Director’s Report for May 18, 2015

1. Lincoln Industries came in on May 1st for their annual Willard Clean Up. I had five volunteers that painted a portion of the basement hallway and front doors. They did a nice job and got a lot done in two hours. I was originally going to have them replace the caps on the stairs going down to the south parking lot since many of the stair caps had gotten really damaged and broken last winter. That job, however, turned out to be more than we expected. The stairs I am talking about are the ones that were installed as an Eagle Scout project that are on the south side of the building going down to the sidewalk and parking lot. They have become very dangerous and unusable. I have asked Ken Svoboda to come in and talk to me about them. He was involved with the Eagle Scout project and provided the materials for the stairs. I will ask him to give me a repair cost or ideas of how to make the stairs usable again.
2. Girl Scouts Troop #2300 met at Willard on May 13th and helped with yard work as a way to say thank you for letting them use our facility. Troop leaders Sara Wilkenson and Tina Gropp wanted to help the girls learn to give back to their community and felt that a clean-up project was one way to give back to Willard. Among the countless chores to be done outdoors, the girls helped pull weeds, clean up trash, and cleared rocks and dirt off of our parking lot and sidewalks. Willard is very appreciative of this great group of young women and their leaders for all their hard work and enthusiasm. Many young kids would dread the words "yard work", Troop 2300 looked past the fact and saw only positive in what they were doing. With a smile on her face, one Girl Scout said “Being a part of Girl Scouts is being a part of our community.”
3. The flooding in Lincoln really impacted our child care sites. Parents at Lakeview could not get to the school because all the roads were closed. Families had to find a police officer that would let them through if they said that they had a child at school. Roper parents were late because Rosa Parks Way was bumper to bumper traffic. All of our staff were great and stayed late until every child was picked up. We all went home around 7 pm.
4. Lincoln Industries utilized our Center when the flood waters went into their building. We communicated with them all day and at one point were prepared to house all of their IT equipment. They came to Willard for a meeting and planned to use our building to work out of on Thursday at 7:30 am. The flood waters receded and they did not need Willard but we were ready for them for whatever they needed.
5. The summer program is full with a waiting list. We are going to have a huge number of Kindergarten through 1st grade participants this summer. The last day of school is May 21st but we won’t actually start our program until Wed., May 27th. We are going to take advantage of the 22nd and 26th to do some in-service trainings for our child care staff. Child Care regulations require that all of our staff have 45 hours of in-service annually so Sarah has developed her own training curriculums and the staff will earn over 15 hours on those two days. We will also be doing a lot of set up for the summer program to be ready to go on May 27th.
6. Give to Lincoln Day is May 28th. I have updated all of our information on the Give to Lincoln website and have even downloaded the video that our staff made for us for the Next Gen grant that tells all about Willard. So far we have already received $700.00 from early donors. Go to [www.givetolincoln.com](http://www.givetolincoln.com) to check us out.
7. The preschoolers at Willard had their preschool graduation on May 15th. They had planned to go to Pioneer Park for a family picnic but the rain changed our plans. The families had their picnic here at Willard instead. The preschoolers at the Pre-K House are planning their picnic and graduation ceremony outside on Wed., May 20th and of course rain is in the forecast.
8. The West “A” 2nd Annual Health Fair is scheduled for Saturday, June 13th, at Roper Elementary School from 9-11 am. We have groups signing up to have booths and it should shape up to be a great day! Hope you all can join us!