

M.G. Parker Memorial Library
2017 Annual Town Report

COLLECTION, CIRCULATION, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Parker Library continued to be a busy place in 2017. We were open 2,993 hours, including 296 Saturday hours and 546 evening hours. 124,227 visited the library in 2017. 15,413 residents of Dracut hold library cards. They borrowed 175,197 items from our library, including books, magazines, compact discs, DVDs, downloadable music and videos, streaming music, audio and eBooks. Dracut patrons borrowed 24,394 items from other libraries in the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium, and lent out 23,980 items to residents of other Massachusetts communities. The library currently holds 98,140 items.

The Library has two Quiet Study Rooms, which were used a total of 439 times by 732 people. The reference staffed answered 21,968 reference questions. 12,200 people connected to our wireless network.

We held 131 programs that were attended by 1,267 adults; 45 programs that were attended by 361 teens; and 234 programs attended by 4,551 children.

During the summer, we worked with the Dracut Recreational Department, the Dracut Council on Aging, and The Abors Assisted Living, to provide a week-long celebration of the 20th anniversary of the publication of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. Favorite programs were a town-wide scavenger hunt and a visit to Diagon Alley. The week culminated in a Yule Ball held at the Council on Aging. The Library looks forward to other opportunities to partner with town departments and Dracut businesses.

The Friends of the Dracut Library, led by President John Hassan, once again supported the Museum Pass Program, offering free or discounted admission to twelve area museums, including Boston Children's Museum, Discovery Museum, Einstein's Workshop, Imagine That, The Massachusetts State Parks, Trustees of the Reservation Go-Pass, Merrimack Repertory Theater, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Science, New England Aquarium, USS Constitution, and Zoo New England.

The Friends held their Annual Book Sale in May and a Fall Auction in October. In addition, the Friends held four Pop-Up Book Sales as well as their daily Book Nook at the library. Hardcover books are sold at \$1.00 each, with paperback books costing \$0.50 each.

BUDGET

The Parker Library met certification requirements with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in 2017.

STAFFING

There were several staffing changes in 2017. The Library bid farewell to Circulation Librarian, Ellie Szafran, after twenty-five years of service to the Town of Dracut. Assistant Circulation Librarian, Cheryl

Salem, was promoted to Circulation Librarian. Melissa Ryan, formerly an Adult Page, was promoted to Assistant Circulation Librarian. We welcomed Amanda McAvoy to the position vacated by Melissa. Adult Page Robin Gadue had to leave. She was replaced by Catherine Riordan.

We bid farewell to Student Page, Katie Krikoris, who was replaced by Jocelyn Dery. Student Page Brian Bisson graduated and went off to college. He was replaced by Enrique Santiago.

Children's Room Assistant Amber Bouchard left to pursue a career in school libraries. She was replaced by Joan Powers. We were happy to welcome back Christine Radzik, who took on a new position, working half-time in Children's and half-time in our Young Adult Department.

We also bid farewell to our Young Adult Librarian, Catherine Cloutier, and our Cataloger/Head of Technical Services, Lydia Gravell. We are currently interviewing for those positions and hope to fill them soon.

The Dracut staff won much attention in 2017. The Library won first place in the Massachusetts Library Association's (MLA) PR Awards, for our *Dracut Reads: Defending Jacob* program, as well as "Best in Show" for the same.

Adult Page, Amy Spence, won the EBSCO scholarship to attend the 2017 MLA Annual Conference. At the same conference, Library Director, Nanci Milone Hill, was named Library Support Staff Advocate of the Year award, given to a person who "appreciates the value of Paralibrarians in our libraries and who has worked to increase their opportunities and visibility... making sure they are noticed and rewarded for their dedication."

Respectfully submitted by
Nanci Milone Hill, Library Director
on behalf of the Board of Library Trustees

Eric Jackson, Chair (term expires 2020)
Dr. Linda Trouville, Vice-Chair (term expires 2020)
Mr. John Dyer (term expires 2018)
Mr. James Nolan (term expires 2018)
Mrs. Monique Verville (term expires 2019)