

# **KELLEY LIBRARY TRUSTEES REPORT**

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2020 brought a lot of changes to the Kelley Library. First, we saw two retirements. Director, Alison Baker retired in February after many years of service. Alison oversaw the library through a period of great change. Under her leadership the library modernized in many ways. The physical plant saw many updates, this included updated technology for patrons, a new roof, exterior paint, carpeting, flooring, furnishings, and air conditioners. Through her careful management the library building is well poised to continue to serve the town of Salem well for many years. Alison presided over a huge transition in terms of access to materials. While physical materials continue to be the library's primary resource, we began offering a wide array of digital materials. Her careful management of the library collection allows Salem's users to access resources in several different modalities.

When Alison retired our Assistant Director, Natalie Ducharme began serving as Interim Director. She moved into this role just as the pandemic began. Shortly thereafter our search for a new director failed. We hired an individual who ultimately chose to take another job. Natalie oversaw the operation of the library during lockdown and implemented an impressive slate of programs that continue to run despite the pandemic. Natalie kept the library afloat through extremely difficult circumstances therefore we were delighted to bring her on as our permanent director.

Next, Cindy Jury retired from the Library Trustee board. Cindy is a tireless advocate for the library. Her commitment to customer service and access for all users pushed the library to provide high quality programs and materials to all of Salem's residents. We expect to see individuals run for the vacant Trustee position in the March election. We look forward to welcoming a new member to our Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Norton, Chair