

From the Director's Desk: A Thank You Letter from the Nesmith Library

The week of April 19th is National Library Week. I wanted to take a moment and thank all of the groups and individuals that support the Nesmith Library in different ways.

The Friends of the Library of Windham are the most incredibly supportive group of volunteers. They make many of the programs and services we bring to you possible. And in this uncertain time, their support is even more appreciated. I know it was with great sadness that the Strawberry Festival was postponed/canceled for this year. This was a heart wrenching decision for FLOW to have to make. Not only is it the main fundraiser for the library, it is, and has been for 36 years, a wonderful, central community gathering for the town. How many of our children participated in a cultural demonstration at the Festival, completed a craft at the Children's booth, purchased a bag of books at the book fair, enjoyed a Strawberry Shortcake, or got to dunk their favorite teacher in the dunk tank? How many members of our community volunteered in some way to make past Strawberry Festivals happen? This is a true community event in every sense of the word, made possible by the hard work and dedication of this special group of people. We all look forward to the time we can come together again to enjoy each other's company in this way.

Another group of volunteers are the group of about 15 people that shelve all of the returned books for us. We miss seeing their smiling faces. They shelve over 100,000 books, magazines, and DVDs a year for us and we look forward to the day we can welcome them back into the library.

And last but not least, the myriad of teens over the years who have helped out with Summer Reading Programs. We can't wait for a time that we will be able to open our doors and have the youth of Windham enjoy fun and educational gatherings with us again.

Though I suspect that we will never completely return to the way things were before this pandemic, I know that with the support of dedicated volunteers and this wonderful community, the Nesmith Library will continue to be a place that offers something for everyone.

It will be kind of exciting to see where this new chapter leads us.

Be well! The staff at the library misses seeing everyone and can't wait to reopen our doors. In the meantime, please keep contacting us with your ideas, your stories, and your Scattergories responses!

Sylvie Brikiatis
Nesmith Library Director