**LibraryWise: News and Notes from the Greenwood Reading Center**

 Belated happy Independence Day! We celebrate July 4, 1776 as the day that the United States of America became a sovereign nation when, in reality, it was the date that the Continental Congress signed the Declaration of Independence. As we well know, it would take several years of war and struggle before the declaration became a proclamation. Do you know why it was titled as a ‘declaration’ and not a ‘proclamation’ at the time? A declaration is a bold statement, while a proclamation is one backed by authority, as from a government.

 Do you know what every person who signed said Declaration had in common? Those fifty-six men came from different regions of the land, some from the north, from the middle and from the south. Not all of them had been born on this continent, nor were they of similar generation, given that the eldest was seventy years old while the youngest was just twenty-six. The men came from various trades and backgrounds. Give up yet? All fifty-six men could and did read!

 According to Psychology Today, people who read feel happier and smarter in general than non-readers. People who read a lot have more white matter in their brains and have a longer attention span than people who don’t choose to read during their leisure time. Readers are also more empathetic to others than non-readers, and more likely to consider the long-term ramifications of possible actions. Want a lift? Read a book!

 Our next board meeting is scheduled for July 24th at 6:30pm, with our Mystery Meal on the 25th at noon as usual. Come join us!

 FAQs: Our hours are Monday 2:00-7:00pm, Tuesday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm, Wednesday 11:00am to 4:00pm. The Wonder of Words Book Club is on hiatus due to good weather and Homework Helpdesk will resume with the next school year. We have fax capabilities and can make copies for a small charge. Yes, you can find us on Facebook!