

Director's Report

February 12, 2024

Personnel

- Laurie and Reference staff have organized trainings on Libby and Kanopy online platforms for the staff and library patrons. It is important to keep everyone updated on our resources. We are hoping late winter to offer a UDEMY training. Udemy was demonstrated a few months ago at a Trustee meeting it is a learning platform for instructional videos for adults. Reference staff and Laurie also held training for staff PLA staff who cover the Reference desk on how to search the Commonwealth catalog (ComCat)
- Christina will appear on the podcast Baseball, Books and Banter. This podcast is run by a local author and Christina will be discussing her popular 60 sec recommendations that are uploaded to Instagram and her popular Sci-Fi book club.
- The evening custodian is currently out due to a health issue. However, the Facilities department has stepped in and has been covering all the hours and tasks. Despite this, operations have been running smoothly.

Director

- I Attended the first department head meeting with the new Mayor. I look forward to the opportunity to build a positive relationship and to discuss all the wonderful resources, programs and education training the library and librarians provide.
- I attended a webinar on Jan 30th for professional development on book bans .
- FY25 Action plan that ties in with the Strategic Plan was discussed with Librarians at a Department head meeting.
- The library has started gathering information to digitize 164 newspaper microfilm reels, although the process has taken longer than expected. In addition, the microfilm has been recognized as a historical artifact by the Braintree Historical Commission. The next step is to fill out the application for CPI funding.

Building

- On January 25th, an armed robbery incident occurred in the town square, leading to police involvement. The library and town hall in the vicinity were checked and secured during this time. Despite the situation, the library remained open as there were no specific instructions from the police to close areas or the building. Only a few patrons were present, and they showed no interest in leaving or being affected by the commotion. However, the incident has prompted discussions on procedures and training. The Mayor's Office is now organizing training sessions for both town hall and library staff.

Budget FY24

- See Attached memo from Mayor's Office



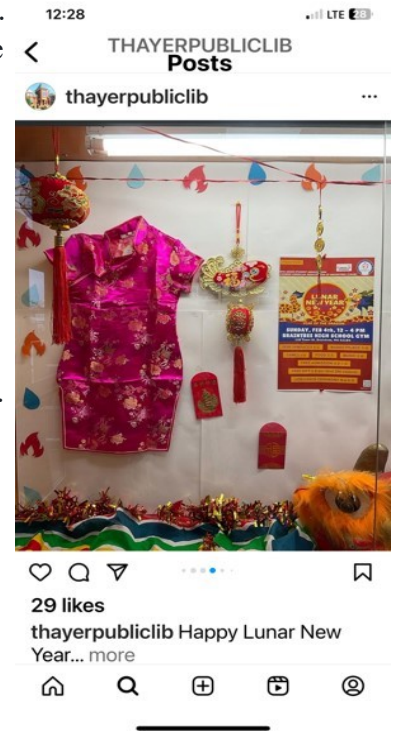
• **Programs /Outreach**

- In December, several programs were offered and had a high attendance. The monthly game night has become popular and Christina introduced the popular Dungeons and Dragons board game which has been well-received and generating some interest .
- Many great programs offered in January and this month the library is offering many Childrens programs over February vacation.
- The Thayer Public Library received 3 Cultural Council Grants that will be hosted in the spring.
- Librarians have started discussion on the Summer Reading 2024 and a date for the kick-off. This years Theme is Read, renew, repeat. Also, we hope to secure the community table at the Farmers Market in June to advertise the summer reading program. More information to follow.



Program Highlights

- Young adult librarian Courtney Trudeau organized a successful intra-generational holiday program, which attracted a large attendance of both teenagers and adults. The event was fun and everyone was eager to socialize. Due to its success, another program is being planned for the upcoming April school vacation week. Many positive comments “So wonderful to see the Teens,” “great having the teens “ I am happy to mention that under the Young adult librarians leadership, the YA department is thriving with a core group of young adults who regularly use the room and participate in various programs.
- Recently, the public has shown a lot of interest in puzzles and puzzle swaps at the library. As a response to meet the need the library this month introduced a puzzle swap and a community puzzle in the reference area .



Policies

- Photography and recording policy is up on the Library staff page, website and discuss with staff members.
- Changes to the museum pass procedure to allow for nonresident check-out has been implemented.



Personnel

Employee List

Reference

Moira Cavanagh

Priscilla Crane

Young Adult Department

Courtney Trudeau

Technical Services Department:

Jean Kennedy

Carlene Colman -(splits time in reference and one night in YA Dept.)

Nancy Yee

Circulation department

Christina Castle

Emily Chapman

Jessica Collins

Sabrina Vitagliano

Childrens Department

Elisabeth Strachan

Anne McConville

Kara Duffin

Mary Pugsley

Part time employees

Kathy Blaney

Melanie Boudreau

Vanessa Bui

Chole Dodge

Melissa Kelleher

Kate Tangney

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