

## Moultonborough Public Library

### 2019 Year in Review

Thanks to the widespread support of the community, the library had another wonderful year. 67,658 visitors came through our doors. We had 329 new members join us. Our passes to local museums and attractions (mostly paid for by the Friends) were used 259 times, saving our patrons thousands of dollars in entrance fees. 8,900 users visited our website and our materials catalog was used 24,714 times. 60,287 physical materials were checked out, while 4,486 audio books and 3,867 e-books were checked out online through Overdrive. We borrowed 1,186 materials for patrons from other libraries, while sending out 919 of our own to them. Our computers, high speed Wi-Fi and printers were in constant use, along with our small meeting rooms. Volunteers Deb Wiacek and Enid Burrows continued the invaluable AARP Tax assistance program. They assisted 180 community members fill out their tax forms.

We started off the year with a local resident and teacher Russell Staples sharing his “Everest Odyssey” and ended with Santa Claus listening very carefully to children’s wish lists, and had something for everyone in between. Seamstress Extraordinaire Janice Jenket taught sewing classes on most Fridays, and Jean Cox (from Art Escape in Laconia) returned many times to lead DIY classes in fused glass, resin, painting, and wooden pallets. Linda Ridenour showed us how to make sock bunnies for Easter, fabric pumpkins for Halloween and a Santa wreath for Christmas. Central VNA and Hospice held several blood pressure clinics. We admired “Bizarre Birds of the World” with Steve Hale and “NH’s Roadside Historical Markers” with Michael Bruno. We found out about the fascinating “History of Mosaics” with artist Cindy Stanton, then tried our hands at creating our own mosaic trivet with Leslie Doherty. We started a new partnership with the Conway chapter of the OLLI School for Lifelong Learning. OLLI offered several well-attended classes at the library in spring, summer, and fall. The NH Humanities Council sponsored a visit from Walt Whitman (remarkable actor Stephen Collins). We followed the blood-spattered tale of Bonnie & Clyde with lecturer Christopher Daley and learned about Supernovas with astrophysicist Yvette Cendes. We discovered the “History of New England Stone Walls” with stonemason Kevin Gardner and local scholar Brad Wolff lectured about the “History of Immigration in New England.” Liz Tentarelli from the League of Women Voters in NH explained the “History of the Suffrage Movement” and Carolyn Timbie shared the fascinating history of her grandmother, one of the first “Hello Girls” on the front lines during WWI. We participated in the One Book, One Valley Community Read of the exceptional book “Becoming Nicole.” John Macone from the MRWC lectured on the historic Merrimack River. (Did you know the Merrimack River begins where the Pemigewasset and the Winnepesaukee Rivers meet in Franklin?) Chef Liz Barbour returned to show us how to use our trendy Instant Pots. Photographer Ron Guilmette shared his stunning photos of “The Islands of Squam Lake.” And we “soitenly” enjoyed ourselves with Wright Museum volunteer Dan Schroder’s presentation on the “3 Stooges Take on the Axis Powers of WWII.”

Thanks to many hard-working volunteers, our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Book Sale was the usual huge success, raising \$6,741 for the library. Book Sale Czar Jane Rice also runs a smaller sale during the

holidays. Frugal shoppers find great bargains on books, puzzles and DVDs. This past season we raised over \$500, selling items for \$1 each.

The Friends of the Library continue to add vital support to the library and the community. They sponsored our museum passes, Memorial Garden, book discussions, computer purchases, and all our children's programs. Their most popular events include a free lunch, (Soup and Sweets in March), monthly book talks, Holiday Open House, Book and Author Luncheon at Bald Peak Colony Club in September, and all the chocolate you can eat! (Chocolate Fare Fundraiser in October.) We rely on the Friends in so many ways. They are crucial to the success of the library.

In late 2018 the Moultonborough Santa Fund came to "live" at the library. In 2019 we had a strong committee of volunteers composed of library staff and a number of community members. Thanks to the extreme generosity of town organizations, businesses and individuals, the Santa Fund raised (and spent) several thousand dollars. We provided 58 disadvantaged children in 30 families in Moultonborough with boots, winter jackets, books, toys, games, dolls, clothing, and grocery gift cards. All monies donated went directly to assist our local families in need.

Thank you to our Trustees, volunteers, community members, the Select Board, and our Friends group. We appreciate all that you contribute to make the library such an important part of the town.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy McCue  
Library Director

#### 2019 Children's Events at the Library

Seasonal activities in the children's room included a Teddy Bear Picnic, Easter Egg Hunt, May Pole celebration, Haunted House contest, Story Time Trick-or-Treat through the Village, Halloween Magic Show, cooking with teens, annual tree lighting, Christmas Bingo and a visit with Santa. Thank you to Norman and Vera Poitras of the Casual Cape for providing gifts for this special event. Literacy programs were held with Pre-school, Kindergarten and First Graders and will continue in the new year. The Library joined with the Lakes Region Conservation Committee to "Celebrate Our Lakes." Children listened to stories, made a lake themed mural, colored and fished for small prizes. Read-A-Thons, Lego Club, Story Time, crafts and afternoon movies were also part of the fun. Our 2019 Summer Reading Program theme was Space with over 130 readers! Our Space-themed July 4th parade float took First Prize in our division. Special events this past summer included a visit from wild animals, a celebration marking the 50th anniversary of NASA's Apollo 11 lunar mission, a magician, board games, guest authors and a storyteller.

A highlight from our Summer Reading Program, N.H. libraries were sponsored by the Boston Bruins again this year! Every child received a Bruins poster and were enrolled into a raffle for larger prizes. Our library was chosen for a visit from Blades, the Bruins mascot and what fun we had! They gifted the Library with a book, and participants were given Bruins posters, pencils, stickers, tattoos and coloring pages. We played a few rounds of Bruins Trivia with some great prizes for winners!

This year we celebrated the five preschoolers who completed 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program! They each received a MPL book bag filled with books and school supplies.

Thank you to members of the Friends of MPL, staff and volunteers for supporting children's programming. Whether it's donating time, money or baked goods, you can be counted on! I am grateful for all you do.

I am looking forward to 2020!

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Gulla  
Children's Librarian

