

In this issue: Welcome New Executive Board Member, READS Fall Conference, Meet the Candidates, READS Raffle, Summer Reading Tales

# READS

REFERENCE AND ADULT SERVICES SECTION

## August/September 2021 Newsletter

### Welcome READS New Executive Board Member

Get to know our newest executive board member: Treasurer Laura Pezone, Assistant Director at the Newbury Public Library. We thank you Laura for joining our board and look forward to your contributions!



For the past five years, I've worked as the Assistant Director for the Newbury Public Library. Previously, I worked as a substitute at the Abbott Library in Sunapee while working on my MLIS from Drexel University online. My undergraduate degree is in journalism, and for 11 years I worked as an editor at various newspapers and magazines in NH, as well as in marketing. I live in beautiful Sunapee with my husband, toddler and pup!

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### READS Fall Conference



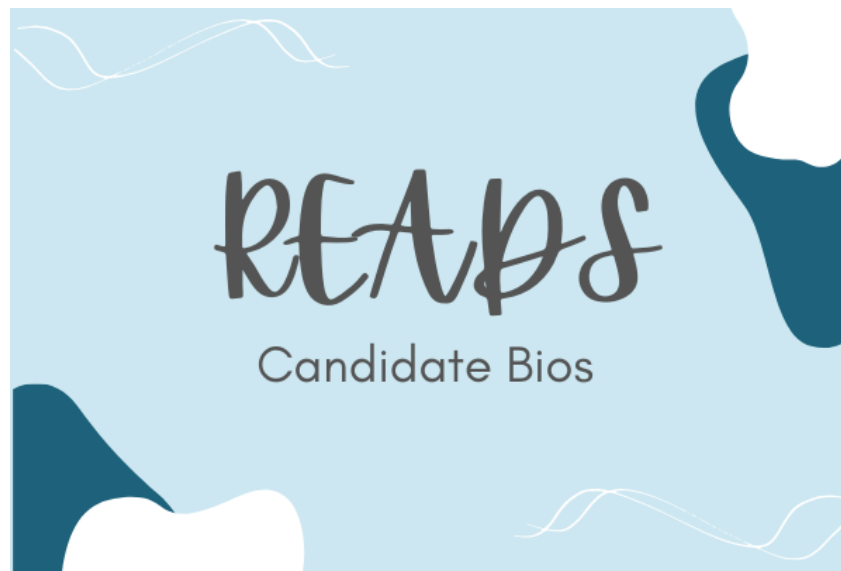
While a library offers so much more than the books on their shelves, this past year, many of us found that our patrons continue to rely on their local library to help them find their next favorite read. Requiring us to get creative, and with a little ingenuity, strengthen our Reader's Advisory services. Join us at our virtual Fall Conference on **Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** with Reader's Advisor, Becky Spratford, to strengthen your Reader's Advisory skills. Becky will host two virtual sessions: **RA for All: Flip the Script & Think like a Reader** and **Demystifying Genre**. Learn how to share a great read with Becky's 10 rules for Reader's Advisory in **RA for All**. While in **Demystifying Genre**, Becky will provide you with tips on how to recommend books in unfamiliar genres and will go over talking points on how to get reader's to tell you what they want. You won't want to miss either of these sessions!

Becky Spratford [MLIS] is a Readers' Advisor in Illinois specializing in serving patrons ages 13 and up. She trains library staff all over the world on how to match books with readers through the local public library. She runs the critically acclaimed RA training blog RA for All. She is under contract to provide content for EBSCO's NoveList database and writes reviews for Booklist and a horror review column for Library Journal. Becky is a 20 year locally elected Library Trustee [still serving] and a Board member for the Reaching Across Illinois Library System. Known for her work with horror readers, Becky is the author of The Reader's Advisory Guide to Horror, Second Edition [ALA Editions, 2012] and recently completed the 3rd Edition which is available for pre-order now and will be released in Summer 2021. She is a proud member of the Horror Writers Association and currently serves as the Association's Secretary and on Twitter @RAforAll.

**Stay tuned for more information!**

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**Meet the Candidates**



This year, the Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary positions are up for election. The Vice President position is a three-year position which cycles through Vice President, President and Past President. Susan Harmon is nominated for this position.

My name is Susan Harmon, and I'm a librarian in the Information & Technology division of the Manchester City Library (MCL) in Manchester, New Hampshire. I'm a Simmons alum and have worked for the MCL for five years, with nine years of library experience overall. I joined READS in 2019 as the Membership Chair and have greatly enjoyed working for this section. As Membership chair, I have worked with the READS board to run two successful membership campaigns, as well as begun keeping statistical records of membership rates for historical analysis.

This past year has challenged libraries in particular, and I've helped the Manchester City Library through these challenges by working with my team to innovate the way we do programming. I started working with presenters beginning in May of 2020 to bring virtual presentations and entertainment to our patrons. I developed best practices and shared them with other libraries in New Hampshire. We have seen an increase in programming attendance, and have increased the number of programs we offer each month. This summer, we ran our first Adult Summer Reading Program, and had over 100 registrants, with 75 active participants.

I would love to serve as the READS Vice President/President elect in the coming year. As Vice President/President elect, I would work hard to continue to improve the programming resources available to READS members, and coordinate informative and valuable programs for the NHLA spring conference.

The Treasurer position is a two-year position. Laura Pezone is nominated for this position.

For the past five years, I've worked as the Assistant Director for the Newbury Public Library. Previously, I worked as a substitute at the Abbott Library in Sunapee while working on my MLIS from Drexel University online. My undergraduate degree is in journalism, and for 11 years I worked as an editor at various newspapers and magazines in NH, as well as in marketing. I live in beautiful Sunapee with husband, toddler, and pup!

The Secretary position is a two-year position. Matthew Gunby is nominated for this position.

I am the head of circulation at the Meredith Public Library and I have worked at the library since 2013. My duties consist of a range of adult services and I take minutes for the monthly trustee meetings. I received my MLIS from Syracuse University in 2012 and a BA in English and Philosophy from Plymouth State University.

I have been a member of READS and NHLA since 2013. I have worked on the programming committee for READS since 2018. In 2016, I was elected as secretary for NHLA and served two terms. I have served one term as the READS secretary and would be honored to be reelected.

## Stay tuned for more voting information!

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### READS Raffle



There's still time to submit your raffle entries! Submit your Adult Services related content to either our [Programming Database](#) or the [READS Repository](#) for a chance to win a \$50 gift card and \$100 towards a program at your library.

Each Program Database or Repository submission will be worth one raffle entry.

#### Submission couldn't be easier:

- For the repository: Email your PDF, png, jpeg, or Word document, to [READSrepository@gmail.com](mailto:READSrepository@gmail.com) and use the subject line: Steal This Content!
- For the Programming Database: Simply fill out the questions on the [Adult Program Recommendations Form](#).

Raffle entries will be collected until our Annual Meeting, at which we will draw one lucky winner.

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## Summer Reading Tales

With Summer Reading in full-swing, take a break, and see how our NH libraries are celebrating Summer Reading this year!

### Cook-Along Classes at the Minot-Sleeper Library

- by Brittany Overton, *Library Director*, Minot-Sleeper Library



This year, the Minot-Sleeper Library in Bristol has partnered with local business Basic Ingredients Bakery to provide cook-along classes for adults. Within the first 2 weeks of opening registration, all three classes, held in June, July and August, were booked!

The cook-along classes invite adults to sign up for virtual cooking classes. The classes are taught by owner of Basic Ingredients Bakery, Garlyn Manganiello, on Zoom. Garlyn provides the library with spices needed for the recipes in reusable glass vials. The library then pairs each month's spices from around the world with books on display that take place in the same region. Participants pick up the spices, an ingredients list, and the recipe prior to the event.

### Sticker Charts at the George H. Bixby Memorial Library

- by Laura Abrahamsen, *Library Director*, George H. Bixby Memorial Library



Adults are probably using Goodreads or LibraryThing or a personal journal to catalog their reading habits, but everyone loves putting a sticker on a chart! To celebrate Summer Reading, and a return to full browsing access for our patrons, I created a genre board for Francetown's adult readers. I printed 15 different genres (Biography/Memoir; Classic Literature; Graphic Novel; History/Politics; Historical Fiction; How-to; Mystery; Poetry/Drama; Religion/Philosophy; Romance; Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror; Science and Nature; Thriller; Travel; and Genre Not Listed. I'll call it Mondrian-inspired, but it's really a matter of fitting the genres on the black foam-core I found in a closet. It's hanging opposite the circulation desk, and everyone has to pass it on their way to the New Acquisitions. A few pads of tiny Post-Its, and I'm getting a very unscientific view of what (some) patrons are reading. It's low-key, voluntary, and anonymous, and I'm pleasantly surprised at how many stickers were already on it by mid-July.

## Summer Reading Fun at the Hampton Falls Library

- by Barbara Tosiano, *Director*, Hampton Falls Library





After a year's hiatus, we resumed our Summer Adult Reading Program. Our program is very simple. For every book a participant reads, he/she earns a raffle ticket which is entered in the prize bucket of their choice. In order to promote interest in other genres, we are awarding two raffle tickets for every YA book read. To date, 57 people have signed up to participate. We solicited prizes in the form of gift cards from local merchants, mostly lawn and garden companies. In addition, several of our patrons have donated unique goods and services including a massage, wool from local sheep, a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble, and new books on summer craft cocktails. The program will run until August 10 when the winning tickets will be drawn.

## Summer Reading Success at the Manchester City Library

- by Susan Harmon, *Information and Technology Librarian*, Manchester City Library

This year, the Manchester City Library launched our first ever [Adult Summer Reading Program](#)! It's been a great success so far, with over 100 signups and 75 active participants. Along with our teen and children's programs, the adult program is run through ReadSquared, which allows for easy logging of minutes, book reviews, and activities at home.


We started simple for our first program: Adults read, complete missions, and attend programs to earn points. 1 minute read=1 point, 1 mission activity = 10 points, and 1 program = 60 points. Any participant to log 1,000 reading minutes receives a Ben & Jerry's coupon for a free cone. Participants can also use their earned points to "purchase" e-affle tickets for 100 points each. We have 8 [prizes](#) participants can choose from to win.

Our most successful program this summer has been [New England Lighthouses and the People who Kept Them](#). This New Hampshire Humanities program will appeal to patrons who love New England focused and Historical programs. Jeremy D'Entremont is an excellent presenter and includes audio and video clips in his slideshow. The quality of his audio and video were good via Zoom. He is knowledgeable and clearly passionate about lighthouses, and was happy to take questions after the program. Presenter contact: [nelights@gmail.com](mailto:nelights@gmail.com); <http://www.newenglandlighthouses.net/lectures-by-jeremy-dentremont.html>

## Bingo at the Rodgers Memorial Library

- by Amy Friedman, *Adult Services Librarian*, Rodgers Memorial Library

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email/Phone \_\_\_\_\_



Staff Use:  
☐ Registered  
☐ Raffle Ticket Received

Read Tales	Tails	Read Some More	Get To Know Your Library	Build Community
Read a fairy tale or folk tale or a retelling of one	Read a book with an animal on the cover	Read a graphic novel	Try a Take and Make kit	Read a book with or to someone
Read a book with a main character who is different from you	Use a library museum pass to go to the zoo or another museum	Find and follow a recipe in a cookbook or on At2 Food America	Learn about a resource you didn't know the library had	Tag the library in a social media post or engage with the library's social media
Read a book that takes place in another country	Watch a movie or documentary that features an animal	Read a book of poetry	Rodgers Website Scavenger Hunt (search website for a paper clip or link to Google Forms)	Read a book recommended by a friend or librarian
Read a biography or memoir	Read a nonfiction book about an animal	Read a short story	Attend a program	Try the StoryWalk at Rodgers Library
Read an audiobook or ebook	Read a fiction book about an animal	Read a magazine	Ask a librarian about a favorite book	Attend or host a book club

**Program runs June 18th through August 3rd.**

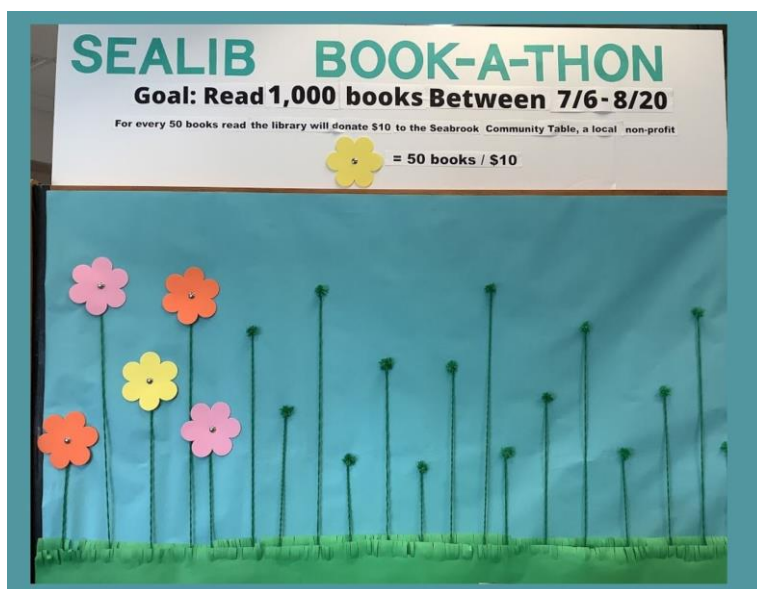
Complete 1 activity in each column. (5 total activities)	<input type="checkbox"/> Earn a prize and a raffle ticket for a grand prize. Only 1 grand prize raffle ticket per participant. Drawing August 10th.
Complete another set of 5 activities.	<input type="checkbox"/> Earn an additional prize. You can earn up to 5 prizes total. If you complete all the activities.
Complete ANY 20 activities. Turn in your BINGO card by August 10th.	<input type="checkbox"/> Receive a gift certificate from a Hudson business. Available for pick up August 10th through August 21st.

This year the Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson instituted a summer reading program that was the same for all ages. It has been very successful and many adults are participating. We created an SRP "Bingo" card with five tasks in five categories. In addition to reading books we included other library related tasks like attend a program, engage with our social media, go to a museum with one of our passes, watch a film about an animal. Once they completed one task from each category, they received a raffle ticket to use for the grand prize of their choice.

The prize motivating the most people is a \$100 gift card to the town business of their choice. Everyone only gets one grand prize ticket. We wanted to target reluctant readers and people too busy to read and let them have as much of a chance of winning a grand prize as the people who read every day. People can go on to earn a small prize, candy, books, stickers, toys, every time they complete another set of 5. To reward the people who want to do more, anyone who completes twenty or more squares on the card will get a gift card to a local business at the end of the program.

## Book-a-thon at the Seabrook Library

- by Shannon Weber, *Adult Services and ILL Librarian*, Seabrook Library



This summer the Seabrook Library is doing a BOOK-A-THON. We have challenged our entire community to work together to read 1,000 books this summer. For every 50 books read we are donating \$10 to the Seabrook Community Table, a local non-profit that provides free meals to Seabrook residents. (That's \$200 donated if we reach our 1,000 book goal!)

We geared this program towards our adult patrons, but it's open to anybody in the community who wants help us reach our goal. At the start of our BOOK-A-THON a young boy asked his mom what our giant poster was all about. When she told him it was reading books to help feed people who needed food he quickly chimed in that he would like to help out too. That's what we wanted this program to be about, celebrating reading while doing something kind for somebody else. We're already a quarter of our way to our goal, fingers crossed we make it to 1,000!

## Helping Local Business at the Brookline Public Library

- by Marilyn Simons, *Assistant Director*, Brookline Public Library





For the past several years (excluding last year), the Brookline Public Library has offered adult summer reading, along with the traditional children's summer reading program. Taking the familiar form of asking local merchants for donations of gift cards or items to offer as raffle prizes, Brookline's adult patrons eagerly awaited each summer to see which items they would choose to try to win.

This summer it was decided to switch up the program by using CARES Act funds to purchase gift cards from local businesses which had donated them in the past, giving them a much needed financial boost. Some library programming funds were also used to purchase additional items. Library assistants Julie Spokane and Heather Martinos were instrumental in developing and implementing the program, and both made the rounds, along with outreach coordinator Keith Thompson, of contacting businesses, purchasing items, and creating lovely gift baskets for the raffle items. "We'd like to give a huge thank you to the community for participating," said Spokane. Thirteen local businesses participated, along with the Friends of the Library, who donated like new books for two themed book bags. The Brookline Library also purchased with programming funds beautiful BPL branded book bags for the first 75 participants who signed up. As of July 26<sup>th</sup>, 86 adults' names are on the clipboard. Patrons receive an immediate raffle ticket for signing up, plus an additional one if they check out items that day.

Throughout the summer, adults can earn additional tickets by completing squares on a bingo sheet. Many of the bingo squares highlight lesser used services the library offers, such as checking out a book of poems or short stories, reading a nature magazine, or sharing a collection in our display case. As an aid to patrons, enlarged bingo squares are posted in different areas of the library which match that square. A library activity coupon sheet lists additional activities and resources to try, resulting in more raffle tickets. When coupons are turned in, they are a means of checking at the end of the summer which services get the most use.

We are on track to beat our 2019 total of 93 adults; since registration and participation is ongoing until the program's end we expect our grand total to be the best ever. Anticipation will grow until Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, with our annual ice cream social, where both kids and adults will see the raffle prizes drawn and winners announced. In addition, the New Hampshire chapter of the Pink Revolution will have a table where folks can decorate journal covers for cancer patients.