

# The READ Review

A Quarterly Publication of READ La Porte County, Inc.  
Spring 2014 Edition

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## What's New with READ?

### **Eat Wings, Raise Funds!**

On Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, READ will be partnering with Buffalo Wild Wings in La Porte for a Give Back event. We will receive a percentage of all dine-in and carry out food and non-alcoholic beverage sales between 5 and 8 p.m. Diners can also pick up READ brochures and tutoring applications or shop for jewelry created by the La Porte High School Art Club.

We'd greatly appreciate it if you would help us spread the word about this event or hang the attached flyer at your workplace or business!

### **READ Goes Bilingual**

We are currently working on having our tutoring application forms translated into Spanish! This should help ensure READ's literacy services are accessible to as many people in our community as possible. We hope to expand this project to include other languages in the near future. If you speak English plus another language fluently and would like to help, please email us at [readlaportecounty@gmail.com](mailto:readlaportecounty@gmail.com).

### **Start practicing your "Z" words!**

This year's Scrabble Tournament will take place on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Best Western Plus La Porte Hotel & Conference Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the first round of play begins at 7:00 p.m. Arrive early to participate in our first "Lightning Round!" This year's tournament will feature a "La Porte County" theme, so come prepared to show your local pride.

### **Tutor Training Opportunities**

If you are a current READ tutor or are considering joining our team, please join us for Tutor Training on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. This event will take place at the La Porte County Public Library from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The morning session will focus on adult tutoring, the afternoon session on English as a Second Language tutoring. Free lunch will be provided to all attendees. Please RSVP to Mary Hedge at [mhedge8@comcast.net](mailto:mhedge8@comcast.net) or 325-0875 by Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Can't make it this time? A tutor roundtable will be held on Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. An additional training session is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. Both of these events will also take place at the La Porte County Public Library.

### **\*Dodge, Duck, Dip, Dive and Dodge**

If you loved elementary school gym class, you can relive it at the United Way of La Porte County's 5th Annual Play4Life Corporate Dodgeball Challenge on May 17th. Or, just go cheer on your favorite team - the cost of admission is only a canned food item!

Register at [www.unitedwaylpc.org/dodgeball-2014](http://www.unitedwaylpc.org/dodgeball-2014). READ La Porte County, Inc. is a United Way agency.

**\*READ's Facebook page is now one year old and has 147 likes! Will you help us get up to 150? Head to [www.facebook.com/ReadLaPorteCountyInc](http://www.facebook.com/ReadLaPorteCountyInc) and hit "like" to receive regular updates and announcements from READ.**

## Stats Update

As of February 2014, READ had 36 tutors serving a total of 85 students. Of these students, three were adults who speak English as a first language, 26 spoke English as a second language, 18 were children receiving private tutoring and 38 were children receiving tutoring within a school setting.

## READ Success Story

Betty Roy, a READ volunteer, recently spent approximately a year meeting with an adult student at the La Porte County Public Library. Betty reports that during that time, the student passed the GED, then continued to attend tutoring sessions to improve her writing skills so she could go to college. "She was rarely absent and we would stay an extra hour each time because she wanted to," says Betty. "It was a pleasure to work with her and I enjoyed the time we were working together."

The two continued meeting together until recently, when the student took a job to earn money for college. We thank Betty for her commitment and wish her student continued success!

## What We're READING...

### **A Review of Kate Morton's "The House at Riverton" by Michelle Shirk**

Fans of the BBC's Downton Abby will find themselves right at home in the world created by Kate Morton in this excellent historical fiction novel. "The House at Riverton" tells the story of an affluent British family through the remembrances of narrator Grace, a former housemaid and later lady's maid to daughter Hannah.

It becomes apparent very early on that the Riverton estate has become infamous as a result of a tragedy that that occurred on the grounds during the 1920s. In fact, the now-elderly Grace's memories of her service to the household are stirred after a filmmaker descends upon her nursing home in service of a film dramatization of this event. However, the "whys" and "hows" of the event create a mystery that Morton unravels slowly and skillfully throughout the novel.

While even the most careful reader will likely encounter a few surprises along the way, each of the novel's twists and turns seems perfectly logical in retrospect. In addition to an intriguing plot, "The House at Riverton" offers fascinating, flawed characters and plenty of interesting historical detail.

Overall, while this novel will require a fair investment of time and attention, the payoff is well worth it. Consider "The House at Riverton" for your next rainy day read or book club selection.



**LEFT:** Some of the members of the READ Board of Directors taking care of business before our holiday party. As usually, we had an absolutely delicious meal!

\*You are receiving this newsletter as a result of your past or present participation with READ La Porte County, Inc. If you wish to opt out of future newsletters, please reply to this email with the words "opt out" or send your request to [readlaportecounty@gmail.com](mailto:readlaportecounty@gmail.com).