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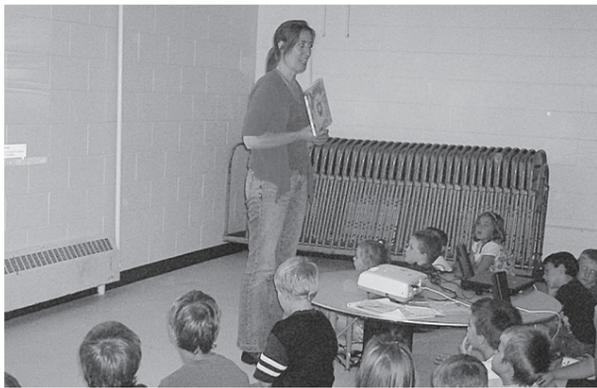
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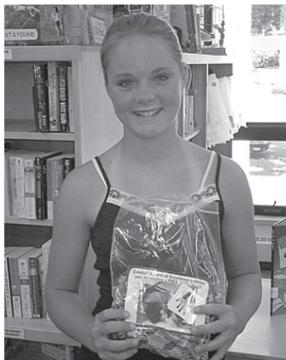


Local author Laurie Keller, showing the children her book, *Arnie the Doughnut*, at the final summer reading program.

Summer reading program: 'Be creative at your library'
 by Rachel Church and Chris McClain

Fruitport Library was a very busy place with 213 children signed up for the 2009 Summer Reading Program. The children had to keep track of the time they spent reading. Every 20 minutes was counted toward a chance to win a Super Prize.

Our annual weekly candy count contest tested the children's estimating skills. The winners were Destinee Amos, Aaliyah Saylor, Austin Selle, Katie Mast, Lyssa Byers, Sidney Hildebrand, and Clarissa Smith. We hope that they shared the candy with their friends.



Sidney Hildebrand was the final week candy count winner!

We had six special days at the library, starting with Puzzle Palooza. Week two, the children made face masks. The Spoon Man visited on week three, with a visit from the Outdoor Discovery Center of Holland's birds of prey during week four. The fifth week program gave the children a chance to show their artistic side by decorating T-Shirts.

The most popular program, however, was the final program held during the last week of July. The children watched a movie based on the book called, *Arnie the Doughnut* by local author Laurie Keller, who made an appearance at the event. The children got to decorate their own doughnut, play a bean bag toss game, and choose a balloon sculpture by Neiel.

We are proud of everyone who made such an effort to read as many hours as they possibly could. Congratulations to Rachel Swan, who was our top reader!

Band-Aid® drive underway

by Mary Weimer

Eight-year-old Kayla Hooker lost her four-year-old sister, Rosalee, this summer to cancer. Rosalee had been ill for quite some time and had been a patient at DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids.

The children at the hospital undergo so much needle-sticking and prodding. One way to make it a little less painful is when they get to select the design of the Band-aid® they want.

So, Kayla and her grandmother have started a Band-Aid® drive, collecting the styles designed especially for children. Dora, Batman, Spiderman, Barbie, and many other designs are available wherever Band-Aids® are sold. They cost less than \$3 a box, and will brighten a child's hospital experience. Look for deposit containers in all Fruitport schools, Fifth/Third Bank, Grover Pharmacy, Copies and More, Orchard Market, The Storage Group, and many more.

In addition, you can visit the web at www.carepages.com, and once registered, type in "all about rosalee" for more information. You can also leave messages for Kayla and/or Rosalee's parents. •

Scrapbooking retreat in Whitehall

by Mary Weimer

The Lakeside Inn Resort, 5700 N. Scenic Drive in Whitehall, is hosting its ninth annual scrapbooking retreat open to the public. The event will be held Friday and Saturday, October 2 and 3, 2009.

Generally, the resort hosts two scrapbooking events annually, one in the spring and one in the fall. Some of the return guests to the event arrange to arrive on Thursday night preceding the event.

Billed as an opportunity to "crop 'till you drop," the weekend includes many extras. The event is also open to vendors. In addition to the scrapbooking, massage, pedicures and manicures will be available. The weekend includes drawings and prizes.

The fee of \$175 per person includes Friday and Saturday night lodging; a continental breakfast, buffet lunch and sit-down dinner on Saturday; and a continental breakfast on Sunday.

You may register for the retreat by calling Jody at 1-231-670-0521 or by email, jodellag@aol.com. •



An eagle and many other birds of prey visited the library from the Outdoor Discovery Center in Holland.

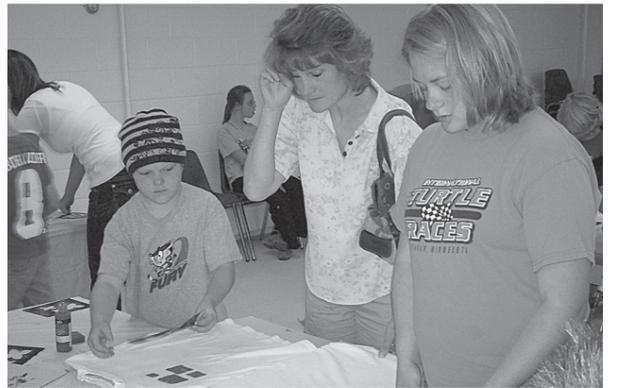
Super Prize winners were Holly Link, Spencer Kosc, Rebecca Rodriguez, Kaitlyn LaBash, Kyleah Sutherland, Gillian T. Binz, Amanda Johnson, Trevor Rodriguez, Victoria Kosc, Isaac TerVree, Ryan Eitniar, Lauryn Doctor, Kyle Leenhouts, Tyler Leenhouts, Alissa Selle, Lexus Bilek, Hannah LaBash, Cameron Roberts, Austin Selle, Seb Bayne and Madison Rogers.

The winner of our book cover contest was Amanda Johnson who redesigned the cover for the book, *The Pushcart War*.

Thank you to the Muskegon Area District Library and the Friends of the Fruitport Library who again provided the funding for this summer's prizes. •



There were 170 people at the end of the summer party for the summer reading program.



Mallory, Michelle and Morgan Pant painted T-shirts.

Children's museum exhibit honors heroes

(Submitted by the Grand Rapids Children's Museum)

Now through November 15, the Grand Rapids Children's Museum is coming *To the Rescue!* This safety exhibit features heroes, helpers and tons of exciting ways to play it safe. The special programming helps kids discover what it's like to be a rescue worker.

Lil' Red Fire Truck #5 and Rescue Helicopter are ready, complete with costumes, sirens, lights and more! Little ones can dress up as firefighters and other heroes, slide down the escape slide and take a turn at the wheel. Children can pretend to fly at the helicopter control panel and use the life raft to rescue the dogs in the water below. There's a tic-tac-toe safety game, and a chance to identify safety hazards in the fire safety house.

New this year, *To the Rescue Med Center* is also open for business. Children can dress up and role play as paramedics as they administer first aid to their puppet "patients." Using play bandages, stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs and more, children can examine, diagnose and treat their puppet friends back to health.

The museum is open to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. (family night from 5 to 8 p.m.); and Sundays, noon to 5 p.m. Regular admission is \$6.50 per person. Family night is \$1.50.

For more information, visit www.grcm.org. •



The baby swans are all grown up just over the summer. (Photo by Harry and Heidi Wojahn)