

Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
January 14, 2021

We'd be two films into our Winter Film Series under normal circumstances. It's not productive to wish things were different, but hard not to anyway. I reached out to Mrs. Blaney, the second grade teacher, and started reading to her class this week on Google Meet. It was so good to see the 2nd graders even if it had to be virtual. I brought down color-your-own bookmarks to the school for them to work on while I read, and I brought scratch art supplies for the combined 4th and 5th grades and the 6th graders. It's been a busy week, as I was scheduled to read to all three classes. I am also scheduled to be the guest reader next week at the Green Mountain Conservation Center's new weekly Nature Story and Discovery Time on Zoom geared to young children.

Cindy Fleming ran the Bookworms Book Club this week, making it a combination book club and writing workshop for the four 5th graders who attended. There was also an art element as she provided supplies for them to make a colorful bird like was in the book. I love how creative she is.

Winston installed the new sand barrel near the front walk, which makes it easier to keep the path safe. Michael Gaudette ordered a new door closer for the inner vestibule door; the old one didn't have quite enough oomph to engage the latch. The key ring that has the PO key and the book return keys (school and library) was found after a few days on the lam. Jason Earle was prepared to replace the book return lock entirely since we couldn't find a second key. He says to keep the replacement lock I bought just in case because the book return was created for that particular lock mechanism, so if anything ever happens to the lock it will be easy to replace. We now have three extra copies of the key!

I'm beginning to think about summer programming. The theme this year is "Tale and Tails." I am planning activities that can be done in person if it's safe or as take-and-makes if we can't be together. I seriously doubt we will be able to have Pizza & Movie nights until Fall at the earliest. I'm thinking this summer will look a lot like last summer as far as programming goes.

Margarete has been busy cataloging and processing lots of new book acquisitions. Amanda made a nice display for patron-recommended books and a "New Books" display in the children's room. I am about halfway through a purge of the children's picture book collection so the shelves aren't so jammed. Storytime is the main time-consuming project for me but the results are well worth it.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director