

Hopkinton Town Library
REPORT FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR
February 20, 2018

Staff: I will be attending “Library Advocacy Bootcamp” on March 12th. This workshop is presented jointly by ALA’s Office of Intellectual Freedom and its Office for Library Advocacy. It will show attendees how to re-think library advocacy, re-define the library community, and expand the way we have been advocating for libraries. Conference organizers recommend that directors attend with a trustee, but the workshop is already fully booked. I’ll report back. (Goal Two 1c)

Library Business:

- **Finances:** The town auditors will be here during the week of February 26th. We have been asked to provide the usual documentation on the library’s finances and overall management. Goal Two 1b.
- **The collection:** We are investigating a program that builds on our Downloadable Book contract with the state called “Advantage”—through this we can run reports on how many HTL patrons have holds on downloadable books. We can then decide to buy a copy of that title just for the use of our patrons. I am looking into costs and borrowing traffic and will report back with a recommendation in March. We also have some product samples from a library supplier “Playaway” that would add some variety to what we are able to offer patrons including an audiobook product and tablets installed with learning programs. Goal One 2b and 2c.
- **Anniversary:** Next steps: establish a committee (Elaine, Elissa Barr, Trina Richardson, Deedy and Dave Jensen, Chuck Gangel?); plan program(s) including family fun day, speaker(s), music? Key dates: June 23rd Opening Day and October 24th: Dedication Day. Feature article looking back by Chris Hamm for *Library Ink*. Hopkinton READS anniversary focus: change to “Hopkinton WRITES” with programs featuring Hopkinton writers. Committee has met and begun planning

Programs: We had fourteen at Liz Durant’s “Instant Pot” program and sixteen at Dan Dustin’s Darwin reading. Over seventy kids and families attended the puppet show “The Bremontown Musicians” as part of the Friends Winter Family Series. Thirty two people attended our third annual “Cookies with Cass” program.

Upcoming Programs/Events:

- *AARP Tax Preparation:* Tuesday and Wednesday February through April 15th.
- *Craft Swap and “Pop Up” Booksale.* Friday March 2nd 10-2:30.
- *Film Showing “Alice’s Ordinary People”* with discussion by filmmaker Craig Dudnick. Friday March 2nd 7pm Warner Town Hall. Co-sponsored with Pillsbury Library Warner and Warner Historical Society.
- *Strengthening your Stress Resilience* with Betsy Black. Tuesday March 27th 7-8:30.
- *Gardening Program with Henry Homeyer.* (Sunday April 15th 2pm) Focus on “sculpting the living landscape”; program is in partnership with Hopkinton Garden Club.
- *Tj Wheeler Concert: MLK: The Other Side of the Mountaintop.* (Sunday April 29th 4pm) A special multi-media program commemorating the 50th observance of the assassination of Martin Luther King. The presentation will be performed and conducted by award winning Musician, Educator, Civil Rights activist Tj Wheeler. The program combines live music with archival video and photographs of the Civil Rights movement era.

Goal One 4a and 4b. Goal Two 1k

Building: Three of the newly installed dome lights have partially “grayed out.” Irish Electric is working with the lighting company to remedy this situation. Three new units have been shipped. This is one of their regular suppliers (Borden Lighting in CA) and they have not encountered problems with them before.

Community Relations: On Thursday February 15th the Library was filmed for a *Kearsarge Chronicle* cable TV program. It will not be aired for a couple of weeks. Sara Persechino also spoke about the Friends group. I also connected the interviewer, Elizabeth D’Orazio with Neal Cass who will also appear. We are co-sponsoring the showing of a film “Alice’s Ordinary People” about the civil rights movement with the library and historical society in Warner. It will be shown at the Warner Town Hall. On March 21st the Contoocook Chamber will be meeting at the Library and we’ll take the opportunity to speak about library resources with the captive group. We are also partnering with the Garden Club on another program on April 15th, featuring master gardener Henry Homeyer.
Goal Two 1j and 1k.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Dunlop