

**Librarian's Report**  
**Freedom Public Library**  
**June 23, 2016**

We have successfully launched into the summer! The kickoff at the school with magician Bob Riordan on Monday was a hit and I got my point across that if the kids came to the School's Out! Party the next day they would not be able to bounce without a signed liability release. Everyone who came on Tuesday had one and there were no tears, only lots of smiles! You could hear the children screaming on the bus when it pulled up at the library and they saw the bouncy house in the parking lot. What a successful party it was! There were at least 63 children and 26 adults in attendance. We had bubbles, a craft, several scoops and balls to play with and of course the very popular bouncy house. We got the cameras out for the children to take pictures – over 900 were taken! Many of the children and teens signed up for the summer reading program. We wrapped up the event with ice cream - Hannaford very generously provided everything we needed for ice cream sundaes.

There would have been no way we could have pulled this ambitious party off without a team of awesome volunteers and I want to give a shout-out to them now: Thank you Dave Carlson, Joel Rhymer, Karen Collier, Carol Ames, Hillary Johnson and Irene Hopper! And to Chris Gauthier and Brianna Desharnais who dished out ice cream. Thanks also to Donna Tung who ran the front desk and to Chris who did a little bit of everything. It was an event to remember, for sure.

It's hard to believe that Chris has not been at the library even a month yet! He has gotten on top of the job in no time. Tell him how to do something and he's got it down. He gets things done quickly and accurately too and is great with technology. We are very lucky to have him on staff! The Open House we had on Saturday June 4 to welcome him was very nice – the Friends provided lots of refreshments and many people from the community came to meet him.

Chris held a teen event before the end of school which 8 teens attended. The students respond well to him. He presented them with a list of movie and activity ideas and got feedback on them. He then planned an exciting summer program. His teen publicity and summer reading paperwork is top notch. Unfortunately we have not had success in finding a second person to help with teen nights. I will plan to be there for the first one on June 30, but hope to find someone else who is willing to commit to help Chris with the other six.

The LED on the refurbished laptop that we bought from Dell in the spring for the Assistant Librarian died in early April. The refurbished division of Dell (Dell Financial Services) did not have a replacement part and paid us to find the part ourselves. This has been a fiasco. First, a company said they had the LED and I paid for it. Then they said it wasn't the right part after all but did not refund the

payment. I had to go through Paypal to file a claim. The payment was eventually credited to our account. Then Dell Financial Services said Dell Parts had the LED, so I contacted them and gave them the laptop's service tag and model number. They sent the LED which turned out not to be the correct part! They refunded the money after we shipped the wrong part back. Then I ordered an LED from another company who sent it, but it was broken. Not hearing back from them promptly either, I filed another claim through Paypal. The LED has been sent back (at our expense!) and the claim is still pending. Then I ordered from a fourth company who assured me that they had the correct part but what they sent was completely wrong. They have not responded to any subsequent emails regarding this, nor have they responded to the Paypal claim I have filed. All this happened when we were in the hiring and training process and trying to get the summer programs planned. What a nightmare.

I apologize for all the details but it is helpful to write it down so that I can go back to Dell Financial Services and tell them – I've tried, I can't get the part, refund us in full for this laptop that is useless to us! Fortunately, the old laptop that we used to use at the front desk has been serving Chris adequately for now.

We have another big event coming up – the Friends' Rubber Ducky Day book sale this Saturday, June 25. We will be selling raffle tickets for the iPad Mini I bought last fall if I can get someone to help. I'm sure there will be lots of summer reading signups that day. Thank God for Ann Pierce – it took her hours and hours to create the raffle displays and raffle jars for kids, teens, and adults. Take a peek at the displays to see how wonderful they all look!

The seven weeks of summer programming begin next week!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer  
Library Director