

## Director's Report, August 2015

	August 2014	August 2015
Children's books and magazines	6024	5524
Children's media	692	619
Adult books and periodicals	5185	4687
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	4561	3871
Downloadable/Database Usage Ebooks/music/audiobook/movies/mags*	891	2532
Young adult books	754	934
Periodicals in-house usage	288	269
Microfilm use	151	135
Reference Questions	2157	1996
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	407	493
Adult Internet Usage	4186	2950
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	n.a.	919
JPL's wireless usage (counting hand-held devices also)	n.a.	1824
Children's program attendance, includes class visits	424	283
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	512	425
Adult Program Attendance (Library only)	231	258
Young Adult Programs	266	137
Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)	20,079	18,727

### Adult Program Highlights

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

***Thursday, August 27, 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.***

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

***Attendance: 60***

Hosted again by Howdy Stranger, local improv group, everyone seemed to be having a great time with comedy, poetry, songs, and serious monologues. Amid the sounds of our tower clock chimes, Main Street traffic, and overhead planes, it was a perfect city experience with the ups and downs of the environment and the hit and miss of the pot luck of open mic. Pure fun, and a great ending with the special music of Kenny Cunningham who played amazing guitar and sang Beatles tunes and other music of that time.

Councilman Dave Sims visited to promote Atlantic Street Park movies.



## ***Learn How to Write Great College Essays***

***Wednesday, August 12 at 7:00 p.m.***

***Presenter: Nan Yuasa, Collegewise***

***Facilitator: Barb Schuit***

***Attendance: 22***

*There were several pairs of parent-with-student, and additional adults. There were also a few older attendees whom I presumed were there to get information for their children. However, during the Q&A, as well as talking with them personally afterwards, it was apparent that they are fairly recent immigrants, wanting to get into college, themselves. So that was an interesting dynamic (it is clear they'll need some English classes first, and I directed them to Michelle's ESL conversation classes).*

*The presenter (Nan Yuasa) from Collegewise gave a very good presentation, outlining the best approach to the content and tone of a great college essay. She encouraged students to:*

*\* don't try to impress -- just be honest*



*\* own your story (inject lots of details)*

*\* your essay should sound like you (not too formal or informal)*

*I thought one of the most interesting and helpful things that Nan shared was that the people who review the essays at colleges are probably more close in age to the students than to the parents. That can help students think of who they're writing to, and how they might best connect with them. Also, I thought it was interesting that the purpose of writing the essay is not to impress someone with accomplishments, but rather it's a "get to know you / will we like to have you around campus / are you an interesting person" kind of connection. (Barb Schuit)*

## ***Ageing Creatively***

***Wednesday, August 19, at 7:00 p.m.***

***Instructor: Paul Merklein, Cartoonist***

***Facilitator: Barb Schuit***

***Attendance: 22***

*Paul told a very inspiring story of how his mother-in-law, after raising eleven children, decided in her mid-70's that she'd like to learn how to paint. He used this illustration to show how that hobby helped his mother-in-law to stay active and to connect in various ways with others.*

*Paul then encouraged the audience to think of things that make them happy, and begin to pursue them, with an eye to how they can connect and contribute, as well. He drew a happy face, and then had various audience members tell about 4 things that they like to do that makes them smile. This was a lot of fun for the audience, and helpful for thinking forward in a new way. The audience responded well to Paul and enjoyed interacting with each other, as well. (Barb Schuit)*



### ***Veteran's Benefits Information***

***Friday, August 28, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.***

***Instructor: Guy Vanterpool, Bloomfield Veteran's Center***

***Attendance: 13***

*Mr. Vanterpool was impressed by the fact that more veteran's are coming to the sessions here instead of the usual tapering off. We have been trying to get the word out through social media for this important program.*

### ***ReServe: I'm 55+ What do I do now?***

***Wednesday, August 12, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.***

***Facilitator: Edward Dominguez, Program Officer, ReServe North Jersey***

***Attendance: 7***

*A total of 7 people attended the Reserve session, 2 were unable to attend. The participants came from Hackensack (4), Fairview (1), Teaneck (1), Lyndhurst (1), and Ringwood (1). Their professional backgrounds were; Physics Teacher, School Social Worker, Data Entry worker, Banker, University worker, Manufacturing Supervisor and Registered Nurse.*

*Attendees heard about Reserve by either through an internet search (AARP), reading the article in the Hackensack Chronicle, seeing our flyer on a Church bulletin board, referral from Bergen County Senior Services or receiving an e-mail from the JPL. . (Edward Dominguez)*

### **Book Clubs and Movies:**

**Book Clubs: 19 Movies: Classic: The Maltese Falcon (9) Insurgent (10)**

**Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Genesis Jais (Catherine Folk-Pushee on Family Leave), Total Attendance: 18**

### **Individual Computer Assistance is limited to Hackensack residents.**

*Highlight from Kate:*

*One patron needed help finding a new job. She was looking for a blue collar job and had no experience with online job applications. After we completed a few applications together, she was called for an interview and received a job offer. Sometimes it just takes a little help with the technology.*

### **Inspect Your Gadget Report – August – Genesis Jais**

- 6 people attended this month
- We've had people who need help with their laptop computers, misc. apps on their phones like email, Waze, and Google Maps. I also had a patron who needed help with getting overdrive to sync up his books on multiple devices. This particular situation was a learning experience for me as well because I had never had that issue and I have used overdrive on multiple apps. At the end we figured out it was an issue with login in to both Overdrive and eBCCLS.

**ESL and Spanish Computer Classes, ESL Volunteer Tutor Training, English Conversation, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate  
Attendance: 62**

I expect our Latino community is happy Michelle is back from family leave! This month 17 Spanish-Speaking Hackensack Patrons received assistance on resumes, Gmail apps, cover letters, resumes, GED, Word and general PC. 10 English-speaking Hackensack residents received assistance on job search, resume, cover letters, converting word documents into pdf, smart phones, apps, and Word. English Learner attendance at our combination “conversation and ESL” classes was: 35.

**Young Adult Programs  
Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian  
Attendance: 137**

YA Books for Adult Readers Book Club – 8/8/15 – Out of the Easy by Ruta Sepetys – 5 (lots of vacations again but we had a new member!)

Summer Reading Statistics

**August Programs**

8/4 – Book talk - 20

8/6 - Mock a Movie: Pitch Perfect - 17

8/6 - Book Club: Skype with Raina Telgemeier - 6

8/11 - Sharpie Tie Dye - 28

8/13 - Video Games - 29

8/18 – Party – 27

Booklist Creator – 5

**Total Summer Statistics**

459 Total Attendance in the summer at 19 programs (2014: 226 at 21 programs)

117 signed up to participate/volunteer (2014: 70)

442 books read by 29 teens (2014: 25 teens completed the program and read 220 books – though 20 more submitted at least one book online)

87 individual students attended or volunteered at one program or more! (2014: 44)

36 individual students attended five or more programs.

18 attended ten or more programs!

36 Participants are going into 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
37 Participants are going into 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
24 Participants are going into 9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
8 Participants are going into 10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
11 Participants are going into 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
1 Participant is going into 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

This summer has been amazing! Our turnout was the best it has ever been by far (previously, last summer held the title.) The evaluations were overwhelmingly positive, and everyone who filled out the questionnaire said that they will join the summer reading program next summer or that they'd like to but don't know what they are doing yet. We got a wide range of ages (helped obviously by the volunteers). Two of the students completed their fourth summer reading program with me! (And we had a bunch more on their second or third summer).

### **Children's Program Highlights**

*August flew by; in the blink of an eye, the kids were in grumbling-about-school-starting mode before we knew it. We are now officially in hiatus-vacation-taking-preparing for autumn programming mode. Kudos to the Middle School for (today's) distribution of backpacks and school supplies to the first 300 kids! Many of our regulars were informed of this and able to get some very nice giveaways. Just FYI.*

*Summer Programming formally ended on the 19th with the Summer Reading Party, at which time participants received their certificates of merit for reading a minimum of ten books and a goodie bag, containing toys, candy and bookmarks, as well as certificates for Applebee's sundaes. Participants also chose a book from a varied collection as a prize. We were entertained by a cartoonist, who gave away superhero sketches. Refreshments were served afterwards. One of the long-awaited moments was the raffle drawing for two Toys R Us gift certificates, in the amount of \$100.00 each, picked at random by Director Sharon Castanteen. We also had a donation of a \$25.00 Barnes and Noble gift certificate from the Epper-Muller Family for one lucky winner. (Letter of appreciation was sent ASAP.)*

*Previous to all the final fun, we ran programs throughout the month and happily received a lot of coverage from the local papers! We've laminated and displayed these clippings on our white board near the Moore Street exit of the Children's Department.*

*Mother Goose Time continued throughout the month, with an excellent attendance as did Preschool Story Hour. The arts and crafts part of the Preschool Story Hour is new and improved; each craft can be easily linked with the stories read during the Hour, and they no longer consist of coloring a paper cut-out to take home and hang on the fridge. We are receiving compliments from many parent returnees.*

*Hey! Crochet! resulted in scarves, hats and purses. Once our group learned the basics, they were off and running with creative ideas and patterns. As an experimental program, it was a success. Tech Time continues to teach new and innovative skills, as well as honing the tried and true ones. In a separate program on the 10th, Mari taught participants Coding and a good time was had by all, besides learning a great deal.*

*Chess Club was steady in attendance and interest and will resume in the spring of 2016. Friday Night Fun Night was a blast!! The lucky participants who had read at least ONE book and had a signed permission slip submitted joined us for an after-hours funfest in the library! We played a rousing game of Hide and Go Seek and then watched The Lego Movie, having popcorn and lemonade. The evening was a thrill for them, especially being in the library after closing.*

*Watercolor Workshop continued to be a true favorite, with constant full attendance and a real fan base. We will definitely be repeating this program next summer and can truthfully say it's by unanimous popular request.*

*Reading with Rodney remains a favorite and encourages those children who are shy about reading aloud to maintain a non-judgmental audience. Rodney is a sweetheart and our regulars love him.*

*Video Games continued on Wednesdays and will throughout the school year. It is also a very popular program. Legos will also be continuing throughout the school year and was and is amazingly popular. This program got a lot of publicity and photo ops, and the kids have long sagas connected to their creations.*

*Another big program was our annual Teddy Bear Picnic! Families brought their lunches and we supplied chips and drinks, in a picnic atmosphere. Tablecloths were spread on the auditorium floor and families and friends sat around them for lunch. Those that brought their favorite stuffed animals were invited to be part of a Stuffed Animal Show, at which time, blue ribbons were given out to winners of such titles as "Most Well Behaved", "Fluffiest", "Smallest", and "Most Beloved". The kids had a great time with this interactive part of the program, as opposed to sitting through the same old movie. We did note that attendance for this was slightly smaller but believe this was because it was held during peak vacation time instead of early July. That's all for this month. (Babette Smith)*

Note: Summer Reading Total: 5,430 children's books were logged in.

### **Outreach and Publicity**

#### ***Hackensack Chronicle***

***August 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 issue***

***Front Page: Photo and caption***

***"Virtual Author Visit"***

Our young adult librarian, Keri Adams, offers a regular program of Skyping with the favorite authors of the Hackensack teens in her programs. The Chronicle was there for the August 9<sup>th</sup> event.

### **Professional Development**

***Name: Genesis Jais, Braison Travis, Clarice McLaughlin***

***Department: Reference***

***Continuing Education Activity: Leap Webinar***

***Sponsor: BCCLS***

***Date of Participation: Aug. 27, 2015***

***Length of Activity: 1 Hour***

Report from Genesis:

The webinar was meant to give an introduction of the new service BCCLS hopes to release system wide soon called Leap. It is an online version of Polaris, which would make Polaris and all its features available on the go. Leap can be used over the internet on a laptop or tablet from anywhere and provide all the same features as Polaris. It has great implications for registering kids in schools, or patrons during events like the street fair.

***Name: Keri Adams***

***Department: Reference***

***Continuing Education Activity: Collection HQ, #2***

***Sponsor: BCCLS***

***Date of Participation: Aug. 13, 2015***

***Length of Activity: 2.5 Hours***

Keri learned how to use advanced features of this software to determine collection demand, create a materials budget, and find out the titles and authors system-wide and locally that are in demand. Collection HQ also helps to evaluate the progress on weeding and maintenance of the collection.

**Building and Grounds**

*Lighting Upgrade*

The 2013-2014 project did not show any savings in 2013, but showed a respectable savings of almost \$10,000 in 2014 over 2013. We were told, and Lime Energy was correct, that we wouldn't see the energy saving effect for a one year cycle.

*Plumbing*

We've had more mishaps than I can remember in terms of toilets breaking down. Apparently this is from an adjustment in the water pressure (high-low) due to the summer months increase and perhaps also due to the work on main street. Our flushometers broke on 3 public toilets (children's and adults) and had to be replaced in a most urgent manner this past month.

*Carpet Cleaning*

We have accepted a proposal from Cleaning World, our custodial service, since they have the most knowledge of the building and are not charging us any more for cleaning this year than last.

*Worn Carpeting/Tiles Moore Street Entrance*

We are calling Brothers' Carpet in Hackensack for quotes. No response as of this report.

*Recycling*

Pete is loading van for recycling almost every day. The librarians are weeding a lot this summer to keep the collection up to date. We keep what we think will sell in the book sale, and whatever will fit in our storage areas. We are selling what we can to a non-profit organization that uses the sales of the books (Better World) for charity purposes.

*Respectfully Yours,  
Sharon Castanteen*