

# Library



*Library Staff*

This year brought new partnerships and programs for the Goodnow Library, fulfilling several goals of the current strategic plan:

***Library's Mission:*** *Improving lives through the power of information, ideas and innovation.*

***Library's Vision:*** *The Goodnow Library will:*

- *Be a primary resource for learning and literacy*
- *Be socially equitable and accessible to all*
- *Be a valued community partner*
- *Be proactive and responsive to community needs*

***Current Goals:***

1. *Support learning and multiple forms of literacies*
2. *Create a place that cultivates diverse ideas and innovation*
3. *Foster community connections*
4. *Provide high standards of customer experience*
5. *Develop sustainability initiatives*

## **Community Information Fair**

Hosted by the Goodnow Library & Sudbury Doing Good, a project of the Sudbury Foundation, the event featured nearly 50 local nonprofits,

community groups and town department. Hundreds attended the event to learn more about "doing good" in every area that impacts our community from social services, membership options and volunteer opportunities. Attendees were energized to see neighbors, learn how to get involved, and enjoy the family-friendly afternoon featuring activities, community service opportunities and giveaways. This was the first of what is hoped to be an annual event.

## **Telescope**

This year, the Library was the recipient of an Orion StarBlast 4.5-inch Astro Reflector Telescope equipped with a zoom telescopic eyepiece. The telescope was donated to the Goodnow Library by the Aldrich Astronomical Society and made possible through funding by MathWorks of Natick, MA. The goal of the Library Telescope Program is to help foster scientific literacy, stimulate an interest in astronomy, and provide people who have never looked through a telescope the chance to experience the excitement that comes from discovery. Placing the telescopes in local public libraries allows a greater general access to the

telescopes since they are intended to be checked out of the Library just as a book.



### **Passports**

This year the Library added another new and exciting service for the members of the community: US Passport Application Acceptance. After the successful application to become an acceptance facility, Library staff underwent rigorous training. The program has been extremely popular, and every month use continues to grow. In its first three months of service, 180 applications were processed. The Library has plans to create a revolving fund to accept the fees received for these applications.

### **Indoor Mini-Golf**

One of the most notable events at the Library this year was a two-day, all-ages indoor mini-golf fundraiser hosted by the Goodnow Library Foundation. The interior of the Library was transformed into a colorful and fun-filled mini-golf course. Nearly 400 friends and families attended the event over two days, raising \$40K for the Library. It featured holes, sponsored by local organizations and businesses.

### **Dementia Friends**

The Library is particularly proud of its partnership with the Sudbury Senior Center as the Goodnow reaches its goal to become certified as “Dementia Friendly.” The Library’s Assistant Director, Karen Tobin, served as the Library’s liaison to the Dementia Friendly Sudbury Action Team. The goal of the Action Team was to raise awareness and

cooperation of all community members in the town of Sudbury to help make Sudbury a Dementia Friendly town. In November, the Action Team held a kick-off event for the Dementia Friendly initiative. Some of the speakers from the community and beyond included Debra Galloway, Sudbury Senior Center Director; Patty Sullivan, Dementia Friendly Mass. Coordinator, MCOA; Bianca Walker, Alzheimer’s Association; and Alice Sapienza, Sudbury Livable Community Ambassador. The Library created a brochure with materials on understanding and/or living with dementia for all ages; it purchased these and other materials for its collections, and has featured a display of them in the adult department. After attending Dementia Friends Information Sessions and a Dementia Champions training in March, the Library’s Assistant Director is now qualified to lead Dementia Friends Information Sessions, so she provided training to all staff at its annual Staff Development Day.

### **Services to Children**

In 2019, 29,550 people attended 858 programs which made for an exciting and energizing year in the Children’s Department. In January, we welcomed Heidi Wright as our new Assistant Head of Children’s Services. She has brought tremendous energy and enthusiasm to our department and we are thrilled to have her on board. Winter highlights included a new partnership with the Chinese American Association of Sudbury to offer a special Chinese New Year celebration for the community. We continued our collaboration with the Wayland Library Children’s Department to deliver an outreach story time every Saturday during the months of January-March at the Wayland Winter Farmers’ Market. A significant amount of work was done on our physical collections with a long overdue weeding of our Fairytale and Folktale collection, the creation of a new World Language Collection and a large-scale shifting project in chapter, fiction, non-fiction and biography.

### **Services to Teens**

2019 was a year of big changes for the Teen Department at the Goodnow Library with the arrival of a new Teen Librarian and a substantial increase in teens using the Library as a space for studying. Faced with the challenges of dealing with teen behavioral issues, the staff has been able to use

them as an opportunity to strengthen bonds within the community. Through collaborations with the LSPO, local school librarians, and the LSRHS SRO, the Goodnow Library has widened its sphere of influence throughout the town while improving its services.

This year there were approximately 160 programs available for teens visiting the Goodnow Library. These programs included single-events and recurring series, such as book clubs, game nights, coding, craft programs, and more. The completion of the Sara Sherman NOW Lab has given the Teen Department an opportunity to expand the breadth of programming due to the availability of both high and low technologies. In addition, the free access to the NOW lab during Open Hours has given teens the independence to create freely in an inclusive and unique environment.

### **Historic Collections**

Work continues on the Library's rich collection of historical materials. The purpose of the Goodnow Library's Local History Collection is to preserve materials that document the history of Sudbury and to make these materials available to researchers and the general public.

The highlight of the year was the digitizing of the Library's local holdings of newspapers on microfilm. This project was made possible through Community Preservation Act funds through the Town of Sudbury Community Preservation Committee. These newspapers are now searchable by keyword by going to <http://sudbury.advantage-preservation.com>.

### **Sara Sherman NOW Lab**

The Library staff and community were sad to see its Teen Librarian and NOW Lab coordinator, Robert Carter, leave this summer to pursue other opportunities. To fill the void left by his absence, one of the Library staff members, Ferrell Mackey, held a six-week Craft Camp for teens during the summer. Once a week, they met for two hours to make a craft and a snack.

The Library's goal through the Fall and Winter has been to educate the public's perception and invigorate the use of the space. Through weekly workshops, the Library has given people

opportunities to explore the tools and machines that are available to them. By offering classes using the paper cutting machine, the laser cutter, and small hand tools, the Library has been able to recruit volunteers to host an additional 4.5 hours a week for the public.



### **Library Director Inaugurated as State Library Association President**

At its annual conference, Esmé Green, Goodnow Library Director, became the 2019-20 Massachusetts Library Association President, after being elected and serving as Vice-president/President-elect last May. In her remarks, she thanked the officers, committees and members for their hard work and participation. She commended her fellow MLA librarians, telling them to: "hold your heads high for the work you are doing, your mission to serve, and your values of equity and inclusion. Every day you make lives better, strengthen communities, build social capital and resilience."

### **Staffing and Volunteers**

An integral part of the Library's success is the caliber of the staff and its volunteer corps. In order to provide Library staff with the support and training to insure their success, the Library encourages participation in development opportunities, such as workshops and conferences. The best-loved of these is the annual Staff Development Day, when the Library staff come together to learn and share together. This year the

focus was on learning to be Dementia Friends, as well as the principles of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Additionally, the Library's community volunteers are a crucial component to the Library's success. Helping with everything from collection management projects to craft preparation, these folks enliven the Library every day in addition to helping get the work done. In 2019, over 50 volunteers provided over 2,000 hours of service to the Library.

### Friends and Foundation

The Library is extremely fortunate to have the direct support of two charitable organizations whose efforts further the Library's mission and goals for the community.

Over the past year, the Friends of the Goodnow Library have participated in the Sudbury Doing Good Community Fair, enjoyed a sold-out Trivia Night, hosted author Michael Tougias discussing his book, *Above and Beyond*, about the Cuban missile crisis, heard lecturer Roxie Zwicker presenting "Haunted Road Trips of New England" and enjoyed a baroque cello and piano concert, just to name a few programs. In addition to the great array of museum passes already available to the public, this year the Friends added museum passes for The Trustees of Reservations, Historic New England, Worcester Art Museum, Edward M. Kennedy Institute and the Danforth Art Museum.

In addition to raising funds through the gala and other events, the Goodnow Library Foundation (GLF) received \$10,000 from the Sudbury Foundation for a special internship program known as "Goodnow Develops." The participating interns are learning about the inner-workings of a nonprofit to develop skills, training and awareness to become philanthropic donors and activists. They will also work with seniors to bridge the generational gap. The Main Street Bank is also supporting the program with funding. In addition, the GLF worked with the Library staff to request CPA funds to upgrade the Historical Room by securing the special collections in anticipation of opening the room full-time as a quiet workspace.



Goodnow Trustees L-R: A. Gordon, I. Mayyasi, L. Gordon, B. Pryor, B. Whitlock, M. Royea

### Statistical Snapshot

Financial Report		
FY19 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)		
	Revenue	Expended
Lost book Fund	\$ 4,963	\$ 2,097
Meeting Room Revolving Fund	\$ 6,885	\$ 0
State Aid Funds: MEG	\$ 4,616	\$ 3,786
State Aid Funds: LIG	\$ 13,130	\$ 5,921
State Aid: Non-Resident offset	\$ 10,383	\$ 23,948
Fines*	\$ 16,590	

\*returned to the General Fund

Statistical Report			
FY19 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)			
	FY2018	FY2019	% Change
Total Circulation	411,282		
Number of Children's Programs	796	842	5.8%
Attendance of Children's Programs	26,808	27,180	1.4%
Number of Teen Programs	69	156	126%
Attendance of Teen Programs	1,389	1,245	-10.3%
Number of Adult Programs	57	51	-10.5%
Attendance of Adult Programs	1,152	1,213	5.3%