

Hopkinton Town Library

REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

March 15, 2016

Staff: The proposed 3% increases for all staff went through successfully at Town Meeting on March 12th. The staff PAF forms should be signed at today's meeting.

Programs: Our "Cookies with Cass" program was very well received, with 30 very engaged people in the audience. Neal Cass and members of the audience indicated that they would like to do more sessions like this. This is a great example of the library as a community convener. We had 35 people at **Compassionate Listening on an International Stage** on March 3rd for a lively discussion on Israel/Palestine relations. Upcoming programs include:

- **American Red Cross Blood Drive** (Monday March 28th 10-3) In the Library Community Room Opioid and Opiate Addiction with Dr. Tom Andrew. (Thursday March 31st 7pm) In collaboration with the school district's Family Support Team, NH Chief Medical Examiner Tom Andrew will speak about the growing challenge of drug addiction in NH.
- **The Right Size Flower Garden** (Wednesday April 6th 11am) with award winning author and speaker Kerry Ann Mendez, in partnership with the Hopkinton Garden Club.
- **Hard Tacks Concert.** (Sunday April 10th 4pm) Civil War music and commentary with Marek Bennett and Woody Pringle. Fiddle, banjo and more!
- **The Circle of Life Audubon Program for Kids** (Thursday April 14th 3:30pm) To celebrate National Library Week with the theme "Libraries Transform", we will be learning about transformations in nature with environmental educator Ruth Smith.
- **Dragons and Damsels of NH** (Thursday April 14th 7pm) Dr. Pamela Hunt from Audubon will present an illustrated discussion of the transformation of dragonflies and damselflies also in celebration of National Library Week.
- **Friends of the Hopkinton Town Library** Annual Meeting and Dinner. (April 21st 6pm) Dinner by Dimitri's, a brief business meeting and music for Friends members.
- **Book Discussion of Lansing's "Endurance."** (In May TBD) In partnership with the Family Support Team, the discussion will be led by Harold Janeway.

Building: There have been no issues of note to report this month. Jason LaCombe, an architect with Eric Palson contacted me recently to see if he could help in thinking through the reconfiguration of the front of the library. We are going to meet on Thursday March 31st. I am trying to figure out when it would be best to have the carpet in the Community Room installed—perhaps it's best to wait until after the summer reading program and Friends booksale.

Strategic Plan: Eric Schlepphorst and Janet Ward, members of the library's Long Range Planning Committee, surveyed people at school meeting and town meeting, particularly trying to reach out to non library users. Overall, all the comments were positive. Some of the repeating themes were the need for more parking and more hours open.

Community Relations: Several of the programs noted above are being held in partnership with other town entities, which is great because we are co-funding the events and we benefit from outreach to new town email lists. At the request of Danielle Meserve who oversees the internship program at the high school, we will be the work site for an HHS senior who will work with us for ten Saturdays this Spring. He will be learning about library systems in general, and focusing in particular on the technology aspect of what we do, which is his special area of interest. He will provide tech support to library

users on a drop in and appointment basis, but also do shelving, shelf reading etc. I will oversee the internship, but Saturday staff will guide him when he is here. We will be loaning our three volume (uncatalogued) set of "Geology of NH" by C.H. Hitchcock (1874-1878) to be on display at the Fall White Mountain paintings show "Mount Washington: The Crown of New England" (October 1, 2016- January 16, 2017) at the Currier Museum of Art.

Respectfully Submitted, Donna V. Dunlop