From the Desk of the Director

As we close another school year I am often asked, are WE making a difference? The success of our volunteer mentor program is not always easy to measure due to different testing standards used within each school and confidentiality of student information.

What we do know however, is that this past school year, over 95% of principals, teachers, center coordinators and volunteer mentors reported that students have shown improvements in the following areas:

- Increased reading ability and academic performance
- Increased self-esteem and confidence to want to read
- Increased time spent reading
- Increased the number of books in their home reading libraries
- Encouraged family reading time
- Experienced a positive relationship with their volunteer mentor
- Increased their knowledge that reading is essential for all life success.

I wish to thank everyone who has supported our mission during the 2008-2009 school year through their valuable gift of time volunteering with over 1100 children in our community. I also thank our contributors who have donated a generous monetary gift to help us pay for operating costs such as rent, utilities, postage, volunteer training materials, supplies, newsletters, the appreciation dinner or the matching grant dollars needed to participate in the Reading Is Fundamental program.

We know the next school year will be a challenging year with many schools faced with reduced staffing budgets and a greater need for our services to provide individual reading time for children in need. And I don’t even think I need to elaborate on the financial crisis so many of our community members face with unemployment, business loss or home foreclosure.

With your continued support, we can expand our program services and meet the challenges. One way you can help us do this, is by sharing this newsletter after you have finished reading, with someone who may not be familiar with our organization. If each of you will consider recycling your newsletter in this way, we will reach over 1000 potential new volunteers, special event attendees and/or donors who will join our partnership in helping children meet their potential to succeed in school and in the future. Together, WE ARE and will continue to make a difference!

Carol Lechel
Director
**Summer Book Fair**

Need a good book for summer? Support the READ Association by shopping Barnes & Noble during the READ bookfair days: **June 18th – 20th!**

Just present this voucher prior to making your purchase and a percentage of the net sale will be donated to READ. Purchases in the café and those made with an Educator Discount card also qualify to be made with this voucher.

Extra copies can be made. Please share copies with others—the more supporters, the better!

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**Barnes & Noble BOOKFAIR Supporting**

**READ Association of Saginaw County**

Thursday, June 18, 2009 - Saturday, June 20, 2009

Barnes & Noble - Saginaw

3311 Tittabawassee Road

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be donated to your school/organization.*

540658

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks and magazine subscriptions are not included in bookfair totals. Our discount purchasing program may not be applied to bookfair purchases.

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**Poster Contest Winners**

Congratulations to all the READ students who participated in the READ Poster Contest “READing is an Adventure.” We had over 75 entries this year, with many creative drawings from the students. Everyone was given the chance to win a prize with the random drawings, along with the selection of the top three best overall posters. And… the winners are:

First Place – Best Overall: Jared, 3rd grade—Shields Elementary

2nd (tie): Mary, 4th grade—SS. Peter and Paul School
and Andrew, 3rd grade—Shields Elementary

3rd: Shelby, 3rd grade—SS Peter and Paul School

4th: Chase, Kindergarten—St. Charles Elementary

5th: Taevion, 2nd grade—Brunkow Elementary

6th: Marley, 3rd grade—List Elementary

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First Place Poster

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Poster Contest Winners

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First Place Poster
The READ Association of Saginaw County presents the 8th Annual

D.E.A.R. at the Zoo

Drop Everything And Read

Wednesday, June 17, 2009
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

Visiting Author presentations:

12 noon - Mary Ann McCabe Riehle
M is for Mom: A Child's Alphabet, a touching book of poetry to embrace, learn and love from A to Z. And of course Z is for "please let's go to the zoo!" (A new release from Sleeping Bear Press)

1:15 pm - Carol McCloud
Have You Filled a Bucket Today?, A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids, this heartwarming book encourages positive behaviors as children see how easy it is to express kindness on a daily basis.

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

Barnes and Noble Booksellers
Bilbey Publications: Kidsville News
CAN Council Saginaw County
The Children's Book Company
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
Congratulations to READ Spell Binders Team Jan Merriam, Burris Smith and Kim Johnson for their great work this year at the Bee for Literacy event held on May 6. The READ team was sponsored by the Independent Business Association of Saginaw County. This year the team went **TEN ROUNDS** and successfully spelled: mentor, perilous, unkempt, vengeance, sobriety, proprieties, ambiguity, cocoon and predator. The challenging word was “metamorphosis.” The word “retirement” was also mentioned by the team members, but we all know spelling is a lifelong adventure! Proceeds from the Bee for Literacy, sponsored by Altrusa International Inc. of Saginaw and the Rotary Club of Saginaw, will support the SCF/READ Endowment.

**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 2008-2009 United Way contributions to the READ Association:

- Linda Babechenko
- Cheryl Barden
- Mary Bedford
- Donna Block
- Margaret Brearbois
- Helayne Brown
- Capital Area United Way—Lansing
- Rebecca Carter
- Andrew Dominowski
- Catherine Forrest
- Jonathan Gardey
- Rebacca Garn
- Anthony Greanias
- Karen Hagarty
- Kimberly Johnson
- Richard King
- William Koepe Jr.
- Sheri Leaman-Case
- Carol Lockwood
- Joseph Magalski
- Sushil Mankani
- Karen McNish
- Mary McQuinn
- Dolfi Niederstadt
- Ken Spencer
- Anita Stansbury
- Lindsay Stevens
- Kathy Thornhill
- Christine Tiderington
- United Way of Midland County
- Mary Walker
- Thomas Weadock
- PRIDE
- Quilted Cottage
- Raymond James & Associates
- The Rehmann Group
- Riverside Family Restaurant
- Saginaw 8/The Quad
- Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra
- Saginaw Choral Society
- The Saginaw News
- Saginaw Spirit
- Elinor Saunders
- Sam’s Club
- Sue Smith
- Team One Credit Union
- Temple Theatre
- Wescourt
- Wood ‘N Things
- WSGW News Radio

**Volunteer Picnic Dinner**

This year over 170 volunteers and guests attended the **READ Volunteer Appreciation Dinner** held on May 13 at Peace Lutheran Church and enjoyed a wonderful evening of picnic food, student readings, entertainment by the Saginaw River Log Jam, and lively conversation. Over 100 donated raffle gifts were given away to the lucky winners which included a wide range of prizes from gift certificates, to gift baskets, to donated services. Special thanks to the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their generous donations:

- Abele Greenhouse & Garden Center
- AT&T
- Backdoor Printables
- Barnes & Noble Booksellers
- Bavarian Inn
- Blossom Bucket
- Boehler’s Greenhouse
- Trish Burns
- Dave & Sheri Case
- Castle Museum of Saginaw County
- Children’s Book Company
- Children’s Zoo at Celebration Square
- Cinema Hollywood
- Crumbs
- Dow Event Center
- Fashion Square Cinema
- 1st State Bank
- Fralia’s
- Garber Management Group
- Garb-Ko, Inc.
- The Great Lakes Loons
- Horizons Conference Center
- Independent Bank
- Kroger Company of Michigan
- Sara Larsen
- Carol Lechel
- Letavis Cloth Vehicle Wash
- Enterprise Inc.
- Little Caesar’s Pizza
- The Loft
- Meijer
- Jan Merriam
- Michigan CardioVascular Institute
- Michigan Sugar & Its Growers
- Dolfi Niederstadt
- One Source Office Products
- United Way of Midland County
- Mary Walker
- Thomas Weadock
There's nothing quite like a great breakfast and a great book! Over 300 children and families enjoyed the 4th annual Books for Breakfast event held on March 7 at the Hunger Solution Center. It was a fun filled morning and a great way to celebrate national reading month. Mark your calendar and plan to attend next year on Saturday, March 6, 2010.

Congratulations to our recently elected Board of Director officers for the 2009-2010 school year. Officers are:

**Chair:**
Lindsay Eggers, Chief Financial Officer, Stevens Worldwide Van Lines

**Vice Chair:**
Eric Rutherford, Director of Bridgeport Parks & Recreation

**Treasurer:**
Janet Hoffman, CPA

**Secretary:**
Jan Merriam, Retired Educator

**Immediate Past Chair:**
Matt Peterson, Business Services Manager, Team One Credit Union

Special thanks to Elinor Saunders for her six years of service on the Executive Committee as Chair, Vice Chair and Immediate Past Chair, and to Sheri Leaman-Case for serving as secretary for the past two years!
THANK YOU...

Book Collection Sponsors

We Value Your Support

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

(Please list 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

Mentoring Moments

Excerpts from Program Evaluations:

Steven was a very high reader who needed time to be challenged. Charla brought in books at higher levels to keep Steven growing as a reader. His fluency and accuracy has improved and he loves to read with Oliver.
- Carrollton READ Tails Program

It is a pleasure to have these ladies in our building. Their help to our young people is immeasurable.
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Staff

At the beginning of the school year Gavin would mostly guess to read a word. Now he looks at the first letter and sounds out the word if he doesn’t know the word.
- Herig Volunteer Mentor

I have found each year to be a rewarding experience watching each child grow in their reading skills and become interested in reading. It is a team effort with teacher, support staff and READ volunteers working together to motivate the children to want to read and build their confidence in reading skills.
- Big Rock Elementary, Chesaning, Volunteer Mentor

Our volunteers are the BEST!
- Freeland Learning Center Staff

This has been a very rewarding year with Brian. We’ve read a Michigan Chillers book and Brian always came ready to read and discuss the story. I’m very proud of his accomplishments this year.
- SS. Peter and Paul School Volunteer Mentor

Claudia bloomed. She loved to read and couldn’t wait to start each time. She read with so much animation and joy as the program progressed and asked if I’d be there for her next year.
- Stone School Volunteer Mentor

I was delighted to see the progress Jazmon has made this year. Her confidence has grown to the point that she read in front of the class! I’m so proud of her.
- Brunkow Elementary Volunteer Mentor

Our sincere thanks to the businesses that supported our 2008-2009 Business Campaign with generous donations which supply 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. New books are great motivators to keep children reading!

Michigan CardioVascular Institute

Our sincere thanks to the businesses that supported our 2008-2009 Business Campaign with generous donations which supply 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. New books are great motivators to keep children reading!

THANK YOU…

Book Collection Sponsors

We Value Your Support

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

(Please list 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, organizations and businesses who have contributed to the READ Association during the period of February 13, 2009 through May 27, 2009.

**Bookmark**

Anonymous
Katharine A. Almirall
Alice M. Baldwin
Joyce Beyersdorf
Dorothy L. Blue
Mrs. Shirley J. Burgess
Joyce & Bill Cannon
Dennis & Sue Carlson
Dwight & Diane Chisholm
Terry L. Clark
Connie L. Clements
Laura K. Dean
Donald & Anna DeRop
Mark & Mary Ann Deschaine
Lorrie Diola
Dick & Diane Ederer
Josephine B. Elizalde
Steve & Jill Elliot
Clara Fehman
Floyd & Jane Feusse
Gloria Frick
Bernadette Gariglio
Saundra A. Gase
Ruth L. Glynn
Minerva Gonzalez
Andrew M. Heckman
Mary Jo Heitman
Carol L. Hendrick
Eve Hirsch
Joy Rae Hunter
James W. & Lou Ann Jakes
Joyce Jessmore—in Memory of Patricia Dye
Jim & Emilie Kanitz
Dr. & Mrs. K.P. Karunakaran, M.D.
Richard P. & Ruth A. King
Jeanette Klein
Ms. Gloria M Krenz
Mrs. Louise Krieger
L. Shirley Lange
R. Paul & Sarajane Larsen
Carol R. Lechel
Luvi Lee
Tom & Deana Leinberger
Joseph & Kristan Madison
Rosemary Martuch
Bill & Jean Matson
Janet M. Mazany
Dorothy Clark McKandes
James Mcintyre
Jan & Guy Merriam
Dale Myers
Mr. & Mrs. William Nickle
Jacob C. Ninan
Eleanor Olson
Ethel K. O’Neill
Richard & Jeanne Parks
Fred & Marie Pendleton
M. & D. Prevost
Jeanine & Robert Quinn

Thomas Reinbold
Mary Roberts
Randy & Jean Rupp
Ruth Scheib
Hans & Edda Schmidt
Carol Ann Schwanbeck
Edward Siemienkiewicz
L. William & Susan Smith
Chris Snook
Mr. & Mrs. Harry W. Sowton
Lindsay Stevens
Loraine Stindt
Dr. Dee Storey
Tish Stroebel
David & Elizabeth Stuber
Judith A. Thompson
Betty & Les Webb
Judith Westendorf
Dr. & Mrs. George Williams
Patricia A. Wilson
Carla & Gene Wisethuff
Michael & Marcia Wolohan
Jo Anne Yule
Susan Zelinko
Irene C. Zeilingier—in Honor of Marie Pendleton

**Bookmark—Endowment**

Ellen F. Snyder
Bill & Janis Zielinski

**Endowment**

Alice M. Baldwin
Nickolas & Jennifer Barris
M. Nancy Baxter
Charleen Boland
Lou Budd
Lori & Tom Deisler
Deisler Funeral Home
Mary Lou Ederer
Roselynn Ederer
Ernest & Marjorie Flegenheimer
Jean Grey
Greg & Kim Johnson
Robert & Jackie Larsen
Jane Larson
Carol R. Lechel
Robert & Catherine Looby
Joseph & Kristan Madison
Catherine A. Martinez
Jan & Guy Merriam
Michigan CardioVascular Institute
Dorothy K. Mull
Matt Parrent & Laurie Russell-Parrent
Fred & Marie Pendleton
Harold & Elinor Saunders
Mary Ellen Vaydik

**2008-2009 Business Partnership Campaign**

**Chronicle Sponsor**
AT&T Michigan Pioneers

**Storyteller Sponsor**
Saginaw Bay Underwriters

**Grant**
Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation
Saginaw Community Foundation
Incentive Grant

**Sponsor-a-Center**
Alpha Xi Delta Foundation and Alpha Xi Delta Saginaw Valley Alumnae Association

**Sponsor A Child**
Alpha Delta Kappa,
Alpha Sigma Chapter
Lois M. Roggenbeck

**In-Kind**
Alpha Xi Delta Saginaw Valley Alumnae Association
Citadel Broadcasting
Marilyn Bobic
Central Property Development, Inc.

**General Contributions**
Alpha Xi Delta Saginaw Valley Alumnae Association
Bob & Pat Johnson
Dale & Loretta Keener
Dr. & Mrs. Robert McNier
Sally J. Pichiotino
Judith A. Thompson

**In Memory Of**
Anne Brennan
Edward Dornseifer
Lynda Raycraft
Harvey J. Schuster
Ceal Shea

**In Celebration Of**
Her 85th Birthday
FROM
Helen Brennan
Pam Koski
Guy & Jan Merriam
Marjorie J. Raycraft
Marjorie J. Raycraft
Pat & Judy O’Toole

**In Honor Of**
Henry Koski's 98th Birthday
Mrs. Schroeder's Class
FROM
Pam Koski
Dale & Mary Titof

**Many Thanks...** to Easy Printing Center for their continued generous support of READ. Once again in 2009, they printed materials in-kind for the Bookmark Campaign, giving READ an opportunity to continue this unique fundraiser.

---

**Easy Printing Center**

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June 2009 7
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.

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

- Mahatma Gandhi

Upcoming READ Events:

D.E.A.R. at the Zoo — Drop Everything And READ
Wednesday, June 17, 2009, 10am—3pm at the Children’s Zoo at Celebration Square

Book Fair at Barnes & Noble — to benefit READ
June 18-20 at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 3311 Tittabawassee Rd, throughout store hours

W. L. Case and Co.
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National City
Now a part of PNC
LEADING THE WAY
1140 S. Outer Dr 989-754-1453
5270 Gratiot Rd 989-797-9308
2322 Tittabawassee Rd 989-797-9292
1472 N. Michigan 989-755-3495
As you may already know, READ has accepted the challenge to raise $25,000 by January 2, 2010 for our established endowment account with the Saginaw Community Foundation. The endowment is a permanent account managed by SCF to generate funds for READ, allowing these dollars to have a great impact for many years to come. Yes, this is certainly a challenge, as we must also raise our annual general operating dollars needed. However, when we reach the endowment goal, SCF will award our organization an additional $10,000 for our endowment. To put it simply, we raise $25,000 this year – we receive an additional $10,000, a 40% match on our investment.

A contribution to the READ Endowment is a wonderful way to support the READ program and benefit children in our community for many, many years to come. Every donation, of any amount, will help us reach our goal. Planned gifts such as gift annuities, charitable remainder or lead trusts, bequests, IRA transfers or irrevocable wills may also be designated to meet this goal. Your donation may also provide tax benefits to you individually, as a married couple, or for your business. Please refer to the back of this flyer to see how easy it is to use your 2009 Michigan state tax credit.

To help us achieve our $25,000 goal, we ask you to consider supporting this campaign OR please pass this information on to someone you know who might consider supporting our mission. Below is a pledge contribution form. You may make your contribution today, or make a pledge. Payment(s) are due no later than January 2, 2010.

---

**READ Endowment Campaign**

___ Yes, I/We would like to make a contribution in support of the READ Association of Saginaw County Endowment Campaign. I/We understand that this contribution will be deposited with the Saginaw Community Foundation and used solely as an endowment contribution to permanently endow and support READ.

$1,000  $500  $400  $200  $_________  OTHER

___ Payment is enclosed  ___ Please bill me in __________ , 2009

___ An additional payment of $ ___________ will be made on January 2, 2010

Name(s) _____________________________________________________________________________________

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

Address ____________________________________________ City ______________ State _______ Zip ___________

Please make checks payable to: READ Endowment/SCF
Mail to: READ Association, 100 S. Jefferson Ave. Ste. 401, Saginaw, MI 48607
TAX BENEFITS FOR ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTORS

A gift to the Saginaw Community Foundation READ Endowment is a wonderful way to support the READ Association of Saginaw County not just for today, but for many, many years to come. There are many benefits for you individually if you donate to the READ permanent endowment fund. Thanks to the Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit you can reduce your Michigan income tax liability by up to one-half of your donation, up to certain limits. For example the tax credit provides a:

- $200 credit for a $400 gift from a couple filing a joint return
- $100 credit for a $200 gift from a single taxpayer
- $5,000 credit (or 5% of SBT liability, whichever is less) for a $10,000 corporate gift

You do not need to file an itemized 1040 IRS Individual Federal Income Tax Return to receive the Michigan Tax credit benefits. Donations to the READ Endowment are deposited with the Saginaw Community Foundation. When you are completing your State of Michigan Individual Income Tax Return, you may claim your READ Endowment contribution through the Saginaw Community Foundation by completing Schedule 2 to attach to your return. Use the code for the Saginaw Community Foundation.

Here is an example of the simple breakdown of contributions – less the Michigan Tax Credit and federal tax savings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Contribution</th>
<th>Less Michigan Tax Credit</th>
<th>Less Federal Tax Savings</th>
<th>Total Tax Savings to YOU! This also means that your tax money stays right here in our Saginaw community</th>
<th>After Tax Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>$200.00*</td>
<td>$280.00</td>
<td>$480.00</td>
<td>$520.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td>$200.00*</td>
<td>$140.00</td>
<td>$340.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$400.00</td>
<td>$200.00*</td>
<td>$112.00</td>
<td>$312.00</td>
<td>$88.00</td>
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<td>$28.00</td>
<td>$78.00</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on a married couple filing an itemized joint return in the 28% tax bracket

Corporations: Please call our office or consult with your financial advisor about tax incentive contributions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the READ office at 755-8402.