



Winter /Spring 2014
Volume 11 Issue 1

Northeast Harbor Library

Serving the Towns of Mount Desert and Cranberry Isles

Extended hours and fine free...there are great things happening at the library!



For those of you who just must pay something when you're late, there is a "conscience jar" on the desk where you can drop in a few coins.

The other big change at the library are the new extended Saturday hours. Beginning February 1, 2014, the library is open from 9am to 5pm every Saturday, year round. We are showing free films for children on Saturday afternoons during the cold months...popcorn included! It's wonderful to see cars filling the parking spaces in front of the library on Saturday afternoons. Our new hours allow people who can never visit the library otherwise to come in and check out a book or catch up with their neighbors.

Beginning early in 2014, the Northeast Harbor Library made two changes that buck the trend in many libraries these days.

We hope you will come in soon! There are great things happening at the Northeast Harbor Library in 2014.

First, we stopped charging fines for overdue items. What, you say?! Don't people just keep their library items forever? Well, actually it turns out our patrons are generally responsible, library loving people and they understand that the items we buy are for everyone to share and enjoy. After some number crunching, we decided that the amount of money we were making from overdue fines just barely offset the amount of money it cost us to collect the fines. So far, we've been very pleased with the change. So, borrow our books and our films and bring them back when they are due. And if you are a day or so late, it's OK! No fine!



Thank You 2013 Donors

The Northeast Harbor Library wishes to thank all the generous families, individuals, municipalities, businesses and foundations who supported our mission of free access to library materials and programs for the towns of Mount Desert and the Cranberry Isles and our work as school library for the Mount Desert Elementary School. We are also grateful to supporters of our scholarship program. Thank you. Your support makes all the difference!

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- * Our summer book sales
- * Gardening and landscaping
- * Our recycling

Want to help the library save money and minimize our environmental impact? Sign up to receive your newsletter online! Email Brook at bminner@nehlibrary.org Thanks!

2014 Beverly Coleman Award

The Scholarship Committee of the library is pleased to announce the 2014 Beverly Coleman Award recipient, Gretchen Blank.

Gretchen is a student at the University of Maine in the Veterinary and Animal Science Program where she, among many other things, currently milks cows a couple of times a week! Gretchen plans to attend graduate school to become a veterinarian and hopes to open a vet practice of her own with a focus on small domestic animals and wildlife rehabilitation.



The Beverly Coleman Award was established in 2010 by Dr. Douglas Coleman and Thomas Coleman in memory of Beverly, Dr. Coleman's wife and Thomas's mother. Beverly was a long-time library volunteer and was also involved with many other community organizations such as the Wild Gardens of Acadia. Students eligible for this award must already be recipients of the Northeast Harbor Library Scholarship, have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and share Beverly's passion for community service, conservation, horticulture and history.

Northeast Harbor Library

P.O. Box 279

Northeast Harbor, Maine 04662

www.nehlibrary.org

207-276-3333

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

9 am to 6 pm

Wednesday: 9 am to 7 pm

Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm

From the President of the Board...

This year the Summer Residents Association and the Town of Mount Desert joined forces to fund a part-time position and hired Jackie Hewett as Economic Development Director for our town. She's doing a wonderful job, and our Library Director, Brook Minner, is one of the people working closely with Jackie to breathe new life into Northeast Harbor.



To help with the effort, we've taken two specific actions at the library. We have eliminated fines for overdue books and extended our hours. Now, we're open Saturday afternoons all year round. These may seem like small steps, but they'll help make our town a friendlier, livelier place.

People ask us, "But how can you not have fines? Won't people just hang on to their books and movies?" Remarkably, that's not the case. Most people want to do the right thing, and the people who use our library understand that it's a privilege to have access to books, movies, and other materials. They still bring things back on time. And, if they're a few days late, it's fine. No fine!

Our Saturday afternoons were a huge hit last winter. We had popcorn and movies for children in the Mellon Room and a nearby destination for those of us sick of the inside of our houses – and heads.

We believe that our library is a big part of what makes this such an attractive village to live in and visit. Stop by and check out the programs we've got planned for spring and summer, and pick up a new book while you're here. And don't worry if you keep that book an extra day or two. We're glad you're enjoying it. That's what life's all about.

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