Director's Report
November 6, 2026

Circulation Statistics For October: 3,198 items (similar to last month's 3,207 figure).

Print Books Circulated: 2,595

Adult Fiction	Adult Nonfiction	Juvenile Fiction	Juvenile Nonfiction	Large Print Books	Interlibrary Loan Books	Bookmobile Checkouts
855	329	615	268	57	218	253

Other Items Circulated: 603

DVDs / Videos	Attraction / Park Passes	Audiobooks On CD	Libby / E-Books	Library of Things	Puzzles / Games	Charging Ports
48	0	18	508	4	12	13

Patrons/Computers Statistics:

We had **1,625 patrons** visit the library in October, and **192 patrons** use our computers/WiFi.

Exciting Developments

- **HUD Elevator Grant:** I am excited to announce that the Cobleigh Public Library has been awarded a grant of $190,000 to cover the costs of a complete elevator replacement! This project is supported in full by a Public Facilities Preservation Initiative Grant funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FY2023 Economic Initiative Community Project Funding program, administered by the Vermont Department of Libraries. We hope that the elevator will be fully revamped by next summer or fall, after a federal environmental review process is completed and formal bids are considered. I am supposed to attend a virtual informational meeting next Thursday for more details on this process.

- **Burklyn Arts Council:** Thank you to the Burklyn Arts Council for generously awarding our library a $500 grant. We have a piano in our children's room that was recently tuned, but a few keys still need to be replaced in order for it to be fully functional, and with the money from the Burklyn Arts Council, we can now finish this repair project. We also have a second piano (which is intended for use by adults and local performers) located upstairs in our building, which we hope to tune within the next few months.

- **The White Market:** We want to express our gratitude to The White Market in Lyndonville for permitting us to be one of the lucky organizations chosen for their annual "Coins For Community" round up campaign. This year, they raised $2,729.70 for the library, which is incredibly generous and will go a long way toward allowing us to offer additional services, events, and (of course) books for our patrons.

- **GoFundMe:** I recently started a new GoFundMe campaign for the library. We are hoping to raise enough money to restore the stone steps out front, which have started to deteriorate in certain spots. The fund is under the name of the Friends of the Cobleigh Library, because it is

easier to set up a campaign for a non-profit, and they were already registered. Here is the link: **https://gofund.me/83299906d**

- **Vermont Community Foundation Grant**: I earned a $3,000 grant (on behalf of the Friends of the Cobleigh Library) from the Vermont Community Foundation 2026 Northeast Kingdom Fund in order to offer three special initiatives next year — specifically, another American Sign Language (ASL) class for kids, another full year of Chair Yoga, and a new program where caregivers can meet and talk while enjoying a yummy meal, which we hope to introduce sometime next spring or summer. The Friends of the Cobleigh Library also received another $3,500 from the Vermont Community Foundation by an anonymous donor in memory of David Martin.

Programs & Community Engagement

- **Cobleigh Book Club:** On November 17th, the Cobleigh Library Book Club will discuss *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith. Next month, the group plans to read *The Christmas Bookshop* by Jenny Colgan.

- **Author Events:** We have one last author event scheduled for this year. Jodi Lew-Smith will visit the library on December 3rd at 5:30 pm for a reading of her newest book, *Asa James*. Jodi will also talk about the history of poor farms (like the one she grew up on) in Vermont, and then a book signing will follow the presentation. Thank you to Green Mountain Books & Prints for co-sponsoring this author event with us.

- **Annual Book Sale:** Our 2026 Book Sale was one for the books (pun certainly intended). Thank you to the Friends of the Cobleigh Library for hosting another wonderful event! We had a great turnout, and I believe they raised over $1,400. Everything went really smoothly!

- **New Gardening Group:** A woman named Francine Stephens is interested in potentially starting a gardening group at the library. The tentative start date would be sometime in January or February (possibly on Tuesdays, though the time is still being determined), and conversations will typically revolve around topics like soil tests, garden planning, etc.

- **Weekly Programming:** We continue to offer a fun story-time program on Tuesdays (at 4 pm) and on Wednesdays (at 10 am), as well as a Baby/Toddler Play Group on Fridays (at 10 am). This is in addition to our weekly Scrabble group and Chess Club on Thursday evenings, as well as Knitting Club on Saturdays. The “My Favorite Book” program for families also continues to take place every second Saturday of the month, while the Cozy Cat Book Club for kids (ages 8-12 years old) is scheduled for the last Thursday of every month. Furthermore, we offer several recurring programs for adults, including Chair Yoga (first Friday of the month), a Romance Book Club (every other month on the second Tuesday), and a Spanish Conversation Club (the last Tuesday of the month).

Respectfully Submitted,

Kaitlin Wood
Library Director
Cobleigh Public Library