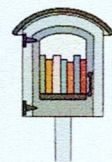
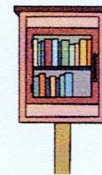
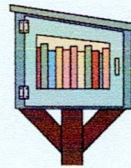


Youth Activities Promotion #1 | July 2026
Debbie Little
2026-2027 National Youth Activities Ambassador
Youthlittle26to27@gmail.com

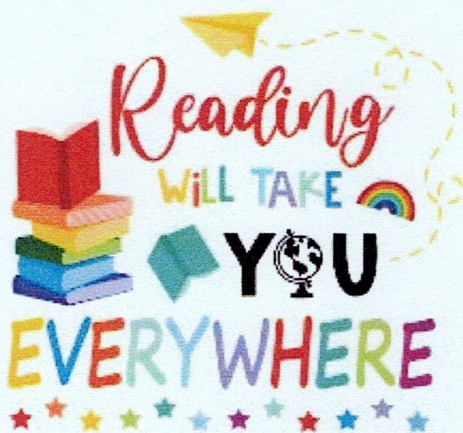
It is time to roll up our sleeves and reach out to our youth. Summer is more than half over and it is almost time for kids to go back to school. Time for family vacations, county fairs, rodeos and **READING**. We can encourage our youth to read by providing a VFW Auxiliary Lending Library. This is my "Focus Project" and I have been excited to see how different Departments are incorporating this project into their Youth Activities Program Year.

The libraries can be placed anywhere (with proper approval, of course): outside your Post, at the community center, baseball field, city hall and Moose, Elks' or Masons' lodges. Your Auxiliary could give a child an opportunity to further expand their imagination by reading.



Remember these tips to build your library project:

- Take a book. Share a book.
- Organize a reading to youth event at your VFW Post.
- Contact a youth group, Scouts and high school clubs for help and advice on building your library.
- Use the #auxlendinglibrary to promote what you are doing for the VFW Auxiliary Lending Library project.



We have excellent resources to stock our Lending Library by utilizing our [Patriotism Through Literacy Booklist](#) found in Malta Member Resources, Youth Activities or on National's newly redesigned website. Reading can inspire our youth to use their imaginations and travel back in history, visit foreign lands, explore careers or just relax and sigh with pleasure.

Program Award information is listed on Page 66 of the *2026-2027 National Program Book*.

**Awards for Departments and
Department Chairmen:**

Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary Department Youth Activities Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best promotion of the VFW Auxiliary Lending Library initiative.

Winners will be announced, and citations will be presented at the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention. Money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary Department account after the 2027

VFW Auxiliary National Convention for distribution to the winning VFW Auxiliary Department Chairmen.

SWAP and Play

I am thoroughly enjoying the **Letters of Introduction** and **Promotions** I am receiving from Department Chairmen.

I would like to give you a SWAP (Sharing Wonderful Auxiliary Projects) from Crystal McCarthy from the Department of Arizona. She has taken this year's football theme and incorporated it into a "Playbook" for her team in Arizona. Crystal is focusing on three plays (goals):



Play #1 Build the Foundation – Focus on creating strong relationships through simple outreach, literacy projects, patriotism, creativity and visibility in communities.



Play #2 Draft Your Team – Encourage partnerships with schools, libraries, scouts, youth groups, community organizations and fellow Auxiliary members.



Play #3 Run the Play – Where ideas come to life. From art projects and reading initiatives to Lending Libraries and community events. Take what is built and put it into action in ways that work for each Auxiliary.

Remember to use the QR Code for each of our Programs.

