

# TUCKER FREE LIBRARY 2014 TOWN REPORT

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## *LIBRARY HOURS, SERVICE, PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH*

Our goal during the last year was to create enthusiasm for our library in the community. We worked to achieve that goal through increased visibility, accessibility, and excellent custom service. The change in library hours was the cornerstone of this revitalization of our service philosophy.

- ✓ Henniker residents checked out 35,826 items from the Tucker Free Library including 3,979 books downloaded through our website in 2014!
- ✓ Library staff report that potential homebuyers regularly stop by the library to see what we have to offer.
- ✓ Development of the “Sundays at the Library” brand has resulted in more and varied adult programs being offered including speakers from UNH Speakers’ Bureau, UNH Cooperative Extension, New Hampshire Humanities Council, as well as musicians from near and far.
- ✓ TFL desktop and mobile websites have seen increased traffic as more people seek out different ways to access materials; renewing, reserving, and checking out books online.
- ✓ Last year over 1,400 kids visited the library after school. Seen as a safe place to hang-out, the youth of Henniker are using our computers, playing X-Box with friends, doing homework, and checking out and/or reading books.
- ✓ The popularity of TFL with the afterschool group led to the purchase of four additional desktop computers as well as three Chromebooks for internet use.
- ✓ A patron-centric shelving arrangement has led to easier access to our physical collection which has translated to more check-outs of our adult non-fiction, and children’s books.
- ✓ Quick response to the changes in town resulted in the purchase of more DVD’s to meet the demand when our local video business closed last summer.
- ✓ Development of a seed-lending library; offering classes and non-GMO heritage seeds to residents to grow healthy herbs and vegetables in their gardens.

In addition to our weekly story time, summer reading programs, and afterschool activities, several additional outreach projects have been very successful. These include:

- ✓ TED Talks with White Birch Senior Group.
- ✓ End of School Year Tours offered to elementary school classes at HCS.
- ✓ Supplementing the curriculum and recreational needs of NEC students and faculty.
- ✓ Staff and trustees registered new patrons and demonstrated how to use smartphones to read books at the “*Music on Main Street*” event last October.
- ✓ A full service library, not only do we provide physical and electronic materials, we also assist many individuals struggling with their personal technology, offering one-on-one guidance on an as needed basis.

## BUILDING ENHANCEMENTS

At Town Meeting on March 15, 2014 voters approved the expenditure of \$10,000 to repair the entryway stained glass windows if the library received a Moose Plate Preservation Grant. The library was awarded an \$8,000 Cultural Conservation Grant for this project. Work will commence on this phase of the refurbishment early this spring. A final grant will be required to refurbish the five remaining stained glass windows in the building.

CONCERN	FUTURE PROJECTS	ESTIMATE
Safety	Purchase emergency exit door for J-Room	\$1,800.00
	Installation of emergency exit door for J-Room	\$1,000.00
Safety & Security	Construction of Handicapped Accessible Restroom on Main Floor	\$30,000.00
Maintenance	Paint the ceiling and walls of Main Floor NH Room	\$4,000.00
Maintenance	Current roof is nearing the end of warranty period therefore lifespan (installed in 1987 & 1994)	Y-T-B-D

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Former community members, trustees, and friends have established funds to provide financial support for the library over the years. These named funds include those established by or to honor Marjorie B. Bennett, Scott J. Berry, Helen M. Cammett, Anna L. Childs, D&W and E.L. Cogswell, L.A. Cogswell, Willis Cogswell, Alice Colby, James W. Doon, Robert N. Fitch, Francis O. Holmes, A.D. Huntoon, Mary F. Kjellman, Henry Preston, Walter K. Robinson, Ann S. Soderstrom, and George W. Tucker.

## DONATIONS IN 2014

- ✓ Martha Nemiccolo for Mary F. Kjellman Fund
- ✓ Alicia & David MacLeay to honor uncles John and Sam Kjellman for Mary F. Kjellman Fund
- ✓ Joseph & Joanne Grady for material for General Fund
- ✓ Henniker Rotary Club for Walter K. Robinson Fund
- ✓ Emily Tucker Funston for General Fund
- ✓ Ellen Chase-Lucard & Marc Lucard for General Fund
- ✓ Rebecca & Peter Josephson for General Fund
- ✓ Two anonymous donations in memory of E. Benjamin Ayer for Memorial Books
- ✓ Phyllis Thomas in memory of Joan Manoli for Memorial Books
- ✓ Scott and Carolyn Turner for Library Furnishings
- ✓ Anne Sayce for General Fund
- ✓ Bill and Darby McGraw for General Fund
- ✓ John Echternach & Judith Englander for General Fund
- ✓ Carolyn & Rodney Patenaude for Robert N. Fitch Fund
- ✓ Thanks also to the families, friends, and patrons who supported the library by dropping their spare change in the donation boxes at our circulation desks, this past year totaling \$309.58.

Submitted on behalf of the Trustees of the Tucker Free Library

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