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Winter 2014

PARTNERSHIP PRESS



PFCLG 2014 SIXTH ANNUAL SPOOKTACULAR A SUCCESS!



Read inside for the full story!

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OUR MISSION

Serving as a leading advocate and collaborative resource to provide access to high quality services for young children.

OUR VISION

A community where young children will reach their full health and educational potential.

CONTACT US

Receive our newsletter twice a year by US Mail. If you want to receive our newsletter, please contact:

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FAMILY SPOOKTACULAR

The Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties sixth annual Family Spooktacular was held on Saturday, October 25, 2014 and had an attendance of approximately 1,500 children and family members. There was over 336 hours of volunteer time dedicated to our event.

Patrons came to enjoy the day's festivities at the WoodMill Festival Grounds in Vale, which included trunk or treat, face painting and a fitness trail. The local ambulance, fire truck and Inmate Transport Van were also at the grounds to educate children. The event was geared toward families with young children and helped raise awareness of the Partnership's services.

Parents were able to learn more about the different Smart Start funded projects which include, the Lincoln County Child Advocacy Center, the Assuring Better Child Health & Development Program, the Very Important Parents Program, and the Lincoln County Child Care Health Consultant.

Various activities returned this year including the Tumblebus and Seamore, a fun-tastic inflatable provided by Twist and Tuck in Lincolnton. A free hotdog lunch was provided again this year. New activities included an exhibit from the Schiele Museum including the following live animals: Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches, Chilean Rose Tarantula, a Florida Kingsnake and an African Hedgehog. The children loved the animal specimens including the polar bear claw and snake skin. There was also a new wood working area for children. Patrons were taught to make wooden stools and tool boxes. The fitness trail was back with a new reward at the end- a free book to encourage early literacy! Families were thrilled to go home with a book.

We would like to thank our Sponsors that helped make our event a success! They are: 5 star/Event sponsor: Röchling Engineering Plastics

4 star: WoodMill Winery

2 star: PSNC Energy; The Michelsen Group, Inc.

1 star : Abbott Building Service, Inc.; Dale and Roberta Burkett; Dallas Optimist Club; Early Childhood Professionals; Jantize America; Kaplan Early Learning Company; Lincoln County Parks & Recreation; Mast, Evans & Isenhour, L.L.P.; Park Sterling Bank; Partnership Staff; Truliant Federal Credit Union; Watson Insurance.

In addition, Thanks to our other contributors:

Aaron's Sales & Lease; Carolina Federal Credit Union; Child Care Centers & Homes; Coca-Cola Bottling Co.; Freeman Gas; Frito-Lay; Hardee's; Jamco Beauty Supplies; Pepsi Bottling Group; Printmasters; Sam's Club; The Teacher Box; Tyson Foods, Inc.

Thank you to our volunteers, some which include: Our direct service providers; Board members; Gaston County Public Library; Lincoln County Public Library; Emergency services (Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, Union Fire Department, Lincoln County EMS, etc.), Explorers, community businesses and others for helping to make this year's event a resounding success.



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Boogie With Books in the Park-Erwin Center, Sept 27, 2014



Apple Festival Sept. 20, 2014



Snuggle Up with a Great Book~ By Sarah Miller

Need a great way to warm up this winter? Snuggle up with your children and with a great book! Cuddle up close for some tips to make the experience a good one for your child and you! Number one tip: choose a book you love. Your love of reading will be infectious to your child. This will often include pre-reading the title to be sure you like it. Tip two: Use expression to give "life" to the books. You don't have to do voices for each of the characters, but lowering your voice and slowing the reading can create mystery and suspense that will thrill your child. What's the Time Grandma Wolf? by Ken Brown and Creepy Carrots by Aaron Reynolds create anticipation without being scary. Don't forget chapter books – those classics that you loved as a child can be enjoyed again through new eyes. I love reading Charlotte's Web by E.B. White, A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck and The Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder and new classics like Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling and The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart out loud. These titles can be shared over several days, even weeks, creating something to look forward to all day! Tip three: Have the child look at the cover of the book for clues on what will happen in the story. Let your child predict what will happen next in the story to keep them engaged in the reading. If you have little ones that won't keep still there is always the option of having them act out the story or do the actions of the characters such as in the books by Doreen Cronin, Stretch and Wiggle. But when they are done sitting still, they are "done!" and forcing them to sit with you will usually result in bad moods for all. Tip four: Ask questions about the story. Follow up your reading with questions like "who was your favorite character?" and for visual learners, "what is your favorite picture?" These questions will extend the story and often go beyond the who's, what's and why's of the story to the "what if-s" and "how come-s". Tip five: Slow down when you read aloud. This gives time for the child to imagine the scene. A chapter book that gives plenty to imagine and dream about is Roald Dahl's Matilda. All the Water in the World by George Ella Lyon is a poetic informational book about water. Tip six: Visit your local library! The reason for having weekly storytime programs is to model reading out loud to children and inspire the love of books and reading. Come by to see what librarians do to keep children interested in books, reading and learning and then try some of the techniques at home with your own child. A wonderful source for those new to reading out loud is The Read-Aloud Handbook by Jim Trelease. A copy of this book sits on my desk to inspire and refresh my hoarse voice.

Winter Book Recommendations: *Count the Monkeys:* By Mac Barnett and Kevin Cornell; *Extra Yarn:* By Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen; *Kitty's Cuddles:* By Jane Cabrera; *Mitchell Goes Bowling:* By Hallie Durand; *Bark, George:* By Jules Feiffer; *Tap Tap Bang Bang:* By Emma Garcia ; *Good-Nigh, Owl :* By Pat Hutchins; *The Snowy Day:* By Ezra Jack Keats; *This is not my Hat:* By Jon Klassen; *Snowflake Bentley:* By Jacqueline Briggs Martin

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Congratulations to the following Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes who maintained their:

5 star rating:

- Childcare Network #144
- Iron Station Elementary Pre-K
- Love Memorial Elementary Pre-K
- Mrs. Phyllis Treasured Blessings Child Care
- S Ray Lowder Elementary Pre-K

4 star rating:

- Kidz 1st Child Care, Tasha's Tiny Tots

3 star rating:

- Anointed Hands FCCH, Becky's Little Day Care, Bright Stars Learning Academy, Dawn Fraley's Home Day Care, Smile of A Child Home Daycare, Walker's Home of Love and Learning

Increased their star rating:

- A Happy Home Child Care, from a 1 to a 2 star
- Kidz Inc., from Temporary to a 3 star
- Ms. Janice's Day Care, from a 4 to a 5 star
- Precious Moments #2, from Temporary to a 4 star
- Preschool Connection Learning Academy, from Temporary to a 5 star



Congratulations to the Raffle Winner!

The Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties is proud to announce that Kitty Wray of Lincolnton is the raffle winner of the LG Picture Perfect 42" Smart TV. Thank you to everyone who participated. Money from the raffle will support the efforts of the Partnership for Children. Pictured is Michael Linker, Executive Director of the Partnership for Children of Lincoln & Gaston Counties and raffle winner Kitty Wray of Lincolnton. Also pictured is her granddaughter, Jalyn Wray, age 4.