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NEIGHBORS / Friday, September 12, 2014

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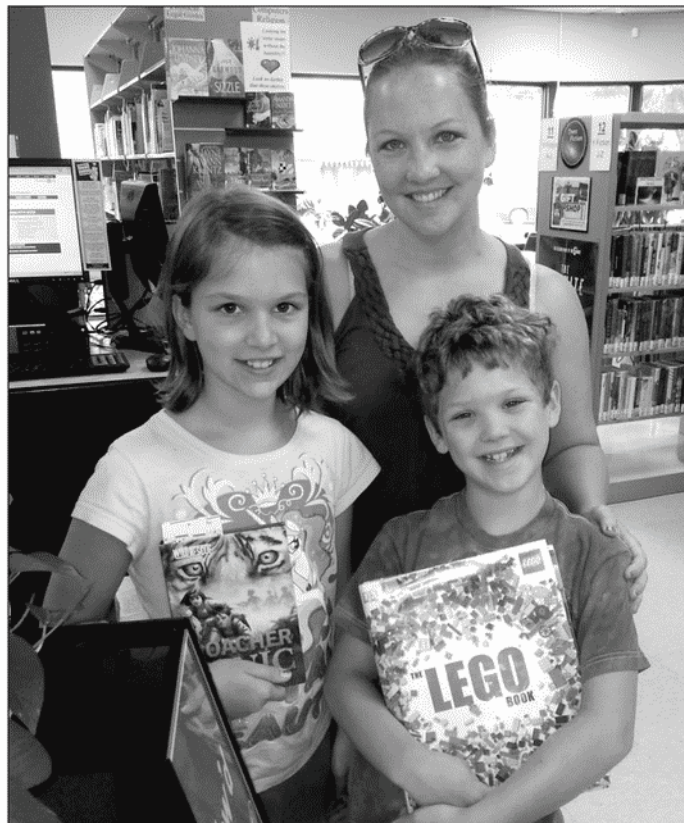
Ben would like to be your very best friend.

Paws and Claws Pet of the Week: Ben

From Staff Reports
news@skiatookjournal.com

Meet Gentle Ben! Ben is an absolute sweetheart of a dog, and would make any family an excellent pet. He

is excellent with other dogs, cats, and loves every person he meets. He loves to be in your lap and be petted and just be someone's shadow. He is mostly calm and learns quickly. He sleeps in a crate at night and is being worked with on house training.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Gretchen Stephenson and her children, Hannah, 10, and Luke, 8, enjoy a recent visit to the Skiatook Library.

Stephenson family finds helpful resources at library

around on the street in the rain in front of Taste Freez without a collar or tags. One of our most loyal foster parents took them under her wing and they are now in foster care. Ben

well. He is \$75 to adopt. Email the gals with Skiatook Paws and Claws Animal Rescue at kpw_paige12@yahoo.com to request an application for Ben today.

dedicated library users. Gretchen has been home-schooling her children — Hannah, 10, and Luke, 8 — for two years.

Husband and father, Darren, has a daily 90-minute commute. During his driving time he listens to books that he has downloaded from the Tulsa City-County Library.

The Stephensons have lived in Skiatook for nine years, and some of the changes at the library have greatly impacted their family.

TCCCL has eliminated fines on children's materials.

When doing a unit of study, it takes the pressure off the kids and her not to have to bring the books back prematurely, Gretchen says.

The library's collection supplements the children's reading program, and supports the learning process for every subject that they explore.

Hannah and Luke are currently delving into ancient Egyptian History, and exploring career options. They have been downloading e-books about

tive programs have kept the children actively reading all during summer break. The children also enjoy an ongoing motivational tool called "Book-It."

Gretchen uses the library to acquire high-interest reading material for Hannah and Luke as they earn Pizza Hut coupons (Book-It is not a library program, but is used by many teachers and home-schoolers).

The Stephensons see the importance of having a home library as well as access to the public library.

The Paws for Reading program is a library program, in which children ages 3-12 have an opportunity to read to a therapy dog two times per week at the Skiatook Library. This program is a good way to enrich the home library because each child receives a free paperback book after reading to "Miss Marlie" or "Fredricka." Paws times are: Thursday at 10 a.m., and Saturday at 12 noon.

Skiatook Library welcomes everyone and is eager to share the total resources of our very vast and rich Tulsa City-County Library System.

ANNIVERSARY

McCrarys celebrate 50th anniversary

Milton and Carolyn McCrary celebrated 50 years of marriage this summer with family and a small group of friends. They were married Sept. 12, 1964, in Crescent, Oklahoma. They raised their two boys, Danny and Joel, in Skiatook.

Milton served as the Skiatook High School band director and Carolyn worked at Hillcrest Hospital as a labor and delivery nurse. Their relatives and friends offer them congratulations.



CAROLYN AND MILTON MCCRARY

Coming Soon... Need Christmas Cash? Then win you some and shop 'til you drop' in the Skiatook Journal's 1st Annual Hunt for Christmas Cash!

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