

**CALENDAR
OF EVENTS**

- Dec 6 Annual Book Give-away



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The Book Report

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2008

A Message from Julia

The leaves are changing color, the children are back in school and there is a slight chill in the air. Fall is definitely upon us. At this time of the year I like to look back, reflect and remember all that I am thankful for.

I am thankful for Racine native and NBA Washington Wizards All-Star player, Caron Butler and his family. Caron has embraced Cops 'N Kids and recently we were the recipients of a wonderful donation. Because of Caron's generosity, we now have the Caron Butler 3D Reading Room as well as 10 brand new computers for the Children's Computer Lab!

I am also thankful for the wonderful generous people in the City of Racine, including the Sustachek family at Rasmussen Dia-

monds. In August, Rasmussen Diamonds sponsored a golf outing at the Racine Country Club. Hundreds of citizens, volunteers, and golfers came out to support Cops 'N Kids. Over \$8,000 was raised from hole sponsors, raffles and donations. Thank you to everyone who participated!



Reading. Learning. Achieving.

I am also thankful for the wonderful Eastman family who will again sponsor our annual book giveaway at Merchant's Moving and Storage on December 6th.

Remember to save the date and bring your family to this wonderful holiday event.

I am thankful for the support of Mark Hertzberg, head of photography at the Journal Times who reached out to a national news outlet and suggested that they do a story on us. I was featured as the "Person of the Week" on ABC News with Charles Gibson! This wonderful opportunity brought our story national attention and I am amazed at how many people are contacting me from around the country wanting to know how they can help! Finally, I am thankful to all of you, our supporters, for your continued support and commitment to Cops 'N Kids.

I wish you a blessed and safe holiday season and I look forward to the gifts of 2009.

Holiday Book Giveaway

Don't miss the 6th Annual Cops 'N Kids Holiday Book Giveaway on December 6th at Merchant's Moving and Storage!

The Cops 'N Kids Book Giveaway is a busy and festive event. Area children have the opportunity to look through thousands

of books, have their picture taken with Santa, meet local police officers and register in the "Safe Assured I.D." program.

In 2007, over 1800 children attended the event and 15,000 books were given away!

This book giveaway begins at

10:00am and goes until 2:00pm on December 6th at Merchant's Moving and Storage; 1215 State Street in Racine.

Bring your Christmas list and come enjoy the fun!

**Discipline
Determination
Dedication**

- Caron Butler's 3 D's



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Caron Butler Visits Cops N' Kids

Discipline. Determination. Dedication. And now you can add DONOR to Caron Butler's 3 D's.

To positively influence the lives of others, Caron employs the 3 D's as a framework for teaching youth the key to success on the basketball court and in life. Another D-word, "donation" recently came into play when he made a significant contribution to the Cops N Kids reading center. And while we're not asking Caron to make it the "4 D's", we are grateful for his involvement and support of the center.

Caron's donation allowed the center to renovate a portion of the 2nd floor of the center. There are 2 large rooms, now called the

"Caron Butler Accelerated Reading Rooms", that have added warmth, and engender learning. "The rooms allow the children to spend more time at the center and one-on-one with our staff of volunteers, giving them a better chance at literacy and long-term classroom success" states Margaret Drysdale, a Teacher at the Center who also managed the logistics of this project.

The changes were specifically designed so that volunteers can work closely with children in developing their reading skills. Warmth, smiles, and possibilities abound when one walks into the rooms which are highlighted by a beautiful mural of the Dr. Seuss classic *Oh the Places You Will Go*; graciously

painted by local artist, Jeff Ruggaber, also Julia's favorite book. She adds, "I am overwhelmed at Caron's generosity! Racine should be so proud that one of our own is making an amazing difference in our community, the Washington Wizards, and the lives of others!"

Caron's donation also covered 10 new computers for the computer lab; with software that helps children learn the alphabet and other reading basics.



Above, Caron Butler visits the children at the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center

Volunteer Profile - Karen Nielsen

Karen Nielsen has been volunteering at the Cops-N-Kids Reading Center for two years.

“Having no grandchildren of my own, I was anxious to help little ones head in the right direction with the enjoyment of reading and hopefully the improvement of their reading skills.” said Nielsen.

She added that the best part of volunteering is the interaction with the children and helping them to develop a love of reading. “Everyone at the Center is so focused on our goals and they are all friendly and hardworking. It is a fun and interesting place to be. Of course, Julia is

really everyone’s motivation!”

Karen says her most memorable moment at the Center was when Caron Butler recently visited; “the children were so excited!” she said.

When asked what she

hopes the future holds for Cops “N Kids, she said, “ I hope CNK continues to be a bright, dynamic, kid-friendly place -- helping all children adjust to society and become successful in their education.”

“I wanted to help little ones head in the right direction....”

- Karen Nielsen



Volunteer, Karen Nielsen, tutoring in the new Caron Butler Room.



Donating Appreciated Property Saves Taxes

If you own appreciated property with a ready market, such as stock or collectibles, and are considering making a donation to a charitable organization, a good way to make that donation is to donate the items directly to the charity rather than selling the item, paying capital gains tax, then giving the money to the charity. The charity can sell the donated items without paying tax,

and the donor can deduct on their tax return the market value of the items donated.

There are restrictions on the allowable deduction on vehicles, which make them a less desirable item to donate nowadays, but appreciated stock is a great item to donate. If the stock is one that you anticipate

will continue to increase in value, you could turn around after the donation and buy the same stock back again. This way you get both a charitable deduction for the value of the stock, and an increase in the basis of the stock you own.

A straight donation of the cash would only get you the

charitable deduction. So it can result in a double tax advantage.



Reading. Learning. Achieving.

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Quilts On Barns

Take a drive through Racine County and you will see a little more color this fall. 14 barns, from Haban Park to Waterford, are decorated with 8x8 "quilts", a rural art project through the Racine Arts Council.

Several children from Cops 'N Kids took part in this unique cultural event. The Cops' N Kids "quilt" is called "Square in a Square". 10 children spent several hours this summer painting the quilt pattern and learning about the history of quilts.

You can see the Cops ,N Kids decorated barn at Mike Straszewski's Farm located at 5915 Seven Mile Rd.

For a complete list of quilt locations visit www.racine.org.

