

# Library Director's Report

October 5, 2021

Prepared by Lori Stokem, Director

**September Monthly Statistics:** Statistical summaries for the month of September 2021 will be available at our meeting.

**Financial/Donations:**

**News/Issues:**

- I have been participating in virtual Director's Council meetings. This past month I also attended a strategic planning committee meeting, and a virtual literacy workshop.
- Farm-2-Library Program Update: Everything has been running smoothly. The fridge is pretty close to empty every week!
- Karen continues to add some wonderful new books, games, and DVD's to our shelves that are available for our patrons.
- We continue to keep our patrons informed of new books and library news through the use of the library's Facebook page, our webpage, newspaper articles, and our newsletter.
- Our summer reading program winners: Adeline Moriarty was our children's winner and Crystal Paul was our adult/teen winner. They each received a \$25 gift card to Northshire Bookstore. Thank you to the Friends of Bancroft Library for funding the prizes and Books In Kids' Hands for providing a new book to the kids who participated in the program and read all summer.
- The library windows are new. The new library hours are displayed in one of the windows. The other Main Street windows have Peanuts characters

promoting September as "Get a Library Card" month. The two West Broadway windows are promoting our collaboration with Fort Salem Theater and the Courthouse featuring "The Diary of Anne Frank" and "The Holocaust Through the Eyes of Liberators and Survivors." Books about Anne Frank and the Holocaust have been displayed in the windows and many have been checked out by patrons.

- Strategic Plan: Our committee met last month on September 22nd. We added "Measurement/Evaluation" and "Resources" to our goals and made some revisions suggested by Erica Freudenberger. The document has been sent back to Erica for a final review. When I get it back from her, our committee will meet one last time, make recommended changes, approve the document, and send it to the board for their approval.
- The Fort Salem Theater, the Historic Salem Courthouse, the Town Historian, and the library have been working together to bring several opportunities to our community to learn about the Holocaust. Kyle, Janice, Judy, and I have collaborated to do this. Last month Judy and Janice organized a program, "The Holocaust Through the Eyes of Liberators and Survivors," presented by Matthew Rozzell, author and former history teacher. This coming weekend the Fort Salem Theater will be performing "The Diary of Anne Frank." At the library we have dedicated two of our window displays to Anne Frank and the Holocaust. Many of the books displayed in the windows have been borrowed by our patrons. At both events hand-outs about the library will be available.

### **Looking Ahead:**

- The library is participating the Chamber's Planter Decorating Contest. To go along with the Peanuts characters in our front windows, the planter will be decorated with "It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown" theme.
- On Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> the library will be participating in the Chamber's "Fall Into Salem" event where people in Salem can visit businesses and organizations in town. In partnership with Books In Kids' Hands, the library will give out free, gently used children's books that day from 10:00 - 2:00.

This event will also be promoted as part of "The Great Give Back" (The mission of The Great Give Back is to provide a day of opportunities for the patrons of the Public Libraries of New York State to participate in meaningful, service-oriented experiences.). Library card registration forms will also be available at this event.

### **Programs:**

- Chess Club, Scrabble Club, and Mahjong continue to meet weekly and Book Club continues to meet once a month.
- Noah continues to provide tech help every Tuesday.
- "Take Away" craft bags are available each week for children in our community.
- In October the library will be offering kids a "Soft Pretzel" activity. Children will sign up for the activity and the pretzel kit will be provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension.