

Facilities:

The library staff developed a plan to make an area in the front of the building available as a quieter area for people to work in. While it still cannot truly be called a quiet study area, it is as far away from the circulation desk and the children's area as possible, making it a potentially quieter space depending on what else is happening in the library. In order to create this space three book stack units and several other pieces of furniture needed to be relocated. The library staff temporarily removed all the books and staff from the Public Works/Solid Waste Department helped with the moving of the stacks and other furniture. While we are still working on relocating several collections into the temporarily emptied stacks, feedback from library users has been very positive about the changes.

Staff Development:

The library staff participated in two special staff workday during the month of May. Activities included relocating and expanding the young adult section, reorganizing the biographies, and relocating reference materials. Special project days allow the staff uninterrupted time to accomplish long term or complex goals.

Library Director Cindy Scott attended the NH Library Trustees Association conference in Concord, NH on May 23rd along with two members of the Board of Trustees. As usual the conference was inspiring and provided plenty of useful information.

Other:

Library staff provided proctoring services for three exams during the month of May. Libraries are one of the few places most distance learning providers will approve for their students when they need to take their exams.

Programming:

The library presented 20 programs during May. The programs included book discussions, nursery school visits, a Humanities Council presentation on Afghanistan, a travel film, and a genealogy program. Three hundred twenty-two people attended the various programs. Attendance at programs during the month was 50% higher than in May 2015.

Statistics:

All of the statistics for May 2016 show an increase over 2015 figures. Circulation increased by 4%, the number of people who visited the library increased by 6%, the number of reference questions asked increased by 5%, and Internet use increased by 7%. Year-to-date the figures for circulation are up by 4%, for patron visits they are also up by 4%, and Internet use for January through May is up by 43%. The library continues to be having an exceptionally busy 2016.