

# LIBRARIAN'S REPORT – AUGUST 2019

prepared by Kay Rankel, director

## SUMMER READING/LEARNING PROGRAM – Auction/Sale/Raffle

The last day of every SRP ends with the Auction/Sale/Raffle, and this year that date was August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cathie Erdmann filled in for professional auctioneer Jeff Bahrke who couldn't be there this year. The kids spend their reading points on auction items, raffle items, or shop from the tables that are set up in the Community Center. We received many donations and all kids went home with a bagful of "loot".

Janie will be attending a Grassroots meeting with other youth service librarians in September in Green Bay, and she'll have an opportunity to brainstorm with others from around the State about the summer program.



**FRIENDS BOOK SALE CONTINUES THROUGH LABOR DAY FOR \$1.00/BAG**

The book sale will take place throughout the summer, and it's open to the public during the Downtown Market hours every Thursday from 4-6 PM.



## JACK ZARLING BOOK TALK & SIGNING

Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>

This was Jack's first-ever book talk event, and he did a wonderful job. Jack wrote a book called **"Growing up on Main Street in a Small Town"**, and it is an autobiographical story about growing up on Main Street here in Gillett. His book reflects what it means to be a "local" in small-town Wisconsin.

There was a great turnout for his presentation in the Community Center, and Jack became emotional several times when friends and neighbors discussed their memories of our town. There was a lot of reminiscing about former businesses and business owners, and the way it was here back in the 40's and 50's...everyone had a story to tell! There were many new faces from all around the area that came to this event which was great to see (many had never been to our library or the Community Center).



## ESCAPE TABLE STILL POPULAR HERE...

Our Escape Table is setup near the Circulation Desk and it challenges kids to create something within a specific time period to "win". This month, in celebration of Stepheni Curran coming to do her program "Rock On Kindness, Pass It On", we're challenging the kids to write down kind things that they have done or that has been done for them within that time period. We're displaying the challenge this month by way of a paper chain...it's hanging from the ceiling and each link denotes an act of kindness. We hope the chain reaches from one end of the library to the other by the end of summer!

## STEPHENI CURRAN – “ROCK ON KINDESS, PASS IT ON”



Mrs. Curran shared background information related to the characters featured in the Rock On, Kindness story, and read the story and answered questions. Kids are supposed to hide the rocks, and when they're found they are meant to bring a smile to the finder's face.

Several Wisconsin communities have started a Rock Group, and when someone finds one of the hidden rocks, they are supposed to post a picture on their Facebook pages (i.e. *Shawano Rocks*, *Fox Valley Hidden Rocks*, *Antigo Rocks*, and *Wausau Rocks*).

Many communities have a monthly rock painting theme and their groups get together often to paint and hide them around their communities. It is suggested that the rocks be hidden in parks (not to interfere with any lawn-mowing), along a walking path, and/or outside of businesses; but they should not be hidden inside of business, in cemeteries, private properties, or nature preserves.

Here at the library, we started painting rocks last year and have several in the planting beds throughout the Community Square area. We hope to expand to other areas of town and create our own **GILLETTS ROCKS!** group here!

### Here's more about Stepheni from her site:

*I am a mom and a pediatric speech-language pathologist who is now venturing into the writing world. This has been a new adventure for me, but I am excited to fulfill my childhood dream. Her book is entitled, "Rock On, Kindness! Pass It On!" and is best suited for children ages 4 thru 12 years of age.*

*This children's book idea developed after Curran and her two children found a painted rock at a local park in the Village of Fox Crossing. The rock was painted by a member of the Fox Valley Hidden Rocks Facebook group. Mrs. Curran joined the Facebook group in June of 2017. The Curran family then began going on weekly outings to local parks to find hidden, painted rocks. Mrs. Curran realized the positive effect these outings had on her family and decided it was a great theme to promote kindness to children. This led to the development of the children's book geared for ages 5 thru 10.*





## CHECKERBOARD TOURNAMENT @ DOWNTOWN MARKET

I pull out the checkers every Thursday during our Downtown Market hours from 4-6 PM, and am encouraging area kids to play. We also have two sets of outdoor dice that are barcoded and anyone can check them out using their library card.

## @ the DOWNTOWN MARKET

Our Market will end for the season the last week in August...the last day of our Market will be Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. It's been a good year with a variety of vendors throughout the summer. Here are some scenes from the Market this season:



## ILS (Integrated Library System) MERGER UPDATE

Our consolidated Library System called Owlsnet (which is comprised of the *Nicolet Federated LS* and the *Outagamie/Waupaca LS*) has been working with the *Winnefox LS* with the hopes of merging together. Discussions have been going on for over a year now, and at this time they've come to an impasse regarding budget. Discussions will resume in August to tackle underlying differences and to do brainstorming so that they can continue to move forward.

Some big compromises have already been agreed upon, and one of the biggest involved resource sharing. Both Systems agreed that they can change practices in order to accommodate the other.

*FYI the Winnefox LS is made up of 5 counties including Winnebago, Waushara, Marquette, Green Lake, and Fond du lac. Our OWLSnet System is all of northeast Wisconsin (with the exception of Brown County who stands alone).*