

Library Director, Cindy Scott Retiring After Twenty Years

After a very successful and event filled twenty years as Library Director, Cindy Scott will be leaving the Wolfeboro Public Library to pursue retirement dreams of travel, gardening, genealogy, consulting and relaxation. She will be missed.

There is much to be proud of in Cindy's career in Wolfeboro which began with her interview in 2001. During that interview, the Trustees spoke of the possibility of a new library or expansion project and asked her how she felt about that. As this would be her second building project, she felt she would be up to the task. It would be another ten years before the project began planning in earnest.

Cindy came to Wolfeboro with years of experience, first at the Jones Library in Amherst Massachusetts, where she worked full time while getting her Master's Degree at the University of Massachusetts, and then for thirteen years at the Rochester Public Library. Although she was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, she has been in New Hampshire since 1986.

Many would point to the expansive, light filled new library as Cindy's greatest achievement as Director, but she is proudest of increasing the visitor numbers from 58-60,000 to 90,000. She cites increased programming as a lure for more visits to the library.

She is also proud of how she overcame her fear of public speaking by visiting groups in the area to educate them on the need for new facilities and to help them understand the need for services as well as books. During the lead up to the vote on the warrant article, she spoke to every group in the community. She was also known to give impromptu and scheduled tours of the damp old library basement and boiler room to emphasize the need for action. This well planned community education led to a vote of 80% the first time around and made fundraising much easier. Serving as Master of Ceremonies at the Friends' Book and Author Luncheon was also good practice for her speaking skills.

When planning for the new library began, Cindy was eager to figure out what would fit on the property and what a new building in the 21st century would need to be. She noticed in 2010 that statistics were starting to shift, and she wanted to have a part in designing a building that would be built on new trends and not old



expectations. Three weeks after construction on the spacious new facility was completed, the world shut down because of the COVID pandemic. Cindy and the staff had to adapt library services. The library was able to reopen in June of 2020 because there was enough space in the new facility to spread out patrons and activities.

Cindy is married to Bill Morrison, owner of an online book business and avid pickle ball player, whose tournaments will direct some of their travel far and wide. Cindy too, would like to become a competent pickle ball player in her spare time. She is thankful to the Trustees, the Friends, the Foundation Board and the Staff for helping to make her time at the Library so fulfilling.

Make New Friends But Keep The Old

Membership in the Friends of the Library has been strong, showing community appreciation for all that Cindy and the staff have done, from the building of the beautiful new facility to coping with the openings and closings caused by the pandemic. Last year, (Membership year ending May 31) we registered 231 members, of which 30 were new members, representing 159 member households. In addition contributions over and above membership dues totaled \$4800.

This year, so far, with many months to go in the membership year we have 211 members from 152 households and 47 of these are new members. We have to give some credit to Peg Mongiello's cheery entreaties for membership at the summer book sale. Dues and contributions to date are over \$10,000.

Membership Chair Judy O'Keefe looks forward to hearing from old and new friends of the Library every year. We can never have too many friends...or books.



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE BOOK & AUTHOR LUNCHEON FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2022

Plans are under way for the 37th annual Friends Book and Author Luncheon set for **Friday, June 3, 2022**, at Bald Peak Colony Club. The event offers attendees not only the opportunity to see and hear from top-notch authors and enjoy a delicious lunch, but a chance to support the library, too. Raffle tickets for our themed gift baskets will also be available. Authors will be announced, and reservations will be accepted in the early spring of 2022 So, mark your calendar, and be sure to renew your Friends of the Library membership to receive advance notice of ticket sales.

SUCCESSFUL BOOK SALE!

The Friends sponsored a very successful Book sale and raffle as part of the Wolfeboro Library Open House in the end of July. Over 1500+ books were sold and over \$1400 was raised. Many excited readers relished in the multiple titles, and many new friends became part of our Friends. In addition \$850 was raised from the multiple raffle baskets. Thanks to all of our volunteers who helped set up, tear down and work the sale.

Friends Help Expand the Children's Program and Resources

The Children's Department at the library has come alive under the guiding eye of Jeannie Snowdon. With money from The Friends, a new pop up tent was used on Thursdays during the summer at the Farmers' Market as Jeannie read, blew bubbles and laughed and learned with the children. Two very successful programs, also backed by the Friends, are Learning Book Bags which give a child some books to read and accompanying activities to take home and 1000 Books which encourages families to read together 1000 books before a child is five. The Friends also helped expand technology for children through the purchase of laptops and software tools. Youngsters can play educational games as well as read on these new devices. Additional resources include entertaining puppets and much more.



New Technology Resource on Staff

Welcome Mike Babylon to our terrific Library Staff ! Mike and his wife, Ivette, have been residents in Wolfeboro for 16 years. During that time, Mike has been a loyal Wolfeboro Library patron, part of the Friends, a Trustee and now IT Coordinator. Mike has always liked computers and is self trained, still learning every day. He had three weeks training with Dave Shea on the specialized library systems and has received a great deal of support from the wonderful staff. Mike's life career, until he was forced to retire at 65, was as a pilot for 34 years with both US Air and Jet Blue. He has also worked as a math tutor but finds this job "challenging and enjoyable."



LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE HARD AT WORK

The Landscape Committee has hired the Horsley Witten Group to execute the landscape Plan for the library. This is being funded entirely by private donations and includes many ideas the public shared at the Charette on September 21st. These include a children's reading area, flower garden, wetland protected area, quiet reading place, and tree shading. One step is to reclaim the stone wall back in the wooded area which was used as a passage way for animals. Decisions are still being made on snowplow accommodations and use of native plants. Watch for work to begin this spring.

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