

WEBSTER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual Report of the Trustees for 2018

Our Book Group's 21st year got off to an exciting start in January when Chris Bohjalian, author of that month's book, surprised our members with a phone call.

We introduced a new program this year, a seed exchange in which members of the library can help themselves to some of the seeds we have available, and bring in their own unused seeds to share with others.

We began offering library cards to Hopkinton residents, and will continue to do so until their own library is back up and running.

The Library sponsored an interesting and informative talk by a member of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department on bobcats in New Hampshire. We also participated in a joint presentation, along with the Webster Police Department and the Webster Select Board, on the opioid crisis, which included showing the documentary *The Hungry Heart*, after which there was a panel discussion and question and answer period with Webster community members, the police department, and CJ Young, Director of Nursing at the Merrimack County Jail.

Reading Rocked for our Summer Reading Program, which culminated in a lively program by children's musician Steve Blunt and children's author Marty Kelley. We are grateful to the New Hampshire State Library for the grant that enabled us to hire Steve and Marty.

Our monthly movies continued this year, as did our Celebration Bags for the Webster Food Pantry, delivery

program to the homebound, museum passes, and MakerPlay Mondays for the kids.

Thank You very much to the many people who support the library during the year with their volunteer work, donations, and visits.

We added 40 names to our member files and removed 47, giving us a total of 508 registered users. 1,803 people visited the library. We added 551 books, audiobooks, and DVDs, and removed 375, leaving us with a total of 11,254 materials. Our library members checked out 4,064 books, audiobooks, DVDs, magazines, and museum passes, along with 1,842 downloadable audiobooks and 736 eBooks. We loaned 283 materials to other libraries, and borrowed 120.

Our most popular DVD in 2018 was *Victoria and Abdul*, and the most popular book was *The Flight Attendant*, by Chris Bohjalian.

By borrowing materials from the library, our members saved more than \$64,500 over the cost of purchasing them.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Picthall-French, Chair

Leslie Collins, Secretary

Marty Bender, Treasurer