

## Library Director's Report

### September 2019

It has been a very busy summer and early fall at the Library since we last met in June. Below I will try to highlight and summarize the key points.

#### **Consultant Work**

Most of the work with Margaret Cleveland has wrapped up. We held a meeting with staff earlier this summer to review the findings from her meetings and to work on action steps. I've put several of those into place, including staff brainstorming times and more one-on-one meetings. Margaret and I are still meeting to followup on progress and any other issues that come up. Both of us think that we are ready to engage in a strategic planning process now. Which I'd like to discuss later in the agenda.

#### **Teen Space**

A final plan has been decided on for this. We are gradually shifting the teen area into the upstairs window seat area. With the start of school, we have started by having that as the area for teens to hang out during the afterschool hours, with Alyssa staffing the area. We have ordered shelves to go into the current teen area. This will allow us to expand shelving room for our overcrowded fiction and nonfiction collections. Once the shelving arrives, hopefully sometime in October, we will make the switch of the shelving and the collections.

#### **Summer Reading Program**

The Summer Reading Program was a big success again this year. I believe that the circulation and programming stats reflect that. Everyone enjoyed the programs and activities, along with the prizes for the different age groups.

#### **Programming Librarian Position**

Earlier this summer our Programming Librarian, Janie Downey Maxwell, approached me with a request for a long term unpaid leave from February to August 2020. She wishes to use this time to work on researching and writing her second novel. Matt Sturgis approved the request. We will likely fill her role on a temporary basis from within. I will post this as we get closer to the end of 2019.

#### **Maine Reciprocal Borrowing Program**

The reciprocal borrowing program officially began on Monday, September 16. The Maine State Library provided us with bookmarks, brochures, and signs to promote it. Information about it will also run in the Cape Courier and our email newsletter. There are 68 libraries participating. I will update in the coming months as to how it is going.

### **Stargazing Binoculars**

Following up on the success of our telescope lending, we recently purchased a set of binoculars and supporting materials from the group Cornerstones of Science, the same group we got the telescope from. We have started checking this kit out.

### **TML 100 Birthday**

To wrap up our 100 birthday, we will be holding a community art show in November. We have started getting ready this month. Here is a blurb about it from our website:

“This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Thomas Memorial Library!

To celebrate, we are planning a community art show during the month of November. Anyone of any age can participate!

We have space for 200 small works of art in our gallery space. If you would like to participate, just register with us and we will give you an 8×8 wood panel for you to use to create your artwork inspired by this question:

What does the library mean to you?”

In October, we will be hosting some art programs to give those who don't consider themselves as “creative” a little bit of a boost. We will display all of the art in the gallery in November and will publish a booklet with all the art. The TMLF is contributing funds to this project.