



## Windham Public Library Report February 2020



### Children's Room News

February was a fun month in the children's room. We collaborated with the Circulation department to create a wall of Random Acts of Kindness, with people writing positive messages for others to read all month long. It was beautiful. Our STEM Club practiced coding with our Dash and Dot robots, and our Busy Builders made wonderful Lego creations. In the middle of the month, Sam again participated in the Maine State Library Book Review in Portland, meeting with other librarians to discuss books. Our vacation week programs were great! We were disappointed to have snow impact our Technology Fun session yet again, but attendance at our Unicorn Party made up for it. Over 50 people, dressed in their sparkly unicorn best, enjoyed making masks, Pin the Horn on the Unicorn, Unicorn Ring toss, creating your own unicorn name, and more. We also tried doing our first breakout box; it's like a mini escape room. Those that participated loved it, and we look forward to doing more. We also tried our first Sensory storytime, aimed at being more inclusive of children with sensory-processing disorders. It went fairly well. Make sure to stop by in March, when we will have chicks in the children's room!

### Reference/Technology News

February is the first month that Ray offered the Socrates Café. He got the idea to create this group at the Windham Public Library from attending the one at the South Portland Public Library (where he lives) for the past several months. There are several of these groups scattered throughout the world. The first meeting at WPL on February 12<sup>th</sup> was a lively gathering that generated a fantastic discussion about whether or not truth matters. Ray will continue to facilitate this group on the second Wednesday of each month from 6-7PM. Ray presented his third tea workshop focused on black, puer, and other teas on February 14<sup>th</sup> and gave all of the participants a raspberry filled heart-shaped homemade cookie as a special treat to acknowledge Valentine's Day! Anne Gass, the author of *Voting Down the Rose: Florence Brooks Whitehouse and Maine's Fight for Woman Suffrage*, gave an engaging and packed presentation about the history of women's suffrage in Maine on February 20<sup>th</sup> to help us celebrate Maine's bicentennial. The book group continued its "A Matter of Trust" Maine Humanities Council reading series on February 26<sup>th</sup> with Neil Postman's *Amusing Ourselves to Death*. The reading material closely examines our current political environment, so the discussions are always quite spirited and dynamic.

### Teen/Emerging Technology News

The first Teen Advisory Group (TAG) meeting is Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The group is starting

small and will hopefully grow as the members start to spread interest of the group to people they know.

With the start of TAG Cassandra is testing Remind as a better communication option with teens. Emailing them resulted in very slow, sometimes no, responses. Remind will allow her to text without giving out a phone number. Hopefully, this could be used for other groups or sending news about programs.

In March, Cassandra will start weeding books in the teen area that haven't been checked out recently to free up some room on the shelves as they've become a bit tight.

### **From the Director**

This month I participated in several initiatives with various groups throughout the town. I belong to the Age Friendly Windham Committee, Be The Influence, Co-Chair Windham's Bicentennial Committee, and participate in the town's website updating group along with some library specific committees. These groups keep me busy, engaged, and focused on providing the best service to our community. I enjoy working with colleagues within the town and regionally and feel that these connections enrich the library.

<b><u>Monthly Usage Statistics</u></b> Attendance: <b>4,595</b> Windham items circulated: <b>7,249</b> Items received from Minerva libraries: <b>1,074</b> Windham items sent to other libraries: <b>732</b> New library patrons: <b>34</b> New items added to collection: <b>440</b> Special Requests: <b>12</b> Reference questions answered: <b>469</b> Computer sign-ins: <b>765</b> Meeting room usage: <b>45</b> Study Rooms: <b>39</b> Download Library: <b>1,213</b> RB Digital Magazines: <b>17</b> Comics: <b>0</b> Universal Class Lessons Viewed: <b>4</b> Universal Class Videos Watched: <b>6</b> Items repaired: <b>22</b> Volunteer hours logged: <b>41</b>	<b><u>February 2019</u></b> Attendance: <b>4,214</b> Items circulated: <b>7,030</b> Items received from Minerva libraries: <b>971</b> Windham items sent to other libraries: <b>704</b> New patrons: <b>46</b> Items added: <b>250</b> Special requests: <b>15</b> Reference ?'s: <b>199</b> Computer sign-ins: <b>663</b> Meeting room usage: <b>45</b> Study Rooms: <b>26</b> Download Library: <b>906</b> RB Digital Magazines: <b>11</b> Comics Plus: <b>6</b> Universal Class Lessons Viewed: <b>1</b> Universal Class Videos Watched: <b>6</b> Repaired items: <b>33</b> Volunteer hours: <b>38.5</b>	<b><u>Other: February 2020 Stats</u></b> Book Group: <b>17</b> Tuesday Afternoon Knitting: <b>54</b> Suffragette lecture: <b>25</b> Movie program, adults: <b>53</b> Wii and rec equipment: <b>4</b> Tech Help: <b>7</b> CloudLibrary training: <b>1</b> DigitalMaineLibrary training: <b>1</b> Catalog training: <b>1</b> Chess Club: <b>0</b> Tea Workshops: <b>14</b> Writing Group: <b>9</b> Art Night Out: <b>8</b> Socrates Café: <b>10</b> <b><u>Story Time</u></b> Programs: <b>11</b> Children: <b>63</b> Adults: <b>59</b>  <b><u>Pass usage</u></b> Children's Museum – <b>1 use</b> Dundee Park – <b>0 uses</b> Maine State Park Pass – <b>0 uses</b> Maine Wildlife Park – <b>0 uses</b> Planetarium – <b>2 uses</b> <b>PASSES SAVED PATRONS \$72</b>
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