

Hunterdon County Library
Director's Report
November 2014

Staff Development Day

We had another successful Staff Development Day on October 24, 2014. All three branches and the bookmobile were closed that day in order for staff to gather at the North County Branch Library. Claudia Monte from CAM Consultants presented a program entitled *Stress Management – Keeping it All Together* in the morning. After lunch a Code Adam practice drill was conducted before everyone settled down to hear County insurance representative Mike Niznik speak on safety in the library. In keeping with the wellness and safety theme, Secretarial Assistant Kathleen Connors went over the revised library emergency procedures with the staff. Library Director Mark Titus then addressed the staff on the state of the library and answered questions. The day wrapped up on a lighter note with a game of Trivial Pursuit led by Jim Thatch, Library Program Coordinator, and Supervising Librarian Jennifer Winberry.

Youth Services

On October 29, Youth Services hosted Wise Owl Workshops for the Headquarters Teen Cafe. They presented their *Chemistry in the Cemetery* program to students ages 11 and up. The program was well attended and well received. Youth Services also held a Tween Halloween Party in the Headquarters meeting room on October 30. Refreshments were provided courtesy of the Friends of the Library.

North County Branch Tweenz, grades 1-6, celebrated *Spooktacular Halloween* on Tuesday evening, October 28, with a "campfire", woodland sounds, a "scary" story read and acted out, making life size recreations of their own costumes, snacks, and a parade around the building for Tricks and Treats!

North County Branch

At North County Branch, exhibits inspired patrons in every corner of the branch. Allure West Studio of Doylestown enlivened the walls with amazing photography; Little Brook Nursing Home contributed a welcoming Fall banner; and books about holidays, costumes and Trick-or-Treat goodies flew off the display table. Veteran John Dwyer's extensive military gear collection told the joint story of "Yankee Doodle vs. G.I. Joe". Clinton Public School's first grade students created "Mini-Clinton", a charming town of all their favorite buildings they saw on their walk downtown. Not surprisingly, *JJ Scoops* and *Just Chill* are amply represented, and there are three little North County Branch Libraries!



"Mini-Clinton," courtesy of Clinton Public School first grade students

Twenty-one volunteers of all ages donated 133 valuable hours, the equivalent of 3.8 full time staff.

Mary Noone-Kozakiewicz took a busman's holiday to three New Jersey public libraries with Maker Spaces. This growing national trend encourages patrons to learn new skills by providing a space with equipment, materials and instructions for in-demand media and craft products.

South County Branch



The South County Branch Library shows off art work from the East Amwell School

The seating areas have been rearranged to open up some space for the younger patrons and to make a place for patrons to sit and watch their children.



Art Show

Linda Zdepski and the Art Show Committee received a lovely letter from a mother of one of the participants letting the library know how much the Art Show, which was recently restarted after a twenty-year absence, had meant to her daughter.

Photography Show

Kudos to Jim Thatch for another successful amateur photo show; the show has been a staple at the library every October for over twenty years and continues to draw between seventy and one hundred photographers every year. Jim has New Jersey photographer Walter Choroszewski judge the show every year. After the judging, Walter attends the award ceremony to offer encouragement and tips and then presents a program based on his current project.

Technical Services

Technical Services is charging up their calculators as they get ready for the final flurry of end-of-the-year orders. Get your last minute requests for titles in now!

Bookmobile

The Bookmobile was invited to attend the Glen Gardner's Women's Club's annual fall festival. Lisa Storm and Kerri Messinger got into the spirit of the day:



Circulation

Part-time Library Assistant Jennifer Schaefer will be leaving the Hunterdon County Library as of November 15. We wish Jenn all the best in her future endeavors.

The RHA recently had 245 holds! We have not had that kind of number in a long time.

Tricentennial Program

The Tricentennial Committee hosted the unveiling of two historical panels depicting the first two hundred years of Hunterdon County History by artist Paul Jennis. Mr. Jennis will again be on hand for the presentation of the final panel at the November 19 program. The three completed panels will be on display at the Hunterdon County Library.



Panels illustrating the first two hundred years of Hunterdon County History, by artist Paul Jennis