

The Book Report

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2008

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 2 Chuck E Cheese Day
- June 13 Caron Butler Day at CNK
- July 14-18 Summer Camp
- August 18 Golf Outing



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A Message from Julia

What an exciting time we are having at the Center!

The children are involved in our after-school program where they are tutored in reading, library skills training, comprehension skills training, and eyeQ, a reading software program. We are also participating in a newspaper education program with the Racine Journal Times.

The children are also having fun with arts and crafts, music and games! And speaking of art, the children at Cops-N-kids will be involved with the "Quilts on Barns" art program this fall! Our children will have the opportunity to not only visit the country, but they will paint one of the quilts that will be displayed during this exciting program!

Cops-N-Kids continues to grow by leaps and bounds! I just received a letter informing me that we are now duplicated in Australia! Can you believe it? I am so proud of the work we are doing here and thankful to our wonderful donors and



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board members. I would like to give a warm thank you to all of our out-going board members for all of their hard work in making the Center a place

where children can have access to books. I would also like to welcome our new board members—we are truly blessed to have you!

We have many exciting plans in the works including a summer golf outing to benefit the Center and a visit from Racine native and NBA player, Caron Butler!

Thank you for your continued support and interest for the Cops-N-Kids Reading Center.

Endowment Fundraiser Caps off Great 2007!

In 2007, an anonymous donor came forth and made a challenge to the Board of Directors.

The challenge: Raise \$40,000 by December 31, 2007 and she would match it! The money would be placed in an endowment that would continue to

grow, which would guarantee the existence of Cops-N-Kids into the future.

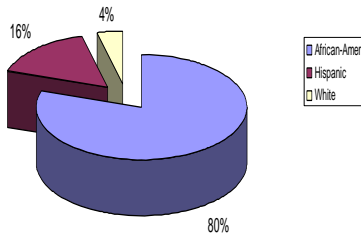
Jim Eastman and his family, at Merchants Moving and Storage, helped us develop, organize and direct our campaign: \$40,000 in 40 days. Perhaps you followed our campaign in the Racine Journal

Times.

When we came to day 40, Cops-N-Kids Founder and Executive Director, Julia Burney-Witherspoon, announced that not only did we meet, but we exceeded the challenge, raising over \$60,000!

(story continued on pg. 3)

CNK Student Break-out by Ethnicity



Because of its geographical location, center attendance tends to be heavily African-American and Hispanic.

Board of Directors

Julia Burney-Witherspoon

- Rebecca Alvarado**
- Margaret Drysdale**
- Patrick Fogarty**
- Dr. Carl Heigl**
- Susan Liedel**
- Matt Montei**
- Dr. Gregory Shove**
- Becky St. Martin**
- Clara Pappenfus**
- Don Pappenfus**
- Steve Prochaska**

Incentive Program Increases Attendance

Pizza, games, fun!! It's something that most kids take for granted, but not necessarily for the kids at Cops N Kids; most of whom never have this opportunity.

So eye balls became the size of saucers when the kids heard they could earn points, tokens, and a chance to go to Chuck E Cheese!

Our fabulous teachers, Ms. Margaret and Ms. Cecilia,

recently introduced an incentive program for the kids. Consistent attendance, showing responsibility, and bringing friends all earn points (think game tokens) for an end-of-semester visit to Chuck E. Cheese.

Not surprisingly, the kids were thrilled!

Maybe more surprising are results - record numbers for breadth (total number) and

depth (consistency) of attendance!

The party will be held on June 2nd... and the kids can't wait!!

The program is being funded by an incremental donor contribution from one of our board members.

Rep. Robin Vos Visits the Center

On May 12th, State Representative, Robin Vos visited the Cops-N-Kids Reading Center.

Arriving at 7am, Representative Vos was greeted by several students, volunteers and board members. The day began with a delicious breakfast and Julia Burney-Witherspoon talked about the history of the program.

After breakfast it was time to read! Representative Vos read, "Good Night Moon" to the children and then went on a full tour of the Center.

Representative Vos was very impressed with the Center and all it had to offer. He indicated that he looks forward to working with a bipartisan coalition of Racine area legislators and Governor Doyle to help with the Center's progress in the future.



Above, Rep. Robin Vos reads a book to students at the Cops-N-Kids Reading Center

Volunteer Profile

Marie Knudson and Marie Karsnick have been volunteering at the Cops-N-Kids Reading Center since 2002.

“I knew when I retired, that helping children to enjoy reading was what I wanted to do,” said Marie Karsnick. “I’ve know Ms. Drysdale for many years and when I found out what she was doing, I knew where I was going.”

Both women agree that Cops-N-Kid is a very exciting place to be.

“I love the interaction among us all; teachers, students and volunteers. But I guess the best thing of all is seeing the

individual progress they make during the year,” said Marie Knudson.

Marie Karsnick agrees, “My favorite part of the Center is, of course, the children. They are most enjoyable and teach me something every week.”

When asked about their

favorite books, Marie Knudson summed it up for both of them. “The favorite book might be any book the children can read for themselves. The feeling of accomplishment is very important to them. That feeling is important to us as well.”

“I knew when I retired, that helping children to enjoy reading was what I wanted to do.”

- Marie Karsnick



Volunteers, Marie Knudson and Marie Karsnick

Endowment Success

(continued from pg. 1)

What a truly wonderful way to end 2007!

Exceeding our goal, knowing that Cops-N-Kids is on its way to continue after we are long gone, that there are people who still care about Racine and its future.

We are indeed humbled, grateful and thankful for you and your support.

We thank you for making a difference in the lives of kids in the City of Racine.

Your continued support and efforts on our behalf are requested and needed.





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Teeing Off for CNK

Calling all Golfers!

Mark your calendars for Monday, August 18, 2008. Rasmussen Diamonds is hosting their "Diamonds in the Rough" charity golf outing benefiting the Cops N Kids Reading Center. The event will be held at the Racine Country Club, 2801 Northwestern Avenue.

If you sign up prior to July 1, the amount per golfer is \$180, after July 1 the amount per golfer is \$200.

The registration fee includes 18 holes of golf, one sleeve of golf balls, cart, lunch, event holes, and dinner.

If you don't golf and would like to join us for dinner only, the

amount is \$60. There is a corporate package available for \$1,000 which includes golf for 4, hole sponsorship, and a "named" table at the awards dinner. Individual hole sponsorships are available for \$150.00.

The schedule for the day includes registration and lunch beginning at 10:30 AM, a shotgun start at 12:30 PM, and dinner at 6:00 PM.

This is sure to be a day of fun and fellowship – one not to be missed!

For more information, call Rasmussen Diamonds at 262-884-4794.

