Mission, Success, Measurement

One way that the library defines success at our mission is by partnering with other cultural organizations. This fall the library will begin another Let’s Talk About It series through a grant from the Maine Humanities Council. MHC distributes sets of books to the library on a themed topic. The library’s book club reads and discusses the books over a period of six months. We have partnered with Maine Humanities Council in the past for both facilitated discussions and have received their “books only” grants as well. The discussions and books chosen are always interesting and lead to some great discussions.

In addition, we are now circulating backpacks in the Children’s Room. Last summer we took a survey of what themes of backpacks library patrons would be interested in. The backpacks are filled with books and other resources for children and their families to learn about particular topics in a more hands-on way. The backpack themes are History, Birds, Games, and Magnets. There are books, games, flyers, maps, and various other components in each one. A list and cost of the individual items is included in each bag. The library will add a Seashore Backpack to the collection as well. Library staff members are very excited to share these new items with the community and worked hard with other agencies such as the Windham Historical Society to collect appropriate items for each backpack.

What’s going on?

In July we held movie programs for both teens and adults. Our teen movie program was the hero-themed movie The Avengers. In addition for adults, each Friday morning the library previewed an episode or two of the popular BBC series Downton Abbey. Let a library staff person know if you have titles you would like us to show. We are always looking for ideas.

Our fiction writing and knitting groups continue to have steady attendance. Both groups are open to new members. The knitting group will soon be adding additional times to meet each week.

The Summer Reading Program in the Children’s Room during July included a magic show with the Steelgraves which was attended by library patrons and the three Parks and Recreation camps. Bottle Aquariums were a big hit on Wednesday, July 15. An ice cream party was held on the back lawn which was enjoyed by over 80 folks. The Discover Camp staff was a great help in keeping the lines moving well. A Hero Parade with pictures being taken against a city-scape showcased costumes of young patrons. The attendees to story times made capes, fire trucks, police cars, paper stars, and tissue paper hand trees to celebrate superheroes, local heroes, space heroes, and environmental heroes.

Tea on the 21st featured build you own mini hero sandwiches and blueberry, strawberry or peach caflouti.

Special thanks are extended to two volunteers who are offering programs for our young patrons this summer. Jeanne Rhein is running a creative writing group on every other Tuesday afternoon. Jennifer McFarlane is sharing an easy craft on Friday afternoons.
Letterboxing began on July 1 with 6 hidden pouches placed at locations within walking distance of the library. A seventh clue was added once the construction at the Windham Historical Society was complete. Folks picked up the clues, followed the instruction sheet, and were able to make their own memory booklet of where they traveled. Diana Currier initiated and headed up the project. Several people reported back if anything needed to be replaced and it has been fun to see the treasure hunt unfold.

**Upcoming Events:**
- Tuesday, August 4, 6:00pm, Fiction Writing Workshop
- Wednesday, August 5, 2:00pm, Pet Show
- Thursday, August 6, 10am, Yoga for Children
- Thursday, August 6, 10:30am, Craft Day
- Tuesday, August 11, 1:00pm, Creative Writing Club (registration required)
- Tuesday, August 11, 1:00pm, Afternoon Knitting Group
- Wednesday August 12, 12:00pm, Teen Summer Movie (“Soul surfer”)
- Wednesday August 12, 6:30pm, Harmonica Concert
- Thursday, August 13, 1-1pm, Scavenger Hunt
- Thursday August 13, 5-30pm, Evening Knitting Group
- Monday, August 17, 6-7pm, Food Preservation Techniques
- Monday August 19, 19-11am, Reading Therapy Dog meeting
- Monday, August 19, 4-5pm, Bedtime Math End of Summer Star Party
- Thursday, August 20, 1-1pm, Movie Time for Adults—“Out of Africa”

Ongoing through Monday, August 31 Letterboxing (ask in Children’s Room)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly Usage Statistics</th>
<th>July 2015</th>
<th>Other July 2015 Stats</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance: 5,918</td>
<td>Attendance: 5,795</td>
<td>Book Group: 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windham items circulated: 9,380</td>
<td>Items circulated: 10,389</td>
<td>Genealogy Group: N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Items received from Minerva libraries: 762</td>
<td>New patrons: 100</td>
<td>Knitting Group: 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windham items sent to other libraries: 806</td>
<td>Items added: 579</td>
<td>Library Tea: 33</td>
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<tr>
<td>New library patrons: 87</td>
<td>Special requests: 63</td>
<td>Movie program, tweens/teens: 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>New items added to collection: 360</td>
<td>Reference ?’s: 117</td>
<td>Movie program, adults: 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Requests: 1</td>
<td>Computer sign-ins: 1,086</td>
<td>Summer Reading puzzle participants: 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reference questions answered: 106</td>
<td>Meeting room usage: 38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer sign-ins: 602</td>
<td>Downloads: 508, 34 new</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting room usage: 37</td>
<td>new download patrons</td>
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<tr>
<td>MI downloads used: 642</td>
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<tr>
<td>checkouts, 14 new user registrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>3M: 89 checkouts, 14 new users</td>
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<td>Items repaired: 26</td>
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<td>Volunteer hours logged: 112.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Other July 2015 Stats**
- Book Group: 6
- Genealogy Group: N/A
- Knitting Group: 6
- Library Tea: 33
- Movie program, tweens/teens: 4
- Movie program, adults: 1
- Summer Reading puzzle participants: 29

**Story Time**
- Preschool Story Time—4 sessions, 42 Adults, 71 Children
- Books and Babies—4 sessions, 54 Adults, 65 Children

**Pass usage**
- Children’s Museum – 6 uses
- Dundee Park – 15 uses
- Maine State Park Pass – 20 uses (50 Days)
- Maine Wildlife Park – 22 uses
- Planetarium – 3 uses
- Willowbrook – 4 uses
- Tate House- no use

**PASS USAGE SAVED PATRONS**
$1,564