

Waterboro Public Library

Librarian's Report

9/25/06

Our summer reading program ended on Saturday, August 26 with a party at the Saco River Grange. One hundred fifty-one parents and children attended from the Hollis Center, Salmon Falls, Waterboro and West Buxton libraries. Rick Charette was the guest entertainer and was enjoyed by everyone. Pizza, chips, veggies, juice, water, watermelon and cake helped to make the party a great success. Everyone went home happy and full. We are very thankful to the Narragansett One Foundation for the grant we received.

Story Hour started the second week of September with nine children attending. Many of those who came last year are now in kindergarten and preschool. This past Wednesday, we had nineteen children, a third under three. The middle of October we will be starting a "Lap Sit" program which Pat Roberts will oversee. This way we will be able to divide the group up with the older children going downstairs with myself, the younger ones remaining upstairs with Pat.

Sylvia Davis is doing an outreach story hour at the "Children's Challenge" day care center on Rt 5. Each week she sings, reads stories and does a craft with the children. This year she has eighteen to twenty children each week. In October we plan on sending home information with the children about the library - our hours, our web page and catalog, etc.

I put in a request to the Nestle Water Corporation in Buxton the beginning of September, and have picked up twenty cases of water to be used in the library. The water may be used during programs, meetings and for the staff but may not be sold. Empty containers may be taken to the package store for a refund (a question asked by another library.) The water is being stored under the stairs and on the shelves on the landing going downstairs. Please let me know if you want to use any for a library function so I can keep track of how much we have left.

The tree to the left of the library as you come in the drive way was removed last week. I noticed that it was dying, and checking it out, found one section was totally rotted out, a second had termites and the third section had already died. Fred Fay had it taken down while the library was closed, and evened out all the soil. It looks so much better now.

The upstairs toilet has broken once again, with the handle breaking off. Neal was informed and the repairs have been made.

I attended a workshop at the town hall on September 11th where the town auditor went over new procedures to be implemented for town bills. The procedure for submitting capital plans is also changing, but no clear direction was given on how the forms were to be completed. A memo was sent out by Nancy Grant stating the Capital Plans must be submitted to Nancy Brandt by October 6th. The Board will be discussing what repairs, etc. need to be done at the library and decide what to submit in the capital plans for the next five years. As I will be out of state at the time of the meeting, I have emailed Brigit the list of repairs I feel need to be done.

I attended the quarterly meeting of the York County "Yapping Yorkies" librarian's at the Davis Memorial library on Monday morning, September 25th. Many concerns were raised and discussed by those that attended, Shirley Helfrich informed us of upcoming library events, programs and workshops. Many library's are starting up story times for babies and toddler's this year. TABOR was discussed. It is felt by many, that the referendum will pass this year and mean the end of many smaller libraries in the next few years. We will be putting out information on both sides of the issue in early October for people to read.

Our hours are listed incorrectly for the third year in a row in the new Pine Tree Network phonebook. I have contacted them every year with our correct hours, but they do not contact the library when checking the hours, they have called the town hall, where the incorrect hours have been given to them. I will be placing an ad in both the Smart Shopper and the Reporter to let people know our correct hours as we have been getting phone calls the last two weeks with patrons asking our hours.

Brigit held a workshop at the library on Wednesday, September 20th, on MARVEL, a state-wide on-line data base of magazines, encyclopedias, brochures and data bases. These data bases contain health information, book lists, consumer report information and much more. A little known data base with a wealth of information.

As a fund raiser for the new library Barbara McKenny and I are working on a read-a-thon for "Children's Book Week" in November. Children and adults may sign up sponsors to pay them for reading either so many minutes or books during the week. All the money raised will be designated for the children's room in the new library. More details to follow.

As of today, I still have not received any financial information from Julie about our current budget and monies spent. Hopefully, the auditors will be finished soon and this information will be available to all the departments.

The Friends will be having a book sale at the library on Saturday, September 30th from 9 am - 1 pm. Please pass the word around to everyone you know. All books will be three dollars a bag.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Blake

Director