

Library Director's Report

October 6, 2020

Prepared by Lori Stokem, Director

September Monthly Statistics: Statistical summaries for the month of September 2020 will be available at our meeting

Financial Donations: We received notice we are receiving a \$1,800 grant from the Washington County Home for Aged Women, Inc. The money will be used for large type books and audio books.

News/Issues:

- I have been participating in virtual Director's Council meetings
- We are very excited to have many new books on our shelves that are available for our patrons. These books are being checked out quite often. Book ordering continues to be on track.
- We continue to have patrons using our computers, and utilizing our fax and copying services. Many patrons have expressed how happy they are that we have opened up for limited browsing.
- We hope to have Proudfit Hall open soon so Salem students can use our WiFi to complete school work .
- Last week we participated in the town's Main Street Planter Decorating Contest. We tied in the theme of our Story Walk (See below) for this.
- The defibrillator is installed in Proudfit Hall. Vicki from the Rescue Squad will be coming Tuesday, October 6th at 3:30 to do a short training for us.
- We have had a number of people coming in to get library cards during the past week.

Looking Ahead:

- Karen contacted SALS about the two of us getting our Notary so we could

offer Notary services at the library. However, right now SALS hasn't received the usual funding to pay for us to take the training (\$85 through SUNY Adirondack) and the test (\$15). Should we hold off doing this for now, or would the board want to pay for one/both of us to take the class and test?

- In November our subscription to the Post Star will end. Any thoughts about switching our subscription to a virtual one through the library? One of the other libraries just renewed their subscription. The costs they were quoted were: Print edition - their bill was \$384 (Their board president talked them down to \$320). Digital edition - \$99. We would have to figure out how the digital edition would work for our customers before committing to it. The digital edition is less expensive, would work well during COVID, and would also take care of our newspaper disappearing out of our box on occasion.

Programs: All in-person programs are currently on hold

- We have made available weekly "Take Away" craft bags for the children in our community. All the grab and go craft bags are gone by Friday.
- This month we participated in a Virtual Story Walk on our website that was organized by the Fort Edward Public Library.
- In October the library (with some help from the school) will be having a Story Walk through town. We will be using the book "The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin." The walk will begin at the library and there will be two pages of the book in windows of businesses up and down Main Street. The walk will end at the library.