



1,000,000-word readers

Delphi Community Middle School students in Wendi Thompson's class were challenged to read one million words this year. Some went a little further and read two million. Thompson said the list of Reading Counts books specifies the number of words in each book. She said it takes plenty of math for the kids to figure out how many words they've read. Most of the students had to read between 20 and 30 books to reach the goal. One-million-word readers, pictured in the front row, left to right, are Zach Thomas, Stephen Back, Ashley Soper and Jacob Simpson. In the middle row, l-r, are Matthew Kesling, Karson Bender, Annie Mose, Stephanie Nipple, Marlee Higgins and Candice Kelly. In the back row, l-r, are Kendall Baker, Ryan Geiken, Jordayn Jargstorf, Jessica Schnepf and Dominic Puller. Comet photo

Department of Corrections launches Fugitive Watch Web site

The Indiana Department of Correction has made it possible for communities to search for local parole fugitives on its web site. The site features Fugitive Watch, a "community policing" database available to the general public which features: local wanted parole absconders and a toll-free number to report these fugitives.

"Our goal is to increase the growing wave of public participation to reduce crime in communities," said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "This is our opportunity to work together to promote safety and security by identifying parole absconders who pose a threat."

The wanted fugitives listing can be accessed by visiting the Indiana Department of Correction website: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection> and clicking on the WANTED link located "In the Community" section.

Parolees who have demonstrated delinquent behavior face the prospect of arrest and possible re-incarceration. The site currently features 49 want-

ed parole absconders from Indiana. Information includes most current photograph, Description, County of Conviction, Date of Sentence and DOC Number.

Citizens can call the Indiana State Police toll-free hotline, 1-800-622-4962, or email: operations@isp.state.in.us to report a fugitive. To contact the Indiana Department of Correction with any information you have regarding the location of these individuals, or other tips that may assist in the apprehension of these individuals, call the Director of Parole Services at 317-232-5764.

Flora woman writes children's books

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

Deborah Siwinski of Flora has written a children's book series called "The Adventures of Teddy and Freddy."

The four-part series will feature a new adventure for every season. The first one came out earlier this year and is called "Summer Safari." The next one will have a fall theme.

"Summer Safari" is about five-year-old, freckle-faced Teddy, and his best friend - his cat, Freddy. They go on a "jungle" adventure and encounter "wild animals."

"Teddy is a touch of my son, Stephen, who was a very adventurous and imaginative child," Siwinski said. Stephen is now 22.

The adventure series takes place in the countryside of England. Siwinski said she chose England because that's where her dad's family was from.

"My dad and Winston Churchill were second cousins," she said.

Siwinski has written stories for family and friends before, and even put some of them on CDs, but she said "Summer Safari" is her first published book. A paperback, it was published by Lifevest Publishing Inc., Centennial, Colo.

Siwinski said she started writing the book as a kind of therapy, but then got hooked on the experience.

"I love to play in the children's world," she said. "Writing is a wonderful place to play and relax. It's a good quiet time for the brain, and still offers something to someone else."

Although any age can enjoy



Siwinski

Siwinski's book, she said it is mostly a read-to-me book. Since her own two children are grown, and her three grandchildren have been reading on their own for awhile now, she tried her book out on a three-year-old family friend. Siwinski says confidently that her book is "Molly-tested and Molly-approved."

Siwinski decided to do her own illustrations for her book series.

"I decided if it's going to be from the heart, it's going to be from the hand, too," she said. Siwinski added that she's still learning illustration as she goes along.

"Children can relate to my drawings," she said with a grin.

She dedicated her first book to her children, grandchildren, Molly, and her husband, Steve.

While she is tweaking the series' next three stories and illustrations, Siwinski said she is also working on a children's poetry book to be entitled

"Fairies, Frogs, and Fantasies." She is hoping it will come out in July.

Siwinski has given a copy of "Summer Safari" to the Flora-Monroe Public Library. It can also be ordered on line at www.authorstobelievein.com.

Siwinski has the summer off from her regular job. She teaches keyboarding and beginning computers application at Delphi Community Middle School.



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