2012 ANNUAL REPORT 2012

OF THE

FORBES LIBRARY

CITY OF NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2012
The Board of Trustees and Its Officers  
December 31, 2012

Russell W. Carrier, President  
Peter N. Rowe, Vice President  
Scott Morin, Treasurer  
Elizabeth Barone Scheirer, Secretary  
Bonnie M. Burnham  
Marjorie R. Hess  
Joseph A. Twarog

FORBES LIBRARY  
TRUSTEES BY APPOINTMENT OF THE PROBATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trustee</th>
<th>Terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George W. Hubbard</td>
<td>Apr.1881 - Apr.1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscar Edwards</td>
<td>Apr.1881 - Oct. 1894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William M. Gaylord</td>
<td>Jun. 1881 - Oct. 1894</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TRUSTEES BY ELECTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trustee</th>
<th>Terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George W. Hubbard</td>
<td>May 1884 – May 1887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscar Edwards</td>
<td>May 1884 – May 1886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William M. Gaylord</td>
<td>May 1888 – Oct. 1894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Clarke</td>
<td>May 1886 – May 1889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John L. Otis</td>
<td>May 1887 – May 1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscar Edwards</td>
<td>May 1889 – May 1895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthur G. Hill</td>
<td>May 1890 – May 1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George H. Ray</td>
<td>May 1893 – Nov. 1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthur Watson</td>
<td>Dec. 1893 – Aug. 1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James R. Trumbull</td>
<td>May 1895 – May 1898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel W. Lee</td>
<td>May 1905 – June 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry P. Field</td>
<td>Dec. 1922 – Sept. 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Gertrude Brewster</td>
<td>Dec. 1924 – Dec. 1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homer C. Bliss</td>
<td>Jan. 1936 – Dec. 1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick W. Plummer</td>
<td>Jan. 1940 – May 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russell W. Carrier</td>
<td>Jan. 1982 –</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alison Lockwood Jan. 1996 – Apr. 2004
Bonnie M. Burnham Jan. 2005 –
Peter N. Rowe Jan. 2005 –
Marjorie R. Hess Jan. 2010 –
Joseph A. Twarog Jan. 2012 –

SECRETARIES

Samuel W. Lee 1894-1905
Charles H. Chase 1905-1938
Walter E. Denny 1938-1939
Joseph Warner, Jr. 1939-1947
Dwight W. Lee 1947-1961
Lawrence E. Kelley 1962-1965
James K. McDonald 1966-1985
Norma Roche 1985-2004
Elizabeth Barone Sheirer 2005 -

TREASURERS

Frederick A. Macomber 1894-1920
Ralph E. Boynton 1920-1922
Edwin K. Abbott 1922-1929
Robert J. Miller 1930-1965
Lawrence E. Kelley 1966-1984
Edward A. Morin 1985-2000
Scott Morin 2001 -

LIBRARY DIRECTORS

Charles A. Cutter 1894-1903
William P. Cutter 1904-1911
Joseph L. Harrison 1912-1950
Lawrence E. Wikander 1950-1958
Oliver R. Hayes 1968-1973
James F. Hazel 1974-1977
Stanley Greenberg 1977-1978
Blaise Bisaillon 1979-2004
Janet Moulding 2004 -
STAFF

FULL TIME
Janet Moulding  Director
Lisa Downing  Assistant Director/Patron Services Librarian
Jennie Pittsinger  Administrative Assistant
Faith Kaufmann  Information Services/Head of Arts & Music
Judith McGowan  Head of Children's Department
Paula Elliott  Head of Technical Services
Jason Mazzotta  Information Services/Head of Arts & Music
Kathryn Mizula  Technical Services
Jason Myers  Maintenance Supervisor
Jason Petcen  Library Technician/Projects Manager
Elizabeth Maguire  InterLibrary Loan Librarian
Brian Tabor  Circulation Supervisor
Christopher Teghtsoonian  Circulation
Dylan Gaffney  Information Services/ILL

PART-TIME
Adam Novitt  Outreach
Stephanie Levine  Children's/Circulation
Martha Thorne  Periodicals/Technical Services
Mark Toczydlowski  Custodial
Frank Heston  Outreach
Benjamin Kalish  Information Services/Reference Librarian
Julie Bartlett Nelson  Archivist
Susan Schaeffer  Circulation
Molly Moss  Information Services/Head of Reference
Daniele Stasky  Circulation
Jennifer Adams  Information Services/Reference Librarian
Sarah Karol  Circulation/Childrens
Susana Villar  Information Services/Reference Librarian
Ryan Duffy  InterLibrary Loan
Clare Cooke  Children's
Steven Stover  Circulation

INTERMITTENT PART-TIME
Sandra Milenski  Information Services
Elise Bernier-Feeley  Local History Librarian
Jane Sommer  Circulation
Ajay Menon  Information Services
Barbara Walz  Book Repair
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maureen Ryan-Wise</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portia Henle</td>
<td>Technical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Carroll</td>
<td>Local History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Grant</td>
<td>Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Kanig</td>
<td>Children's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Rovatti-Leonard</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Shea</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilary Nolan</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Janeczek</td>
<td>Children's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Clark</td>
<td>Custodial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynn Coakley</td>
<td>Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Jarvis</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Eynouf</td>
<td>Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Houk</td>
<td>Children's/Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meredith Madyda</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Son</td>
<td>Technical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaitlin Brand</td>
<td>Technical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte Helmer</td>
<td>Technical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Careau</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Cournoyer</td>
<td>Custodial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Duprey</td>
<td>Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna Edgerton</td>
<td>Circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madelyn Farden</td>
<td>Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Marchese</td>
<td>Circulation/Information Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yolana Pollak</td>
<td>Children's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mairead Poulin</td>
<td>Children's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Regan</td>
<td>Information Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2012 Forbes Library improved the library experience for patrons by renovating the Doland Reference Room and making the entire property smoke free. Although faced with another level funded budget and closing the library on Saturdays in the summer, library usage grew by approximately 20% and patron satisfaction increased. CWMars continued its transition to open source Evergreen software which unfortunately was not fully functional and very problematic for staff and patrons. Circulation functions at Forbes went paperless in November, so due dates were no longer stamped on items as checked out.

**Budget**
- Operating Budget FY12 -- $1,145,747
- Book Budget FY12 -- $145,051
- City Appropriation FY12 -- $1,072,658
- State Aid FY12 -- $38,598
- Clarke & Earle Income FY12 -- $11,500
The library’s operating budget for FY2012 consisted of personnel costs of $949,516 and ordinary maintenance of $196,231 for a total of $1,145,747, which is a 1% increase over last year. Since that amount did not cover increased utility and service cost, the Forbes Library Employee Association agreed again this year to forgo part of their contractual raises by taking only a 1.25% COLA and no step raises. The library continued to close on Saturdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day because of budget constraints.

**Trustees**

Russell Carrier was re-elected as President and Peter Rowe as Vice-President in January 2012. New Trustee Joseph Twarog joined the board in January.

Kari Knapp and Christine Nolan were the recipients of the 2012 Trustees’ Award. The event was held on May 19 in the Coolidge Museum with a performance by the Heart of the Valley Barbershop group.

The Trustees increased the Treasurer’s compensation to $10,000 beginning in FY13 to adequately reflect the increased work load involved in the position.

The Trustees’ Goals for 2012, based upon the library’s strategic plan were to continue and improve annual fundraising efforts, continue to advocate for Forbes Library with the public and with elected officials, and to appoint at least one Trustee to monitor legislation relevant to library funding and be a liaison to local legislators on an ongoing basis and indicate the Board’s position on pertinent legislation publicly and/or directly to legislators on an ongoing basis. Marjorie Hess and Peter Rowe were appointed Trustee liaisons.

Forbes and Lilly Libraries went smoke free both inside the building and on the grounds on July 1, 2012. Bright red signs given to the library by The Hampshire Council of Governments’ Tobacco Free Community Partnership were posted at walking and driving entrances to the Forbes property and by the front door. The patron response was extremely positive.

**Capital Improvements**

The library presented three possible projects to the City Capital Improvements Committee in 2012. The library requested capital improvement funds to build a handicap accessible elevator at the front entrance, replace all library windows, and install a separate HVAC system for the Hampshire Rooms and Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum. The library received the design and cost estimate for replacing all the library’s windows. The cost estimate was $263,390 or roughly $2,000 per window. The estimate for installing a handicap accessible elevator was $300,000.
The Doland Reference Room was remodeled with interest from the bequest of Dilman Doland. Information Services Librarian/Head of Reference Molly Moss designed the renovation with technical assistance from Projects Manager Jason Petcen. They solicited input from the Information Services staff and advice from architect Thomas Douglas. The heavy computer kiosks were removed to improve sightlines and provide more space for seating. Electrical outlets were added to all seating areas and the couches were replaced with comfortable chairs. New uplights were added on the pillars and the pendent lights were upgraded. The reference desk was made smaller, more functional, and moved to a more visible location. The Doland Reference Room opened on June 25 to an overwhelmingly positive response from patrons who found it more welcoming, comfortable, and useful.
Based on recommendations from Michael Marcotrigiano of Smith College the library added trees and more roses to the library grounds. Three new Hackberry trees were planted in the middle grass strip in the library parking lot. A bed of yellow Knockout Roses was planted near the library’s rear entrance. A maple tree next to the driveway by the east side parking area died and was removed. It was replaced with a green ash tree.

**Operations**

CWMars switched from III software to an open source software that can be modified to meet requirements of the network and consortium libraries. The most obvious benefit for patrons is that both Central and Western regions are searched simultaneously instead of separately as in the old system. The changeover did not go smoothly and there were numerous problems for staff to deal with.

The handicap accessible lift was out of service for seven month in 2012, causing great hardship for vulnerable patrons.

The Library Legislative Breakfast for State Senator Rosenberg’s district was held in the Forbes Library Reading Room Friday, January 27, 2012. Senator Stanley Rosenberg, Representatives Peter Kocot, Ellen Story, John Scibak, Paul Mark, Stephen Kulik, and Mayor David Narkewicz were among the political speakers. Other speakers included Jones Library Director Sharon Sharry representing CWMars, Greg Pronevitz from the Mass Library Association, Bonnie Isman from The Western Mass Library Advocates, and Forbes Writer-in-Residence Susan Stinson and City Council President Bill Dwight who gave their personal version of the Forbes Library “story.” Peter Rowe spoke for the Forbes Library Board of Trustees. The Friends of Forbes provided refreshments.

The library held its annual Food for Fines Program from January 3rd through January 15th. All food collected was given to the Northampton Survival Center.

New book display cases were installed in the lobby on either side of the welcome kiosk. These have rotating displays based on themes decided upon by Information Services/Readers Advisory and the Circulation Department.

The library purchased travel mugs with the Forbes Library logo on them to sell. 36 mugs were purchased for about $7.00 each and were sold for $10. The mugs were popular enough that an additional 36 mugs were ordered in June.

Forbes Library participated in the 2012 Pride Parade in Northampton on Saturday, May 12, with a banner, motorized and un-motorized vehicles, bookmarks, and at least fifteen enthusiastic Forbes supporters. Trustees Marjorie Hess, Joe Twarog, and Peter Rowe were there as were library representatives Janet Moulding, Lisa Downing, and Susan Stinson. As always the library marchers were greeted with cheers and many shouts of “Yeah Forbes” and at least one “Thanks for the books.”

Forbes participated in a Pioneer Valley wide online fundraising campaign called Valley Gives Day which was held on 12/12/12. It was entirely an online event, so most of the library’s promotion was done virtually with Twitter, Facebook, email, and on the website. As well as the online messaging, Forbes staff members created a video for the Valley Gives Day and later posted it on the library’s homepage. It was created and performed entirely by staff members and volunteer Alicia Ralph, who did the camera work. Handouts were given to all patrons checking out items, and prizes were offered to donors. 60 donors gave a little over a total of $5,000 which was put into the Second Century Fund.
Anna Gertrude Brewster Children’s Room

Forbes partnered with a few local residents to host CuentaCuentos, a Spanish story time for toddlers ages 1-4 and AmiguitosNuevos an informal Spanish speaking play group for the same ages. This playgroup offered a friendly space for Spanish speaking children and their families to come and play, make art projects, and sing songs while celebrating culture and friendship. The programs ran every other Friday morning in the Community Room.

As usual this year, the Children’s Summer Reading Program included a weekly raffle as well as the Super Tuesday Family Entertainment series. The series featured Ricardo Frota with music from the Brazilian Rainforest, a live owl presentation, furry (and not) friends from the Forest Park Zoo, and Gary Pozzato with his friend Robo. Several thousand dollars in donated prizes solicited by Jude McGowan, Head of the Children’s Department, were distributed to all the children who participated in the weekly raffle.

Gifts

- Mary Ellen Casey of Massasoit Street donated a large Oriental rug to Forbes Library. It is a traditional pattern of reds, blues, and cream colors and was placed in the Coolidge Museum under the White House portraits
- $200 from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts from a fund established by Peter Vogel and Faces of Earth Inc
- $100 gift certificate for Broadside Books given by Michele Aldrich, Hatfield to purchase books
- $1,000 from Mary Harding, Northampton, to be used for “restoration projects”, to be deposited in the Second Century Fund
- $100 from Neal & Dana Salisbury, Easthampton, ½ to be used to purchase audio books and ½ to go to the Second Century Fund
- $3,500 from Edmond P. DeLaCour and the DeLaCour Charitable Foundation, Northampton, to be deposited in the Second Century Fund
- $50 from Deborah Koch, Easthampton, to be deposited in the Book and Media Fund
- $47.23 from Diane Palladino & Ellen Koteen, Florence, to be deposited in the Book and Media Fund
- $5,000 from an anonymous donor through the Friends of Forbes Library to be deposited in the MacFarlane Fund
- $25 from the Lathrop Community, Northampton, in memory of Walter Reiss, to be deposited in the Book & Media Fund
- $50 from Jarrett Burns, Worcester, MA, to be deposited in the Book & Media Fund
- $20 from Teddy Milne, Northampton, to benefit the Outreach program, to be deposited in the Book and Media Fund and used to buy large print books
- $25 from Elise Feeley, Easthampton, to benefit the Hampshire Room, to be deposited in the Special Collections Fund
- $20 from Arlene Carmichael, Pelham, in memory of Emily Rennet, to benefit the Outreach program, to be deposited in the Book and Media Fund and used to buy large print books
• $50 from Johanna Halbeisen, Northampton, in appreciation of the interlibrary loan delivery service, to be deposited in the Book and Media Fund
• $25 from Lucille Stone, Northampton, for Children’s Services, to be deposited in the General Aid Fund
• $25 from Mary Harding, Northampton, in memory of Carl Russo, to be deposited in the Special Collections Fund to benefit the Hampshire Room
• $500 from the Harris and Eliza Kempner Fund, Galveston, TX, as a matching gift from Todd K. Thompson, to be used for children’s services
• $500 from Barry Schechter and Kathy Hibshman, Florence, to be deposited in the Second Century Fund
• $300 from Anonymous to be deposited in the Second Century Fund.

The following gifts were made in memory of Alan Dayno and deposited in the Second Century Fund:
• $36 from Shelley Steuer, Northampton, MA
• $100 from Robert Gold, Burlington, MA
• $100 from Field Eddy Insurance, East Longmeadow, MA
• $25 from Katherine Cohen, Springfield, MA
• $50 from Marjorie & Jeffrey Honickman, Rydal, PA
• $10 from Joseph Straus Jr., Lafayette Hill, PA
• $40 from John Cooney, Bozeman, MT
• $10 from Cindy Harris, Lafayette Hill, PA
• $25 from Keirnan Murphy, Northampton, MA
• $100 from Bruce Goldstein, Northampton, MA
• $50 from Deborah Goldstein, San Francisco, CA
• $10 from Hal & Ranki Hershgordon, Maple Glen, PA
• $25 from Ellen Pollin, Bryn Mawr, PA
• $10 from Michael & Susan Paul, Maple Glen, PA
• $50 from Alama & Irwin Mazer, Blue Bell, PA
• $50 from Peggy Dizel, Westfield, MA
• $50 from Pat & Bob Hursh, Leverett, MA
• $25 from JR Lazar, Austin, TX
• $100 from Barney Bernstein, Lafayette Hill, PA
• $25 from Rhoda Wernick, Holyoke, MA
• $100 from Laurie Blain, Bailey Island, ME
• $20 from Joseph & Gail Mayers, Dresher, PA

Bequests
• $1,187.27 bequest from the estate of Mary E. Flahive to establish “the Honora Flahive Memorial Book Fund” to be deposited in the Garvey Book & Media Fund
Sales
- $52.50 from NEBA/CFASC from sales of books to be deposited in the Special Collections Fund
- $307.50 from NEBA from sale of books, to be deposited in the Second Century Fund
- $3,500 from Boston Rare Maps Incorporated for the sale of maps deaccessioned from the Hampshire Room to be deposited in the Second Century Fund
- $1,500 from Old School Commons/Hampshire Property Management, Northampton, for the Old School Commons lease, to be deposited in the Second Century Elevator Fund

Annual Fund
There was no Annual Fund in 2012 as the library prepared to launch a capital campaign to replace the handicap accessible lift in 2013.

Programming
Adult programming in 2012 was as eclectic and well-received as ever including films, author readings, bird walks, drumming, and pastel workshops. The library’s one-time and ongoing programs were attended by over 7,000 people. The Local History/Local Novelists series, now in its third year, continued to bring together history and literature around topics of local interest. Curated by Forbes Writer in Residence, Susan Stinson, the series was well publicized, attended and received. Stinson was offered a $2,000 honorarium by the Trustees in recognition of her exceptional creativity, energy, and dedication well beyond the regular position requirements. Other highlights of the year included the outdoor concert held on an extremely warm evening in June and, despite the heat, brought out 175 people of all ages. The library also held monthly concerts featuring two local musicians each presenting half hour acoustic sets. Forbes librarians taught several classes including instructional workshops on searching the recently released 1940 Census, using the library’s new catalog system and a basic computer skills class. They also offered individual instructional sessions with patrons on using various e-book readers. The library now has six monthly adult book groups, a record high. Groups discussed popular fiction, science fiction, mysteries, literary fiction, mixed genres and classics. The summer reading program for teens and adults increased its reach and was a fun way to promote recreational reading. Staff and others affiliated with the library wore t-shirts with the slogan “Between the Covers” to promote the program. This year Forbes Library was part of the Center for the Arts third annual Northampton Chalk Art Festival on September 14. Artists created chalk drawings on sidewalks throughout town including the patio in front of the library. The Hosmer Gallery continued to draw hundreds of visitors including to the monthly receptions. Among the many wonderful exhibits, this year the gallery hosted the 30th anniversary retrospective exhibition of the Young @ Heart Chorus.

Developing programming at the library continued to be a joint effort between a dedicated group of staff and a large number of volunteers and community members. The library received much attention and praise for its programming, brought new people into the library and enriched the lives of many in the community. Programming owes much to the Friends of Forbes Library for their ongoing and generous support.

Staff
Forbes Library Employee Association (FLEA) officers 2012 were Jason Petcen, President; Dylan Gaffney, Vice President; Molly Moss, Secretary; and Benjamin Kalish, Treasurer.

Each month a staff member’s name was drawn at random from those names submitted by patrons or other employees for acts of excellent customer service and fellow staff support. In 2012, the six most often nominated employees were Julie Bartlett Nelson, Molly Moss, Jason Myers, Jennie Pittsinger, Dylan Gaffney, and Ben Kalish.

One of the two Forbes Trivia teams, Check it Out Yourself, came in third among heavy competition at the April 6th Trivia Night at the Harp to benefit the new Shutesbury Library. It was a spirited competition with very difficult questions developed by a high school history teacher. The event raised $1,600 for the library project.

The Forbes Local History Scavenger Hunt team, Julie Bartlett Nelson, Brian Tabor, Tex Teghtsoonian, and Steven Stover, did well at this year’s event finishing second overall just a few bonus points behind Mike Ryan’s powerhouse team of local history buffs and Florence experts.

Special Collections

Art work was moved around in different places in the library in 2012. The Seth Thomas Clock in Reference was moved to the north wall so people could see it from the computer and microfilm areas as well as most seating areas in Reference. The painting of Cook's Dam at Leeds replaced the clock above the Reference desk on the north side. The very popular Angel of Hadley was moved downstairs to the east wall of the Reading Room to be more conspicuous than before. The portrait of Governor Caleb Strong was moved out of the Reference Room and now hangs in the reading room with other venerable governors and generals. The portrait of Roswell Hubbard was moved to the east most end of that wall of portraits in the Reading Room, on the other side of the large Kingsley landscape painting.

Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum

A program inspired by Grace Coolidge was held on January 4 as part of the Local History/Local Novelists series. Archivist Julie Bartlett Nelson spoke about Grace Coolidge’s domestic life, sharing images and writings from the Forbes collections; art historian Valija Evalds spoke about Grace Coolidge's clothing, using material from Forbes as examples; and novelist Rita Bleiman, who lives in The Beeches, read from her novel Dirty Tricks. Ms. Nelson made and served Grace Coolidge’s Ice Box cookies and cupcakes to celebrate Grace’s Birthday which had been the previous day.

Simmons Library School student Sasha Nyary wrote a guest column in the Daily Hampshire Gazette about closing the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum (CCPLM) and relocating the collection. The Gazette received many letters from the public in support of the collection staying at Forbes and no letters in favor of a change. The Trustees and library staff heard from many residents and historians in support of the CCPLM.

Volunteer Susan Well created a display about social activities at the White House which included invitations, seating charts, photos, and newspaper articles about the events.

The Coolidge Exercise Horse was loaned to Invent Now, Inc. on behalf of the National Inventors Hall of Fame and Museum in Old Town Alexandria, VA to be part of a temporary exhibit for the museum located in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. This exhibit focused on inventions, inventors, patents and trademarks that emerged from the fitness, nutrition and exercise industries in the US. The exhibit ran from fall 2011 to fall 2012.
Friends of Forbes

The Friends of Forbes officers for 2012 were Martha McCormick, President; Serena Smith, Vice-President; Tim Umbach, Treasurer; and Mikki Michon, Secretary.

Laurie Sanders was the guest speaker at the Friends of Forbes Annual Meeting talking about “The Human and Natural History of the Meadows” on Wednesday, April 4, in the Coolidge Museum. She did much of her research on this important section of Northampton at the Forbes Library. The event was standing room only and very well received.

The Friends of Forbes came in third place and received 333 votes in the Florence Savings Bank Customers’ Choice Community Grants program, and were awarded $2,500.

The Edible Book event was held April 22 in the Florence Civic Center. It was the largest yet with 31 entries and 90 attendees netting $600 to be shared between Forbes and Lilly Libraries.

The Friends of Forbes Garden Tour was held Saturday, June 9. A fundraiser “Silent Cal’s Silent Auction” was held on October 24th.

This year The Friends of Forbes gave $2,000 for the Staff Development fund, $5,000 for the Book & Media fund, $1,100 for the Outreach Car fund, $3,000 for adult programming, $2,000 for children’s programming, $475 to subscribe to Bookpage magazine, and $200 for the volunteer appreciation barbeque.

STATISTICS

July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

Holdings – 199,335
Books – 158,106
Periodicals & Newspapers – 1,260
Audio media – 13,026
Videos – 10,760
E-books (through OPAC) – 9,757
Downloadable Audio (through OPAC) – 3,549
Downloadable Video (through OPAC) – 280
Microfilm – 2,505
Miscellaneous – 56
Number of databases – 17

Circulation – 403,449
Books – 202,819
Periodicals & Newspapers – 12,083
Audio media – 57,126
Videos – 125,084
E-books (through OPAC) – 2,100
Downloadable Audio (through OPAC) – 1,566
Downloadable Video (through OPAC) – 18
Miscellaneous – 1,040
Interlibrary Loan
ILL received from other libraries – 35,238
ILL provided to other libraries – 28,230

Services
Hours library open – 2,276
Number of Sundays open – 0
Attendance in library – 217,675
Number of Reference transactions – 56,835
Number of children’s programs held – 1,107
Attendance at children’s programs – 12,201
Number of YA programs held – 43
Attendance at YA programs – 457
Number of adult programs held – 491
Attendance at adult programs – 7,612
Number of Volunteers – 260
Number of Registered Borrowers – 18,192
Number of Public Use Internet Computers – 27
Number of users of public computers during typical week – 895
Number of times meeting rooms used by public – 726