

TELL ME A TAIL

The official newsletter for Literacy for Companionship, Inc.



More great
reads inside
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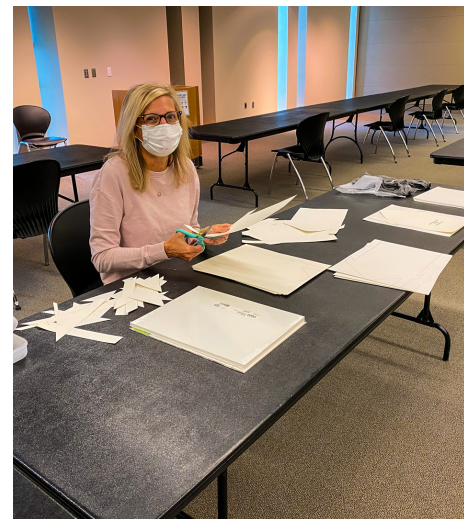
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LfC Volunteer Day

Thank you!

We are thankful for those that signed up to help us stuff 300 goodie bags, 200 folders, and cut out 40 houses! We know your time is precious and we appreciate you spending it helping us! As we continue to grow by leaps and bounds we will have more of these opportunities in the coming months.



**300 Goodie bags, 200
folders and 40 house's .**

Books, Books, and More Books!

610 Books for Steuben County

Our books for Steuben County Humane Shelter have arrived! Each book will go through a five-step process before they will make it to their destination. We want to make sure children have free access to books on kindness, compassion, and empathy. Each book will receive a book sticker, and a bookplate (LfC's Cards for Kindness). These books are ready to go and we will fill our library at the shelter for the children to enjoy and select from at our read days each month! We want to thank the Dale and Lisa Caudill Community Fund at the Steuben County Community Foundation for helping us achieve this goal!

500 + Books for Wabash and Kosciusko County

We now have more than 500 books for our libraries at Wabash County Humane Shelter as well as the Animal Welfare League of Kosciusko County! We want to thank Duke Energy for helping us with this project!

April Impacted Numbers:

28 ~ Children Reached

220 ~ Volunteer Hours

5 ~ Events



Paw of Fame



“
*If having a soul
means being able
to feel love and
loyalty and
gratitude, then
animals are
better off than a
lot of humans. -
James Herriot*

Improvements and Growth

Upcoming Events

We have a fun-filled summer planned for children!

Join us at one (or all!) of our 16 events, through June and July, with LfC at the Shelter, LfC in the Community, or LfC's Pawsitive Book Club. Help us spread the word for these events to help the children in your community!



May Events

Steuben County ~ 5/1

Whitley County ~ 5/6

Kosciusko County ~ 5/13

Wabash County ~ 5/20

FWACC ~ 5/24

To sign your child up
please visit our website
or Facebook page.

Due to summer camps
taking place at FWACC
we will not have a read
day in June or July.

Activity Corner

Bubble Trouble

Keep your children and pets busy and mentally stimulated with bubbles! Children and dogs alike love chasing bubbles. To make it easier on yourself invest in a bubble machine and spend the afternoon outside chasing them down. Always monitor your dog around bubbles.

Homemade Bubbles

Why not make bubbles with your children before you head outside to blow them? Below we have included a fun easy recipe to make your own.

Homemade Bubbles. You'll Need:

- 1 cup water
- 2 tablespoons light Karo syrup or 2 tablespoons glycerin
- 4 tablespoons dishwashing liquid

Stir together until everything is dissolved

Homemade Bubble Wands:



If you happen to have bubble wands from store-bought bubbles lying around the house, you can use those. But experimenting with different household items can also be a lot of fun. You can find things that you are either getting rid of or serve a different purpose but are a good fit for making bubbles. This sometimes requires thinking outside the box. Involve your kids in looking for items that have holes that could serve as bubble wands. You'll be exercising their creativity. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- A ball with holes in it like a Wiffle ball
- Colanders (for this one, you need a big bowl to dip into the bubble solution, and instead of blowing the bubbles, move your arms back and forth so the force of the wind does the work for you)
- Cookie cutters
- Fly or bug swatters
- Make your own using pipe cleaners
- Plastic baskets that hold berries (again, you can try blowing, but moving your arms might be less tiring and leave you less winded)
- Plastic slotted spoons
- Straws
- The top end of a plastic bottle (like a water bottle)

Author Corner

Name: Tracey Jude

Occupation: Board Certified Music Therapist and Author

Married/children/pets:

"I am married, and we will celebrate our 25th anniversary this year, We have 3 grown children, and 1 grandchild on the way! I have had pets throughout my entire life. I love animals but discovered late in life that my family and I were allergic to our beloved pets. One cat I called Mr. Topaz inspired my book series. I am most grateful to the hard-working shelter staff and organizations that support them."

What city do you live in: Angola

Hobbies or what do you like do you do in your free time:

"Who has free time? Well, I make time for reading, hiking, swimming, boating, cycling, traveling to see family, attending concerts, movies, and theatre, and renovating what is now our home. I feel fortunate to spend my working days nurturing my passion for music, science, and wellness."

When did you write your first children's book:

"The first children's book, Mr. Topaz Takes a Walk, was published in 2005."

What inspired you to want to write children's books:

"As I entered private practice in music therapy, I wanted to help families cope with various life issues. Music therapists often write songs for their clients to help them achieve non-musical goals. It occurred to me that as a kid I enjoyed stories, and as a parent, I enjoyed reading them to my kids. Where songs may serve purpose but be forgotten over time, stories endure. I wanted to write stories using musical elements, such as rhythm, to demonstrate the real-time the benefit of music in one's life. I also hope that these stories and the coping skills learned will be passed down through the generations."



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Author Corner

What message are you hoping children and parents get from your stories:

"My intent is to inspire hope that we can solve our own problems, reach out for help when needed, and be of value to others. In short, the hope is that life can get better and stay that way."

What are the titles of each book you have written and how can parents find out more information on your books and where can they purchase them:

"There are 4 books, but 3 different stories that address specific situations:

Mr. Topaz Takes a Walk addresses anger management and relationship repair through self-reflection, discovered hidden emotions, and practical action steps that infuse into daily life.

Stepping through PRT with Mr. Topaz Takes a Walk is a how-to guide for using pivotal response treatment to promote communication and emotion expression for persons with autism. It also serves as an early language tool for young children in general.

Mr. Topaz is Left in Charge addresses feelings of rejection and boredom. Through actions motivated by responsibility, one's own unique purpose can be found unexpectedly.

Mr. Topaz Breaks the Rules emphasizes the importance of rule-following, how one might improvise through a tough situation, and how forgiveness can change the future.

Parents can learn more about each life skills story and get their own stories at www.mrtopaz.world. A donation to charity is given through each sale. Watch story readings at [Tracey Jude - YouTube](#), or at the following links:

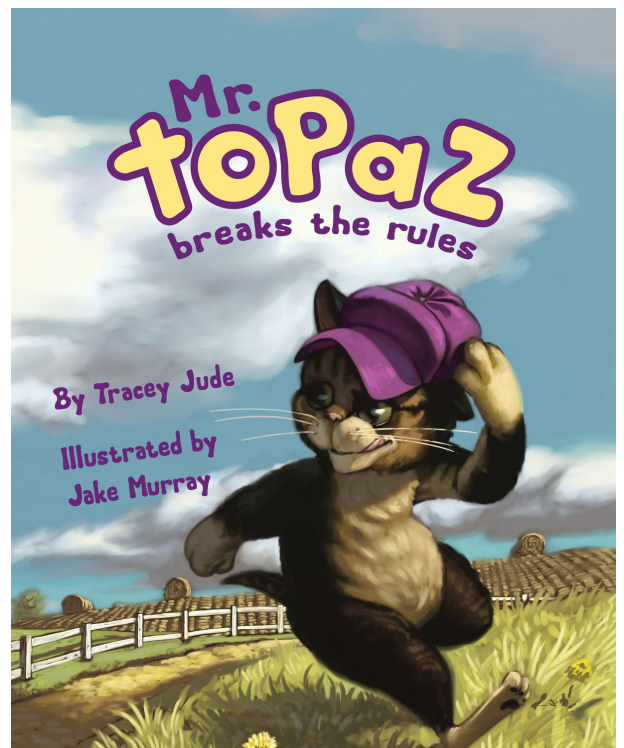
[Walking you through Anger Management with Mr. Topaz Takes a Walk - YouTube](#)

[Sensory Diet Plan for Autism - YouTube](#)

[Finding Purpose by Surprise - YouTube](#)

[Improvise a better life through reading - YouTube](#)

May God bless you all!"



R.E.A.C.H. Membership

We invite you to R.E.A.C.H. with us! Through R.E.A.C.H. our goal is to rescue, educate, advocate, comfort, and help children and animals alike. We have revamped our donation portal and are currently offering three levels to choose from; however, you can go above and beyond if you wish! Donations will be recognized and are so greatly appreciated. All donations can be paid as a single payment or monthly through the calendar year, set up as a reoccurring payment.

Please, visit our website to sign up online or by mail!
























ANNUAL BENEFITS

Membership Year:
January through December

JOIN US
AS WE

R.E.A.C.H.

Rescue. Educate. Advocate. Comfort. Help.

BENEFIT LEVELS	TITLE	CONTENTS	CHAPTER 1
Minimum Annual Contribution	\$60	\$120	\$180
Benefits LfC Programs*			
Tax Deduction Receipt**			
Letter from CEO			
Donor Recognition (website & newsletter)			
Exclusive Newsletter			
Magnet			
Social Media Recognition			
Key Chain Flashlight			
Coffee Mug			

*Please remember that Literacy for Companionship Inc. is ran 100% by volunteers and all donations go into the program.

**Federal tax laws changed in 2018, please consult your tax advisor for more information regarding your donation(s).

For questions regarding R.E.A.C.H. or any LfC programs please contact us at info@LforCompanionship.org.