

## Director's Report, October 2015

	October 2014	October 2015
Children's books and magazines	4745	4145
Children's media	486	359
Adult books and periodicals	4324	4109
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	4088	3297
Downloadable/Database Usage Ebooks/music/audiobook/movies/mags*	762	1236
Young adult books	506	406
Periodicals in-house usage	513	250
Microfilm use	120	236
Reference Questions	1922	1764
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	440	426
Adult Internet Usage	3803	2757
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	n.a.	599
JPL's wireless usage (counting hand-held devices also)	n.a.	1751
Children's program attendance, includes guitar classes, and class visits	359	309
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	477	483
Young Adult Programs	82	77
Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)	17,454	16,957

### Adult Program Highlights

**Mike Kelly, Award-winning Journalist and Author,  
Tuesday, October 6, at 7:00 p.m.**

**Facilitator: Barb Schuit**

**Attendance: 20**

*Mike Kelly, journalist at the Bergen Record for many years, and author of 3 books, including "The Bus on Jaffa Road: A Story of Middle East Terrorism," is a great speaker, full of interesting stories as to how he researched this book. His goal was to discover and convey the very human element of the story -- who were these two young Americans who lost their lives in this terrorist bombing? He described his interviews with the parents and families of the Americans, but also those with the parents of the bomber. Very interesting dynamics in the interactions in both cases.*



*At the end of the program, Mike told us about his recent trip to Cuba to cover the Pope's visit, as well as trying to track down and interview some criminals from the U.S.A. who have fled to Cuba for refuge, including a woman on the F.B.I.'s most-wanted list (he was unable to meet with her).*

*The audience was very engaged with Mike's presentation, and asked very thoughtful, educated questions. There were many people at this program that I had never seen at our other programs here, so it is always nice to expand the library's reach to another demographic. (Barb Schuit)*

### ***Medicare P's and Q's – Parts, Plans, & Your Questions***

***Thursday, October 8 at 2:00, and Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.***

***Presenter: David Tirpak, CLTC, CASI***

***Facilitator: Barb Schuit***

***Attendance: 45***

*Presented very well by Dave Tirpak, CLTC, CASL. He gave a simplified explanation of Original Medicare Parts A and B, Part C, the need for and difference between Standardized Medical Supplement Plans, HMO plans, and prescription plans. He is very personable and knowledgeable, and the audience responded very well to him, asking lots of questions, which he very patiently and professionally answered. The program was very informative and well-received by those in attendance.*

*(Barb Schuit)*



### ***Open Mic Night***

***Thursday, October 29, 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.***

***Facilitator: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Sharon Castanteen***

***Attendance: 25***

*The headline act was David Podles, violinist, who played a selection of Gypsy (Romany) music and told some of the background of each piece. He is very talented and would be a good performer to bring back for a full concert (classical music with a piano accompanist). There was a large crowd of about 50 people, but many stayed outside in the hall to talk when they were not performing. Not sure if they were networking among themselves or just not interested in the other acts. There were some regular performers and many new ones. A group of regular library patrons are also hip-hop performers. (Kate Cannarozzi)*



### ***Financial Wisdom for Women in Transition***

***Thursday, October 13, at 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Presenter: Anita Srivastava, PhD, Economics Facilitator: Catherine Folk-Pushee***

***Attendance: 10***

*I was very excited about this topic as I thought the information would be very helpful and hard to find or otherwise too expensive for many women. It did turn out to be an interesting program and those that attended took plenty of notes and asked good questions.*

*Anita asked women to introduce themselves, she talked about the importance of setting goals, and she went through a number of possible transitions many women go through such as a change in marital status, retirement, the “I’m really 50” moment, a spouse or family member becomes disabled, and widowhood. She outlined the steps a woman should take she find herself in any of those situations.*



*I loved Anita’s focus on empowering women to take charge of their finances, look ahead, and if they are already in a transitional situation, take steps to make positive changes in their financial future. I would definitely have her back again, maybe as part of a series on financial know-how. (Catherine Folk-Pushee)*

### ***Shapely and Fit***

***Tuesdays, October 6 and 13***

***Instructor: Dahlia Green, R.N.***

***Facilitator: Kate Cannarozzi***

***Attendance: 24***

*Dahlia, a Hackensack resident, nurse, and personal trainer, used uncooked pasta as well as clay and plastic foods to demonstrate healthy portions and better choices on our plates. She brought in elastic exercise bands and showed how simple exercises could make a big difference in maintaining overall health and well-being. Attendees gave glowing feedback, “I learned so much”; “excellent instruction”; and “nice to have a medical professional give nutritional input”. Dahlia was also gracious. Her hands on approach was fun and the audience had many questions for her. (Kate Cannarozzi)*

### ***I’m 55+ What do I do now? Explore ReServe***

***Wednesday, October 14, at 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.***

***Facilitator: Edward Dominguez***

***Attendance: 8***

*A total of 8 people attended the Reserve session, 2 were unable to attend. The participants came from Hackensack (4), Bogota (1), Ridgefield Park (1), and East Stroudsburg, PA. (1). Their professional backgrounds were; Chemical Engineer, Community Activist, Legal Secretary, Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator, Activities Coordinator/Pastoral Care, Paralegal and Medical Technologist/PhD. Psychologist.*

## **Other Events, Clubs, etc.:**

**Book Clubs: 23 Movies: 16**

**Coloring Club: 34**

**A Special Thank you:** From Amy Stewart, the author of the very popular *Girl Waits With Gun*, set in Hackensack! On the acknowledgements page, Ms. Stewart thanks “the staff of the Hackensack Public Library”. She may have gotten our name wrong, but we appreciate the acknowledgement.

**Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Genesis Jais ,  
Catherine Folk-Pushee  
Total Attendance: 36**

Individual computer instruction is for *Hackensack residents* only. This month, the instructors focused on Word, Resumes, Job Search, Email and basic Internet skills, BARD services (assistance with downloading books from state website).

Highlight from Catherine Folk-Pushee

*I had a really interesting session with a man who is currently employed by stringing together a few part-time jobs. However, his ultimate goal is to obtain a full-time position with benefits. I had assisted him in applying for a job in a previous session and he got the interview! So we sat down and performed some research on the company and looked over typical interview questions along with some curveball ones that it are always good to prep for just in case. I also copied and pasted interview preparation tips from several websites and saved them on his flash drive so he could continue to prepare at home as he does not have internet access there. He is scheduled for another session in November so, hopefully, there will be some good news to report.*

### **Inspect Your Gadget Report - October**

- 6 people attended this month  
*Most of the people wanted help with their smartphones. I also had 2 people who needed help with ipads. They wanted to know how to make their email work on their phones and how to use Overdrive to borrow e-books. (Genesis Jais)*

**ESL and Spanish Computer Classes, ESL Volunteer Tutor Training, English Conversation, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate  
Attendance: 46**

**Spanish Computer - total 16 people**

- 9 recurring
  - Ipad assistance
  - How to download books on Overdrive
  - How to find books on ibooks (apple app)
  - download hoopla and Zinio
- 7 new people
  - assist with work application
  - assist with setting up an iPad
  - assist with finding online application for Walmart
  - assist with filling out work questionnaire

## English Computer - total 5 people

- 2 recurring people
  - taught a woman how to copy and paste. When she finally got the hang of it, she started to cry because she had been trying this for the past year and didn't know how to. She is a woman in her 50s who went back to school after her husband died.
- 3 new people
  - wanted to learn about Windows 10 but since our computers do not have windows 10 yet I could only redirect to youtube and windows website. I told him that I could help him as soon as we download windows 10.
  - How to send attachment and pictures through email
  - overview of google email and applications
  -

**ESL conversation class, total attendance: 25** *This Month I started to do something new. I showed a TED video from YouTube about introverts and extroverts. I started a discussion on "what kind of personality do you think you have and why?" Students discuss their personality's traits. (Michele Acosta)*

Michelle was also very busy this month. She presented a program here and participated in two community events for Hispanic Heritage Month. Here is her report:



### Hispanic Heritage Celebration at Johnson Public Library --October 17- 45 people

- This was the first time Johnson Public Library celebrated Hispanic Heritage month
  - The program consisted of food, two short videos and Spanish music
  - The food was donated by restaurants around Hackensack.
  - A suggestion from a patron was to indicate the name of the country belonging to the flag.
  - People watched the two 10 minute videos and ate traditional foods. At the end people listen to folk music.
- I learned a lot from this event about making it better for next year.

### Hispanic Heritage Celebration at Bergen County Administration building October 19

- This program was sponsored by the Latino Advisory Committee of the Board of Chosen Freeholders
- We (Elisabeth and I) learned how a program should be performed
- I mostly wanted to go to meet people that I should reach out to when I hold programs at the library
- They gave achievement awards to Hispanic people around the community.

## **Hispanic Heritage celebration at Jackson School October 22**

- Celebration of Hispanic Heritage month was to introduce parents and children the different programs the library offers.
- Mrs. Recarte introduced us to the children and parents.
- Gladys Cepeda from the Children's Department introduced herself to the children and parents and suggested to programs that are held at the library.
- I gave a short presentation on why libraries are so special to me
- Brochures were left at the main office.
- The presentations of each grade were very educational and reminded me of the presentations when I came to this country.
- The best presentation was by this Ecuadorian family who danced the "el condor pasa."

### **Young Adult Programs Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian Attendance: 77**

**YA Books for Adult Readers Book Club - 10/10 - The Raven Boys by Maggie Stiefvater - 6**

#### **Teen Tuesdays**

10/6 - Video Games/Board Games/ Minecraft - 18

10/13 - Life Sized Monopoly - 14

10/20- Movie: Avengers: Age of Ultron - 14

10/27 - Pop Culture Magnets - 11

#### **Booktalks at Hackensack Middle School - 10/22/15 - 2 presentations – Attendance: 32**

*I am seeing lots of familiar faces at both Teen Tuesday and the booktalks. We are getting lots of kids coming back from summer and added a few new ones along the way. Some of the booktalk girls started coming in 5th grade and are now 8th graders! The middle school is having some trouble getting 5th and 6th graders into the library (They have shortened homeroom and students are herded out the doors after school even when they say they need to go to the library) so that may account for a slightly lower number than in years' past (although 32 is still really good!)*

*One nice anecdote is that a boy who has been coming to Teen Tuesday every week also came to the booktalk (his teacher offered extra credit). He was sitting at a table in the library waiting for the presentation to start when a teacher came in, surveyed the room and asked if this was in school suspension. I explained that the students had volunteered to give up their lunch hour (they bring their food upstairs) and listen to me talk about books. He couldn't believe that this boy was there for the booktalks and not in trouble. I explained to him that the boy had been coming to my programs every week and had been an absolute delight. When I talked to the media specialist afterward, she told me the student had spent all of last year in trouble and had major behavioral issues though she too had noticed he was really making an effort this year. It feels nice to be part of a student's positive transformation. (Keri Adams)*

## Children's Program Highlights



*October was a busy month for the Children's Department: Along with the annual Haunted Library, we began community outreach programming, the kids began their real school assignments and reports and internet use was increased during our after school hours as well as on Saturdays.*

*This past Thursday evening, I attended Pirate Literacy Night at Nellie K. Parker Grammar school. The Johnson Public Library was invited by the librarian there who is terrific, and so anxious to establish a solid working relationship with us.*

*I was given a decorated table festooned with pirate regalia, and I dressed up in theme, even carrying a telescope to spot potential readers. It was a lot of fun and NKP were gracious hosts. I passed out event brochures and flyers, and spoke to a lot of parents regarding what was available to themselves and their children at JPL.*

*The Bergen County Zoo at Van Saun Park visited us for a "Wild and Crafty Chicken Tales" program during our Preschool Story Hour. The two representatives and Butterscotch (a show chicken with feathered 'pants') were wonderful. The Zoo reps read a chicken story to our regulars, everyone learned about chickens and also (my fave part) got to pet Butterscotch! They also supplied a chicken magnet craft!!! This program cost us \$50.00! I would highly recommend the zoo's outreach programs; unbelievable bang for your buck, as it were. (I have two more animal programs via them in November and December, for older children.) A short video is available of this program.*



*As mentioned above, Preschool Story Hour is always well-attended as is Mother Goose Time. The attendance is almost always weather-related because of the ages of the kids attending I think. But the still-warm autumn days have everyone joining us for now.*

*Reading With Rodney continues to be a very popular program and the kids and parents really love him!*

*And again, Lego Day is still a sell-out. We've purchased a few more Lego sets for variety because of this.*

*Video Games on Wednesday afternoons are well-attended, giving the after school crowd something to do if they're not doing their homework. The wrestling programs seem to be the most popular with our boys, while the girls dance up a storm!*

*Last but not least, our Annual Haunted Library was held on the Friday before Halloween. We ran tours from 7:00 until 8:15pm. We have to thank the staff that worked so selflessly to create a terrifyingly terrific atmosphere! (Babette Smith)*



**Yoga Storytime!**

## Professional Development

*Staff Name: Kate Cannarozzi*

*Continuing Education Activity: Adults Just Wanna Have Fun*

*Adult Programming*

*Sponsor: LibraryWorks*

*Date of Participation: October 21, 2015*

*Length of Activity: 1 hour*

- The program was filled with suggestions for innovative adult programming.
- Adults like getting dirty just like children, so give them programs where they can get messy.
- If the participants are making something, they should complete it by the end of the program.
- Go outside the library, ex. literary pub trivia at a local pub or a cookbook author at a local restaurant. I think the pub trivia is a doable idea for us to attract younger patrons.

*Staff Name: Michelle Acosta*

*Continuing Education Activity: Literacy for Life Professional Development Conference*

*Sponsor: Literacy New Jersey*

*Date of Participation: October 24, 2015*

*Length of Activity: 8 hours*

Teaching Grammar: A Deceptively Complicated Pursuit

- This workshop was very helpful since I have students ask me about English grammar rules.

Enhancing Adult Education through Digital

- I took this workshop because I really want to integrate technology into the conversation classes
- It taught me to incorporate TED talks
- Also to encourage students to bring their smart devices.

ESL Conversation Groups that Work

- learned how to make your ESL conversation groups dynamic and effective while being sensitive to individual learners' needs
- learned the objectives of the lesson
- how to adapt lessons to differing language levels
- how to build trust among participants.

*Staff Name: Kate Cannarozzi*

*Continuing Education Activity: Adult Services Forum*

*Sponsor: New Jersey Library Association*

*Date of Participation: October 26, 2015*

*Length of Activity: 5 hours*

- Keynote speaker Erica Freudenberger discussed the library as an agent of change in the local community
- Cooperating with civic leaders and local businesses to affect these changes brought the library to the attention of the community as a relevant resource.
- Paterson librarian referenced the need to effectively manage patrons at the reference desk to avoid physical confrontations between them as they vie for library resources.
- Empathizing with an angry patron while explaining that bad behavior is not allowed, i.e. "yes that other patron is a jerk, but you can't hit him"

- Tour of Monmouth County Archives demonstrated conservation techniques, hi-tech and low-tech for older and more fragile historical materials.

***Staff Name: Babette Smith***

***Continuing Education Activity: Grant Writing***

***Sponsor: Bergen County Department of Human Services***

***Date of Participation: October 15, 2015***

***Length of Activity: 2 hours***

*The Grant Writing class was wonderful!! I think I appreciate classes like this because I don't often find one that is so perfectly applicable to what I do here and also that continuing education is so important to me; that being said, the class was worthy of applause at the end!*

*Estelle L. Rondello, a former grant writer and judge panelist, certainly knew the ins and outs of the subject. She was amazing! In two hours, I learned so many valuable "dos and don'ts". There were things I would have never dreamed mattered! The entire choice process of how and why some grants are given and some not was very interesting.*

*Estelle is also retired and told all of us that she was available via phone if we needed assistance when writing our grants. I've also signed up for several websites which will notify me of new appropriate grants. In conclusion, thanks! I truly enjoyed this class. (Babette Smith)*

## **Outreach and Publicity**

***Hackensack Chronicle***

***October 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 issue***

***Photo and caption, L2***

***"Adults Relax with a Good Crayon"***

***Hackensack Chronicle***

***October 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 issue***

***Photos and captions, page 8***

***"Oversize Monopoly Game"***

***Young Adults participate in a life-sized Monopoly game at the Johnson Public Library on October 13 using big foam dice, stuffed animals and cutouts of the properties.***

***Bergen County Housing Center***

***October 26, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.***

***Private Tour and information session by the Director of the Center, Julia Orlando for Johnson Public Library Security Guards***

Our security guards, Chris and Najee, had so many questions: If I ask someone to leave for odor, where can they go for a shower? Are they necessarily homeless if they have a strong odor? What about banning someone, where do they go? People ask us for food, do they serve food anywhere here? What if the shelter is full and someone has nowhere to go?

Julia Orlando (Housing Center director) was gracious enough to give us a tour and spend an hour and half answering every question. She also gave them her personal cell phone number to schedule a shower. We are addressing the odor issue very seriously this year.

## **Building and Grounds**

### *Worn Carpeting/Tiles Moore Street Entrance*

We are continuing to call Brothers' Carpet in Hackensack for a quote. Dennis from Brothers' has been here to see the premises, yet no response as of this report.

We are getting a quote from a company called "Creative Services". We are considering a tread flooring instead of a tile flooring, as the tread flooring was recommended by Brothers' Carpet when they came.

### *Cleaning Company employee triggered fire alarm*

The worker sent from Cleaning World, who has been cleaning here for at least 10 years, set off the fire alarm Tuesday night by cooking on the premises and leaving food in the toaster oven. The Hackensack Fire Department came but they were unable to turn off the fire alarm. Our fire alarm company, Triad, came the next day and repaired the fire alarm system. I told Cleaning World, not to send this worker again to our premises. I changed all the alarm codes and only gave one out to the supervisor.

*Respectfully Yours,  
Sharon Castanteen*