



## **Wadleigh Memorial Library**

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### **LIBRARY TRUSTEE'S 2014 Annual Report**

The Wadleigh Library's dedicated library staff has continually worked hard to provide a library environment that improves the learning experiences of its patrons. Milford's library is a very warm, welcoming place that endeavors to accommodate the needs of diverse groups of people.

#### **People**

In the Technical Services Department, we said goodbye to two staff members: Regina Short retired in May and Judy Hohenadel announced her retirement in December after working at the Wadleigh for 25 years.

Over the past year, our library trustees have participated in regional trustee meetings. It gives us an excellent opportunity to discuss important issues to our local libraries. A number of our trustees attended the NH Library Trustees Association (NHLTA) conference in May. This was an excellent educational opportunity for our trustees to become better informed regarding many issues affecting libraries such as grants, fundraising, information technology, etc.

#### **Facilities**

Director Michelle Sampson and the staff have continued to work hard to improve the aesthetics and functionality of the library.

Our director, Michelle Sampson, and the trustees have been diligently working with architect Ron Lamarre of Lavallee Brensinger Architects to help us with our upcoming renovation/expansion project. Due to the deterioration of the original building and the costs associated with bringing it into good repair, we decided to pursue rebuilding and expanding the existing structure as opposed to renovation only. Our plan calls for a phased approach, which will include an 8100 square foot addition to the front of the library, then rebuilding the remainder of the library using the same foundational footprint as the existing building. We have presented these plans in a series of open houses at the library; we have also made several presentations to town boards and committees.

We anticipate a 2015 warrant article for the project. While the total price of our project is a steep one at \$5,460,000, the trustees plan to offset the cost with a contribution of \$500,000 towards the project, thereby reducing the taxpayers' cost to \$4,960,000. The trustees have furthermore reduced the cost of the project by spending approximately \$500,000 more in years past with the purchase of two contiguous properties to expand parking; the purchase of new furnishings for most of the public areas; the demolition