

Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
July 20, 2017

The library is a whole different place in the summer than it is other times of the year. We are so busy! There are so many people! So many activities! So much excitement! It feels like more people than ever are participating in the summer reading programs in all age groups, although we have not actually taken count. The adults seem pleased with their Freedom Public Library mugs and so far 13 people have sent in their "Mug Shot" (photo of them with their mug) which we've posted on the library's Facebook page and will probably print and display on the elevator door at the end of the summer.

Preschool storytime has been absolutely packed most weeks and Luane Genest is doing a fabulous job with the craft portion. Cindy Fleming is having fun leading the writing workshop this year and has all kinds of ideas to use with the participants. Every week there's a different configuration of kids but they've all been totally into it. Although Teen Night has had somewhat lower attendance than last year and is almost 100% boys, it's been going well. Jane Johnson is helping Chris again this year with the teen program. The teen overnight did not get the minimum number of pre-registrations and so was canceled. Hillary Johnson is volunteering to help with Fun Fridays which are going well as are Pizza & Movie nights. There are 7 enthusiastic teens participating in Dungeons and Dragons and most of them come every week. We get a lot of positive feedback from parents who are amazed at how much this library has to offer.

Although we have more volunteers than ever trained to work at the front desk, Chris is having to pull teeth to cover the schedule, particularly Saturdays. On Saturdays, Chris is running Dungeons and Dragons during all of the library's open hours, so it's especially important to have coverage then. We have one more person who has expressed interest in volunteering but it is a challenging time to be training anyone. We are using Amanda as needed in addition to her Thursday 2-7 shift and she is learning quickly and doing very well.

Jason has finished the bathroom re-do and it looks fine. He also repaired the handrail on the stairs that was starting to come loose. It's not going anywhere now! I ended up getting a memorial plaque for the vestibule from a company I found online. The overall look is similar to others we have in the library but it's not the same materials but it was \$27 vs. \$175 so overall I am satisfied. I sent a photo to Elisabeth Towle's sons and heard back from one saying he is pleased.

So far we have sold \$500 worth of raffle tickets for the kayak package so we are in the black now. It was very helpful to have the Freedom Old Home Week selling raffle tickets for us the last couple of weeks. I have gotten permission from Anne Cunningham to use the Friends safe to keep the raffle money as it accumulates.

She is just leaving the envelopes with the raffle money in the safe until we ask for it. We will be selling popcorn at the parade again this year and selling lots of raffle tickets too, I hope. Except for being at the parade, I will be away at the Ossipee Valley Music Festival Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 27-29, where we will once again be selling popcorn, books and candy as a fundraiser for the library. Jane and Larry Johnson and Joel will also be helping. The festival has asked me to do two storytimes over the weekend which I am happy to do.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director