



TIGER HOCKEY

Marshall girls defeat Prairie Centre / PAGE 1B

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INDEPENDENT

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MPS hosts Novel Writing Month activity aimed at inspiring teen writers

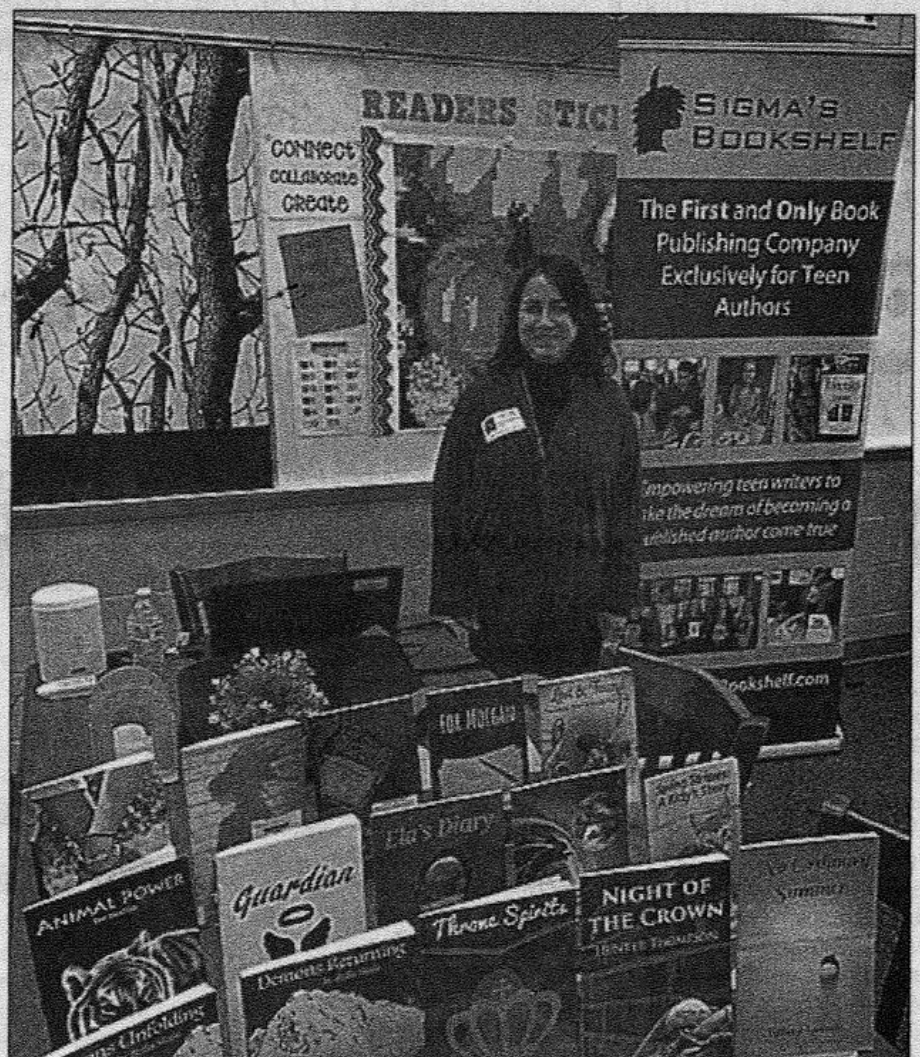
Sigma's Bookshelf co-founder Rachel M. Anderson of Minnetonka traveled to Marshall Nov. 14 to share the Sigma's Bookshelf story with Megan Mattison's students at Marshall High School and MATEC. The students gathered under the direction of Erica Hess, media specialist, in the media center. After playing a short video that tells the story of how the company came to be, Anderson talked about how the publishing industry works, introduced students to the members of the publishing team, and talked about several of the 14 teen authored books the company has published since its founding in 2017.

Anderson's now 18-year-old son, Justin M. Anderson, came up with the idea for the company in 2016 after experiencing strong success with his first published book. "Saving Stripes: A Kitty's Story," published in 2015, is the true story of a cat family rescue told from the point of view of the kitten the Andersons ended up adopting. Justin wrote the book when he was 13.

To date, nearly 400 copies of the book have sold with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting S.O.S. Rescue Relief of Plymouth. The nonprofit, whose mission is to prevent euthanasia in adoptable animals, helped with the rescue.

Justin came up with the idea for Sigma's Bookshelf after being overwhelmed by all the attention he was getting for his first book. He wanted to help other teens enjoy their own publishing success.

The company has now published 14 books written by teenagers, including Justin's second book, the novel, "Nothing But Trouble," which tells the story of a teenager who transforms into a lizard-like humanoid creature after having been a test subject in a cancer project gone terribly wrong.



"Nothing But Trouble" and Sigma's Bookshelf's other teen authored titles are available for purchase online at www.SigmasBookshelf.com/Books. Teen authors receive royalties for all books that sell in stores, online and at events, including the one at Marshall Public Schools.

"I enjoyed my time at Marshall Public Schools and really hope to soon see a novel come in from one of the students I met during my visit,"

said Anderson, who serves as the company's editor, proofreader and promoter.

Sigma's Bookshelf is a sponsored project of Springboard for the Arts, a nonprofit arts services organization. The company is funded by grants, donations and stipends Rachel earns when she leads writing workshops. Tax deductible and can be made online at www.SigmasBookshelf.com/donate.