

THE SHERMAN LIBRARY

Annual Report

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I find it hard to believe that it has been just one year since the community welcomed me as the Executive Director of the Sherman Library. It has been an incredibly busy twelve months, and I have truly enjoyed working with our capable library staff to bring our patrons an excellent experience at the library.

Before I stepped into my new role, the library sent out a town-wide survey asking a range of questions about the services that the library offers. The responses told us that you are interested in more adult programming, that being greeted by friendly and knowledgeable staff is important to you, that you would like to see an improved website, and that you want more events for seniors during the day.

With these requests in mind, we set to the task of improving our patrons' library experience. Over the past year the library has increased adult programs by over 50%. We have brought in a diverse range of speakers and activities for the adult population while continuing to offer quality children's programs. We have coordinated with local organizations to expand our reach into the community. We have also started offering programs at different times and on the weekends in an effort to include more seniors and weekenders. While our staff has always been helpful and had the patrons' needs in mind, I have prioritized listening to your requests and applying your input towards an even better library experience. I pride myself in being accessible and proactive.

An improved website is currently being developed and we hope to see its debut before the end of the fiscal year. With that in the works, we have continued our efforts to spread the word about all the great things going on at the Sherman Library: our e-newsletter has been enhanced and arrives in e-mailboxes weekly. In an effort to improve the circulation of books, a "New and Interesting" table has been added near the circulation desk, and has been garnering much attention from patrons as they enter the library. We have also added a "What's New" e-newsletter that highlights books that have been added to the library collection.

As technology advances, we continue to evolve our library services. Digital services like Hoopla, Overdrive and RBDigital remain popular with patrons wishing to access ebooks, audiobooks, videos, music, and magazines. We have recently added digital access to the New York Times, which patrons can access remotely.

The Sherman Library is dedicated to fostering lifelong learning by providing access to information, knowledge, and ideas. We strive to enrich lives, build community and nurture success by bringing people, resources, and ideas together.

Our library is the heart of Sherman. It welcomes patrons under a year old, serves to meet the needs of seniors in our community, and enhances the lives of everyone in between, from new readers to students to entrepreneurs. That entails a wide range of knowledge and interests, but this library is capable of meeting our patrons' needs. With the hard work of our excellent staff, the direction of our talented board members, the contributions of our many dedicated volunteers, and with the generous support we receive from the town and from members like you, we are ready to meet the needs of our changing future.

Respectfully Submitted,



Executive Director of the Sherman Library



Highlights of 2018-19

- The Sherman Library celebrated 117 years of service to the community
- Celebrated fifth anniversary of the Grand Opening of our newly restored, renovated and expanded Sherman Library
- Millie Loeb, Executive Director, retired after 21 years of service to the community
- Ashleigh Blake stepped into the role of Executive Director in September 2018
- Throughout the year the library continued to provide services to the public
- 24,950 items were loaned
- 1,134 books and audiobooks were added to the library collection
- 164 classic, popular, foreign and documentary films were added to the library collection
- 4,569 children and adults attended 321 free library programs
- Sherman Library cardholders enjoyed our free digital resources including Hoopla, Overdrive, researchIT and RBDigital
- Patrons used www.shermanlibrary.org to access library catalogs, databases, manage their account, download eBooks and audio books and learn of library events anywhere, anytime
- Generous grants from individuals, foundations and local organizations supported programs and special material purchases

Highlights of 2018-19 *(continued)*

- Members, patrons and the town were informed of library news through our enhanced e-newsletter, website, social media, local publications, and online events calendar
- Our popular programs included collaborations with local organizations, including CT Audubon Society, Jewish Community Center in Sherman, Naromi Land Trust, Sherman Chamber Ensemble, Sherman School, Sherman Senior Center, Commission on Aging, Town of Sherman and the United Nations CT Chapter
- Wireless Internet access remained free for all library users
- The "New and Interesting" books feature table was added as well as a "What's New" e-newsletter that highlights new book arrivals
- Membership donations, fundraising events, in-kind donations and a grant from the Town of Sherman supported the library operating budget
- The Sherman Library participated in the sixth Celebrate Sherman Town Softball Tournament
- The Book Sales, Annual Holiday Party, DuckFest, Golf Tournament and Women's Soirée provided important support for the library materials budget
- Over 160 indispensable adults and students volunteered hundreds of hours in support of the library
- Our talented and friendly four member staff provided outstanding service that was essential for reaching our goals
- A dedicated Library Board of Trustees remained committed to excellence and advocating for the Sherman Library

Programs at a Glance

ADULT

- Annual Meeting – Inspired Spaces – Louis Loria
- Art Show Opening Receptions
- Author Presentations:
 - *Your Special Education Rights* by Jennifer Laviano and Julie Swanson
 - *Birds Make Nests* by Michael Garland
 - *Connecticut Architecture Stories of 100 Places* by Christopher Wigren
 - *Kiss of Sweet Scottish Rain* by Robert McWilliams
- Book Discussions – Friday Evenings
- Coming of Age in Aging America – Film, Discussion and speaker Donna Fedus
- Consumer Reports Sustainable Diet Workshop
- Consumer Reports Protect Yourself from Medical Harm
- Cookbook Club – Lauren Kenney
- CT Ghost hunter – Barry Pirro
- Creating Of The Sea Paintings-artist talk
- Cuban Odyssey – speaker Angela Dimmit
- Culture, Politics and Fake News: Is the UN the answer?- speaker Dr. Robert J. Petrusch
- Frankenstein Double Feature Film Matinee
- Great Decisions – collaboration with Sherman JCC
- Knitting and Needle Arts – Elly Bockley and Amanda Ruane
- Mahjong Club
- Millie Loeb's Retirement Celebration
- News Discussion Group
- Ocean Change, how the opening of the Northwest Passage Affects New England – Breezy Grenier
- One Thousand Bear Project – Artist Presentation
- Ongoing Free Books Cart
- Planning for Social Security: What the new rules mean for your retirement
- Poetry Jam



- Program Collaborations: CT Audubon Society - Deer Pond Farm, JCC in Sherman, Sherman Chamber Ensemble, Sherman School, Sherman Senior Center, Commission on Aging, Town of Sherman & United Nations CT Chapter
- Saatva Yoga – Andrew Cox
- Sherman Song Swap – Al Burgasser and Nancy Walsh
- The United Nations: What it means to the world and us- speaker Miguel Arroyo
- Yoga Nidra – Mariya Hurwitz
- Where Did My Happy and Healthy Child Go? – speaker Tara A. Clancy
- Writer's Group

Programs *(continued)*



ART SHOWS AND EXHIBITS

Kathy L'Hommedieu and Students- *Group Show of Paintings*
 Herb W. Kroeger Paintings
 Great Hollow Artists- *Great Hollow Artists Invitational*
 Mako Kumano and John Charles- *One Thousand Bear Project*
 Clark Gifford – *Grain Paintings*
 Michael Garland – *Oil Paintings and Children's Books*
 Sylvia and Dalia Hierro- *Of the Sea*
 Nancy Astor-White – *Vanishing Cultures*

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

- *The March* by E.L. Doctorow led by Stephanie Spinner
- *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles led by Corinne Kevorkian
- *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China* by Jung Chang led by Pat Endress
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley led by Joseph Keneally
- *The Little Red Chairs* by Edna O'Brien led by Diana Bristol
- *The Tortilla Curtain* by T.C. Boyle led by Cindy Whitman
- *The House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton led by Barbara Griff
- *Rush Oh!* by Shirley Barrett led by Pat Corrigan
- *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* by Michael Chabon led by Cindy Whitman
- *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates led by Lorna Barrett
- *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki led by Corinne Kevorkian
- *Can You Ever Forgive Me?* by Lee Israel led by Stephanie Spinner



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- 100 Book Challenge for Preschool
- Amazing Andy's Magic Show
- Brick Clique
- Chris Lengyel Magician
- Christine's Critters
- Current Events in the Solar System with the McCarthy Observatory
- Dr. Darla Shaw as Sybil Ludington
- Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration
- Harry Potter Trivia Nights
- Library Tour and Cards for 1st Grades
- Make it, Take it
- Mario Kart Tournament
- Preschool Outreach
- Science Tellers
- Sew Much Fun – Pat Corrigan
- Read the Crossover – Complete Crossover playbook
- Scientists are Superheroes, Too with Breezy Grenier
- Sherman Town Halloween Bash
- Sherman Chamber Ensemble Children's Concert
- Take Your Child to the Library Day
- Thankful Tree Craft
- The Sound of Nature's Music – Naromi Land Trust collaboration
- Trick or Treat at the Library
- Volunteer Helpers

SCHOOL YEAR STORY TIME AND CRAFT PROGRAMS

- Toddle Times for Ages 18 Months to Three Years
- Preschooler Wednesdays
- Kinder Crew for Kindergarteners
- Terrific Tuesdays for 1st and 2nd grade
- Wicked Wednesdays for 3rd, 4th and 5th grades

SUMMER CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Book Parties – Zoey and Sassafras and Restart
- Just Dance Tournament
- Libraries Rock – Summer Weekly Programs
- Movie Matinee/Summer
- Preschoolers Wednesdays Summer
- Read to Me Time – Reading Buddies
- Summer Reading Challenge for 1st to 4th Grades
- SciFun for K to 4th Grades
- Story Time Assistants 4th Grade and up
- Toddle Time Summer
- Wicked Wednesdays age five and up

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

- Annual Golf Tournament
- Book Sales September, May
- DuckFest, A Children's Country Carnival
- Holiday Party-Eighteenth Annual
- Membership Appeals
- Women's Soirée



Statistical Review 2018–19

Circulation	24,950
Adult Book Circulation	12,718
Children's Book Circulation	8,368
Audiovisual Circulation	3,874
Sherman Circulation Per Capita	7.6
Population Served*	3581
Library Visits	18,239
Patrons Registered	1,390
Connecticard Borrowing by Sherman	5,220
Connecticard Loans to Non Residents	2,122
Interlibrary Loan from other libraries	1,317
Interlibrary Loan to other libraries	443
Library Holdings	26,796
Library Holdings Adult Books	12,551
Library Holdings Children's Books	11,392
Downloadable eBooks & Audio Books	16,632
Adult Programs	115
Adult Programs Attendance	1,605
Children's Programs	206
Children's Programs Attendance	2,963
Days Open	252
Tax Dollar Support Per Capita	43.9

*U.S. Census Bureau 2010



BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018-19

PRESIDENT, Karen Cardillo VICE PRESIDENT, Lauren Kenney TREASURER, Mariya Hurwitz SECRETARY, Amanda Ruane
BOARD MEMBERS, Elly Bockley, Richard Connell, Henry Cooperman, Hildegard Grob, Laura Jagodzinski, Terence Nolan

LIBRARY STAFF 2018-19

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Ashleigh Blake CHILDREN'S SERVICES, Christine Ranno SENIOR ASSISTANTS, Karen Borneman, Heather Hafer
STUDENT PAGES, Marisa Barca, Susan Hackett, Elizabeth Neunzigi, Cassidy Ranno, Marisa Shiland, Madalyn Smith, Jessica Waldmann

Annual report by Ashleigh Blake. Design and layout by Marie Mulvaney Loria. Photos by Ashleigh Blake, Christine Ranno, Linda Hubbard

Staff & Volunteers

The Sherman Library Association thanks all volunteers for their outstanding support of the library. Over 160 adult and student volunteers contributed hundreds of hours of their time and energy this past year. Whether participating as a member of our Board of Trustees, manning the circulation desk or helping with fundraising events, volunteers are an integral part of our library each and every day. These dedicated volunteers also work behind the scenes on a myriad of tasks. They maintain our building, organize the book sales, design print material, lead book discussions and present adult and children's programs. They vacuum, weed gardens, clean gutters and move heavy boxes. Sherman Library volunteers are committed and enthusiastic. They give our library its character and personality. This devoted group, ranging from age nine to ninety, helps to keep our library operating smoothly year after year. **Our appreciation for all they do runs deep!**



Karen Borneman, Chris Ranno, Ashleigh Blake, Heather Hafer

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Terence Nolan

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Ashleigh Blake,
Executive Director
Christine Ranno,
Children's Services
Karen Borneman
Senior Assistant
Heather Hafer
Senior Assistant

STUDENT PAGES

Marisa Barca
Susan Hackett
Elizabeth Neunzig
Cassidy Ranno
Marisa Shiland
Madalyn Smith
Jessica Waldmann

LIBRARY DIRECTED COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

ART CURATOR
Linda Hubbard

BOOK SALES
Pat Corrigan

BOOK DISCUSSIONS
Lorna Barrett
Diana Bristol
Pat Corrigan
Barbara Griff
Corinne Kevorkian
Stephanie Spinner

CIRCULATION DESK
Diana Bristol

FINANCE
Bill Garrison
Richard Lenihan
Steven Roffwarg

GOLF TOURNAMENT
Al Kenney

SOIRÉE
Josefina Cutrona
Michelle Hodges

VOLUNTEERS

Dave Adams
Andrew Alexander
Missy Alexander
Suzanne Ashley
Marc Audette
Lorna Barrett
Ben Bilbrough
Lisa Bilbrough
Barbara Binzen
Buzz Binzen
Ashleigh Blake
Elly Bockley
Karl Bockley
Ben Borneman
Karen Borneman
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Don Lowe
Janelle McLean
Jeanne McRoberts
Kerry Merkel
Barbara Morse
Dan Mustin
Terence Nolan
Julie Noto
John O'Donnell
Masumi O'Donnell
Kate Ordinas-Lewis
Lorna Peachin
Ryan Peburn
Sue Peet
Bill Petkanas
Christine Ranno
Spencer Ranno
Dee Ratterree
Sheila Reidy
Jeanne Robbins
Katie Robbins
Gina Romano
Steven Roffwarg
Amanda Ruane
Andrew Schoefer
Amy Smith
Anita Smith
Michael Stetson
Stephanie Spinner
Doris Tomaselli
Nancy Walsh
Al Zeisler
Susan Zeitler



Karen Cardillo and Laura Jagodzinski volunteering at DuckFest

Many volunteers participate in more than one library activity

Support of the Sherman Library comes in many forms. We thank everyone who donated funds and materials and volunteered time to enrich our services. Please accept our apologies for any omissions or errors in this report.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Jen Arena | Domenico LeRose |
| Tatum Bowes | Giavanna LeRose |
| Eden Bruzinski | Nicolena LeRose |
| Nate Bruzinski | Sophia Loria |
| Alexa Buffa | Annabelle McLean |
| Maya Clancy | Elizabeth Neunzig |
| Michael Clancy | Avery Noto |
| Maureen Connors | Gwen Noto |
| Doug Conrad | Avery Olden |
| Helena Daniels | Natalie Olden |
| Madelynne Daniels | Elias Osborn |
| Sofia Daniels | Matteo Ordinas-Lewis |
| Vivian De La Parra | Avery Peburn |
| Katie Devine | J.D. Peburn |
| Courtney Dacunha | Celine Przypek |
| Aspen Enger | Zachary Przypek |
| Isabella Fazzone | Dylan Quinby |
| Nicholas Fazzone | Cassidy Ranno |
| Kayla Febbraio | Claire Rocky |
| Kayla Fierko | Lydia Rocky |
| Sloan Gubner | John Romano |
| Susan Hackett | Justin Ruffler |
| Remington Hafer | Marisa Shiland |
| Michael Hatcher | Madalyn Smith |
| Caitlin Jellen | Nina Sprance |
| Tim Jellen | Ava Viola |
| Brady Kean | Lenna Viola |
| Mackenzie Kean | Amanda Williamson |
| Tijana Kanacki | James Wise |
| Colten Kopp | Olivia Zeitler |
| Sandra LeClerc | Shae Zeitler |



Sherman student volunteers helping with Dr. Seuss's birthday celebration



Women's Soiree volunteers



Ashleigh Blake with Pat Corrigan. Recognizing Pat's wonderful volunteer service.

THE SHERMAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Luminaries

Board of Trustees Presidents

- Ruth Brush Rogers 1926-1953
- Mary Pattison 1953-1963
- Wilson Ware 1963-1969
- Charles Duell 1969-1970
- Joyce Ware 1970-1971
- Theodore Hollander, Jr. 1971-1973
- Peter Stearns 1973-1975
- Edward Rizzi 1975-1976
- Flossie Ukena 1977-1978
- Barbara Eells 1980-1983
- Elizabeth Oliver 1983-1984
- Joan Halberstam 1984-1986
- Sharon Carini 1986-1987
- Joan Cannon 1987-1994
- Eileen Rowland 1994-1997
- Lorraine Kupper 1997-1999
- Joseph Keneally 1999-2004
- Clay Cope 2005-2008
- Sharon Danosky 2009-2011
- Karen Cushnie 2011-2014
- Joan Laucius 2014-2016
- Lisa Bilbrough 2016-2018
- Karen Cardillo 2018-

Sherman Library Directors

- Nellie Worden 1935-1952
- Beatrice Perry 1952-1956
- Ann Morin 1956-1964
- Anne Davies 1964-1966
- Elizabeth Oliver 1966-1975
- Carol Brooks 1976-1978
- Nadia Yavanovitch 1979-1983
- Marianne Ogno 1983-1985
- Deborah Froggatt 1985-1992
- Melissa Coury 1992-1997
- Millie Loeb 1997-2018
- Ashleigh Blake 2018-

Memberships, Gifts and Grants

The Sherman Library Association is most grateful for the generosity of our many supporters. Although we function as a public library for the Town of Sherman we are a not-for-profit library. This means that our annual appropriation from the town provides a portion of our operating budget. The remaining funds come from other sources, principally from our annual membership campaign, fundraising events, grants and other donations.



Sherman Library Board of Trustees

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 Julie and Kevin Granville
 Reinhold and Hildi Grob

Ted Rowland

Andrew Alexander
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 John and Candace Evans
 Joe Keneally
 Millie Loeb and Steven Roffwarg

IN-KIND DONATIONS

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 Adams Plumbing and Heating
 The Adventure Park
 American Pie Company
 Agway, New Milford
 Missy Alexander
 Audette Electrical Services
 Bank Street Theater
 Bev-Max
 Big Y, New Milford
 Blake/Bruzinski Family
 Bloomingfield Farm
 Bockley Family
 Amy Bocompani
 Ben Borneman
 Karen Borneman
 Lynne Busby
 Karen Cardillo
 Gloria Chiesi Trainer
 Club at River Oaks
 Renee Collins
 Connecticut Audubon Society
 Richard Connell
 Henry Cooperman
 Trudy Cooperman
 Pat Corrigan
 Costco, Brookfield
 Daryl's House Club
 David Gavin Salon
 Marie Fierko
 Molly Garcia
 Goatboy Soaps
 Great Hollow Nature Preserve
 Hacienda Don Manuel
 Hildi Grob
 Terry Hahn
 Hair by Susi
 Happy Acres Farm
 Happy Rainbows

Harney & Sons
David and Michelle Hodges
Linda Hubbard
Hurwitz Family
The Iron Rail
Laura Jagodzinski
JCC of Sherman
Anne-Marie Kastilahn
Lauren Kenney
J. McLaughlin
Joe's Salon and Spa
Keeler Tavern Museum
Joseph Keneally
Al & Lauren Kenney
Joan Laucius
Kathleen L'Hommedieu
Marie Mulvaney Loria
Hope Lord-Fitness Matters
Don Lowe
Mary Jane Magoon
Christine McDermott
Barbara Morse
Mount Southington
Pam Miles

Dan Mustin
James Neunzig-JP Gifford Catering
New Fairfield Animal Hospital
New Milford Fitness & Aquatic
New Milford Tennis & Swim Club
Terence Nolan
Norbert E. Mitchell Co.
Cindy O'Connor
Old Oak Tavern
The Old Store
The Painted Lemon
Pamby Motors
Bill Petkanas
Pre-Cycled
Professional Water Systems
Prospect Link
Prisca Nail Salon
Quaker Hill Country Club
Christine Ranno
Ring's End
River Oaks Country Club
Jeanne Robbins
Roundabout Theater Company
Ruane Family

Sacred Grounds Coffee
Sizo Salon
Susan Seeger
Sherman IGA
Sherman Sentinel
Anita Smith
Stop and Shop, New Milford
Tasty Waves Frozen Yogurt Cafe
Terston Home Accents
Thorncrest Farm
Thunder Ridge Ski Area
TLC Dog Trainer
Town Tribune
Marianne Vandenburg
Vinnny's Delicatessen
Wetmore Jeep
White Silo Farm-Ralph Gorman
Windswept Tree Farm
Yokohama
Zaragosa

Special thanks to all the people who donated books for our book sales and items for our DuckFest and Women's Soirée.



THE SHERMAN LIBRARY

The Sherman Library Mission Statement

The Sherman Library is a community resource, freely available to all. The library responds to the public's need for information, education and recreation. With books at its core, the library provides a wide range of materials, both print and non-print. It is the community's center for lifelong learning. By incorporating new developments in technology the library ensures that its resources are accurate, timely and responsive to those it serves.