

Parsons Memorial Library
2017 Annual Report
(Fiscal July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018)

Last year was focused on building and grounds upgrades. Much needed masonry repairs included extensive repointing and landing replacement. Trees on the lawn were pruned heavily to remove deadwood and fertilized. Thanks to a Canopy grant the town received, the library has two new maple trees. Efficiency Maine provided us with a Small Business Initiative that allowed us to upgrade to LED lighting throughout the library. Two of the library gardens have been overhauled with many thanks to Lois Delp and Su LaChance for their efforts.

The 2017 Children's Summer Reading program was a big success. The end of the summer finale featured a magic show funded by the Maine Public Library Fund (Income tax check-off "Many small donations make a big difference!") and was one of the best attended events at the library ever.

Summer concert series-Thanks to funding by the Jose Fenderson Trust the library presented its first ever concert series starting in May 2018. Featuring a mix of musical styles the concerts on the lawn and indoors have been well received and will continue through August.

The Friends of Parsons Memorial Library continue to raise funds to support library programs, services, and needs. Our major fundraiser, the Alfred Festival Day Book Sale, brought in funds that supported several programs. These included providing supplies for the summer reading program, purchasing passes to the Children's Museum and the Sanford Mainers, and underwriting the Library Scholarship which is given to a graduating high school senior who is a resident of Alfred. This year's recipient was Jackson Pierce. The Friends' fundraising efforts also support the purchase of "big ticket" items that fall outside of the library budget. Recently the Friends have purchased a large-screen TV and the Event Signs which are placed near the road in front and back of the library to announce programs. The Friends also provided refreshments for several library events, decorated the library during the holidays, and hosted the ever-popular Cabin Fever Potluck in the winter. This year's event, held on St. Patrick's Day, featured Irish-themed trivia and an Irish spelling bee. The Friends have set up an email announcement system. If you would like to be notified of upcoming events at the library, please provide your email address to the librarians. The Friends are grateful to the many community members who support our efforts by attending events and donating baked goods. The Friends meet at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month (except January and August) and all are welcome to join us.

Free downloadable eBooks for a variety of e-readers are available by signing up for a Portland Public Library card. Residents of York County are eligible for a free card through the Partner Library (PAL) program. Membership in the PPL gives access to a number of online services. This program also offers **downloadable audiobooks**.

Friends of the Library ongoing book sale in the library Community Room. Hardcover \$1.00, Paperbacks .50 Fill a PML tote bag with books for \$12.00. All proceeds support library programs.

The Friends continue to fund a discount museum pass. Up to 4 people can use the pass to the Children's Museum of Maine and only have to pay 50 percent of the fee for entry.

Programs and meetings:

Preschool Story-time. Tuesdays at 10 am.

Ukulele Strummers of Southern Maine-first Sunday of each month from 1-3 pm

Friends of the Library: 1st Wednesday of each month at 7 pm

Book Discussion group: 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Library Board of Director's Meeting: 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 pm



The Parsons Memorial Library
World Class Book Cart Drill Team
Alfred Festival Grand Parade 2017