



Windham Public Library Report
July 2014



Mission, Success, Measurement

One way that we define success at our mission is by providing a robust collection of materials that provides accurate and up-to-date information in a variety of formats. We measure that success by purchasing new materials and weeding out old materials on an ongoing basis. In July, we added 579 new items to our collection. With the addition of these new items we not only provide the increased access to materials but also have added a new format by adding Playaways, a self-contained digital audiobook, to our collection as well.

Another way that we measure success is by continuing to prepare to join the Minerva consortium. This will greatly expand access to materials for the community. Library staff members have been updating our collection and patron accounts to the required format to join the consortium. This project will be completed within the next few months.

What's going on?

This month June Hawkes announced her retirement. June began as a dedicated volunteer for 17 years before becoming a paid staff member at the library in 1995. Throughout her lengthy career here, both as a volunteer and a staff member, June provided wonderful library service to the Windham community. The library staff will miss working with her but will look forward to her visits.

A new Knitting Group formed at the library over the summer. The group meets twice a month on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 1-3pm. Bring your needles, yarn and time to chat.

Ticks and Lyme Disease are always a hot topic during the summer. We hosted an informational session on Lyme Disease presented by Kate Colby, a Field Epidemiologist from the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Kate spoke about opening up your summer home, camp or cottage and the precautions that should be taken.

On July 23rd we celebrated Batman Day. DC Entertainment declared July 23rd as Batman Day to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Caped Crusader. The library held a viewing of the Lego Batman movie and the 50 children in attendance snacked on birthday cupcakes while dressed as their favorite comic book hero or heroine.

We had a few young people join us for our program building "Squishy Circuits". It is exciting to see so many people enjoying our science programs at the library this summer. This program allowed the group to use design tools and activities to explore electronics and create circuits using play dough. We had a couple wonderful volunteers help us with this successful program!

The application process to join the statewide consortium Minerva has begun. We are nearing completion of our rebarcoding project which needs to be finished before we can join. The completion of this huge undertaking puts us in a really good place to be accepted as a member of the consortium. There will be more information to come later in the year as we learn more about the application process.

Tea for You @ the Library on July 1 was celebrated with red, white and blue decorated chocolate cake pops along with Blueberry Cream (think whipped cream loaded with blueberries). 20 or so patrons stopped by to enjoy easy conversation and goodies.

The Summer Reading program activities this month included a craft day for school age children, 3 "Steve Spangler Surprise Science" programs hosted by Diana Currier who gracefully accepted "Not Steve" as her science nickname,

and a Watermelon Wonders event which featured a seed spitting contest, voting for a favorite watermelon carving picture and lots of watermelon consumption.

Three community visits included a stop by the Jumpstart Program at Manchester School on “L” day for the library, the presentation of 60 new books purchased for the Children’s Room to Isabel Taylor shortly after her 100th birthday, and a morning story time reading to the children at Birchwood. The Literacy for ME Windham/Raymond group also met at Mechanics Savings Bank where the success of Teen Trendsetters from Windham High School and the Windham Primary School students was discussed.

Upcoming events:

August 14 and 28, Thursday—1pm Knitting Group

August 19 1pm-August 20 12pm-Library public access computers down for installation of new software

August 20, Wednesday – 4:00pm Bedtime Math Star Party

August 21, Thursday – 1-3pm Fizz, Boom, READ! Carnival

August 25, Monday-- 8:00pm Last chance to turn in SRP paperwork

August 26, Thursday—6:15pm Book Group- The group will read and discuss Help for the Haunted by John Searles. The author may visit with the group via Skype.

September 2, Tuesday—1:30pm Tea for You @The Library

The library will be closed for the Labor Day weekend August 30th, 31st and September 1st. New library hours begin September 8th. The library will be open Monday and Wednesday 10am-7pm, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am-6pm

<p><u>Monthly Statistics</u> Attendance: 5,795 Items circulated: 10,389 New library patrons: 100 New items added to collection: 579 Special Requests: 63 Reference questions answered: 117 Computer sign-ins: 1086 Meeting room usage: 38 Downloads used: 508 checkouts, 34 new user registrations Items repaired: 18 Bills for un-returned materials: 15 (<i>10 adult; 5children</i>) Volunteer hours logged: 109.5</p>	<p><u>Book Group attendance: 10</u> <u>Story Time</u> Preschool Story Time— 6 sessions, 43 Adults, 57 Children Books and Babies— 6 sessions, 46 Adults, 56 Children Children’s Museum – 10 uses Dundee Park – 5 uses Maine State Park Pass – 8 uses (3 days each), 2 uses (1 day each) Maine Wildlife Park – 23 uses Planetarium – 2 uses Willowbrook – 5 uses PASS USAGE SAVED PATRONS \$1089 Items re-barcoded:1,619</p>
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Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer A. Alvino
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Library Director
Windham Public Library