, August 20, at 6 p.m. the 4-H style revue will take place at 400 S Daisy Street.

The Lemhi County Open Horse

begins at 9 a.m. on August 24. A total of 59 classes will be featured.

All artwork and photography entries for the open class exhibits must be entered at the fairgrounds by August 24 between 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Only framed or gallery

wrapped original work having a wire stretching fully from side-to-side for hanging will be accepted.

Entry categories for the art department include oil, watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, pastels and charcoal, pencils, pen or ink and other. Two age divisions will be featured including junior (rookie, junior, intermediate and high school) and senior (adult amateur, adult professional and special class).

The photography department will include three categories for entries: pictorial, portraiture and miscellaneous. Judging will be based upon composition, print quality, technique and impact.

Barrel racing will take place August 25 starting at 5 p.m. Events featured will include time only poles and barrels, open poles and open barrels.

Rancher round-up will begin August 26 starting at 10 a.m. with ranch horse cutting and single cow fencework. Ranch sorting starts at 2 p.m. and the event concludes with the Salmon River Roping Association Drainage team roping at 5 p.m. An All-Around Rancher award will be given to the individual with the most points from the four events.

A pie contest will be held August 26. Participants are asked to bring their favorite pie with a list of ingredients to the fairgrounds between 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Judging will start at 4 p.m. and the winner will be announced at 6 p.m.

Fair races will be held August 27 at 6 p.m. The first race of the evening will stick horse for children

Guidelines to attend the fair and rodeo

It has been a year of "Rockin' and Rollin'" between earthquakes and COVID-19.

There will be Rockin' and Rollin' at the Lemhi County Fair August 22-29. The Lemhi County Fair Board is working with all the partners, volunteers and Lemhi County Commissioners to produce a fun and safe fair and rodeo. The fair and rodeo, a long-standing tradition in Lemhi County, will just look a little different this year.

Everyone is going above and beyond with extra safety precautions for the safety of everyone involved in the fair and attending the fair. Everyone is encouraged to follow WWW:

Wear a face covering. This is the guideline from East Idaho Public Health.

Wash your hands. There will be hand sanitizing stations placed around the fair grounds. Please use them and wash your hands in the restrooms.

Watch your distance. East Idaho

on Saturday, August 29. We are asking that these be reserved for those purchasing animals. The committee is currently working to "stream" the sale to other locations on the fair grounds for people to watch the sale.

For open class entries, you are encouraged to come with your paperwork complete. Forms can be picked up at the Lemhi County Extension office, CornerStone, and Purple Easel. To reduce the congestion during open entry check-in, there will be tables available outside the building to fill out entry forms and exhibit tags. You will take your entries into the east end of the green building and exit out the west end.

The events that have been cancelled are Family Fun Night and Kids' Corral at the Rodeo. All other activities and event will be happening, just with social distancing encouraged.

If you are feeling sick or have concerns, you are encouraged to