

Director's Report, May 2015

	May 2014	May 2015
Children's books and magazines	3721	3862
Children's media	458	345
Adult books and periodicals	4344	4081
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	4037	4078
Downloadable/Database Usage Ebooks/music/audiobook/movies/mags*	714	771
Young adult books	497	493
Periodicals in-house usage	530	310
Microfilm use	131	118
Reference Questions	2245	1725
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	437	373
Adult Internet Usage	3792	2761
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	n.a.	689
JPL's wireless usage (counting hand-held devices also)	n.a.	1818
Children's program attendance, includes class visits, guitar classes, outreach visits	348	254
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	846	299
Adult Program Attendance (Library only)	602	208
Young Adult Programs and Outreach	85	20
Electronic Door Counter	15,541	21,458

**Note: April Downloads: BCCLS can no longer give JPL's its statistics until the middle of the next month, due to Hoopla's delayed reporting. So, these stats will always be for the previous month.*

Adult Program Highlights

Open Mic Night

Thursday, May 28, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Kathryn Cannarozzi

Attendance: 49

"Howdy Stranger" a Hackensack-based improv group, hosted our first Open Mic (for free!).

We had quite an array of talent: poetry, acting, singing, stand-up comedy. The Upper Main Alliance members hosted a focus group right beforehand and they also stopped in to see what the Library was doing to promote "Creative Placemaking" for Hackensack.

Many new library members came out and the comments were overwhelmingly positive.



What you need to know NOW about Power of Attorney & Living Wills

Wednesday, May 13, 2:00 p.m.

Instructor: Local Attorney, Myra Metzger, NJ Legal Services Senior Law Project

Attendance: 16

Ms. Metzger did an excellent job of giving all the basic information in very understandable terms, and of answering all the questions that people asked. She explained how, and who is eligible, to receive free services, or reduced-fee services, from the Senior Citizen Law Project. Ms. Metzger also presents seminars on other topics, and I will certainly invite her back soon.

The Evaluations summary is in your inbox. (Barb Schuit)

Creating a Healthy Home After a Hurricane or a Flood

Thursday, May 14, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Presenter: Rasha Baig, Partnership for Maternal and Child Health

Facilitator: Barb Schuit

Attendance: 10

Rasha gave excellent information about all kinds of concerns that primarily have to do with what happens after a flood or major natural disaster like Hurricane Sandy, but can apply in all kinds of situations. She talked about alternatives for cleaning supplies that might be harmful to health, especially to children, such as using vinegar and baking soda as an alternative to commercial cleaning products that might irritate the respiratory system, especially if people have allergies or sensitivities to some of the ingredients. She also explained about how mold should be treated (sometimes only by professionals), and a variety of other toxic, dangerous substances such as lead in paint and asbestos in other building materials.



She also explained about how mold should be treated (sometimes only by professionals), and a variety of other toxic, dangerous substances such as lead in paint and asbestos in other building materials.

This was a very helpful informative presentation, and everyone was sent home with a nice big bag full of "goodies", like vinegar, baking soda, a scrub brush, face mask, and even a very nice combo smoke/CO detector. (Barb Schuit)

U.S. Citizenship Information Session

Thursday, May 7, 6:30 p.m.

Presenter: Immigration Attorney, Katie M. Mendez,

Facilitators: Barb Schuit, Genesis Jais

Attendance: 7

Katie explained step by step the process one must do to become a citizen, including which forms and fees to pay. She explained residency requirements, as well as stressed some rarely-explained points such as: A person with a residency card applying for citizenship must live in the country for at least 5 years and cannot leave the country for more than 6 months at a time. Otherwise, one might be in jeopardy of losing one's temporary or permanent residency card depending on how long one is out of the county.

Katie was overall very informative and left no questions unanswered. The attendees seemed happy and satisfied with the questions and answers they were able to ask Katie in the small gathering we were in. (Genesis Jais)

Small Business Lunch and Learn
Tuesday, May 19th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Presenter-Carl Shoemaker of ActionCoach
Facilitator: Catherine Folk-Pushee
Attendance: 12

Carl Shoemaker has presented a business program here in the past and he is a wealth of information. This time he was joined by Cesar Santos from Bank of America to give insider advice on how a small business may present the best possible case to a bank when applying for a loan. Carl began with a brief overview of a business plan and why it is important to have one when trying to secure financing for a small business.

Then Cesar took over and gave out some excellent information on how to prepare and what to expect when approaching a bank for financing. Some other topics covered were how to apply for revolving credit, the need for and what type of insurance to purchase, and Small Business Association non-profit banks as an alternative to traditional banks in case a loan is denied.

Audience involvement was very high in this program. People asked many questions and offered their own advice if applicable. The only change I would make to run this program again would be to split it out into two programs-one on creating a business plan and one on financing.

Book Clubs and Movies:

Book Clubs: 21 **Movies:** Classic: Twelve Angry Men (18) Unbroken (22).

Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Genesis Jais and Catherine Folk-Pushee, Total Attendance: 40

Individual Computer Assistance is limited to Hackensack residents. Hot topics this month were Excel and Job Search, followed by Basic Internet Searching, Email, Word, Resumes and File Management.

Inspect Your Gadget Report - May

- *11 people attended this month*
- *As usual people needed help with their tablets, phone, and laptops. However most of this month's requests were for help with cell phones - and not all smartphones. Even small prepaid phones are technologically advanced for some. I think that there might be a lot more fear than lack of knowledge in these situation. I feel like I more or less provide emotional support to the patrons in these situations because I let them know that this is something new to me to but not impossible to manage because we are doing it. For example, we've had at least 3 people need help setting up their voicemail this month. People see this new foreign device in front of them and think they cannot figure it out so we try to give them some encouragement. (Genesis Jais)*

March 2015 Downloadable Statistics (missing from last Director's Reports):

Including: eBCCLS, JPL's own Kindle books on loan, JPL Database usage, Zinio, Freading (JPL ebooks)= **875**

ESL and Spanish Computer Classes, ESL Volunteer Tutor Training, English Conversation, and Bilingual Outreach. Suspended due to Family Leave of staff member.

Young Adult Programs

**Viktor Villanueva (Security Guard) filling in for Teen Tuesdays,
Kate Cannarozzi filling in for YA book club.**

Total Attendance: 20 Teen Tuesdays (Internet, Online Gaming, Board Games)

Children's Program Highlights



May was a good month in The Children's Room!

We had 64 first grade students from Jackson Avenue School visit and enjoy a tour of the library, sign up for cards and check out books, hear a story from a children's book, and get introduced to our computers and iPads.

Many patrons have noticed, and commented on, the light in the room. At first, we had a hard time figuring out exactly what it was but then realized that the removal of the old stuffed animals from the shelf ends

had made the improvement. Shelves are cleaner and more user-friendly, and the combining of the hardcover and paperbacks in the E sections make life a lot easier!

We've been prepping for summer programming throughout the month and although we are planning to make the summer reading list books very easy to find and look through, we are also making it a more concise display, as opposed to displaying 10 or more copies of each title. Over the years, we had noted that using every square inch for summer reading list books was time-consuming, overwhelming to the patrons, and messy.

Mother Goose Time was ongoing through the month of May and we are pleased to report that the attendance is fine. The same applies to Preschool Story Hour. We have a lovely group of regulars who are very friendly with one another, as well as new attendees.

The Fancy Nancy Party, while a great theme event, was sadly under-attended this year. The children that were here for it had a good time. We also were featured in the local paper.

May Murder Mystery was a smash. Our kids love this program and we had a great group, who really took seriously the solving of the murder of Miss Mari. Again, this time we got coverage in The Record, which was amazing. Most importantly, the entire staff were fantastic in their roles as the various suspects!

Rodney, our Therapy Pup visited us this past month, and as always, this program is full! He's a great little dog, very patient and sweet. The kids love him.



Lego Day continues to be a success. The kids look forward to building new things and adding onto their "works in progress". The Kaiju Bar, complete with a drive-in (I questioned the wisdom of this at a bar, but was assured that it only sells coffee and smoothies.), security, hookah corner, casino and a restaurant is incredibly ingenious. (I've known the creator of this scenario since he was born and normally, I would worry a bit but he has an older brother and sister to influence him, and is a JPL legacy. Lol)

*Chess Club continues and is exciting in its own way. We will be continuing it during the summer, in a half and half scheduling, the other half being a crochet class for beginners.
(Babette Smith)*

Guitar Classes for Children
(Hackensack residents only)
Saturday, May 2, 16, 23 & 30
Instructor: Jorge Meneses
Facilitator: Kathryn Cannarozzi
Attendance: 38

Overall attendance was excellent with most students attending every week. There were a few students out on Memorial Day weekend, but that was only 5 students out of 20. I already have a large list of children who didn't register in time for this class that we can call when fall classes are announced. (Kathryn Cannarozzi)

Outreach and Publicity

Hackensack Chronicle
May 15th Issue
Page 2
Photos and captions of
"Fancy Nancy" Party

Professional Development

Spring Membership Meeting
May 18, 2015
LibraryLinkNJ
Employee: Catherine Folk-Pushee
Time: Two and half hours

Speaker was Toby Greenwalt, the Director of Digital Strategy and Technology Integration at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. The push for libraries to transition from transaction-tallying to relationship-building presents a host of new challenges and opportunities. He urged us to embrace JPL's role as a community connector.

Building and Grounds

Leak in Basement, in the Old Maintenance Office
I've signed a proposal for an investigation by C&C Masonry. Quote is \$1,400.

Mulch, etc.

The pavers and surrounding concrete did not settle well. We are waiting for a paver to be returned from the engraver (they take quite a long time, but we've already searched for others and this is the second engraver we've used). At that point we will ask the landscaper about mulch and also leveling the concrete at the border of the courtyard.

Respectfully Yours,
Sharon Castanteen