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## West Bloomington Revitalization Program Brings Book Bike to Bloomington

September 21, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Inspired by an idea from Chicagoan Gabe Levinson, the West Bloomington Revitalization Program (WBRP) will bring the “Book Bike” to the Bloomington-Normal community. The initiative will be introduced during the Family Fun Fall Festival at the Westside Community Garden (corner of Mulberry and Roosevelt Sts., Bloomington) on Sept. 25 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Stocked with a basket of books donated by the Bloomington Public Library and by residents of the Bloomington-Normal community, the Book Bike’s purpose is to bring free books to children and adults by traveling to different locations in the community.

The WBRP hopes that in having this bike available to the community every weekend the group will be able to connect the community through reading and literacy. “It reflects our commitment to sustainability and to individual connections that strengthen our sense of neighborhood and refresh our ties to one another,” the WBRP said.

Members of the Illinois Wesleyan community are also involved in the project by volunteering themselves as bike riders or by serving on the Book Bike Advisory Team.

Illinois Wesleyan Book Bike Advisory Team members include: Information Literacy Librarian and Assistant Professor Christopher Sweet, Action Resource Center Coordinator Deborah Halperin, University Librarian and Professor Karen Schmidt, and Sean Gower, a senior business administration major from Springfield.

To invite the Book Bike to your event, to volunteer as a reader, or to donate books, call the WBRP office at (309) 829-1200 or visit [www.bookbike.org](http://www.bookbike.org) for more information.

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