

Librarian's Report to the Library Board and the Town of Columbia
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

Submitted by Su Epstein, Ph.D. Library Director

Saxton B. Little Free Library Report For 2014-2015

Mission Statement: The Saxton B. Little Free Library provides and promotes excellent services, programs, and materials that inform, educate, and enrich all citizens.

Hours

M, F and Sat. 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

T, W and TH 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Closed on Saturday during July and August and all legal holidays

Library Board Officers and Directors 2013-2014

President	Hank Stockmal
Vice President	Erin O'Neil-Baker
Treasurer	Heidi Warren
Recording Secretary	Karen O'Hearn
Trustee	Janice Knight
Director	Jennifer Bright
Director	Beth Cheney
Director	Denise Egan
Director	Debby Smith

Staffing

Library Director	Su Epstein
Adult Services Librarian	Caitlyn Orlomoski
Children's Services Librarian	Megan Quigley
Technical Services Librarian	Sue Morytko
Library Assistants	Carol Carlson
	Joanne Malchiodi
	Barbara Quigley
	Pam Robbins
	Cindy Wilkinson
Library Paige	Rachel Geisert

Friends of the Library Officers 2014-2015

President	Amy Raffa
Vice President	Laurie Rogers
Secretary	Kathy Burke
Treasurer	Diane Reitz –Savage

The Saxton B. Little Library owes a great debt of thanks to the Friends of the Library. Over the past year their contributions included, but were not limited to the following:

- Donated funds for children's and adult programming, Library events, materials, newspapers, and renovation fund
- Assisted and helped support library expansion efforts and fundraising
- Provided funds for museum passes such as Mystic Seaport, Roger Williams Park Zoo, the New Britain Museum of Art, The Florence Griswold Museum and more
- Published a quarterly information in *The Columbia Crossroads*
- Provided discounts on books and media for Friends members
- Engaged in fund raising for the Library, including the on-going Book Nook in the Library foyer, book sales on Amazon and EBAY, and the maintenance of the quarterly book sales in the Chapel on the Green
- Sponsored audio, DVD, and foreign film packets supplementing over 1000 choices for patrons
- Sponsored the annual Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Days

The Library also wishes to thank our 257 supporters who have Friends memberships.

Acknowledgments

- The Board and staff of SBL wish to thank the dedicated volunteers to whom the Library is indebted. Collectively having worked nearly 300 hours, all of these people serve without compensation and allow the Library to serve the community. We cannot thank them enough.

Maureen Allen
Danielle Coyle
Ed Gallagher
Pat Gallagher
Brenda Judkins
Nina Krasser

Nathan Lebabinski
Gale Morganroth
Judy Morganroth
Gail Rosano
Carol Schofield
Savanna Toce

- We would also like to offer a special thanks to the 2014-2015 Fundraising Committee:

Kathy Burke
Julie Hodinott

Marcy Littlefield
Pat Shimchick

And all who participated in our Winter Snow Creature Contest.

- The Library would like to thank Horace Porter School for their assistance and support for off-site material storage.

Library Statistics

Circulation

- Circulation for the 2014-2015 year totaled: 68,131
- For the '14-'15 year, of the 68,131 items circulated 67,475 were physical items from site, 656 were electronic downloads.
- E-books account for less than .03 (.0028) of the Library's circulation, electronic formats of all types represented less than 1% total.
- Of the 67,475 physical items, 4,654 were audio books; 1,135 were music CDs; 19,444 were DVDs; 3,135 were periodicals; 225 items were misc. (Roku, kits, museum passes, etc.) and 38,882 items were physical books.
- Of the 656 electronic items 348 were audiobooks, 195 were e-books, 104 were music downloads and 9 were movies.
- While Saxton B. Little Free Library items circulated to locations throughout the state, over 51,000 items were to Columbia residents.
- Circulation numbers are comparable to years past with print materials being slightly lower and electronic books the same. Music, audio and video downloads increased. Downloads are likely higher due to increased availability.
- 49,898 adult or YA materials were circulated and 18,233 children's materials were circulated.
- Non-media circulation included Roku's, that circulated 20 times and museum passes, 129 times.
- We requested 2785 items for our patrons from other libraries.

Collection

- Current Library physical circulating collection is 60,877 items. This includes items not permanently held by the Saxton B. Little Free Library. Approximately 500 items are not part of the Saxton B. Little Free Library's permanent collection, but are 'borrowed' from the Connecticut State Library system. This count does NOT include titles available electronically.
- The Library provides access to electronic formats through three providers: Freeding/Freegal (e-books, music and movies), OneClick Digital (e-books & audio books); ICONN (e-books & audio books). Combined, the Library's digital offerings are 50,000.
- This Library also now offers circulation of Rokus.
- The OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) was searched 137,619. The system was logged into 65,843 times during the year, a significant increase from years past.

Programming

- The Library sponsored 260 programs during the '14-'15 year. This included 86 story time sessions, 81 programs for children and 93 programs for adults. These programs, sponsored for seniors, adults, teens, children and infants, included 3

- adult book groups, 3 youth book groups, guest authors, craft making, musical performances and educational and informational sessions.
- Story time attendance totaled 1,125. An additional 1,107 children attended children's programming. 62 infants were registered for the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program.
 - In total we saw over 860 attend adult programs; this is almost double from last year.
 - Library saw 3094 total participants over the year.
 - Library programs were noted in the State's professional publications, online, and in local newspapers. Again, the Library hosted nationally recognized performers and authors.
 - During the summer of 2014, our *Fizz, Boom, Read!* children's program registered 185 youth. Participants were not required to register for our adult program. Participation was high for both youth and adults. Patrons reported reading over 18,153 books. Youth earned tickets by completing literary tasks for Lingo Raffle and entries doubled this year with over 500 entries.
 - The Library's display case offered opportunity for Horace Porter students, artists (local and national), local collectors, and local community groups to display their talents and information.
 - Once again, the Library participated in the Connecticut Author's Trail, inviting Connecticut authors to speak at the Library.

Service

- The Library served as a functional location for several local tutors.
- Throughout the year, the Library served as a location for distance learning exam proctoring.
- Fax and photocopying services were offered for minimal fees.
- The Library is a repository for tax forms and other public interest and community documents and information, such as providing a community bulletin board, access to local publication such as the Columbia Crossroads and Gem, FAF and continuing education documentation, and more.
- Library staff provided basic training to patrons in online job hunting and application processes, as well as reference assistance ranging from homework help to retirement issues.
- The Library provided training and assistance for electronic devices, including but not limited to e-book and audio book download, e-mail, etc.
- In cooperation with the State of Connecticut Library, SBL provided not only interlibrary loans, but free returns for materials to other libraries in state.
- The Library served as a drop off point for Lion's eyeglass collection, Flag recycling, social service and charitable collections.
- Free access to local newspapers, local museum passes, electronic equipment.

Notables

- The Library and town received a revised State of Connecticut Construction grant of one million (\$500,000) in support of Library renovation and expansion.

- The Library also received grants from Savings Bank of Manchester (Summer Reading Program: \$5000).
- Thanks to the generous support from the Columbia Lions Club, the Library received a grant which enabled the purchase of 39 Large Print books.
- The Library increased its access to electronic formats through contracts with OneClick Digital, Freegal Music & Movies, and the purchase of 2 Roku.
- The Library began off-site storage for materials. Storage is being graciously provided by Horace Porter School, and again we thank them for their support.
- The Saxton B. Little Library E-Newsletter has increased to over 182 subscribers.
- We also registered over 140 new residents as Library card holders in the past year.
- Over the winter and spring of 2015, the Library engaged in a collection wide evaluation and assessment process.
- Library Director, Su Epstein is served on various committees for national Association of Rural and Small Libraries. She is currently serving as an evaluator for Library Support Staff Certification program and writing a monthly blog post for the American Library Association; was appointed to the State of Connecticut Task Force for Library Standards, and serves on the editorial board of two international professional journals.
- Children's Librarian Megan Quigley, Adult Services Librarian Caitlynn Orloski and several Library Assistants attended various regional meetings and conferences for professional development ranging from cataloging practices, to book repair to author meetings.
- The Saxton B. Little Library Fundraising committee engaged in several events for the Library, most notable the Winter Snow-creature contest, in which Maurice the moose offered rides to all.
- The Library partnered with Our Companions animal shelter of Ashford, CT for the summer reading, Read for Feed program in which youth could donate food to the shelter in lieu of earning prizes for reading. One can of food was earned for every 100 pages or 3 picture books read. Over 500 cans of food were earned/donated over the 8 week period.
- The Library engaged in collaboration with local pre-school and Columbia Cooperative Nursery School, Horace Porter School (kindergarten, 7th & 8th grade) classes, Bolton High School's Library Day, Horace Porter's open house and E.O. Smith's One School, One Book programs.
- In June the Library was visited by dozens of flamingos from the Horace Porter School's PTO.
- Like many, the Library experienced significant roof leaks and water coming up from the floor during the winter months. Fortunately damage to the collection was minimal.