

The 158<sup>th</sup> Annual Report for the year ending 2011

In 2011, our Groton Public Library:

**Gave Away Music.** Card holders downloaded **5,143 songs** to keep via Freegal at gpl.org

**Loaned E-Readers.** 3 Kindles, 9 Nooks, and 1 Sony e-reader are available.

**Installed Self-Checkout.** 3 self-checkout stations were installed (one per floor) for DIY people.

**Created a Garden.** With generous donations from the Madigan family and friends, the library built *Katie's Garden* in honor of Katherine Madigan, Trustee from 1975-2005.

**Lent 231,180 items.** (22 items per capita)

**Served 12,153 library card holders.**

**Had 103,585 visitors.** Per the people counter (and yes, we divided by 2 to deduct those leaving)

**Engaged 6,858 people at 410 programs and special events.**

**Became Smartphone savvy.** Installed a scanner that reads GPL card barcode on Smartphones and used QR codes for Facebook and other links.

**Received 589,308 hits at GPL.org.** To reserve a museum pass, book a room, check accounts, renew books, see what's new, sign up for programs, research with databases, download music or audio books, catch up on FB, scan the calendar and more.

**Held 15 GrotonREADS event for** the book, *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman. Programs included Hmong culture, medicine, music and more. 513 people attended the events including a multi-cultural Family Festival and talk by author, Anne Fadiman.

**Presented 115 adult programs** - pastel painting, whole foods cooking, holiday greens, memoir writing, online job searching, updating resumes, movie making, 3 monthly book groups and a Spanish language group. Speakers included film critic Ty Burr and Everest summiteer, Craig John.

**Challenged 324 teens** to increase summer reading by 10% in order for the GPL Endowment to donate a llama to Heifer International. They surpassed the goal and read **2,439 books for 33% over 2010**. The Young Adult Council planned and hosted their first program entirely on their own, a Harry Potter Trivia night complete with homemade light buzzer and cauldron cakes.

**Offered 204 programs enjoyed by 5,524 children** (82 storytimes, 8 Tales & Tunes, 11 Lego Clubs, 5 Playgroups, and 29 special events). Twenty book discussion groups were held for grades 2-3 and grades 4-5. 21 classes (521 students) came to GPL to study, research and tour. 637 children registered for SRP; **530 of them read at least 2 hours (83% participation)**. Children read **8,121 hours** to have a goat donated by the GPL Endowment to Heifer International.

Respectfully submitted by the Trustees of the Groton Public Library -

Jane Allen

John Kelly

Mark Gerath

Kristen von Campe

Susan Hughes

Nancy Wilder, Chair