

JOSLIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2014 Report

2014 was another successful year at the Joslin Memorial Library. Highlights were increased program attendance and increased daily visitors to the library. We continued collaborations with the other MRV libraries and expanded our connections to the Waitsfield United Church, the Waitsfield Elementary School, the Waitsfield Children's Center, and the Vermont Festival of the Arts. We continued to present local and Vermont guest speakers such as author Tom Green and wildlife technician Sara Eno, as well as presenters from farther afield, with educator and New York Times contributor Jessica Lahey, bringing us our largest crowd ever. A new noontime summer concert series took advantage of the beautiful park outside the library and was well-attended.

Making the most of the library as a community space and a venue for presentations that support lifelong learning and cultural enjoyment follows the trends of library use nationally. This will only become more robust when the library has more space. An especially thrilling statistic was that in one month of 2014 we had higher program attendance than in the entire year of 2009. Traditional library services such as print circulation and readers' advisory remain strong and use of our platform to download audio and eBooks increases each year.

2014 brought changes in the staff, board and Friends of the Library. We appreciate the long-time service of board member Joyce Travers, and the energetic leadership Sissy Walker brought to her five-year stint as President of the Friends. And by the time you're reading this, I will have left the Joslin Library to become Head of Library Services at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier. The five years I have spent as the Joslin librarian have given me joyful, creative professional opportunities, just the right kind of challenges, and, most importantly, the chance to get to know the people of this community and provide library services for them. In five years we have switched from a card catalog to an automated catalog, added more computers, added downloadable eBooks, a circulating eReader, a Young Adult collection, added a trustee from Fayston, hired the world's best Children's Librarian, and expanded our programming significantly. We've become a home-away-from-home for many people who borrow our books, use our technology, and get some cheery interaction with other people and the library dog. Consistent threads through these changes were a committed board and terrific staff and volunteers. Patrons of all ages who love to read, discuss

ideas, learn new things, and who share book and program suggestions as well as colorful stories give the library unique character and often made me go home at night certain I had the very best job in the world.

The willingness to constantly evolve is a great strength of this library. I'm guessing the Joslin Library will continue on the path of tradition flourishing alongside new ideas. I will miss you all and will forever feel personal and professional gratitude for my time here.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Worland, Librarian