

READ...The News

Sharing the joy of reading for over 40 years

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READ ... *The News* is published
by the READ Association of
Saginaw County for volunteers,
donors and friends of READ.

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www.READinSaginaw.org

From the Desk of the Director



If you were at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner just a few weeks ago you heard me say the following, but it's well worth repeating. The READ mission is simply stated: *to help students improve their reading skills and discover the joy of reading.* The READ mission does not include the word "books", but of course when we think of the word READ - a book comes to mind.

While our office is filled with books, our program is really not about books. Our program is about the *PEOPLE* who read the books and the passion they share for helping a child learn to read OR the *people* who volunteer in the office and help stuff envelopes or stamp over 3500 books we give away through the RIF program or the *people* who volunteer with us in the sunshine OR the rain during our annual DEAR at the Zoo - Drop Everything and READ event OR the *people* who serve as a Board member who manage our finances or develop policies to serve the best interest of the organization or the people who so generously make a donation to help fund our program. Each of YOU makes a difference to the vitality of this organization! People are the reason we exist and why READ is a successful well respected organization in this community. It has been an exceptional school year thanks to so many people like you who care to make a difference.

Each new school year brings new children needing help and motivation to master the art of reading. Please help us recruit more people like *you* who share our mission. We look forward to your continued support. I look forward to seeing you at the DEAR at the Zoo—Drop Everything and READ—event, or out and about in the



community in the coming months. Let good books take you on new adventures this summer!

Carol Lechel
Director

Writing Contest

Congratulations to all the READ students who participated in the 2010 READ Writing Contest. We had many creative thoughts and drawings from the students this year. Below is our first place entry. See page 5 for more photos and entries. This year's theme was "I Think READING is Important because..."



Mentoring Moments



Oliver, our feline mentor, takes a break while returning books to the office with his Volunteer Coordinator at Carrollton Elementary School.



Volunteers from Shields Elementary and Longfellow Schools enjoy the end of the school year celebrations with their students.

THANK YOU... Novel, Chapter & Book Collection Business Sponsors

Our sincere thanks to the businesses that supported our 2009-2010 Business Campaign. Below are businesses whose generous donations helped support the over forty centers that provide mentoring services throughout Saginaw County, or supplied the matching dollars needed to participate in the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) program. These donations together with RIF funding allowed READ to purchase and distribute three new books for every student in the READ program. Over 3500 books were given for children to enjoy this year!





The READ Association of Saginaw County presents the 9th Annual

DEAR at the Zoo

Drop Everything And Read

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Children's Zoo at Celebration Square

1730 S. Washington, Saginaw

Admission to the Zoo includes all D.E.A.R. Literacy Activities:

10 am - 3 pm

- Free book for every child
- Animal-themed booth activities and prizes
- Storytelling and amphitheater programs
- Visiting author book sales and signings
- ➔ Take a peek at ***History on the Move*** - the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History's new mobile classroom - in the zoo parking lot.

Visiting Local

Author / Illustrator presentations:

11:15 am - Rebecca Spohn

Ready, Set, Grow! *A Kid's Guide to Gardening*, a book filled with interesting gardening facts, activities, projects, garden giggles, recipes, crafts—learn while you grow!

12 noon - Susie McColgan

Animals do Yoga and so do I!, a playful book that will introduce your child to yoga practice. Come be a part of yoga at the zoo!

The READ Association of Saginaw County presents this event along with these community organizations and business sponsors:

Barnes and Noble Booksellers
CAN Council Saginaw County
Michigan CardioVascular Institute
Mid-Michigan Children's Museum

Mid Michigan Waste Authority
Public Libraries of Saginaw
ROR at Covenant HealthCare
SCF Youth FORCE

St. Mary's of Michigan
Saginaw County Birth to 5 Program
White Pine Reading Buddies

Special thanks for the generous support of the Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation. The READ Association of Saginaw County is a proud partner of Saginaw Celebrates Summer, sponsored in part by Hemlock Semiconductor Group. Visit www.artsaginaw.org for a complete list of summer events.



Event is held rain or shine, *except for severe inclement weather*. Visit www.SaginawZoo.com or call the Children's Zoo at 759-1408 for admission prices and directions. The READ Association of Saginaw County is a local nonprofit organization whose mission is to help students improve their reading skills and discover the joy of reading. For more information on READ call 989-755-8402 or visit our website: www.READinSaginaw.org



For Literacy

Author Visit

Thanks to Mid-Michigan Children's Museum and the Public Libraries of Saginaw, our partners who made possible the April event featuring author Johnathan Rand.



READ was proud to take part again in the "Bee for Literacy" event co-sponsored by Altrusa International of Saginaw and Rotary Club of Saginaw. A tip of the "Watteau" to our READ Spell Binders Team, and our prize winning cheering crew! Special thanks to Independent Business Association of Saginaw for sponsoring the READ team.



Books for Breakfast



Books & pancakes-what a great way to start the day! The 5th annual Books for Breakfast March 6th event was a success thanks to all who attended, as well as our activity partners, volunteers, the Pancake Man, the Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation and our site hosts - East Side Soup Kitchen & Hidden Harvest.



Literary Festival

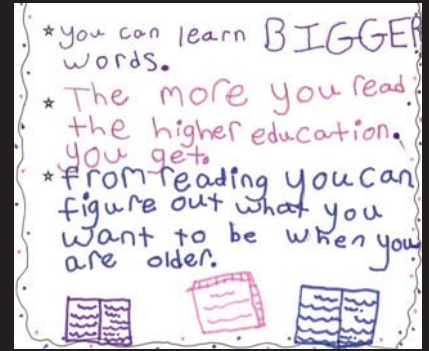


Our four-legged volunteer in the PAWS to Read program enjoys his visit to the Saginaw Valley Literary Festival on March 14 at the Andersen Enrichment center.

Writing Contest Winners



Samantha, Shields Elementary
 Madelynn, St. Paul Lutheran School
 Quian, Butman-Fish Library
 Kaitlyn, St. Peter Lutheran, Hemlock
 RayGina, SS Peter and Paul School
 Jaquareon, Houghton Elementary
 Carly, St. Charles Elementary
 Santino, Butman-Fish Library
 Sharde, Brunkow Elementary



Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



We enjoyed seeing so many of our valued volunteers at the "Red White & YOU Celebration." It was a wonderful evening of food, entertainment, student readings, prizes and of course great company! **Many thanks to the following local businesses, organizations and individuals for the generous Raffle Prize donations:**

Aaron's Sales & Lease
 Abele's Greenhouse
 & Garden Center
 AT&T
 Backdoor Printables
 Barnes & Noble Booksellers
 Beef O'Brady's
 Block's Hallmark
 Blossom Bucket
 Boehler's Greenhouse
 Trish Burns
 Castle Museum
 of Saginaw County
 Children's Book Company
 Children's Zoo at
 Celebration Square
 Cinema Hollywood
 Dow Event Center
 Downtown Saginaw
 Farmer's Market
 Fashion Square Cinema
 Fralia's
 Garber Automotive Group
 Garber Nissan Hyundai

Garb-Ko, Inc.
 Great Lakes Loons
 Independent Bank
 Kroger Company of Michigan
 Sara Larsen
 Carol Lechel
 Letavis Cloth Vehicle
 Wash Enterprise, Inc.
 Little Caesar's Pizza
 The Loft
 Macy's
 Magic Bean Cafe
 Meijer
 Memory Lane Cafe
 Jan & Guy Merriam
 Michigan CardioVascular
 Institute
 The New Image
 Dolli Niederstadt
 Nuechterlein's Jewelry
 One Source Office Products
 Patisserie
 PRIDE

Purple Sage Beads Jewelry
 & Glass Art
 Quilted Cottage
 Raymond James & Associates
 The Rehmann Group
 Riverside Family Restaurant
 Saginaw 12
 Saginaw Bay Symphony
 Orchestra
 Saginaw Choral Society
 The Saginaw News
 Elinor Saunders
 Stevens Worldwide VanLines
 Sue Smith
 Team One Credit Union
 Temple Theatre
 United Way of Saginaw County
 Wally's Old Fashioned
 Sandwich Shop
 Wal-Mart
 Wescourt
 Wohlfeil's
 WSGW News Radio
 You Do the Dishes



TECH Corner

A fun way to increase and improve your vocabulary is with an automatic "Word of the Day" which you can receive via email from Dictionary.com. Have your friends sign up, too, and practice your new vocabulary with them.



ARE YOU A FAN?

READ is now on facebook

Become a fan of the READ Association of Saginaw County on Facebook and stay connected. Receive event reminders and general updates, invite friends to be a fan, and spread the word about READ!

Experience the Great Outdoors!



Reconnect Children

with Nature...

by visiting the **DEAR at the Zoo** – **Drop Everything and READ** event at the Children's Zoo - at Celebration Square on Wednesday, June 16 from 10 am to 3 pm!

Other ideas to help children and families spend more time outdoors: Go Outside and PlayTake a walk...Plant some flowers...Swim...Go to a park...Fly a kite...READ outside...Watch the sunset... ..Collect rocks...Play in the rain...Follow an ant trail...Smell a flower...Camp in your backyard... Roll a log over and investigate...Go fishing...

Find art in nature...Dig in the dirt...Throw a Frisbee...Have a campfire...Skateboard...Ride a bike...Jump rope...Run in a relay race... Juggle...Play tag...Watch clouds...Day dream... Make mud pies...Go bird watching... Look for signs of animals...Walk the dog... Climb a tree...Build a sandcastle...Take a hike in the woods...Watch stars...Walk barefoot... Play hide and seek...Sit and listen to nature... Make a scavenger hunt...Run through the sprinkler...Go berry picking... Catch bugs... Make a leaf collection...Plant a garden...Check out a nature guide at the library to help learn

more about the great outdoors... take pictures outside...start a nature journal – draw and write about the outdoors...



Drop Everything And Read
DEAR
at the Zoo



For more information visit: www.childrenandnature.org or Michigan.gov, then search: No Child Left Inside Coalition

A Giving Opportunity... Every dollar helps us support children reading in Saginaw County.

I/We would like to make a donation in support of the READ Association of Saginaw County:

Amount Enclosed: \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

Name(s) _____
(Please list name(s) as you would like to be acknowledged)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

This Gift is made: In Memory of In Honor of In Celebration of _____
Person(s)/Occasion

Send acknowledgement to: Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to: READ Association Mail to: READ Association 100 S. Jefferson Ave. Ste. 401, Saginaw, MI 48607

Thanks for Sharing!

Special thanks to the following individuals and organizations who have contributed to the READ Association during the period of February 18, 2010 through May 27, 2010.

BOOKMARK

Anonymous
Richard P. Arnst
Peter Bagley
Thelma Bailey
Elissa & Tom Basil
M. Nancy Baxter
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FROM

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Laura K. Dean

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IN HONOR OF

Flora Golomb

FROM

Marian and Warren Tripp

LIVE UNITED



READ is fortunate to have the support of many local businesses, organizations and individuals that help support our mission with their time and treasures, including the United Way of Saginaw County. Thanks to these individuals who designated their 2009-2010 United Way contributions to the READ Association:

Linda Babechenko
Michelle Bell
Margaret Brearbois
Capital Area United
Way—Lansing
James C. Cooper
Linda M. Deguise
Lindsay Eggers
Anthony Greanias
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Thomas Weadock

THANK YOU EASY PRINTING CENTER

for the in-kind donation of the Bookmark Campaign materials used in our March, National Reading Month fundraiser. Your generous support is greatly appreciated!



**printing
center**



READ Association of Saginaw County
100 S. Jefferson, Suite 401
Saginaw, Michigan 48607

The READ Association of Saginaw County is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to help students improve their reading skills and discover the joy of reading.

“The best teachers teach from the heart, not from the book.”

-Author Unknown



Upcoming READ Events:

D.E.A.R. at the Zoo

Wednesday, June 16, 2010 10 am–3 pm
at the Children’s Zoo at Celebration Square



Rooted in community.
Committed to service



Independent Bank
Member FDIC

IndependentBank.com

Consumers Energy