Welcome to the debut issue of the Lakeview Ledger! The Lakeview Ledger is an entirely kid-created newspaper facilitated by Peoria Public Library and paid for by Friends of Peoria Public Library. The youth in the community wanted a newspaper where they had creative license to put the things they wanted into their own newspaper. Creating content, coming up with a name for the newspaper, editing, and working together on the layout were all done by the kids involved in the Newspaper Club at the Lakeview Branch.

This newspaper is the summation of all their hard work since September 2019. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this first issue took far longer to publish than expected. However, the program continues to serve as an excellent opportunity to teach our junior journalists about information literacy and ethical journalism. We hope readers of the Lakeview Ledger not only enjoy this unparalleled newspaper, but that you will engage with our Lakeview Ledger staff. Please feel free to write to us by sending emails to kidnewspaper@gmail.com. We would be delighted to hear from you!

Forum policy: Letters may be edited for length and clarity and can be used in print or electronic form. Please include your first and last name, city and state. Letters must be 70 words or less.

By Katy Bauml & Adam Scachette, Chief Editors


Kids Newspaper Club

Computer Take-Apart

by Katie Kamasaki

For many people, computers are interesting. For some, they are eternally confusing. For others, they’re both. Some know a lot about computers, while others know virtually nothing. The Computer Take-Apart on October 9 was for all those people.

I asked Adam Scachette, the librarian in charge of the event, if there were any technology events planned for the future. "None that are currently planned, but if you would like more and have suggestions for me, I’ll take them," he replied. He also replied, "What inspired me is that it’s really important that kids understand technology. I got to learn when I was in high school, which was very helpful," to my question, "What inspired you to have this class?"

JJ said, "I thought it was extremely difficult." It was also his first time to take apart a computer. Miah came to the Computer Take-Apart because, in her words, "My mom thought it would be cool for me to learn how to take apart a computer." She thought the event was “pretty cool” and said, "I guess I learned that the computer has a very small battery. I was expecting it to be bigger." (My mother agreed!)

My personal experience was this: I went in with my brother, Kevin, who is an expert on computers. We were given instructions, but instead of following them, Kevin guided me through taking it apart. It was like a puzzle, and I enjoyed it immensely. I had helped Kevin take apart an old computer before, but this time I got to do it myself!

It’s called a Computer Take-Apart, but perhaps it was more of a challenge to reassemble the computer. You had to remember where everything went and do it in the correct order. Again, I got my instructions from Kevin. When we finally clicked the cover back on, I felt that I had learned a lot. The Computer Take-Apart was truly enjoyable. I hope there will be more similar events in the future. Hooray for computers!

The Kid's Advisory Board

by Cecelia Davis

One of my favorite things about the library is the Kids Advisory Board. The Kids Advisory Board is for ages 9-12 and is a great way to speak up about what you would like to see at the library. The meetings always start out as a bunch of people sitting around a table and sharing ideas, but eventually the meetings turn into a happy group of friends joking and laughing and having fun. The meetings are run by Katy, who is really nice and fun-loving. During the meetings, she laughs with us and shares our enthusiasm.

As if that already wasn’t enough, the members of the Kids Advisory Board snack on chips and candy as they share their ideas. There are always snacks at the meetings. We’ve had some pretty bright ideas so far! We’ve had a Favorite Book Character Day, where we dressed up as our favorite characters and also did crafts related to our favorite book characters. This newspaper was also a Kids Advisory Board idea, and so far it is proving to be SUPER FUN!

The Kids Advisory Board is the best! I am very proud to be a part of it. I love sharing my ideas about what events should happen at the library. Tell as many friends as you can about the meetings. They will all be super fun. (Kids Advisory Board is currently postponed due to the pandemic.)
Editor’s Note: You may note that several of these stories occurred last year. We were in the process of learning about layout and design when the global pandemic forced a statewide shutdown and delayed our progress for several months.

NEW Newspaper News!

By Cecelia Davis

Our newspaper is filled with our ideas and articles. I hope you enjoy it, and here is more information about it. The Kids Advisory Board meets once a month, and during our May 2019 meeting, we had the idea to start a newspaper talking about events at the library, book reviews, poems about junk food, etc.

I really loved that idea and so did everybody else. So Katy, who runs our meetings, wrote down the idea and waited for it to get approved. Writing a newspaper seemed exciting to me. I love writing, and this seemed like an exciting opportunity. When I heard that our newspaper was approved, I was SUPER excited. I couldn’t wait to write articles for our newspaper!

At one of our later meetings, Katy showed us a layout of our newspaper. I was really excited when I saw the newspaper that she showed us. It looked awesome. So far, this newspaper has proved to be very fun, exciting, and awesome. I hope you love it, too. And now you know the story behind it.

Cross-stitching

by Katie Kamasaki

On Saturday, October 19, 2019, a short class on cross-stitching was held at the Main Library. The librarian who held the class, Regina, said that cross-stitching was a hobby for her and that she, "wanted to just teach an easy way to get people started and like cross-stitching."

In a very encouraging manner, she taught me the basics and said I caught on fast. We made constellation cross-stitching art. As I’m obsessed with cats, I chose Leo. Regina’s example was Pisces.

According to Regina, “A lot of people don’t know that we don’t just offer books and such, and that we offer other programs.” The class was very fun, and I was the only one who was in attendance at the beginning. I hope that this article encourages more people to attend the wonderful events the libraries hold. I enjoyed this event and hope others did, too!

Back-to-School Bananas!

By Cecelia Davis

This awesome back-to-school bash took place on September 21, 2019 at the Lakeview Library. The Kids Advisory Board had the idea to have a back-to-school party with an ice cream bar, snacks, and friends. The party was fun and exciting. There were suncatchers to paint while we waited for the ice cream to soften. Brownies, chips, and other snacks were arranged neatly on a table. Everybody sat at tables, talked, ate snacks, and painted suncatchers.

Eventually, the ice cream had softened, and we all drizzled chocolate syrup, marshmallow, and strawberry syrup onto our ice cream. Some people topped their ice cream with rainbow sprinkles and a cherry.

Everyone sat with their families and ate ice cream. We had our pictures taken and then we just enjoyed the rest of the party. It was a great way to start the back-to-school season!

Things To Do When You Are Bored

By Cecelia Davis and Kevin Davis

These are not in a specific order of which one is the most fun to do or which one is the least fun to do, because certain activities will be fun for certain people. If you are bored, look at this list of Top Ten Things To Do. There is an activity for everyone!

- Read a book. Some people like to read just for fun. If you are one of those people, go to a local library and check out a new book, or reread one of your favorites.
- Draw a picture. You don’t have to be good at drawing. Your art could be a stick figure wearing a sombrero in the margin of your notebook, or you could take days sketching a beautiful picture of a flower field on professional drawing paper.
- Put on a play. Grab some friends, costumes, and write a script—then put on a play for your parents and their friends! If you love performing in front of people or acting out roles, this is the activity for you.
- Have a dance party! Plug in the speakers, get the refreshments ready, invite some friends, and pull out your best dance moves! If you like dancing or listening to music, this activity is definitely for you!
- Play a sport. If you’re athletic, this is the activity for you. You can play baseball, football, golf, basketball, soccer, or whatever you like to play. If you’re not athletic, try inventing your own sport. Play catch or dodgeball with your own twist, or invent something from scratch.
- Cook or bake something. Follow a recipe or invent something of your own. While you wait for your food to bake, try one of the other items on this list. When the food is done baking, check it to make sure it’s really done, then let it cool. After your food has finished cooling, you have to taste-test to make sure it’s perfect. Then maybe taste-test a little more. Then maybe taste-test just a little more. After you’re finished taste-testing, share your dish with your friends and family.
- Do a random act of kindness for somebody. Whether you’re telling somebody you like their shirt or offering to do somebody’s chores for a day, it’s always worth it to see somebody smile.
- Play a board game with somebody. Have fun and try to win the game! If you’re in a creative mood, you can even try inventing your own board game.
- Go through old family pictures. It’s always fun to see baby pictures of yourself or your siblings. You can remember old times, laugh, and smile. Whether you’re looking at a sentimental picture of you and your sister hugging each other or a silly picture of you jumping up and down on a mattress, it’s always fun to look through old family pictures.
- If all else fails, go out and treat yourself to your favorite dessert, food, or new book. Sometimes it can be fun to just get out of the house and reward yourself!

If none of these look appealing, you can always just look through our newspaper!

Book Reviews

By Carson Powers

Story Thieves by James Riley is a book about two kids named Owen and Bethany. Owen is a kid who gets bored easily and loves to do anything, except fractions. Bethany is a girl who is half fictional and can jump into books to find her missing father.

I liked Story Thieves because it had characters that would really put you into their shoes. The book had a very interesting plot, and I would constantly want to know what happens next. Even though the book was very good, there were multiple stories going on at once, so it was hard to keep up.

I think the author did a very good job making Story Thieves and I would rate the book 3 ½ out of 5 stars. I hope this will make you want to read Story Thieves, and I would really recommend you do!
Before she could remind herself that all she had was circumstantial evidence, Arashitsuki had yelled, “Don’t eat my - my - my…. ” Her voice faded. Why had she called out? Why couldn’t she have stayed quiet? Now she was going to have to talk to someone, and that never ended well. She turned to run, but it was no use. Something had already come out of the bushes. And it was a bear. A huge grizzly bear, to be exact. Arashitsuki silently cursed her impulsiveness and shrank back, thinking out an escape route. The bear spoke, his voice deep and growly but not exactly unfriendly. “What am I not supposed to eat? That northern harrier who just flew off?”

“H-harrier?” Arashitsuki stole a quick glance behind her and saw something flying into the distance.

“Were you hunting?”

“Uh - no, no.” Arashitsuki couldn’t run now. If she did, the bear would surely catch her. “J-just… Just some of my… my… my hares… were stolen… Y-you know, snowshoe, I’d caught them, and -” She stopped. She wasn’t getting anywhere. The bear, however, seemed concerned.

The Mystery of the Missing Hares

By Katie Kamasaki

Weren’t there twelve? Arashitsuki stood by her open cache of hares, pensive. I’m sure there were twelve. So why are there only ten? Someone must have found it. I don’t see any evidence, either. She gave her shoulder a lick, being a Canada lynx, and considered what to do next and pretended she didn’t feel the anger pelting at her stomach.

Having read a few mystery books at the Littletree Library, Arashitsuki knew she was looking for a suspect. But there weren’t even any clues!

Something rustled. Her ears whipped around, and so did her head, making her have to adjust her ears again. Something was in the snow-encrusted bushes. It was the thief!

Arashitsuki drawn by Katie Kamasaki.

“Weft?” he asked. “I’d tell you to go to Perne’s detective agency, but that’s a shady lot.” His eyes fell on the cache, and he continued: “If that hole there’s a cache for them, I’ve been near here a while, so I can help you out. That northern harrier was eating something, I’d check it out. The only other animals I’ve seen around are a large red fox and a snowy owl. Not much life up here in the winter.”

Arashitsuki nodded. Suspects at last.

“I’m Memke, by the way. Though it’s not likely that we’ll ever meet again.” With that, the bear - Memke - ambled through the snow into the forest.

Once Arashitsuki could breathe again and had covered her cache, the first thing she did was run to see whatever the harrier had been eating. She found, to her disappointment, that it was a lemming and focused on what Memke had said.

It didn’t take her long to find the owl, who seemed to be hunting. The cache had been full last night and, whatever the harrier had been eating. She found, to her disappointment, that it was a lemming and focused on what Memke had said.

Fun Facts!

By Carson Powers

1. Have you ever seen white dots in the sky? These dots are not U.F.Os, they are actually white blood cells passing through the blood vessels right in front of the retina at the back of your eye. (BBC Science Focus Magazine.com)

2. Did you know that when you cough the air moves at about 50 MPH, and a sneeze moves at about 100 MPH! (Kids activities.com)

Fun Peoria Public Library Facts!

In 2018 there were 540,232 items in the Peoria Public Library collection! Want to know which items had the most checkouts? We’ve got the answer!

Most checked out adult fiction title in 2018: The President is Missing by Bill Clinton and James Patterson

Most checked out adult non-fiction title in 2018: Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

Most checked out kids DVD: Paw Patrol

Most checked out kids Blu-Ray: Ice Age

Most checked out picture book: Fly Guy’s Amazing Tricks by Tedd Arnold

Most checked out kids fiction chapter book: The Land of Stories by Chris Colfer

Most checked out kids non-fiction: The LEGO Ideas Book: You Can Build Anything! by Daniel Lipkowitz
**Happiness**

**By Cyrus B. ft a friend**

Do you ever feel like walking on clouds?  
Do you ever feel joy all around?  
That’s the wonder coursing through your veins  
That’s the signals sent to your brain  
A pleasant surprise  
A feeling where you know you’re gonna thrive  
A time to just feel alive  
Your greatest accomplishment  
Multiplied by 100  
That amazing fame  
You’ve always been wanting  
And it’s not the same  
Cuz now you’ve finally got it  
Like you’ve always wanted

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**The Ghost Wind**

**by: Katie Kamasaki**

Rushing through an open field  
Howling loudly as it goes.  
It was just there - was it not?  
Occupation the wind chose.  
Crying as a banshee walls  
Of it, one would think a ghost.  
Throwing itself through a town  
That not a population boasts.  
Flinging down leaves from their limbs  
Dead and dying on the ground.  
Boasting colors not wanted  
For in them there is no life found.  
Many thought it may have been  
Spirit, spectre, ghost, or phantom.  
But t’was just the forlorn wind  
Moaning ghostly songs in tandem.  
Many wondered what it was  
That sparked the wind to howl as such.