

Annual Report of the Friends of the Library - 2015-2016

Another season has come to a close. And with it came some changes!

With the addition of a new sign in the library's Cafe Area, the Friends now have an identified space for their continuing book sale. New (to us) book cases were purchased and with the continuous donations by our library patrons, this space is filled with lots of good reads! Thanks go to Ann Bacchiocchi and Nancy Otto for keeping these cases full.

One can find a tri-fold display on top of the book cases, presenting information of the Friends current activities, etc. Thanks to Director Melanie Mannheim for creating this area.

And when June rolls around, patrons can find the Friends' paperback sale located on a wire book truck in this new corner.

The Friends once again were able to help out the library with the following:

- Finances for the Children's Summer Reading program (a program that registered the most children ever for our library!)

- Support for an Adult and Teen Summer Reading program

- Wooden shelf supports, keeping the DVD shelves neat

- Donation to the library, in recognition of deceased Friends

- Financed the Great Decisions Adult program

- Purchased 18 Playaway Launchpads for the Children's Department to circulate

In October, during National Friends of Libraries Week, Director Tom Witowski visited each Children's program, promoting membership to the Friends. As a result, 18 new members joined and a drawing was held from those new names, with the winner accepting a Friends' tote bag and other souvenirs from the Friends. Congratulations, Mary Johnson.

Treasurer Darcy Kane and President Laura Palmer helped the Circulation Staff by removing from their office our large collection of leftover Harvest Books. Copies from each of the years were compiled, wrapped together and then donated to each of the town schools' libraries. Our local History Room also received copies, as well as Emeritus and East Village Place. The Friends retained a much smaller collection, much more manageable!

In February, we held our annual Chocolate Sampling event. A membership perk, free to Friends' members. The Friends' Board supplied all kinds of great chocolate treats and the members and their families came. This year, the event was held on one of the coldest weekends of the winter. But folks were determined to celebrate Valentine's Day with us. Chocolate desserts were not to be denied.

This March, we tried a new fundraiser - Mobile Mini-Golf. A one day event where 10 holes of miniature golf were set up in the library, each having its own theme. Over 130

folks came to try their luck. It was a "hole" lot of fun. Thanks go to Treasurer Darcy Kane for chairing this event. We hope to continue this fundraiser next year.

We continue to support the events scheduled by our Adult Services Librarian, Lyndsay Johnson. Adult programming has kept the library in the public's eye.

And as we ended our year in April, as a result of the newsletter advertisement, Bonnie Aitchison has joined our Friends' Board. Welcome aboard, Bonnie.

Lastly, we said goodbye to our Library Director, Susan Peterson. She was with us for 11 eventful years. Best wishes on your retirement, Susan.

I am very grateful for the commitment of our Friends' Officers and Directors. With their time, talents, and enthusiastic support, they help keep our Friends' group heading toward a successful future season.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Palmer, Friends' President