

## Report of the Lane Memorial Library 2016

### By the numbers

The full collection of the library at the end of 2016 totaled 82,648 titles. Over the course of the year 12,387 titles were added and 3,011 titles were removed. We had 10,556 registered patrons in 2016, just over 70% of the population.

Circulated materials	194,198	(186,292 in 2015)
Visits	127,299	(128,871 in 2015)
Computer uses	17,265	(16,476 in 2015)
Reference questions	4,758	(4,596 in 2015)
Programs	420	(472 in 2015)
Program attendees	9,633	(8,065 in 2015)

### General

After several years of substantial building changes, in 2016 we did not significantly alter any aspects of the building. Whether prescient or merely fortunate planning having no structural upheaval allowed the library to better absorb the major changes in library staff and leadership which shook the library in 2016. We did however reap the benefits of building changes sowed in 2015. Our electric consumption was the lowest in a decade and our gas consumption was second lowest only to the extremely warm winter of 2011. In our main trade of books, DVDs, and other media we shared our collection of material resources more than twice over what we own. While we offered slightly fewer programs, we fine-tuned what to host, when to host it, and how to promote it driving overall attendance to events up by a substantial 1,568 people.



### Staffing

In 2016 the library experienced a change not quite like any other. Bill Teschek retired after 37 years of service, second in longevity only to our first librarian Simon Shaw who served 57 years and retired in 1931. We were understandably apprehensive and a little overwhelmed by the prospect of a Bill-less library. Perhaps that nervousness can explain the wacky behavior that preceded his farewell. Several members of the staff set our farewell to song and ended up as brief local celebrities on social media and WMUR. This vocal tribute can still be viewed online here: [http://youtu.be/f8R9nqJ\\_Alg](http://youtu.be/f8R9nqJ_Alg). On the heels of Bill's departure we have come to better know and rely on two of his previous assistants in the Technical Services department. Kevin Robbitts became our new Head of Technical Services and Stacy Mazur added the duties of Assistant Director to her existing position as the Teen Librarian. We also had the opportunity to meet and hire Jennifer Beigel as the new Technical Services Librarian in response to Kevin's change in position. In 2016 we also saw our Children's Services Pages go off to college or

*"Few people have accomplished as much for the Lane Memorial Library or committed as much of their lives to library service in the community of Hampton, NH. You have our gratitude for 37 years of exemplary service and a place in our history forever.  
May 22, 1979 to April 1, 2016"*

knuckle down to their senior year in high school and so said goodbye to Megan Cico and Bea Fernandes while welcoming Zeike Lucht and Paige O'Neil. Finally in 2016 our dear Deb Covert left the front desk staff for a well-deserved active retirement and Donna Jardin became a permanent part-time staff member.

### **Programs**

With 420 programs on offer in 2016 it is not possible to describe them all in this report. If you haven't visited the library recently, consider stopping by – we will gladly supply you with newsletters, schedules, and reminder bookmarks for any upcoming events. You can also become a regular to our website [www.lanememoriallibrary.org](http://www.lanememoriallibrary.org) or sign-up for our events email newsletter at [www.lanememoriallibrary.org/newsletter\\_signup](http://www.lanememoriallibrary.org/newsletter_signup).

Of special note from this year was an incredible 8 week class in creative writing offered in the spring by a resident author that culminated in a moving performance night. The Summer Reading Programs, a summer staple boasting the most teen and adult participation ever in 2016, hosted some new and different events for the season organized around the themes of movement, activity, and health. The program opened this year with a rock climbing wall for children and teens (and a few brave mothers) in the Hampton Academy parking lot. Following up on that event teens volunteered to bring donation books to the beach for area visitors to read and keep. Later in the summer, families participated in the second ever “For the Books” fun run. In the fall, the library hosted a banned book read-athon to bring people of all ages together around books and expose people to the fact that books are still challenged and censored in 21<sup>st</sup> century America.



*Rock climbing wall at the opening of the Teen and Children's Summer Reading Programs 2016*

### **Friends and Volunteers**

The Friends of the Library donated \$15,184 to the library in 2016. Those funds are spent on a variety of events, programs, and services including underwriting the complete Summer Reading Programs for all ages described above. Of particular note for 2016 is the addition of the Strawberry Banke museum passes. These passes allow library patron to visit the museum or skate at the new ice skating rink at reduced cost. The Friends also supported us in our efforts to bring books to people who might not otherwise have access to them by suppling and filling book shelves at the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen and food pantry.

In 2016 volunteers donated over 1,256 hours of their time, for which the library cannot thank them enough. In shelving and processing books, in indexing the *Hampton Union* for our database, and in various special projects these volunteers have given \$13,819 worth of labor.

The staff of the Lane Memorial Library are an amazing group of dedicated people and it is my great pleasure and a source of immense pride to lead them. They and the Board of the Trustees serve the Hampton community with distinction.

Respectfully submitted, Amanda L. Reynolds Cooper, Library Director