

**Librarian's Report  
Freedom Public Library  
September 26, 2019**

The Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference that I attended September 4-7 was great. I got several ideas to implement at the library – books to buy, programs to have, ways to promote the library, storytime resources and more. The conference gave me an inspiration re-boot. Taking some vacation also helped me come back refreshed. I do wonder sometimes how I've been able to get so much done in the past, however. It feels like I have so little time for bigger projects and planning programs. I need support around adult programming. Shana Aisenberg had planned many of our adult programs as a Friends of the Library volunteer for the last two years and Sarah Groleau before that. Now there is no one in that role. Although I hear about good programs and have some ideas, it is overwhelming to be fully responsible for adult programming on top of everything else I do. I am hopeful that the Friends can recruit someone to work with me on this. It would make sense one day to expand the library director hours.

All the students from the school will be coming again with their classes. So far we've had K/1 and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade visit. We have combined grades 5 and 6 into one visit for more efficient use of our time. Myranda will be reading to that group. Our first afterschool program and Pizza & Movie night is this Friday. Fun times!

Myranda wasn't kidding when she said she was a fast learner. She is doing a wonderful job already and is super helpful and personable. Today she is at the Young Adult Library Services conference in Concord. Amanda did really well running the library while I was gone the first two weeks of September. Chris has excellent documentation for how to do almost every task in the library. This has been helpful to guide Amanda when she's in charge and has been invaluable in training Myranda.

The Mountain Garden Club, Betsy Bradt in particular, has put in many, many hours on beautifying the library grounds. Among other things, Betsy replaced the summer flowers in the planters at the main entrance with fall mums and has planted a lot of other flowers in the beds. We are really lucky to have this dedicated help. She is concerned about how the grass got torn up by the tree cutter's truck. I will discuss with the groundskeepers to see if they'd want to reseed this fall or wait till spring. I wonder how much it would cost to expand the parking lot in that direction. I think we could possibly get two more spaces, which would be a big help in easing our parking problems. It would also be great to have a shed.

The State has finally gotten approval for a new system for Interlibrary Loan. We have been without a system for two years. Myranda and I both had to take a 3 ½

hour training webinar this week outside of library hours, a requirement of participation in the system. I think we're still a few weeks from launch but once we're up and running, it should save us time once we get used to a new way of doing things.

I found a huge Hot Wheels parking garage and race track at Goodwill for \$13 and the kids have been having so much fun with it in the children's room. It's unwieldy and no good place to store it when not in use, but it's been so worth it. Kids have been coming JUST to play with it.

I got some feedback that our website seems dated. I haven't liked how it looks for a while and am reaching out to a website developer to see what it would take to make it better. Stay tuned.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer  
Library Director