

DEXTER FREE LIBRARY
120 EAST KIRBY STREET
DEXTER, NY 13634

2018 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Board of Trustees: Beth Nutting, President

Liz Bourcy, Vice-President

Jean Butler, Secretary

Rebecca Hall, Treasurer

Members-at-large: Linda Carroll, Cathy Pitkin, Marcia Schryver

Staff: Jennifer Thomas, Director

Cindy Parker

Barbara Patchett

Happenings at the Library:

From the beginning of the year until the end of the school year in June we continued to reach out to local area homeschoolers by offering LEGO Brainiacs programs and Art Adventures once a month. We were not able to resume these programs in the fall of 2018 as several of our homeschooled children moved out of the area. We welcome area homeschoolers and hope to resume group programming in the future.

As noted in our 2017 Annual Report to the Community we had some work that needed to be done in the basement of the building. Our Board President, Beth Nutting, took the lead and we applied for a NYS Construction Grant to help cover the cost of having a concrete retaining wall put in place, 2 sump holes dug and pumps placed. Additionally we had three windows needing replacement, so we included these items in our grant request as well. Happily, we were selected to receive funding which

would cover approximately 66% of the total cost. The work was completed in late October by Moulton Brothers Construction.

During the summer we received notification from Senator Ritchie announcing that the library was awarded \$5,000 in funds for libraries through her office. These funds were allocated for library improvements.

We applied for and received a mini-grant for weeding the collection from NCLS. Weeding commenced at the library in June. We finished weeding the children's collection, juvenile and young adult books. We started weeding the adult fiction and will be finishing this task in 2019.

Caring Crafters continued their mission of supporting others with knitted and crocheted items being donated to the Watertown Urban Mission, Dexter Food Pantry, Hospice of Jefferson County. The group participated in the RED SCARF project in the fall creating 28 scarves scheduled to be distributed to former foster care students in February 2019 through the Foster Care to Success program in Ohio.

2018 was our eighth year collecting signed Christmas cards for residents of area nursing homes. We promoted our Thanksgiving Day Christmas Card Challenge to encourage families to sign cards together over the holiday and return them to the library in time for the holiday. A total of 754 cards were signed from library patrons and IHC High School students participating in the school's Faith Community Service program.

Programs: A total of 100 programs were offered in 2018. These included our pre-school story time during the school year, summer reading programs, adult coffee hour and more. 415 people participated in our programs.

Holdings and Circulation:

1777 new items were added to our collection. This includes 531 books, dvds, ebooks, and eaudio books. A total of 3,467 physical items (books, dvds from the library's holdings) were checked out to patrons for the year. Our patrons accessed electronic material 608 times.

Our website was visited 10,631 times. Community members are accessing our webpage to keep up to date with all library happenings. We added an Instagram account in 2018 and continue to utilize our FaceBook page as well to keep the public current.

Our public WIFI was accessed 3,427 times and our public computers were utilized 493 times.

Operating Costs totaled \$73,370. These costs included the basement retaining wall, replacement of 3 windows, and new railings at the entrance of the library (approximately \$12,535).

ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISING: Fall Book sale was October 20. Following that date we continued the sale where community members could purchase a bag of books for any donation through November 28th. \$635 was raised for the library.

A complete copy our 2018 Annual Report is on file at the library and available for review upon request.