

The Ainsworth Public Library is a dynamic part of our town. Our librarian, Sarah Snow, is a VT Certified Librarian that has been working at the library for 4 years. The library has two part time clerks, Autumn Bissonnette and Tim Betts. The library has 11 active volunteers as well as a Friends of the Library group. The library serves 975 patrons in many different capacities. It could not do so without the support of the Town, Board of Trustees, staff, volunteers and patrons.

A dynamic part of the library is the many ways in which it is used. Library cards are FREE to anyone that visits (cards are for ages 4 and up), we have no fines and we offer more than just books. This year we are proud to have circulated 6,792 items. For a library our size, that is wonderful! We are pleased that our adult and youth fiction and non-fiction books, audios, and dvds are popular. Did you know we order new books, audios and DVDs every month and that you can recommend items for us to order? Why pay for these items and have them take up space at home, when you can borrow them for free at the library? We offer 7 passes for reduced or free visits to the Echo Center, Shelburne Farms, Billings Farms, State Parks, State Historic Sites, the Vermont Historical Museum and the Precision Museum; the passes are checked out for 3 days and can be returned in our drop box. Our space serves as a great place to do homework after school, our upstairs hosts our Young Adult collection, has comfortable chairs and work stations and even board games. We enjoy when the youth in town come to use our space.

The library benefited from a donation of 14 new double cell insulating, light filtering, cordless interior blinds from the Friends of the Ainsworth Public Library. These blinds are particularly helpful because they have made an impact on our heating bill as well as providing added beauty to our space. The Friends collected money for this project through their fundraising efforts such as the annual booksale, fall and winter carnivals and ongoing sale of their book bags. Thank you to everyone that helped support these causes, your donations make a difference.

The library received a grant this year from the Vermont Department of Libraries in the amount of \$292.50 in order to offset postage for inter- library loans. Inter- library loans are a free service that the library offers to its patrons. This service allows patrons to request materials that our library does not own. (Example: books, audios, dvd's, etc.) The inter-library loans come to the library from other libraries throughout the United States for the patron to borrow. We had over 1,000 inter-library loans this year. This is just one of the wonderful services we have at the library. The library continues to offer fax service (25 cents a page for local/50 cents a page for long distance), printing needs (15 cents a page black and white and 50 cents a page color), and scanning (free). We have 3 public computers, participate in Listen-Up Vermont (a service that allows patrons to download e-books audio books for free), Universal Classes (over 500 online non-college credit Continuing Education Courses) and we are a drop off place for the Williamstown Food Shelf.

The library does a lot of programming in a year for both youth and adults. Our summer reading program included 32 youth and 53 adults with prizes donated by the Friends of the Library. The Friends of the Library donated all of the Vermont award books for Kindergarten through High School so that local youth can participate with other Vermont towns by voting for their favorite book in May. The Senior Bookgroup as well as the Williamstown Readers continue to meet monthly to discuss books. Throughout the year we offer adult/youth craft classes, including a monthly Fiber Arts group, Christmas wreath making class, and Sundial Making to name a few. We have had author visits like Adam Boyce and Bernie Lambek as well as two journaling classes. We hosted a popular Harry Potter party in July. Look for our Storytime program on Wednesdays and other family programming throughout the summer. Every month we have something on our calendar for both adults and youth.

Our library was chosen as one of the 26 Vermont libraries to receive the Federal 3 year VELI-STEM grant; this grant allows dynamic programming and materials for youth that focus on science, technology,

engineering and math. We are in our final year of that grant. The grant has allowed us to offer dynamic programming at the library as well as Williamstown Elementary School. The library has been very active in the school community by offering special programming to help students with their Capstone Projects, offer monthly programming to the Pre-K, and a special reading group for the 3rd and 4th graders who meet at the library the last Friday of every month. The library also participated in visits to the Elementary School summer program. We have participated at the High School in the Vermont Reads program, including involving local seniors in reading the chosen book.

On behalf of the library, we would like to thank the town for their continued support. The library is a hub for the community and we are grateful to be such an integral part of the town. Please visit our website www.Ainsworthpubliclibrary.org or look for us on Facebook for pictures, information and upcoming events. If you don't have a library card yet, stop in and get one, we would love to meet you.