

Report of the Library

2015 brought the loss of our beloved Children's Librarian Lynda Miller. She passed suddenly early in the year. Lynda's thirteen years of dedicated service was instrumental in setting up and developing our growing Children's catalogue and programming. She was a dynamic member of our team and the Fremont community. Her memorial service was held at the library with over 100 people in attendance. She is deeply missed.

Our library continues to expand and provide a wide range of services. We registered over 100 new adult patrons and over 60 new children for library cards. These new folks and our dedicated patrons increased circulation (over 19,000 books, movies, CDs, puzzles and magazines) almost every month over 2014 levels. Our catalogue increased by over 300 volumes due in large part to generous donations of books and movies by Fremont residents. Thank you for your generosity.

The library had its most successful summer reading in its history. Over 100 families and children pledged reading goals and attended the events focused around heroes. Our opening celebration of local heroes brought Fremonters together with the people who help them every day. Fremont fire/rescue, police, teachers, nurses, road agent, active and prior military service members, volunteers, selectmen and many others were honored for their efforts and given the chance to mingle socially with the citizens of Fremont.

Special events this year included Fremont Historian Matthew Thomas discussing his book Historic Powder Houses of New England. Matthew drew a crowded room and shared tales of Fremont and New England's special place in the history of our country. The library was also fortunate to host the traditional Irish and folk musical duo "Two Old Friends." An old fashioned foot stomping good time was had by all.

The library offers many services for the public. Computers are available to create a document or just check your email. Color printing and faxing are available for a nominal cost and the Wi-Fi is always free. We have a telescope to lend out and we are happy to schedule an impromptu class on accessing via the State Library books, audio books and magazines on your new tablet or phone.

Library Trustee Suzanne Wicks spearheaded our new seniors group. The first few meetings at the end of the year were well attended and will continue into the new year. Please check out our web site for details on meeting dates and agendas.

September brought the 15th annual golf tournament. Thank you to all who help to make this event a success. Special thanks go to Nick Kakouris and the Fremont Pizzeria for the generous and delicious lunch.

The Library roof was finished this year. Thank you to KTM for their timely and efficient work. Next year will see the need to repair both roof ventilation towers. The Trustees would like to

ask for your support this March for the warrant article funding the Library Maintenance Trust Fund to help with the tower repair and future maintenance needs.

The Library is grateful for all the work and support the Friends group provides. They offered wonderful contributions this past year (check out our new curtains!) and we look forward to their new adult education programming in 2016. Warren and Patricia Gerety have stepped down as President and Vice President of the Friends. We are grateful for all their hard work and efforts. Kristy Butler has been elected to President and Dori Smith as Vice President. We look forward to working with them. The Friends are always looking for more members. Please attend any meeting the first Tuesday of every month at the library.

The library is also grateful for all the efforts of the Garden Club. Their partnering with us for their spring sale helped the friend's book sale and the holiday decorations they donated were beautiful.

Our Community room saw a significant jump in usage this year. Non-profits from all over Fremont utilized the room for meetings and functions. Scouts of all levels, the Gardening club, Quilters and many more made great use of this town resource. The room is now cable ready so you will be seeing it on Channel 22 hosting some of our town meetings.

The Gates family, in memory of Marilyn, continued to maintain the outside garden with wonderful seasonal decorations and plantings. Thank you for your donated time and resources.

Thanks goes out to the Gibb family for maintaining our flower bucket/fairy garden throughout the year. Their donated resources and time make the library a brighter place.

A round of applause please for Spencer Gregory. He donated his time and talent to provide the music for the closing party of our summer reading program as well as the musical background for our holiday gathering.

Our team here at the Library would like to thank our Trustees John Hennelly, Cheryl Rowell and Suzanne Wicks for all their efforts and support over the year. They are always there for us with ideas, help and guidance.

Special thanks goes to Heidi Carlson and Jeanne Nygren for their endless patience and willingness to share their vast experience as I stumbled through my first year.

I would like to personally thank the dedicated, knowledgeable and hard working staff at the library. Cathy Murdock, Marlene Emery, Nancy Mason, and Vincent Morrison are true professionals and local heroes in my book. I could not have survived the year without them.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Abney, Director