

**Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
August 13, 2020**

We continue with our tasks here at the library. We are busy even though patron visits and lending are both down from our usual summer craziness. Margarete is doing a wonderful job working with patrons at the front desk, preparing reserved materials for pickup in the vestibule and managing the materials in quarantine. Storytime preparation, filming, photo management and communication with parents as well as planning, compiling and communicating with participants in the kids' and teens' weekly Take & Make activities dominate my time. We have 77 kids taking part. It's a good thing we got a grant and have FOL support because it's not cheap to provide the projects. This is the final week for the Take & Makes. It's been super successful and much appreciated and I'm glad to have been able to provide this... but I won't be sorry to take a break from it. I plan to continue storytime through August and then take a hiatus. There will be 21 storytimes on YouTube at that point.

It sounds like the school will be opening for in-person classes although I've heard that some parents plan to home school. Principal Pat Stone came to the library recently and said she didn't think that classes would be able to come to the library but I showed her the downstairs area where they can spread out, so I'm hoping it may work out for groups to come, once things settle down into a routine at the school. Of course we will need to assess the risk to us as well. We shall see.

This week was the final writing workshop with Cindy Fleming leading. There were 4 very enthusiastic, creative participants who want to continue with a writing group during the school year as well book club. We are going to try to add a second book club for a younger age group (grades 2 & 3) with Luane leading. She is running our kids' summer book club next week on Zoom with five participants, discussing Carl Hiaasen's *Hoot*.

I attended a Zoom meeting of our library co-op this week. Our regular quarterly meeting is in September. Too bad we won't be meeting in person at the brand new Wolfeboro Public Library as planned.

We were happy to have the interlibrary loan van come this week, bringing back books that belong to us and picking up books that belong to others. Interlibrary loan lending is still suspended until further notice but I'm hopeful it won't be too much longer.

There is one more week of Summer Reading before the final raffle drawings. I will report on summer reading next month. We don't have as many participants as we usually do, but a respectable number. Some really enjoy logging and choosing raffles online. It is definitely less work but we don't get as many patron visits this way... but of course that was the idea. It's still important to minimize contact, unfortunately.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director