

# The Book Report

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

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## A Message from Julia

Happy New Year, friends of Cops 'N Kids! The past year has been a difficult one for many of us, but I have faith that this year will be better. And we are looking forward to yet another wonderful year, working with the amazing children of our community.

Many of us have New Year's resolutions or goals that we try and work on during the upcoming year. Well, I too have some New Year Resolutions or goals for the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center.

I want many "light bulbs" to go off for our children when they learn something new.

I want the children in our community to have the opportunity to read all the books their little

hearts desire.

I want the children to have wonderful attendance and fantastic grades in school this year.

I want our teachers, librarian and volunteers to continue to make learning fun for our children.



**Reading. Learning. Achieving.**

And I want our donors to be proud that they support the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center.

Those are several goals. But together we can continue to serve and support the children of our community.

I am also excited to announce that we have a new and improved website for Cops 'N Kids. On it, you will find many pictures of our children as well as information on upcoming fundraising events for the Center. Visit [www.cops-n-kids.org](http://www.cops-n-kids.org) and take a look. We are also now on Facebook! So look us up and become a fan.

Thank you for your continued support of the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center, and together, let's make 2010 the best year yet for our kids.

## Wine Tasting Fundraiser

Please join us on April 15th for the 2nd annual Cops 'N Kids wine tasting fundraiser, "Grape Expectations" at Uncorkt, 240 S. Main Street. For \$25, guests can sample 8 different wines and wine experts will be on hand to answer questions.

Enjoy a night of food, wine, fun and a "theme basket" raffle, while helping to support the children at Cops 'N Kids. There is also a 25% discount off any bottle of wine that is purchased the night of the event.

The event will take place from 6:00-8:00pm and tickets can be purchased at Uncorkt.

For information, please call Liz Powell at 886-1823.





#### Board of Directors

**Julia Burney-Witherspoon**

**Rebecca Alvarado**  
**Margaret Drysdale**  
**Patrick Fogarty**  
**Jeff Fuhrman**  
**Bob Johnson II**  
**Matt Montei**  
**Dr. Gregory Shove**  
**Becky St. Martin**  
**Nola Starling Ratliff**  
**Liz Powell**  
**Sandra Redlin**

## Community Integration: Cops 'N Kids Becomes Lighted School House Site

This Fall, Cops 'N Kids became an official Lighted Schoolhouse Program site! Affiliated with Racine Unified School District, the Lighted Schoolhouse Program provides structure, resources, and support at 14 different sites for elementary children (there are also 9 other sites for Middle school & High school students).

It is an after-school instructional program that supplements and builds upon the regular school curriculum. The program's resources are now being leveraged at the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center – now an official site. Now, Cops 'N Kids will be able to better understand and support the academic progress of the children who attend.

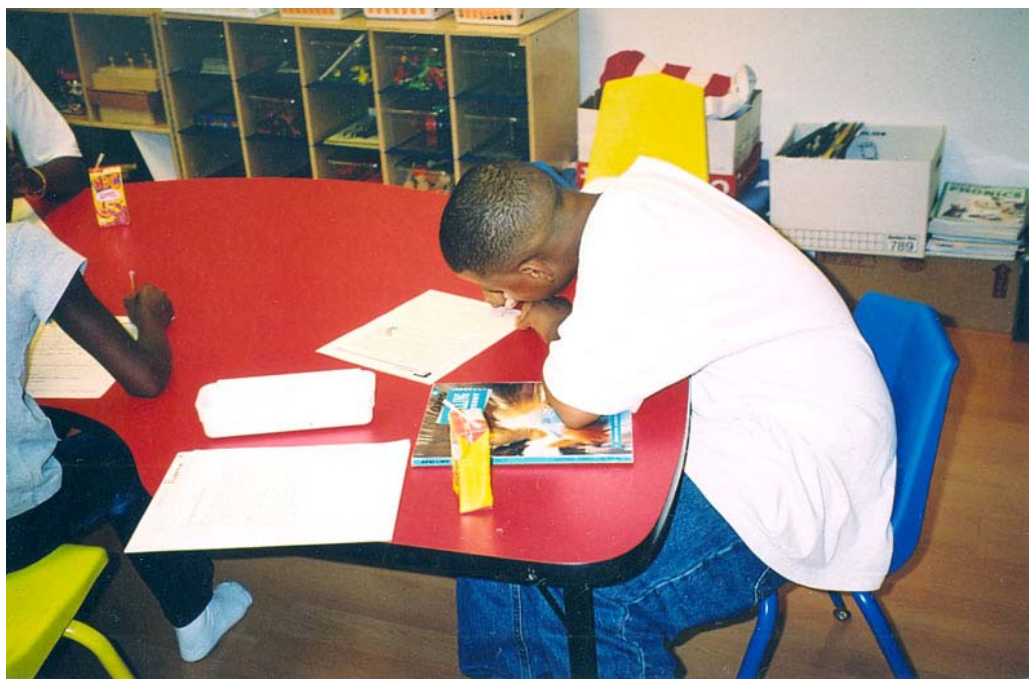
Julia Burney-Witherspoon, Cops 'N Kids Founder and Director believes this is a significant positive step for the center.

“We are just so blessed and thrilled to be part of the Lighted Schoolhouse program and believe it's a significant step towards better integrating Cops 'N Kids into the fabric of the community and the Racine school system. I am so thankful for the folks at Lighted Schoolhouse, as well as Nola Sterling-Ratliff, Margaret Drysdale, Judy Sommer and Cecilia Millard who led this initiative and have made it a reality!”

Nola, who is also a Cops 'N Kids Board Member agrees, “The Lighted Schoolhouse program's mission to pro-

vide academic support, enrichment and social development for all children makes it a perfect fit with the Cops 'N Kids program. These two organizations will only enrich each other as our objectives and goals are the same.”

The program started this Fall and will continue for the duration of the school year with plans to institutionalize it on an on-going basis. More information about the Lighted Schoolhouse program can be found at:  
[www.racine.k12.wi.us](http://www.racine.k12.wi.us)



# Annual Book Giveaway



This past December, Merchant's Moving and Storage hosted the 7th annual Cops 'N Kids holiday book giveaway.

Thousands of children poured into a warehouse at Merchant's where over 50,000 books waited for them. Books were arranged on pallets

according to different age ranges and each child was allowed to fill a large bag with as many books as they could carry!

Santa Claus was also on hand as well Sparky the Firedog and entertainment from local church choirs.

Executive Director, Julia Burney-Witherspoon wore her traditional reindeer antlers and

greeted the children with hugs and smiles.

The event has grown immensely over the years and Julia credits the volunteers for the event's success. "It was a success because of the hard work and generosity of Merchant's

Moving and Storage and each and every volunteer and donor as well as the adults who took the time to bring their children.

Thank you, and we will see you all in 2010!"



## Record Attendance in 2009

Attendance at the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center exceeded expectations in 2009!

The total number of students that visited the Center in 2009 increased by 8%. What is especially encouraging is that we have 62 children that attended the Center 10 times or more and 32 of those

children were at the Center more than 20 times. This is exactly what we are striving for...a core group of children who attend consistently!

The summer program, the Friday/Saturday events and the additional tutoring drove much of this increase. The

total student hours in 2009 increased by 106%!

As an organization, we are very fortunate to have such an incredibly dedicated and talented group of individuals running the day-to-day happenings at Cops 'N Kids.





**Reading. Learning. Achieving.**

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## Giving Thanks

Thank you to each and every one of you who have given your support, your time or made a donation to the Cops 'N Kids Reading Center this past year.

With the down turn in the economy, the disadvantaged kids in our community can feel it the hardest. With your contributions, a thousand smiles were created throughout the year.

From the book giveaway, to health screenings, to a place where they can find encouragement and safety – you are building a founda-

tion for these children that will last a lifetime.

We want to express our appreciation for your commitment to Cops 'N Kids and invite you to the Center anytime.

Please visit and see for yourself how your gifts and donations have made a difference in the lives of these young children.

Thank you!

