



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Reading is Good Medicine Book Fair to Raise Money for Children's Hospital Library

Boise – Barnes & Noble in Boise is partnering with St. Luke's Children's Hospital for the valley's first "Reading is Good Medicine" book fair.

The book fair, which backers hope will become an annual event, will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, July 26 at Barnes & Noble, 1315 N. Milwaukee, Boise.

Barnes and Noble generously agreed to donate a percentage of all the sales made on the day of the book fair to help build a library for children being treated at St. Luke's Children's Hospital.

The book fair is free and everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the festivities.

Doctors and nurses from the children's hospital will be at the fair hosting story times with children to share the favorite book from their childhoods.

Activity stations will be set up for children to participate in crafts, have their faces painted and participate in medical-related activities. Doctors will also be participating in a "Dunk the Doctor" dunk booth set up in the Barnes & Noble parking lot.

Curious George and St. Luke's Maxwell Moose will also be on hand for the festivities. Throughout the day there will be raffles and prizes and a chance for ambulance and Safe Kids Van tours.

The inspiration for the book fair came from Hayley Welch, the teacher at St. Luke's Children's Hospital School. Welch, who teaches about a 125 kids a year while they receive treatment at the school said the hospital didn't have an adequate supply of books for children.

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“Books are my passion,” Welch said. “Having access to great stories gives children something positive to do and helps take their minds off of what is going on.”

Welch said they often receive donations for books, but they tend to be older and well used.

Welch hopes to make the book fair an annual event, so they can keep a constant supply of new books flowing to the library.

St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital located at St. Luke’s Boise Medical Center is hospital within a hospital—with a professional staff and services to care for the special needs of children.

The hospital’s unique services include a 24-hour emergency center designed and staffed just for kids, intensive care units for newborns and children, child life specialists to help young patients adjust to the hospital and an outpatient specialty center to provide multidisciplinary services to children with special needs.

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