

Waukesha Reads promises interesting virtual events

Speakers, book discussion groups part of annual community read

By Bruce Gay

For the fourteenth consecutive year, Waukesha Reads will celebrate reading with programs and events during October. This year's novel is "When the Emperor was Divine", by Julie Otsuka. The novel tells the story of a Japanese American family — mother, daughter, and son — forcibly relocated to internment camps during World War II, and their experiences there. It's an unsentimental and rich study of the family's terrible experiences.

Of course, this year's events will be different than ever before. Because of the pandemic, this will be the first ever socially distant Waukesha Reads. Library staff have worked hard to present creative and safe pro-



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grams related to the novel. While the events may be online this year, the book discussions and programs will still be fun, informative, and a great way to get together with others.

What can you do during a socially distant Waukesha Reads? For starters, we have two powerful speakers lined up. On Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. the library is hosting a YouTube event with Sam Mihara, one of 120,000 Japanese American citizens imprisoned at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center during World War II. Mr. Mihara will share his experiences at the internment

camp and explain why this violation of civil rights is important today. Mr. Mihara has spoken to over 50,000 people throughout the country over the last five years.

At the end of the month, on Thursday, Oct. 29, the library is excited to have the novel's author, Julie Otsuka, on a live YouTube event at 7 p.m. "When the Emperor was Divine" is her first novel, published in 2002.

Other events include a presentation on the Honor Flight program; a chance to learn about the Japanese tea ceremony; a "how to" program on creating oral family histories; and the popular Waukesha Reads Cabaret, featuring songs from the 1940s. All events will be streamed live on YouTube.

The library has also scheduled six book discussions to be held on Zoom. Check the Waukesha Reads website at WaukeshaReads.org/calendar or pick up a calendar at the library for event details.

New this year is the Waukesha Reads virtual challenge. You can earn points and win prizes by tracking your Waukesha reads events, such as attending a book discussion group, or an event, or even reading the book. Details are available at waukeshareads.org/challenge.

Come over to the library and pick up your copy of the book! Attend an event and a book discussion. Despite the measures we're taking to make sure everyone stays safe, Waukesha Reads will make you think and intro-

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duce you to a good book. We hope to see you soon!

(Bruce Gay is the executive director of the Waukesha Public Library.)

Lottery

Wednesday, Sept. 30
WISCONSIN

Daily Pick 3	9-0-2
Daily Pick 4	4-0-8-4
Megabucks	7-24-25-28-32-49
SuperCash	11-15-23-29-31-35
SuperCash Doubler:	No
Powerball	14-18-36-49-67
Powerball	18
Power Play	2
Badger 5	11-16-17-18-21