

# Bradley Beach Public Library Annual Report 2006

## **OVERVIEW**

The Bradley Beach Public Library serves the community of the Borough of Bradley Beach. The Library has 5,859 patrons (for breakdown, see attached table of patrons divided by type). The collection has 32,668 volumes, including magazines and A/V materials (videos, CDs, etc.).

## **CIRCULATION & LIBRARY USAGE**

Overall, circulation (books, magazines, videos, CDs, and interlibrary loans) has increased approximately 6.18% over the past year. Adult circulation has increased by 8.99% and children's circulation is down by 1.2%. Money collected from patrons for fines, video rentals and other fees is down by 10% (for specific numbers, see attached tables of Circulation and Library Use Statistics). The Library continues to serve the community at a steady level.

Computer usage at the library has increased significantly over the past few years, with an increase of 6.01% in 2006.

## **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

One thousand six hundred eleven (1,611) new books were added to the adult, young adult and juvenile collections (1,516 were new purchases and 95 of the titles were donated). One hundred four (104) DVDs and videos were added to the collection, of which 22 were donated. Eighty-nine (89) audio books were purchased and 11 were donated. The Library participated in a Continuous Order Plan for unabridged audio titles through Books on Tape. The Library joined a Continuous Order Plan for Young Adult and Children's audio titles as well. The Library also received Large Print books on standing order through Thorndike Press, an imprint of the Gale Group. These additions bring the total materials/titles owned by the Library to 32,668. For further details on collection totals, see attached table: Number of Materials by Type. Approximately \$32,000 was spent on collection materials, including books, audio books and videos.

The Library has access to a variety of databases that are currently offered free of charge through arrangements with the State Library and the regional Library cooperatives. These include EBSCOhost (full-text magazine and newspaper articles), Novelist (reader's advisory), APP Photo Archive (Associated Press current and historical photographs with captions), and eleven different Facts on File databases (history, science careers, etc.).

## **STAFF**

Director Karen Klapperstuck has developed numerous contacts within the state and regional library organizations. She was elected this year to the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA) Executive Board. She also continues to serve on the Executive Board of the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative. She is currently the Treasurer.

Ms. Klapperstuck continues to be active on the NJLA Conference Committee, which organizes and plans the annual NJLA conference each spring. She chairs the Leadership and Education subcommittee for the Professional Development committee. As chair, she runs the NJ Leadership Program entitled Emerging Leaders.

Ms. Klapperstuck was also selected to participate in the first ever American Library Association (ALA) Emerging Leaders program, which will be held in 2007.

Grace Vetrano, Diana Luzsanyi and Louise Akins continue to provide excellent service to the Library and its patrons.

## **FACILITIES**

The roof and bathroom renovation and rehabilitation projects started in 2005 were completed in 2006. The architect firm of Sonnenfeld and Trocchia was contracted to develop and advertise the bids, as well as oversee the projects. The marble in the library foyer was also cleaned and polished in the fall of 2006.

The plaster in certain areas of the Library is still damaged and needs attention. The plaster was repaired in a few places during 2004. But much work still needs to be done. Now that the roof is repaired and seemingly stable, money will be budgeted in 2007 to begin work on plaster repair.

The Library is still not ADA compliant. Shelving is too close together in some sections, the bathrooms are incapable of accommodating wheelchairs, there is no elevator to/from the two levels, and there is no wheelchair ramp or handicapped parking available. However, an analysis of the building has indicated that even a ramp cannot be added without doing major construction to the building. And a renovation plan begun several years ago indicated that any ADA accommodations would result in an unacceptable loss of space. The Board is evaluating the feasibility of a renovation plan that would include an addition to the building, if funds could be raised. The Library began working with Sonnenfeld and Trocchia to develop a Conceptual Design Survey, a long-term building renovation and expansion plan.

## **PROGRAMS**

On-going programming includes the 2 regularly scheduled story times during the school year. Six hundred eighty nine (689) children attended. A book discussion club also meets in the library approximately once a month and has 5 regular members and a number of drop-ins. The Library also hosts a monthly craft bee.

In March, the Library hosted an Art Show and Wine Tasting.

Three special children's programs were held in 2006. Sing-a-long with Irv was held in June with 16 children attending. Thirty-two (32) children participated in the

summer reading program, Claws, Paws, Scales and Tales. The end of the summer reading program was celebrated in August with 22 of the children on hand to collect their prizes and awards. Thirty-one (31) children attended the special Halloween story time in October.

Monthly teen programs were started in October of 2006. Four programs were held before the end of the year. Attendance ranges from 7 teens to over 30 teens, depending on the program.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Klapperstuck continues to maintain the website for the Library. The website includes a web catalog, making it possible for patrons to search the library catalog from home. Other information is available on the site, such as library hours, staff, Library Board of Trustees information, events, etc. The site also includes photographs from projects and events at the library. Changes are continually made to keep the site current and useful for library patrons and the Bradley Beach community at large.

Ms. Klapperstuck, with the help of other library staff, continues publishing a library newsletter. The newsletter is issued on a quarterly basis and includes information on programming, computer classes, and book reviews.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

The Board will continue to update current policies, with a view to creating an official Policy Manual that will cover all aspects of Library administration. Priority areas will be Security, Personnel, Purchasing, and a reexamination of Computer Use.

The Director and Board will seek to hire a number of additional staff members to aid with increasing use of the library and to expand services to the community.

The Director and Board will continue to make restorative and renovating changes to the Library building.

The Board will continue to engage the continuing assistance of the Friends of the Library to raise funds.

The Board and Director will survey Library users and potential users regarding Library resources and services for planning purposes.