Barbara Keef, along with Sally Holt from the Raymond Village Library, will be helping to present **3 programs in the coming months** on the **topic of foreign policy**. The ladies received a grant from the Maine Humanities Council in order to host scholarly speakers on foreign policy issues. More information about the programs can be found in our library newsletter: [http://www.windham.lib.me.us/newsletter](http://www.windham.lib.me.us/newsletter)

On a whimsical note, our popular **rubber chicken returned as part of the Summer Reading Program**. Thanks go to Diana Currier for creating his construction outfit in conjunction with the children’s “Dig into reading” slogan. Each morning, staff hide the chicken upstairs; children hunt for him and receive a small treat for finding him. The chicken provides a lot of joy (and humor) each summer.

The selection committee assures us that the process for **hiring a new Library Director** is continuing and might conclude by the end of summer. We are appreciative of the effort that is required in finding someone who will be a good fit for the Windham Public Library and an asset to the community. We are especially grateful of the work of our own Library Trustees who are taking time out of their own busy lives in order to help with this process.

Meanwhile, library staff continue to put forth their best efforts to keep the **Adult/Teen Services area covered as best as we can**. Three of the subs (Robyn LaRose, Kat Brown, and Diana Currier) continue to learn duties which allow them to oversee circulation, computer, and general reference needs. This, combined with the skills and knowledge of the seasoned staff (June Hawkes, Mary Drew, and Janet Stover) and the extra help from our fourth sub (Carole Kelley), has given Barbara and me some much-needed time away from the public so we can try to catch-up on our regular duties which have taken a back-seat to more pressing issues. Barbara and I are also trying to manage additional responsibilities that we took on from the Library Director position and the full-time Circulation Supervisor position (which was lost in 2008).

All library staff — in the Children’s Room as well as the Adult/Teen Services area — have been determined to **continue providing quality service to our library patrons**. Barbara and I cannot thank our co-workers enough for their willingness to learn new duties in order to help us (and each other) out, and for their continued diligence. **Item circulation increased by 5%, compared to last July, and new patron accounts increased by 34%**. It has been another busy, busy summer but we are hanging in there.

-Sally Bannen, Adult Services Librarian, 8/6/2013