

Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
April 18, 2019

Since the last trustees meeting we have completed a major weeding of the children's picture book collection. This allowed Chris to shift the books in order to relocate and to give more space to the Easy Reader and Board Book sections. He also shifted some of the Juvenile Nonfiction collection and the children's videos are in a new spot. Putting materials in different locations gives new life to the collection and people see books they never noticed before.

I am working hard on summer reading planning and have sent out solicitations for raffle prizes. Chris, aka "Mr. Organized," has his teen nights and teen summer reading plans pretty well nailed down, as usual. I have booked the Summer Reading kickoff performer at the school. For the last dozen years or more, we have had this event on the day before the last day of school but Freedom Elementary was not able to accommodate that this year. The last day is Tuesday, June 18. The kickoff, featuring "Magic by George" will be at the school the previous Thursday, June 13 at 2:15. I have decided not to have a "School's Out" party this year and instead we are adding a children's component to the Friends' "Summer Reading Celebration" that takes place at the library on Ducky Day. I have decided on our big summer raffle – 2 Red Sox tickets and a night at a Boston hotel.

I am planning a number of changes to our summer reading programs and activities. One change is that instead of a writing workshop for grades 5-12, we are going to offer a drama workshop for the same age group led by Beverly Woods who is very excited about running this six-week series. I will have a lot more updates about the summer programs at the next Trustees meeting.

We wrapped up the Winter Film Series in March with a total attendance of 181 for the six movies continuing an upward trend: The Winter Film Series in 2016 had attendance of 141 and in 2017 there were 159. We had another round of Microsoft Word and Excel workshops led by John Perkins which were again very, very well received. We will schedule more, probably not until the fall now at this point. Game Night this week was small but lots of fun with four different games and a delicious dinner. There were 30 people at last month's Friends of the Library program on Mount Washington and 35 people at the eBay Basics class. Both received rave reviews. Eight 3rd and 4th graders attended the Fire Unicorns Book Club earlier this month. It has made such a big difference to be able to buy copies of the book club books for the children to own. We

have used the Morrow bequest for these purchases and we also often give an additional book away as a bonus. We have one more book club before the end of school.

Mary Rhymer made and installed a quotation in removable vinyl lettering along the beam between the circulation desk and the Adult Fiction section which says, "No entertainment is so cheap as reading, nor any pleasure so lasting. – Mary Wortley Mongagu." She has a business making vinyl lettering for museums and stores, but she donated her services for this project. It looks awesome!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director