

**Librarian's Report**  
**Freedom Public Library**  
**January 20, 2011**

Nine area libraries, including the Freedom Public Library, took advantage of co-op pricing on the purchase of a year's subscription to Career Cruising Database. This database, appropriate for use by users in 6<sup>th</sup> grade through adulthood, is a comprehensive career guide designed for individual, self-directed use. The user-friendly interface helps users satisfy five key career guidance needs: self-assessment, career exploration, post-secondary education planning, work search, and portfolio development. In the next few days I will have a link on our website and will be able to publicize the database in the e-news and column.

The library has been very quiet in December and January. Where are our patrons? I've decided one way I can try to get people into the library is to send out a list of new materials we've acquired each month in a special monthly e-news. I will get volunteers to help me with this list which will include links to information about each title on Amazon.com and an explanation of how to place a hold on them.

The three-week kids' embroidery class, led by Gail Bizer, began last week with only two students. I discovered too late that there was a scheduling conflict with chorus practice after school on Tuesdays. However, the two students who are participating are enjoying the class!

The children's book club has taken off. Two students came in November and six in December. Unless stormy weather is an issue, I expect another good-sized group for this Friday's gathering. Leader Sarah Groleau combines book discussion with a related activity and the kids seemed to really enjoy themselves.

There was a huge crowd for the last Pizza & Movie night this month – 40 adults and children to see "Despicable Me". It's a good thing the children like to pile up on the floor at the front or we wouldn't have had enough room. The kick-off to the Freedom Flicks Film Series attracted 11, much fewer than the movie deserved – everyone who came raved about "Departures". I'm hoping attendance will increase from here. Our next film "A Rather English Marriage" is this Sunday at 4:00 – please help spread the word!

Laura Robinson has been busier than she expected so moving things into the storage room has taken longer than I had hoped. She is buying storage bins and has a good plan for how to organize things. Ellen Many and company helped a lot by moving all of items to be stored into one area of the workroom. I hope we can finish this project this month. I'm happy to say that Mike McVeigh finally got around to installing hot water in the utility sink in the janitor's closet this week.

The Odds Bodkin performance of "A Christmas Carol" attracted a full house (approximately 120 people) and rave reviews on December 20<sup>th</sup>. The Town Hall looked beautiful and the Friends did a nice job with setup and refreshments. I was proud to be involved in such a wonderful community offering!

I have booked Cathy Neal, a UNH Cooperative Extension horticulture professor, to give a talk at library on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 on Best Plants for New Hampshire Gardens and Landscapes. I expect this will be a popular topic and it's different from other programs we have offered recently. This will be a Friends of the Library program and they will cover the speaker's modest honorarium.

With the help of Lee Allison and Dick Many, we have completed an inventory of our VHS and DVD collection. I wanted to find out how many movies are missing (neither checked out nor on the shelf). I was happy to discover that only 10 are missing from the collection, presumably stolen; I was afraid the number would be higher. I have ordered replacement copies of 6 of the titles and have deleted the others from our catalog.

I have ordered two e-readers for the library, both a Kindle and a Nook, with money from the Jim Scully Fund. Eventually these devices will probably circulate and/or be on display for patrons to try out. For now I am becoming familiar with them myself so that I can help patrons who come in the library seeking help with their devices. I have loaded the Kindle with a number of free titles; the Nook has not yet arrived.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer  
Library Director