

## Abbott Memorial Library

Monthly report for July 2018

Work continues on the exterior of the building. The slater has removed all the slate and laid down water and ice shield. His next step is to install new copper flashing on the eaves and valleys. He will then be able to lay down the new slate and finally to install the gutters and downspouts.

The skylight is being removed from the roof. It looks like it was not original to the building and all skylights end up leaking from the seal after a number of years. It was decided to install overhead lights in the attic to provide a source of illumination that will be lost without the skylight.

Fred Crouse has built a new roof for the basement entryway. The roof will be pitched, unlike the last roof. It will have the same slate on it as the rest of the roof.

The road crew showed up in early July to remove the shrubbery in the front of the building. In no time at all the Mugo Pines were gone as well as one remaining barberry bush. **Engstrom and Tumosa** was hired to prune back the magnolia tree which was planted in 1994, way too close to the building. I hope the pruning was not too extensive, because the fragrance of the blossoms elicits so many complements in the spring.

Most of the lower sections of the exterior walls have been ground out and repointed. The damaged terra cotta from between the upper and lower windows was removed and new pieces were recast in Massachusetts. The new terra cotta has arrived and is stored in the basement awaiting installation.

On July 24, Alicia Millitte, Ruth Fogg and myself met with members of the Lunder Foundation regarding a grant for new technology that we filed with the Foundation. Alicia made a presentation to the members regarding the proposed new Makerspace that we would like to create next to the downstairs meeting

room. If we are awarded the grant we would purchase equipment and supplies and begin to offer classes to Kindergarten through Adult. The classes would be under the supervision of Alicia Millette, who would be paid out of grant money.

A makerspace is a collaborative work space inside a library for making, learning, exploring and sharing that uses high tech as well as no tech tools. A makerspace provides hands on learning, help with critical thinking skills and even boosts self-confidence.

We'll keep you updated on the status of the grant.

The library was offered the use of a glass doored display case on the wall of the Post Office. We set up a colorful collage of the programs and activities that the library offers the community. According to the new Post Mistress, the library can continue to the display case to advertise its programs as long as it wants

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Breault

Librarian