

TRUSTEES MEETING **TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2013**
REPORT PRESENTED BY MARGARET MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR

Technology

Working on some upgrades to the computers. Conducting a search of web designers.

Building

The pad for the park benches was poured, on the Main Street side of the building and the second handicap ramp at the north entrance was re-poured. The latter was funded with a matching grant from the Council on Disabilities. There was a power outage on Friday 6/28 from 2:30 to 3:55 p.m. and we had some issues with the computers when the power was restored. The Plumbing Inspector inspected the new water heater on Friday, 7/5. The elevator needed a power pack to be replaced on 7/15, as a result of a power outage over the weekend. National Grid was here to upgrade the gas meter. MPC conducted the annual summer maintenance. There are two projects in relation to the heat pump and the boiler that we have approved and are waiting for them to be able to schedule staff to complete the work. These repairs were identified in the annual inspection of the equipment.

Children's Department

The District Attorney's office offered an Anti-Cyber Bullying program during the lunch service time. We are experimenting with some new configurations in the Children's Room to better promote the various activities and launch a toy kitchen and workshop which we hope will be popular. Mary Jo Maichack gave a stellar presentation which was funded by the Southbridge Cultural Council and the Friends of JEL. Harry Potter event at the end of July to celebrate Harry's birthday. Lego Club is running smoothly and is offered twice weekly during the summer. Jungle Jim performed on Monday night, funded by the Cultural Council and everyone loved his high energy show with lots of participation.

Programs

The Southbridge Cultural Council funded The Ecology of Sound with Ricardo Frota, which took place on Thursday, July 25th. The event was well-attended, and everyone in the audience was able to participate with an instrument. The up-cycling felting program sponsored by the Friends of JEL was very successful. Katherine Mrazik, a recent graduate of UMass Dartmouth and who worked here as a page in her high school years, is the featured artist for August. In July we had Linda Spence present her acrylic paintings and watercolors. August 6th. Southbridge native Patrice Kaneda Demers discussed her historical novel *A Tale of Two Migrations* at the library on Monday, August 12th. Copies of her book were available for sale, and the author signed copies for attendees.

Summer Reading

The library participated in the national Summer Reading Program in all categories:

Dig Into Reading – for kids; *Beneath the Surface* – teens; and *Groundbreaking Reads* – for adults. The program will began on Monday July 1 with an Ice Cream Social and the program and finished Thursday, August 15. For the 26 children that finished the program, there was a pizza party. Thanks to the Southbridge Cultural Council, the Friends of JEL and the Southbridge School Department for the sponsorship. For those who completed the SR program in the Children's Department, there was a pizza party.

	Adult	Teen	Children
Participants	23	16	182
Participants Online	16	1	0
Number of Programs	15	10	44
Number in Attendance	208	98	1208

Media and Social Media

Throughout the summer we have had a lot of coverage in the Southbridge Evening News and lots of interaction on our Facebook page.

Project Bread

This is the third year of the summer food program which began on Monday, July 8th and continued until Friday, August 16th. Once again, we partnered with Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative students and the ASPIRA students also assisted.

Outreach

Along with some of the department heads I toured the newly refurbished A J Petro Swimming Pool on Randolph Street. It is truly a first class facility and a huge asset to the community.

Grant from Southbridge Public Schools/ASPIRA Interns

The library received an additional \$2,000 for program from the Southbridge Public Schools which allowed us to add five programs to the summer reading portfolio. Along with this grant there was a college intern who worked with me on organizing the programs and there were two high school students who are in ASPIRA. They completed their six weeks work experience program and I filed a weekly report to their supervisor.

Databases

The Consumer Reports database has been added to the reference offerings online.

Meetings

I attended the monthly planning meeting to prepare for the 100th for JEL and also attended the Digital Commonwealth meeting at WGBH. I participated in the C/WMARS meeting discussing digitization in Palmer and attended the final presentation and unveiling of the Master Plan.

I participated in a webinar offered by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine entitled "Referring Patrons to Reliable Services and Information".

Town Council Meetings

Town Council meetings were held in the Pioppi Room 7/29, 8/5, 8/19 and a Council of the Whole meeting to discuss the police audit is scheduled for 8/28. The cooperation of the Southbridge Cable Access TV crew is much appreciated in the set up for these meetings.

Cooling Station

The library has been asked to be an official cooling station during the most recent heat wave.

QCC

QCC conducted their quarterly GED testing in the Pioppi Room on two days this week.

FOJEL

There are 155 members of the Friends of Jacob Edwards Library. The group continues to meet on the third Monday of each month and generously fund the library programs and provide refreshments for the programs as well.

Literacy Volunteers

The LVS staff has been working with smith&jones advertising agency to develop a short promotional video. They shoot took place last Thursday.

Staff

The temporary S-5 part-time contract has been extended to cover a sick leave absence.

100th Anniversary of JEL

I attended the monthly planning meeting at the Southbridge Police Department.

Annual Reports/Digital Commonwealth

I am compiling information for the previous annual reports in electronic format and working with intern Spencer Curry to eventually have this information available through the Internet Archive. The annual reports from the JEL archive are currently being digitized at the Boston Public Library through a grant from the Digital Commonwealth.

ARIS/State Aid

I am working on the statistical component of the annual report for the state.

Budget

Due to a deficit in the state funding of municipalities, the library budget is cut by \$7,000 (Electricity line item)

Incident

There was an instance of vandalism where a clock was removed from the wall on the Mezzanine floor and broken on 7/9. A patron reported her wallet was stolen on 8/8, while in the Children's Room. The police were here to investigate in both instances

Closing

The library was closed on July 4, in honor of Independence Day.

WRTA

I attended the MASSPIRG regional meeting in Sturbridge with the Town Manager. A discussion is ongoing about benches or a bus shelter on Main Street.

WRTA Unlinked Passenger Trips - Bus riders Rt 29
(Southbridge – Auburn Mall Route)

Monday through Friday by Month

	Route 29	All Routes	Proportion
January	75	247,803	0.0%
February	978	247,875	0.4%
March	1,243	265,437	0.5%
April	1,180	286,146	0.4%
May	2,279	305,994	0.7%
June	1,739	283,801	0.6%
July	1,712	303,523	0.6%

Wednesday August 21	<i>Toe Jam Puppet Band</i> %	2 p.m. – 3 p.m.	Children’s Room
Thursday August 22	<i>Imaging Beyond Your Circumstances</i> with Jarrett Krosoczka%	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Pioppi Room

Month Of September 2013 Exhibit	Anna Ozolins and Emma Johnson Painting, Pottery and Jewelry		Main Hall
Monday 9	Mystery Book Club: The Dinner by Herman Koch	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Monday 16	Friends of JEL meeting	6 p.m.	Mills Room
Tuesday 3,10,17,24	Knitting with Sonya	10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Tuesday 3,10,17,24	Anime for Teens	3:10 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Pioppi Room
Tuesday 17	Trustees Meeting	12 noon	Mills Room
Wednesday 4,11,18,25	Crafty Wednesdays	All day – drop in	Children’s Room
Wednesday 4,11,18,25	Super Kids	10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Children’s Room
Wednesday 18	Lunchtime Tech – The Catalog	12 noon – 1 p.m.	Pioppi Room
Thursday 5,12,19,26	Lego Club	3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Children’s Room
Thursday 5	Artist Reception*	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Main Hall
Thursday 12	Library Box Office: <i>Found Memories</i>	6 pm	Pioppi Room
Thursday 19	Author Talk with Lauren Scheuer*	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Reading Room
Friday 6,13,20,27	Baby Time	10:30 a.m.	Children’s Room

Funded by %Southbridge Public Schools

*Friends of JEL