



## Director's Report September 2022

Respectfully submitted by Chelsea Jordan-Makely on September 27, 2022

### Joys and successes:

- A parent shared that Summer Reading Club has helped their child to improve their reading over the summer. "It's just enough motivation," she said. The young reader started the summer off reading books like *The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog* but was reading chapter books by the end of the program!

- Another (adult) SRC participant shared:

*Thanks so much for the pupsh to read. I struggled to read until I was in my 40s--what a new-found joy!*

- Thanks to Betsy for gifting the library a tool box and tools. It is already coming in handy!
- A parent whose child was just starting school asked us to compile some books to ease their transition, and then reported back that they thought the books had played a role in their child's successful first day--specifically, the book *Love* by Corrinne Averiss, in which the characters keep connected to one another even when they are apart!.
- We received our first "suggestion" via the beautiful suggestion/feedback forms that Nancy created for us a while back. The person wrote:

*Sasha was so helpful on my trip, she told me things about American libraries that I didn't know. Give this girl a rais! All the best, from England*

### Building & Grounds:

- Chelsea said "yes" to the Colrain Historical Society/Colrain on Canvas to displaying a piece of art each month on an easel in the library, beginning maybe in October.
- Windows were cleaned on September 22nd, and Aaron will be disassembling the stage before the end of September. He also attended to the bees that were living in the post of the basement entryway and the wheelchair ramp.
- Rail's will not be able to provide snow removal services this winter. The town administrator and select board are discussing new contracts, which may include clearing the sidewalks. This issue may come before the select board and even town meeting. We observe that a fair number of people use the sidewalks to access the library, especially to and from the post office and school.

### Programs and services:

- We're thankful to Kathy Steinem for hosting "Walk, Move, Stretch" on Wednesdays and Fridays in August and into the beginning of September. The group explored several walks in Colrain and brought new users to the library. In total, there were 33 participants.
- We could use a little help in promoting Wellness Wednesdays (the third Weds. of every month from 4:00-6:00). Anyone can drop by the library to chat with a public health nurse and to get flu vaccines and to make appointments for Covid boosters. Another program that we hosted with FRCOG and also Arms Library, a Narcan training, received some notice in the *Greenfield Recorder* but only six participants took part.
- The Hector Fox StoryWalk® launch party with Astrid Sheckels brought 42 people out to Pine Hill Orchards for a live art demo and book signing! It was such a success that Pine Hill invited us back, and we're now planning a Halloween event on October 29th! Mr. Dave and Percy the Dragon will perform spooky songs, beginning at 11:00. This is being sponsored by the CFCE!



- Congratulations to all who helped plan and who volunteered or attended Fix-It Day! In total there were 112 participants, with many items fixed and new connections made!



- We celebrated Banned Books Week with a display, colorful sign, and several posts on social media that members of the community “liked” and shared. This is an important issue year-round, but BBW provides a good chance for us to celebrate the freedom to read and raise awareness about the growing tide of censorship efforts.  
<https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/bookselling/article/90292-new-urgency-for-banned-books-week.html>

#### **Administration:**

- Hooray, we submitted our Annual Statistics to the MBLC! Check them out in their entirety [here](#). This report shows the data for FY22 and the previous reporting year, but please bear in mind that we were not open all of FY21. You may also wish to note that the way that we report programs and program attendance changed this year.
- Our LSTA “Go Local” grant kicks into action on October 1st, and the monies have been received by the Town Administrator. Chelsea meets with Rhonda and Jonathan on September 28th to get the ball rolling.