

**Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
September 10, 2020**

I have contacted all the teachers at Freedom Elementary to offer the library's support. I've requested updated library card applications from all the students. I am encouraging classes to request materials from the library and we will deliver them to the school. I have also offered to read to the classes and have heard from the teacher in the combined 4/5 class that she would like me to do that (virtually). I'm sure that the teachers are busy getting settled into a strange new school year and I will hear from more of them soon.

I've had a look at the summer reading program statistics. We had 123 people actively participating in the four different programs: 13 Pre-K, 21 kids, 9 teens and 80 adults. This compares to 199 total participation in 2019, or 47% fewer people. This is disappointing but not surprising. What I notice is that a majority of the participants were regular, year-round users of the library, not summer residents.

Luane Genest led a Zoom book group for 4 students discussing Carl Hiassen's "Hoot." This was a successful program and the group was interested in continuing. They got started talking about entrepreneurship, which is a particular interest of Luane's, so we may be starting an entrepreneur group for upper elementary students. We have another book club set for this group during the first week of October and another one, led by Cindy Fleming, at the end of October.

I am taking four weeks off from Storytime, but filmed one this week so that I won't have that pressure the week I get back to work after vacation.

We are one of five libraries bringing a NH Humanities Council program to our members called "All Eyes Are Upon Us: Racial Struggles in the Northeast, from Jackie Robinson to Deval Patrick" led by Jason Sokol, a history professor at UNH. It is an expensive program but with the NH Humanities Grant that the Conway Public Library received and all of us going in on it together, it became super affordable at \$40 each, which the Friends of the Library are paying. The program will be on Thursday, October 8 at 6:30 and reservations will be required. I will be promoting this soon.

Interlibrary Loan is starting back up again on September 15 and we will be able to request from other libraries. We have pledged to quarantine our materials for 3 days before we send them to other libraries on the van and to quarantine incoming materials for 3 days as well.

We had our annual Carroll County Coop meeting this week and we decided to add monthly check-ins on the months that we do not have our official quarterly coop meetings. This will help keep us connected and to get ideas and advice from our colleagues.

I am taking two weeks' vacation beginning next week and will be back to work on Tuesday, September 29. Margarete and Amanda will both be holding down the fort and I will have Margarete contact Ann if a staffing issue comes up during my absence. I will be doing some

work during vacation including interlibrary loan requests, book purchasing, and following up on emails that need a timely response. Margarete will be communicating with me each day the library is open to let me know if there's anything that needs my attention.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director