

Director's Report, March 2017

	March 2016	March 2017
Children's books and magazines	4336	4776
Children's media	358	458
Adult books and periodicals	4145	4283
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	3327	2767
eContent and Database Usage	1989	1461
Young adult books	557	491
Periodicals in-house usage	299	312
Microfilm use	89	111
Reference Questions	1945	1913
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	539	645
Adult Internet Usage	2436	2384
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	863	1102
JPL's wireless usage (reports from our routers, hand devices too)	n.a.	2414
Children's program attendance, includes guitar classes/concert, and class visits	180	380
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	412	496
Young Adults Programs+Outreach	94	104
Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)	14,965	15,585

Adult Program Highlights

**“90s Nick” Pub Trivia at Pointin Still
Tuesday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m.
Facilitators: Genesis Jais, Mari Zigas,
Gladys Cepeda, Braison Travis
Attendance: 50**

90's Nick was surprisingly a good showing. I did not think we were going to get this many teams because the whole month felt rushed and we didn't get to promote it as much as we wanted. I think something that worked in our favor in this particular month as that it was after St. Patty's Day. St. Patty's brings in a lot



of people and we left table tents at the Poitin Still so they were able to find out about it and come back for trivia.

The winning Team: We're All That

Second place: Killer Tofu

*The Poitin Still manager gave out gift certificates for both first and second place.
(Genesis Jais)*

Open Mic Night – Featured Headliner: Dave DeLuca
Thursday, March 16, 7 to 9 pm.

Facilitator: Manuela Miracle, Elisabet Paredes

Attendance: 22

The band, Zydeco Revelators were an outstanding treat! The music was so much fun, and the band put on a great show! I even got to front the band with the rubberboard for a song. The band members also interacted with our audience members sharing tips with other musicians in attendance, from how to deal with tinnitus as a musician to the proper time to string a guitar---right before each show!

This time around we had a comedian, singers, guitarist and a new poet join us. The poets in our little Open Mic got together after the show and talked shop! (Manny Miracle)



How to Read the News: An Introduction to News Literacy

Tuesday, March 7, 7 p.m.

Presenter: Journalist Stephanie Schwartz

Facilitator: Barb Schuit

Attendance: 9

She had an information-packed 90 minutes about all facets of the news, and was very articulate. The small audience appreciated her information. (Barb Schuit)

Estate Management: Estate Planning 101

March 9, 2017, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Presenter: Daniel Nuwash

Facilitator: Barb Schuit

Attendance: 29

Dan Nuwash, a financial planner, and Maurice Giro, an attorney (down the street, in Hackensack) were the presenters. They did a very good job of explaining the various aspects of the need to do estate planning, and did a good job of engaging the audience with one-on-one involvement with questions, possible scenarios to think about and respond to, etc. Those who attended seemed engaged and appreciative of the information they received. (Barb Schuit)

Food For Thought Cookbook Club

Monday, March 20, 7 p.m.

Facilitators: Genesis Jais, Gladys Cepeda

Attendance: 9



Everyone the attended seemed to enjoy this book - because the recipes were simple as well as healthy. Next month's book is Mario Batali's Big American Cookbook on April 17.

Make Your Own Yarn Doll Workshop

March 14, 21, 2017 1 pm - 2:30 pm

Presenters-Cathy Folk-Pushee, Manny Miracle

Attendance: 16

This was a doozy of a program. Manny and I knew it would be a bit of a challenge, but we were up for it. I also spoke to quite a few of the participants when they were signing up to let them know that it was not a beginner level project. We prepared the yarn-wrapped boards ahead of time to cut down on some of the more repetitive work and allow the participants to get right into the more interesting parts. But, time was still a huge factor. Some of the women were much better at the techniques than others, some caught on much faster, some needed a lot more hand holding.

After the first session they all seemed proud of what they had accomplished and after the second session they were amazed at how just wrapping yarn in certain ways could really yield a very cute and sturdy doll. By the end of the second session there were just two steps left in order to add the hair and skirt to their dolls. I arranged a third, shorter drop-in session for whoever wanted a little assistance in completing those last two steps.

I don't think we will try something like this again. It was just too complicated. I'm glad we did it and I will look for similar projects in the future, just not something quite so ambitious! (Cathy Folk-Pushee)

Other Events, Clubs, etc.:

Book Clubs: 11

Movies: 8

Coloring Club: 14

Veteran's Benefits Consultations: 3

IRS 101: 3

**Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Genesis Jais,
Catherine Folk-Pushee
Total Attendance: 24**

Job Search, Applications, and other assistance occurs daily at the reference desk (see statistics on page one). Individual computer instruction is for *Hackensack residents* only. This month: Mostly Excel and basic Internet searching, then, Job Search and Resumes.

Highlight from Catherine Folk-Pushee:

A gentleman I had worked with a few months ago on online job searching returned for work on his resume. He had seen a career counselor who suggested quite a few changes he should make and he wanted a second opinion on their merit. Some of them I definitely agreed with. For example, she wanted him to make his bullet points results-oriented. There were others I thought he could safely ignore. She wanted him to leave off his high school degree which made him fairly uncomfortable as many job ads in his field list that as a requirement. We added some more recent training and continuing education activities to his education section which filled it out quite a bit more. The best advice I could give him was that he had to be happy with his resume and feel that it best reflected him as an individual and a promising employee. Then it didn't matter how many people he talked to for advice. In the end he seemed happy with the finished product and very comfortable with how it represented him.

**English Conversation, Computer Assistance in Spanish and English, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle
Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate
Attendance: 120**

Spanish computer class- 8 people

- Teach Basic Microsoft excel
- How to use free tutoring website gcflearnfree.org to learn more about excel
- How to use sheets - Gmail spreadsheets
- How to use google drive
- How to copy and paste
- How to save a document to USB, computer or drive
- How to save a document into PDF
- How to attach pictures to email
- Open a Facebook account

English computer class - 4 people

The people that I see in English are people whose English is their second language.

- Assistance with tablet - 1 person
- Build resume-1 person
- showed Job and Career Accelerator - 2 people
- Fill out two applications for two different people

ESL Conversation class = 45

At the March 23rd class, The Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University conducted a public outreach survey for New Jersey Transportation Public Authority. ESL students tend to be underrepresented at public meetings. Students talked about transportation, economics, safety and the environment. Besides collecting their comments, this was also a way to make students practice talking about civics and their communities.

Citizenship classes = 58

This month five (5) of the citizenship students passed the test and got their citizenship certificate. They all came back to the class to talk about their experience with the rest of the students. Two of them came with muffins and shared them with the class.

In the beginning of the month I told the students who had their interview schedule for this month to come in for a mock citizenship interview which is a great way for them to practice all the skills tested in the interview speaking, listening, reading and writing.

One on one citizenship class - 5 people

I schedule one on ones for students that had their interview this month. We practice the civic questions and questions from the application. All of them passed!

Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian, Head of Periodicals Attendance: 104 (includes Outreach)

Jerseycat ILLs – 7 received, 1 sent (We were sent an email request from outside Jerseycat)

YA Books for Adult Readers Book Club

3/4/17 - *An Ember in the Ashes* by Sabaa Tahir – 7

Teen Tuesday

3/7/17- Half Day Movie: *Moana* - 16

3/14/17 - Snowed out!

3/21/17 - Trivia - 8 (Liz designed it and ran it, while I assisted her.)

Outreach

Booktalks at Hackensack Middle School - 3/23/17 - 3 presentations - 69 kids total

Children’s Program Highlights, by Mari Zigas

Along with our regular weekly programs that continue to entertain and bring so much happiness to the Children’s Room, we hosted two special events that were so much fun and kids and parents can’t stop talking to us about them.

Read Across America Day (Dr. Seuss’s birthday) is March 2nd and we celebrated it the next day, thinking that a Friday night would bring in a bigger crowd and we were not disappointed! Staff dressed up like Dr. Seuss, Thing 1 and Thing 2 and even some children came in costume! We played musical hats (the children all received Thing 1 hats with their names on them when they came in) and the winner won the prize of a brand new copy of *Green Eggs and Ham*, Dr. Seuss sticker sheets and a *Horton Hears a Who* notepad. Next the children made their own Hortons which came out adorable! While they were working on their crafts, staff hid a whole bunch of green plastic eggs in the stacks. Children then went on a little egg hunt and afterwards received a green tambourine (tambourine) along with their green egg - our version of green eggs and ham which the parents especially found amusing. Our last activity was having a parent and sibling volunteer to read *Green Eggs and Ham* aloud. Before everyone left, we announced the winner of the Guess-the-Number-of-Swedish-Fish-in-the-Jar (our take on *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*), handed out gift bags and then raffled off a whole bunch of Dr. Seuss bow ties that Gavin made out of balloons! The whole event was a hit.



We celebrated **National Maker’s Day** on March 25th. For two hours the entire Children's Room got turned into a maker’s lab where we held the following stations: Legos, strawbees, a coloring wall, activity sheets, MakeyMakey, and a craft area where the children made their own catapults and tested them out for prizes. We also raffled off a pair of design-your-own-headphones which the children all wanted. Staff from other departments (Genesis and Liz) came to help which added to this event’s success. So many new children and parents stopped by and were amazed by everything we offered. Next year we plan on involving the entire library for even more Maker’s Day fun!

Outreach and Publicity

Report from Manuela Miracle, Public Relations/Government Documents Librarian:

March came in like a lion and roared throughout!

Cathy and I canvassed Hackensack to personally invite bankers, car salesmen, tax prepares, health practitioners and educators to the Network Like a Pro Lunch and Learn. We spoke in person, one-on-one with 50 businesses.

We also walked around to various businesses to see if we could get the food for the Lunch and Learn donated but the only business that came through for us was the Giant Farmer Market with a donation of several bouquets of flowers to help brighten up the space.

For the strategic planning process, I also reached out to the Chamber to ask Lauren Zisa to join us for the Community Leaders Focus Group, and to the senior center Directors.

Professional Development

Maker Expo Workshop

Staff: Keri Adams

Date: March 1, 2017

Sponsor: BCCLS

Length: 4 hours

Programming ideas such as:

- Coding program for minecraft
- Who is? Bookclub
- Make and donate sleeping mats for homeless
- Marshmallow craft
- Knitting looms

USCIS Citizenship Teacher Training

Staff: Dana Dasch-Goldberg

Sponsor: USCIS (United States Citizen and Immigration Services)

Length: 7 hours

- Overview of the naturalization process and test
- How to design a citizenship curriculum
- USCIS standards to use for developing your own curriculum
- ESL principles and practices to apply in the classroom
- Classroom activities that use brain-based learning theories

Dana plans to teach an ESL conversation class and a citizenship training class here at JPL.

Microaggressions and the Asian/Pacific Islander Community

Staff: Barb Schuit

Sponsor: ALA

Date: March 16

Length: 1 hour webinar

“Microaggressions” small comments as to a person’s origins or sexual identity.

Samples:

Microinsults – subtle or snub

Microinvalidations – deny experiential realities of marginalized groups

Super Library Supervisor

Staff: Keri Adams

Sponsor: Library Link NJ

Length: 1 hour webinar

Date: March 22

Length: 6 hours

- What it means to be a supervisor legally
- Ways to deal with staff performance issues
- Privacy vs. confidentiality

Rosetta Stone Training Webinar

Staff: Catherine Folk-Pushee

Sponsor: Library Link NJ

Length: 1 hour webinar

Date: March 16

Length: 1 hour

- Teacher resources include progress tracker, image cards, downloadable audiofiles, guides, etc.
- Editable marketing materials
- Settings: can change the interface language or focus
- Children may begin to use program around 3rd grade. Free apps for children are : Kids Lingo Letter Sounds and Kids Lingo Word Builder

Building and Grounds

Basement Sprinkler System - Capital Project

No new information yet from Sprinkler company doing the specifications. The City project manager says they are working on it.

Freight Elevator (Sidewalk Lift)

Thyssenkrupp began work in April. We are hoping they will finish by the end of April.

Generator

I brought up the size we need at the City's Department Head Meeting on April 4th. City Department Heads at the meeting told me there may be other resources besides writing a grant.

Sound System

They plan to complete this by mid-April. We had some glitches: our old video game system needed an adapter, the public address system which includes the microphone has had some issues as well.

Hanging System

Greg Liosi recommended the Walker Gallery hanging system. Before I research this, perhaps the Board would want to wait and see what kind of renovation the strategic plan/space assessment warrants in terms of our gallery and auditorium wall space. There were suggestions made at the Community Leaders Focus Group.

Raccoons

Raccoon art on sticks will be installed April 12.

Charging Station

We are working with Deputy Fire Chief John Niland on a grant for a charging station in the library with an OEM information display.

Miscellaneous

The meeting room floor was stripped and re-waxed by our Cleaning Company.

*Respectfully Yours,
Sharon Castanteen*