Local author visits library

Sandy Phillips, local author of the Max and Annie books, and illustrator Jenny Campbell will do a test reading of their new book, “Wings” at the Chagrin Falls branch of the Cuyahoga County Library from 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday. The dogs, Tak and Penny, characters in the book, will be there as well.

Everyone will be asked to fill out a short questionnaire as well as discuss the book. They are most interested in children’s viewpoints. Registration is requested by calling the library at 440-247-3556.

Earnings perfect SAT score

Hathaway Brown School’s Dhikshitha Balaji of Chagrin Falls earned a perfect composite score of 2400 on the SAT as a junior this past school year. Administered by The College Board, the SAT is the nation’s most widely used college admission test. It’s taken by roughly 2 million students every year and is accepted by virtually all colleges and universities.

Each section of the SAT – critical reading, mathematics and writing – is scored on a 200-800-point scale, for a possible total of 2,400. Earning a perfect score on the test is a rare feat. In 2012, of more than 1.6 million test takers, only 360 – .022 percent – were able to achieve this distinction.

Hathaway Brown School is at 19600 N. Park Blvd. in Shaker Heights.

Kids to build with blocks

Building Blocks at the Library is for ages 5 to 10 with caregivers from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Orange branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library. Registration is not required. Visitors may stop by to build with the Lego blocks.

For more information, call the library at 216-831-4282, visit www.cuyahogalibrary.org or visit the library at 31300 Chagrin Blvd., Pepper Pike.

Merit scholarships are awarded

An additional 1,800 winners of National Merit Scholarships, financed by colleges and universities, were named by The National Merit Scholarship Corp. Several area students were part of this last group.

James A. Starkman of Russell, a graduate of Beachwood High School, received his scholarship from Case Western Reserve University. He expects to major in mechanical engineering with a focus on robotics.

Elizabeth K. Eder of Solon, a Solon High School graduate, received her scholarship from Kenyon College. She expects to major in biology.

Nisha A. Malhotra of Solon, a Solon High School graduate, received her scholarship from Case Western Reserve University. She plans to study medicine.

Patrick O’Shea of University Heights, a University School graduate, received his scholarship from Tufts University. He is undecided on a major.

Officials of each sponsor college selected their scholarship winners from among the finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program who will attend their institution. College-sponsored awards provide between $500 and $2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship.

This final group of winners brings the number of 2013 National Merit Scholars to more than 7,800.

After taking the 2011 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test and being named a semifinalist, the students had to complete a detailed scholarship application and take the SAT and earn scores that confirmed their performance on the qualifying test. In September, about 16,000 semifinalists were named, representing less than 1 percent of the nation’s seniors. Around 15,000 attained finalist standing.