



'Cooks for Books' raised twice as much as last year, Jackson Police Department wins first place

Published: Saturday, March 24, 2012 By **Courtney Culey** | cculey@mlive.com



Jackson Police Department Lt. Elmer Hitt, right, and JoAnne Reese, left, serve Alligator Blood Punch at Friday's Cooks For Books Fundraiser

Jackson, MI -- This year, Cook for Books raised \$1,569.72 for the Imagination Library of Jackson County. That's almost double the amount raised last year. On Friday, teams from across the county gathered at the First United Methodist Church in downtown Jackson, decorated their booth to resemble a book and cooked for the visitors.

The proceeds will result in free book for 52 kids in Jackson County for a full year, Sheri Butters, director of Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County, said in an email. The Jackson Police Department won the third annual event, according to the email. Their theme was "There's an Alligator Under My Bed." Final Touch and their "Otis" theme placed second, while Jackson County Intermediate School District placed third with their "Don't Forget The Bacon" theme.

The first place team received a prize basket with an estimated value of \$250, Butter wrote. The team also gets to sign the Cooks for Books trophy, an apron that's displayed at the event every year.