

Director's Report to the Library Commission

May 20, 2024

Budget News:

- We received two State Grants this month. deliverIT CT (statewide library delivery service) brought in a \$828.00 borrowIT grant which is calculated based on our circulation of items to nonresidents (patrons from other towns in the state using Ledyard Public Library). The Public Incentive Grant in the amount of \$1,442.00 was obtained because our Collection Management Policy was submitted to the State Library along with our submission of the Annual Report of CT Public Libraries. These grants will go into our Special Revenue Account (Library Commission budget) and must be used for general library purposes.
- Update to Library Giving Day: Five additional donations came in since my April report! Ellin Grenger on behalf of the Library Commission, Curren Landsiedel, Alicia Beebie, Barbara Savage, and Harry and Marie Tobiassen all made contributions which brought the total for Library Giving Day up to \$1,175.14 for 2024. Thank you to all who made donations. We appreciate your support!

Library News:

- I scheduled an all staff meeting on Friday, May 31, so the Bill Library will close at 1:00 p.m. that day. This is an important time for staff to come together once a year for professional development and review of procedures/policies. Although this is not required, staff are encouraged to attend. All attendees will be paid for their time.
- We are gearing up for summer and everyone is working hard to prepare. Registration opens May 31 for the Summer Adventure Program (Children and Teens) and participants can begin logging adventures starting June 15. Adult Summer Reading begins on June 15.
- An ebook bill was presented to the CT General Assembly during their Legislative Session this year, but it did not pass.

Building News:

- There is only one light switch that controls all the basement lights at Gales Ferry. Now that we are using the space more than ever for programming/presentations/lectures that sometimes require the use of the projector, it would be helpful to split up the lights so we can turn a section off without it being completely dark. Our Public Works team reached out to an electrician for more information.
- Our mailbox was hit during all the construction on the sewer line/multi-use pathway. I am working with Public Works, but we are holding off on fixing it permanently until the construction is finished in our area.

Town News:

- The multi-use pathway project is underway. A pre-blast inspection was conducted at Bill Library on April 29, 2024. The inspector reported back that both the old and new foundation look to be "in good condition." Blasting occurred the morning of May 8 and again May 14 and seemed to go off without a hitch. The sewer line will go in first followed by the sidewalk/pathway. A small sign by the road indicates "Library open during construction." Flaggers are stationed to help monitor the flow of traffic when the entrance ramp to the Bill Library is disrupted or down to a single lane. Thank you for your patience during this project. We hope to have the Bill Library sign back up as soon as we can.

- The Town of Ledyard FY25 annual town budget meeting is scheduled tonight, May 20.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Smith
Library Director