

DARTMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARIES

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

2007

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Kathryn Murphy-Aisenberg, Chairman	Term Expires 2008
Rachel Charrier, Vice Chairman	Term Expires 2010
Andrew Couto	Term Expires 2010
Hope Atkinson	Term Expires 2008
Paul Pereira	Term Expires 2009
Martha Munro (deceased)	Term Expires 2009

LIBRARY STAFF

Denise Medeiros	Director of Libraries
Lynne Antunes	Assistant Director of Libraries/Branch Librarian
Sharani Robins	Information Services Librarian
Joanne Sousa	Children's Librarian
Brian Walsh	Information Services Librarian
Audrey Quail	Administrative Clerk/Computer Coordinator
Joan-Marie Proulx	Branch Associate
Paula Sitarz	Branch Associate
Deborah Collins	Pre-Professional Library Assistant
Katherine Gomes	Pre-Professional Library Assistant
Ann-Margaret Neenan	Pre-Professional Library Assistant

Deborah Tripp	Pre-Professional Library Assistant
Juvenal Sousa	Head Custodian
Jerome Mello	Maintenance Custodian
Tyler Gagné	Page
Urszula Mikolajczak	Page
George Ripley	Page/Library Substitute
Katie Surprenant	Page/Library Substitute
Sheri Torres	Page/Library Substitute
Marcia Beardsley	Library Substitute
Pauline Bowcock	Library Substitute
Shirley DaSilva	Library Substitute
Judith Lariviere	Library Substitute
Susan Hess	Library Substitute
Joan Foster	Library Substitute
Karley Spencer	Library Substitute
Dolores Tansey	Library Substitute

DARTMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARIES

GENERAL INFORMATION

Southworth Library, 732 Dartmouth Street, is open 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; on Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Telephone 999-0726; FAX 992-9914

North Dartmouth Library, 1383 Tucker Road, Temporarily Closed

Russells Mills Library, 1205 Russells Mills Road, Permanently Closed

CIRCULATION STATISTICS

Fiscal Year 2007

	ADULT	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Books	90,303	73,307	163,610
Periodicals	10,384	391	10,775
Audio Cassettes, Compact Discs	14,747	2,841	17,588
Video Cassettes/DVD's	37,196	19,753	56,949
Miscellaneous	505	58	563
Totals	153,135	96,350	249,485

Number of volumes held at end of reporting year	128,799
Number of subscriptions	213
Number of audio cassettes and compact discs held at end of reporting year	4,090
Number of video cassettes and DVDs held at end of reporting year	5,850
Number of inter-network transfers (SAILS)	72,805
Number of public Internet computers	21
Number of reference transactions	64,125
Number of children's programs held	314
Total attendance at all children's programs	5,262
Total number of adult and YA programs	106
Total attendance at all adult and YA programs	1974
Number of registered borrowers	20,512
Door counts for Southworth and North Dartmouth Branch	209,136

EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

Fiscal Year 2007

Expenditures for Books, Periodicals, and Audio-Visual Materials	\$164,832
Money Received for Fines, Lost Books, Lost Cards and Photocopiers	\$16,193

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

It has been a time of sadness for the Board of Library Trustees. In January of 2007, Ralph Schmarsow resigned from the Board of Library Trustees due to ill health. Ralph passed away May 25, 2007. Paul Pereira was appointed by the Trustees and the Select Board to complete the unexpired term. On December 18, 2007, current library trustee, Martha Munro, died suddenly from heart complications. Both Ralph and Martha will be deeply missed by the library community.

STAFFING IN 2007

Library staffing remains far below adequate levels. Four staffers retired in 2007: Kathleen Whittaker, Branch Associate; Mary Collins, Judith Lariviere and Susan Hess, Pre-Professional Library Assistants.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

“Catch the Beat’ @ the Dartmouth Public Libraries” was the theme of the 2007 Summer Reading Program. Approximately 400 participants attended the summer reading finale that included a cookout presented by the Ninety-Nine Restaurant & Pub.

NEW CHILDREN’S AREA AT SOUTHWORTH

Due to the downsizing and subsequent closure of the North Dartmouth Branch facility a new children’s area was opened in the lower level of the Southworth Library. It opened

to the public on January 29, 2007. The staff has received many positive comments about the new use of space and business is booming.

CHA-CHA-CHA-CHANGES!

The Russells Mills Branch Library closed permanently in July Of 2007 due to budget constraints. The North Dartmouth Branch closed temporarily from July 1- December 31 due to lack of funds. The circulation desk at the Southworth Library was replaced in July in order to consolidate staff to one service desk on the upper level to help with staff reductions. A self check out system was installed this spring allowing patrons to check out most of their own material and pick up and check out their own hold items. The auto-attendant on the telephone system has been activated due to staffing levels. A library book drop was installed at Town Hall to try make things more convenient for patrons with the branch closings.

FRIENDS OF DARTMOUTH LIBRARIES

In 2007, the Friends group continued to provide the community with a variety of programs and activities. The Friends recently acquired a container from Hands Across the Water, an organization that sends books to needy communities across the nation. Any of the books that the Friends cannot use are packed up and donated to this group for the benefit of others. The annual Art Film Series was well attended and well received. The Friends also held a pajama story time and an ice cream social featuring Showstoppers. Four book sales were held by the Friends in March, July, September and December. Throughout the year the Friends have continued to give their generous support to funding children's programming and museum passes. Many thanks for all their time and hard work.

DARTMOUTH LIBRARY FOUNDATION, INC.

Early in 2007, the Library Foundation received its official 501(c) (3) status. A fundraiser in March, Murder at the Library, was attended by over 200 people who had a great time as they assisted in solving “the crime.” A rental collection of bestselling books and dvds has been established by the Foundation to help with the lack of funds in the book budget. A Bucks for Books campaign has raised over \$18,000 to help supplement the Town appropriation and retain the library’s certification and reciprocal borrowing privileges statewide. The Foundation held its annual meeting in October. Dr. Robert Waxler, co-founder of the Changing Lives Through Literature Program, was the guest speaker.