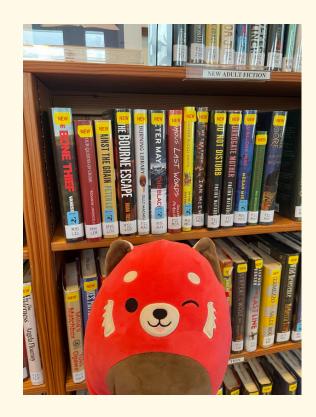


The Etna Library's

stuffie Sleepoven 2025







For the third year in a row, the stuffed animals of Etna and Hanover have decided to gather.

Their destination: The Etna Library.

Their goal: Have the night of their lives, sleeping over at the library!

This collection of photos and stories documents their adventures.





Scooter the Therapy
Dog visits the Etna
Library every month,
so that kids can
practice reading to
him.

Scooter was at the library as some of the stuffed animals began to arrive. He insisted on being in a photo with them!



At 5pm, as the world outside grew ever darker...

The last of the stuffies arrived at the library.

It was time for the sleepover to begin!









The library doors were locked and the stuffies had the building all to themselves.

Their fun could begin!

What should they do first?

Read, of course!



Stitch had a brilliant idea: all the stuffies should COMBINE everything they were learning from their books.

Ideas, after all, become even better ideas when they're shared.

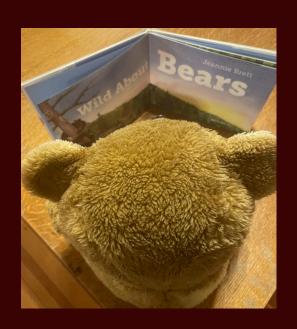


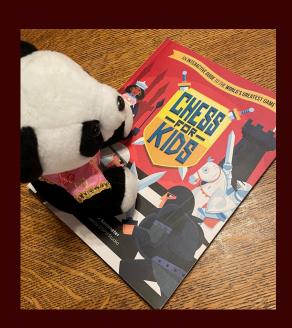


Max was reading a book about bears:

Panda was reading a book about chess:

Penguin was reading a book about mountain climbing:







Bears, Chess, and Mountain Climbing..

How could they combine all of those ideas?

"Is there any way to combine bears, chess, and mountain climbing?," one of the stuffies asked, doubtful.





It turned out there was.

Some of the stuffed animals had been at the library's previous sleepovers.

They knew that there were some activities you HAD to do while spending a night at the library.

These things were TRADITIONS.

Like riding the model train:







And receiving spa treatments:





(Including manicures, pedicures, and even EARicures!)



There were lots of NEW things to do at the library, too!

Like admiring this amazing ladder that let the librarian reach books way up high.

(The sign said that the ladder was only for librarians to use, though...)



Tippo the Elephant decided he would just have to become a librarian.

He WOULD be allowed on that ladder. Someday...



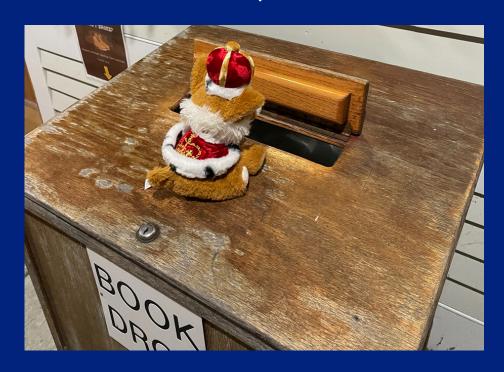


Kent started wondering how books were returned to the library, when the building was closed.



He and some other stuffed animals found this Book Drop on the library's porch.

Kent took a closer look, inside the book drop.



Until his look became a little TOO close...



Luckily, some friends were able to pull him out!





Don the Dragon found this amazing antique telephone on the library's wall.

It was from the Etna Telephone
Company, and was made in
1904! Back then, farmers had to
come together to dig their own
holes and cut their own poles
to run telephone wires.

Don was amazed by this history. He used the phone to try to call the past.



But no one was home...



While Don couldn't hear anyone speaking from the past, a group of stuffies did find some books that could talk!

The library's VOX Books and Wonderbooks are audiobooks and print books, all-in-one. So much fun!



At this point, some of the stuffed animals started a lively game of hide-and-seek





The stuffies were having an amazing time... but they started to get hungry.

They tried to use the librarian's phone to order a pizza...

But they couldn't get the phone to work.

Sun Sun's child had given her a cell phone for the sleepover.

"I'm only supposed to use the phone in emergencies, though," Sun Sun explained.



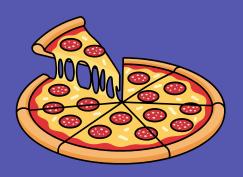


"Is THIS an emergency?" some of the stuffies asked.

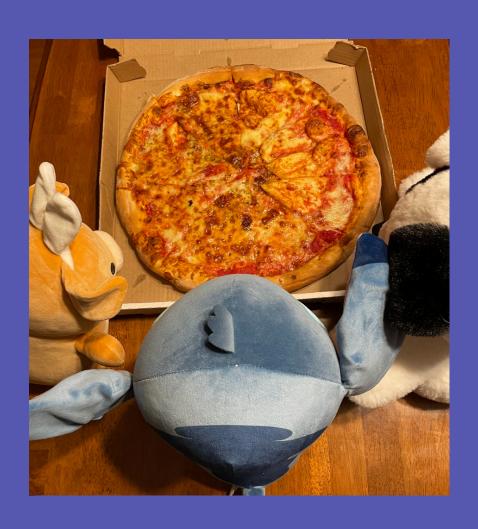
Flame consulted his belly. It was rumbling. LOUDLY.

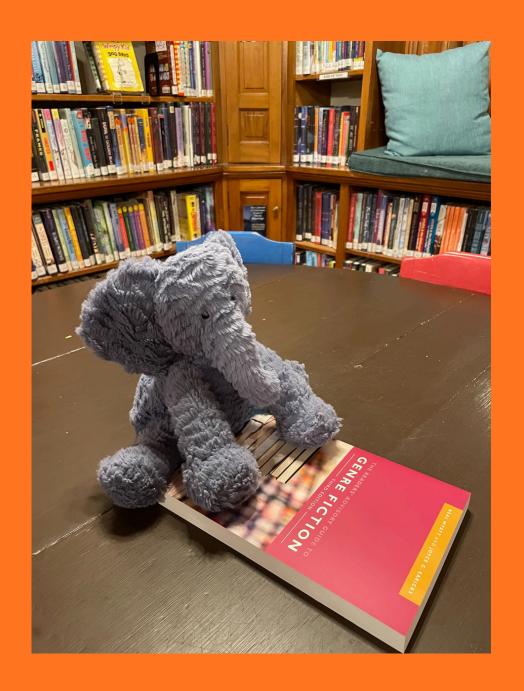
"Yes," Flame decided, "this IS an emergency."





So pizza was ordered, delivered, and enjoyed!





Meanwhile, Tippo the
Elephant was still
pursuing his new dream of
becoming a librarian, so
that he could use the
library's ladder...



The stuffies found a box filled with costumes!

These had to be left over from the library's Halloween Costume Swap event!





THIS could be fun...



It was fun.





There was something ELSE near the costumes, too...



What WAS that?

An inflatable ghost! One of the stuffies knew what this must be from.

"The library had a Haunted Story Walk before Halloween," they said. "My boy went to it, and couldn't stop talking about it!"

The stuffies looked at the inflatable ghost box again. "We can't set it up inside the library, though, can we?" one of them asked.





It turned out they could!

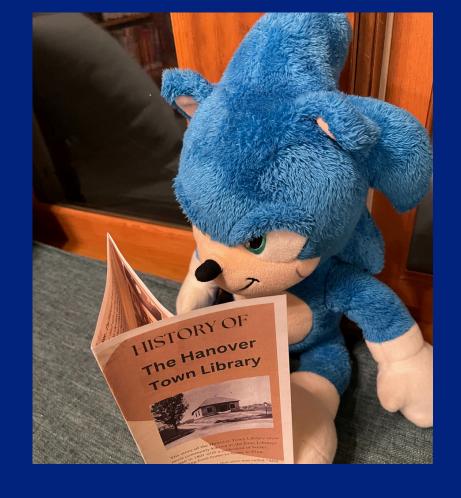
"This is AMAZING!" Fox yelled.

"Best sleepover EVER!" Panda agreed.



"The library building is 120 years old," Sonic announced. He'd been reading a brochure about the library's long history.

"In 120 years, do you think there's ever been an inflatable ghost in the library before?"





The stuffies guessed not.

They felt like pioneers! Like trendsetting, inflatable ghost pioneers!

Scooby Doo was staring at the ghost, shaking.

"Rhy is it always rhosts?" the dog whimpered.



Scooby ran away and hid.

"Would you come out of hiding for a Scooby Snack?" some stuffies asked the dog.

(It wasn't REALLY a Scooby Snack, but it still worked).





On the porch, Draco found a display case filled with more details about the Etna Library's history.

"The Etna Library's official name is the 'Hanover Town Library,'" Draco told the other stuffies.

Draco thought for a minute. "I think MY official name should be the Hanover Town Dragon," he said. "It would make me sound very important."





Kent found one of the library's Tonieboxes - a soft, screenless audio player for kids.

When Tonie figures are placed on top of the box, it plays songs and tells stories.

Kent noticed that one of the Tonie figures was a dog, like him...

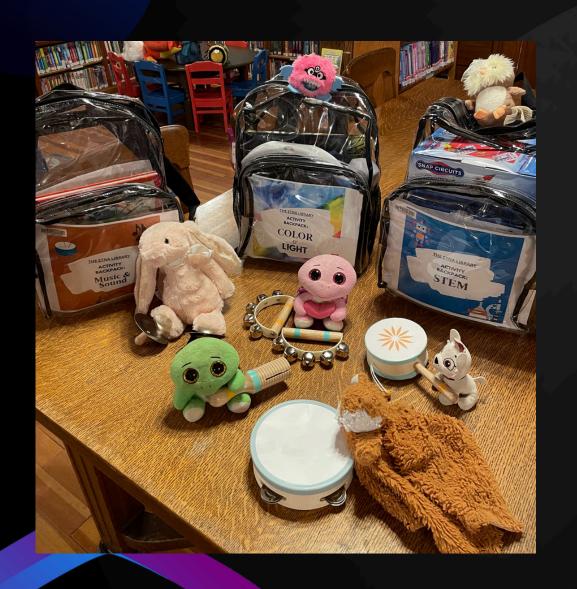


Kent wondered if songs and stories would play if HE sat on top of the Tonie Box.

They didn't.

(But the Tonie Box was still a comfortable seat).





A group of stuffies had some fun with the library's Activity Backpacks.

They were dazzled by some colors, learned about science, and made some noise.

LOTS of noise!

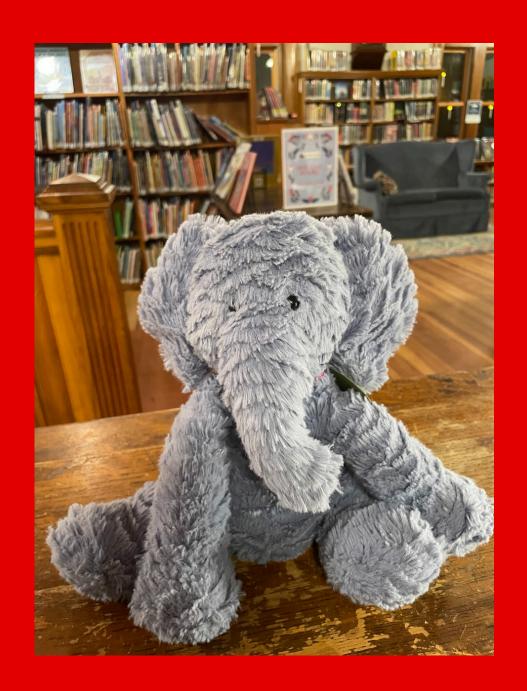
Tippo had spent ALL NIGHT training to be a librarian.

He'd read books on how to be a librarian. He'd helped other stuffies track down information.

He'd even hosted a Story Time for the stuffies.

He'd done it all so he could try the librarians' ladder.

He was READY! (He couldn't wait)!



It was everything he'd hoped it would be.

And more.







Many of the stuffies decided that they should go outside - even though it was very cold and dark - to see the library's new gazebo.

On the way, they saw that the Haunted Story Walk story was still hanging up. It was called 'Shadows Over Etna,' and was written by the Etna Library's director!





The stuffies finally reached the gazebo. It was beautiful, nestled in the snow, beneath a dark sky.

They gathered inside the gazebo. Sitting side-by-side, the stuffies talked and laughed.

They talked about how much fun they were having. They also talked about missing their children, and about how they were looking forward to seeing them in the morning.

"This gazebo was given as a gift to the Etna Library in honor of someone," one of the stuffies eventually said.

"Her name was Pietie Birnie,"
the stuffie added,
remembering what she had
heard. "She lived two doors
down from the library for
many years."

"The Etna Library was very important to Pietie. So, when she passed away last year, her family and friends donated this gazebo to the library, in Pietie's honor."

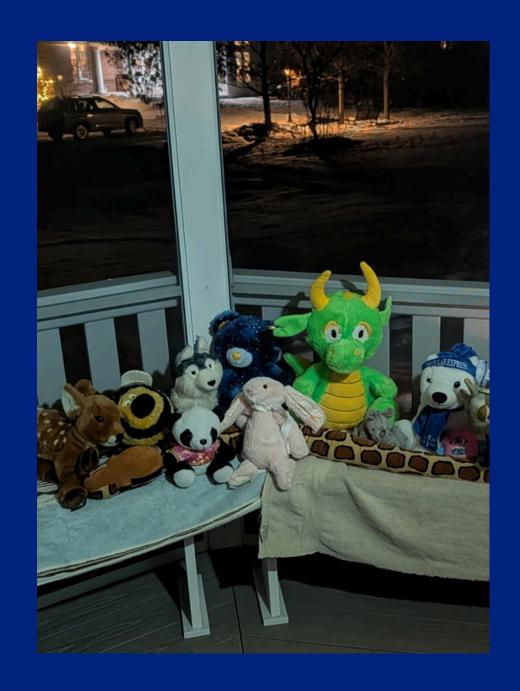




The stuffed animals were quiet. They thought about this... about how the gazebo they were all sitting in had been given as a gift.

It had been given to make others happy.... given to celebrate the life and the memory of an amazing person.

The stuffies hadn't know Pietie Birnie. But, in that moment, they felt like they HAD known her; they felt like she was still close.



After being outside, the library felt extra warm and cozy.

It was late. Eyelids were getting heavy and yawns could be heard from all corners of the library.

The stuffed animals decided to all gather together to read one last story for the night.







Unicorn did the honors.

She read *Goodnight Moon*, as a roomful of stuffed animals listened with rapt attention.

This - a story, shared among them all - seemed like the perfect way to end a sleepover at a library.

After the story, and after countless 'good nights!' and 'sleep tights!', the stuffies all gathered their blankets.

They all gathered their pillows.

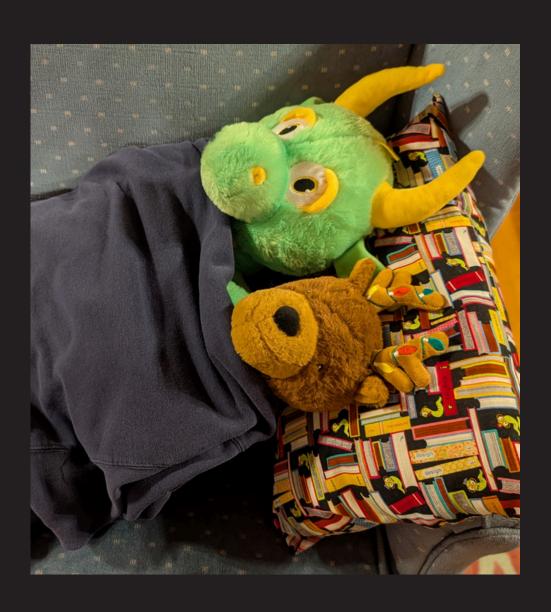
Then, they all found the most comfortable, the most cozy, places to rest.











And, one-by-one, they began drifting off to sleep.

As they slept, the stuffies dreamt of the night they had enjoyed.

They dreamt of reading and trains, of book drops and antique phones, of spa treatments and inflatable ghosts, and of pizzas and gazebos.

Surrounded by stories, the stuffed animals dreamt of the story that THEY, together, had created that night.

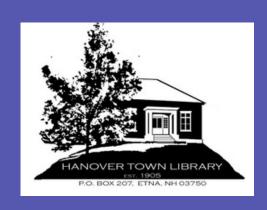
A story unique among the thousands now enveloping them, high on shelves, on pages lying tucked between covers, waiting to be turned.

A story of creatures - each filled with stuffing, each loved by a child, but otherwise very different - coming together for a night of fun and friendship.

A story of laughter and adventure, and of a night that they would never, ever forget.



Thank you to all the children who allowed your stuffie friend to spend this unforgettable night at the Etna Library!



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