

Library opens in Smith River

July 15, 2021



Our Smith River branch is now open.

We are honored to introduce to you, Jackie Martin. You will see Jackie's smiling face when you visit us in Smith River. Jackie comes to our library with an impressive background in library work and she cares deeply for the community. Here is a little bit about Jackie...

"The summer I turned 7, my mother went to work at a doctor's office. He was the old-fashioned kind of doctor who still made house calls. He used his reflex hammer on my knees one time and when my legs didn't give the usual jerk, he told me I must be dead. I was horrified and began to cry, until he laughed and said he was joking, I was fine. In spite of his humor I really liked him.

"Each morning my mom would drop my brother, sister and me off at the library in town, then she'd go to work. My brother would disappear almost immediately in whatever interested him that day. My sister and I would turn right and go through the doors into the Children's Room. Sister would wander up and down the

aisles searching for just the right book and I would select first one book then another until I found one that piqued my interest. I would then scurry to "my corner" and curl up on the floor with my treasure.

"The windows in the Children's Room were floor to ceiling two-foot-wide slits every 10-12 feet. 'My corner' was in one of these windows in a literal corner, and I would stay there all morning, completely enthralled with the journey I'd chosen that day. I would lose myself in the pages of the book so completely that my sister would have to nudge me, none too gently, with her foot to let me know it was time to go at noon, when our mom would pick us up for lunch.

"Reading quickly became my favorite pastime. After reading a book about Helen Keller in 2nd grade, I walked around the house with my eyes closed for a week, just in case I became blind one day. Another book that captivated me was about Harriet Tubman. I headed up the hill behind our house and built tunnels in the tall grass in the old vineyard, made little hidey holes and ensconced my dolls and stuffed animals in them. Whatever book I was reading at any given time I was usually acting it out in one way or another.

"My grandmother introduced me to Nancy Drew Mysteries when I was 9 and mysteries became my favorite genre, as it is to this day. A well written book can take us to anywhere in the world, and beyond, transporting our minds and imaginations to places our bodies cannot go. I have found that with books there are no limits."

Visit our Smith River branch today at 241 First Street. Hours: Monday through Wednesday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.