

Hunterdon County Library
Director's Report
June 2015

First Annual Hunterdon Comic Fest --- May 16, 2015

Over 500 attendees of all ages came to the Hunterdon County Library Headquarters to help celebrate the first annual Hunterdon Comic Fest. Sponsored by the Friends of the Hunterdon County Library and the Book Garden in Frenchtown, this was truly a community event. The Hunterdon County Library staff was supportive and helped in the preparation and execution as did the community: Shop-Rite of Flemington donated refreshments for the crowds and sandwiches for the artists, Comic Fusion of Flemington donated boxes of give-away comics. Publishers First Second Books and Penguin Random House donated pins and posters for give-aways as well as many books for door prizes. Attendees were able to meet artists, inkers and authors (including a Spiderman inker), attend panels to learn how to draw a superhero, and create and publish their own comic book. On the Lower Level many of the young attendees played in the live Mine Craft area while others made their own comic books. There were crafts in the Youth Services area and a face painter to adorn those who came without costume.

The library showcased its own collection of graphic novels on the main and lower floors during the month of May. Circulation of Graphic Novels increased during May this year and on May 16th, circulation for the day was up 25% for the day over last year.

One mom summed up the day in an e-mail:
Hi !

My son and his friend went to Comic Fest on Saturday...

LOOOOOOOOved IT!!!

It was a really fun morning! GREAT JOB!! Bye everyone!!!!

Thanks so much!!!!



Video can be found at: <https://animoto.com/play/RljiLlckL5zBsbfJkRXoQ?autostart=1>

Circulation

There have been changes in the Circulation Department recently. Donna Horvath has been transferred to North County Branch Library to oversee the circulation desk on a daily basis. Julie Hrinjak has been moved to Hunterdon County Library
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Headquarters and is in charge of the circulation desk when circulation supervisor Lee Comella is not there. Ms. Comella is splitting her time between North County Branch and Headquarters, working two and a half days a week at each location. Ms. Comella's goal is to have circulation staff at both locations working in tandem and open communications.

Youth Services

North County Branch Youth Services conducted research tours for 65 Clinton Public School 6th graders over a three-day period in April. Youth Services and Reference librarians worked together to assist the students with their research, instructing them in the use of library reference materials, databases, and the online card catalog.

Ninety 1st graders from Three Bridges visited Headquarters Youth Services for their annual tours of the library. West Amwell kindergarten also toured Headquarters.

Youth Services set up a table at the Hunterdon Medical Center Baby Fair in April. Information about children's programs and services was available for parents and a story time was presented for the toddlers that attended. Youth Services was also present when the Bookmobile went to the Hunterdon Medical Center Field Day the following weekend.

Youth Services and the Bookmobile went to several schools in the Spring including the Jewish Community Center in Flemington, Round Valley YMCA, Robert Hunter School, and Kingwood School.

After our own highly successful Makers Day held in March, several librarians went on a tour to see the Makerspaces of three northern New Jersey libraries. The tour was coordinated by New Jersey State Library and LibraryLink.

Museum passes

School is out and we are ready for another busy summer of museum pass checkouts. Some tried and true favorites are still with us, such as Grounds for Sculpture, American Museum of Natural History and the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum. New museums added to our line-up are the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms and the Battleship New Jersey. Since the program first began in August of 2013, our patrons have saved over \$15,000.00 in museum pass costs.



This summer, the Bookmobile will once again be stopping Wednesday mornings at the Hopewell Valley Community Bank in Pittstown; the staff of the bank is very excited to welcome them back; the library staff is anxious to see some familiar faces and make new friends.

One of the recent Headquarters performers, David Berger, donates his honorarium to the Special Olympics in which his wife is very active. With the Summer Games coming up, a display was put in the lobby with information about this event which will feature many athletes from Hunterdon County.



South County Branch Craft of the Month for June



Each month the staff at the South County Branch assembles a take-home craft for the younger patrons who come into the library; this month, an homage to Eric Carle's *The Hungry Caterpillar*.

Statistics, statistics and even more statistics!

We thought we would include just a few statistics with the report this month, beginning with Circulation for the Hunterdon County Library system and affiliate libraries.

	Jan. 15	Dec. 14	% Change	Jan. 14	% Jan.	YTD 15	YTD 14	% YTD
HQ	41,058	36,786	11.6%	41,393	-0.8%	41,058	41,393	-0.8%
NCB	36,176	33,706	7.3%	37,785	-4.3%	36,176	37,785	-4.3%
SCB	4,193	3,639	15.2%	4,495	-6.7%	4,193	4,495	-6.7%
BU	2,116	1,661	27.4%	2,230	-5.1%	2,116	2,230	-5.1%
R	4,578	4,456	2.7%	4,951	-7.5%	4,578	4,951	-7.5%
H	3,188	2,756	15.7%	2,873	11.0%	3,188	2,873	11.0%
TWK	2,657	2,338	13.6%	2,930	-9.3%	2,657	2,930	-9.3%
TB	1,924	1,844	4.3%	2,584	-25.5%	1,924	2,584	-25.5%
HB	535	530	0.9%	958	-44.2%	535	958	-44.2%
F	317	371	-14.6%	436	-27.3%	317	436	-27.3%
BM	779	832	-6.4%	1,006	-22.6%	779	1,006	-22.6%
TOT	97,521	88,919	9.7%	101,641	-4.1%	97,521	101,641	-4.1%

	Feb. 15	Jan. 15	% Change	Feb. 14	% Feb.	YTD 15	YTD 14	% YTD
HQ	38,677	41,058	-5.8%	40,636	-4.8%	79,735	82,029	-2.8%
NCB	32,931	36,176	-9.0%	35,224	-6.5%	69,107	73,009	-5.3%
SCB	3,988	4,193	-4.9%	4,095	-2.6%	8,181	8,590	-4.8%
BU	1,853	2,116	-12.4%	2,307	-19.7%	3,969	4,537	-12.5%
R	4,063	4,578	-11.2%	4,312	-5.8%	8,641	9,263	-6.7%
H	2,860	3,188	-10.3%	2,791	2.5%	6,048	5,664	6.8%
TWK	2,345	2,657	-11.7%	2,307	1.6%	5,002	5,237	-4.5%
TB	2,017	1,924	4.8%	2,000	0.9%	3,941	4,584	-14.0%
HB	469	535	-12.3%	752	-37.6%	1,004	1,710	-41.3%
F	425	317	34.1%	391	8.7%	742	827	-10.3%
BM	833	779	6.9%	1,150	-27.6%	1,612	2,156	-25.2%
TOT	90,461	97,521	-7.2%	95,965	-5.7%	187,982	197,606	-4.9%

	March 15	Feb. 15	% Change	March 14	% March	YTD 15	YTD 14	% YTD
HQ	42,462	38,677	9.8%	46,483	-8.7%	122,197	128,512	-4.9%
NCB	35,586	32,931	8.1%	37,496	-5.1%	104,693	110,505	-5.3%
SCB	4,263	3,988	6.9%	4,448	-4.2%	12,444	13,038	-4.6%
BU	1,659	1,853	-10.5%	2,229	-25.6%	5,628	6,766	-16.8%
R	4,494	4,063	10.6%	4,954	-9.3%	13,135	14,217	-7.6%
H	3,077	2,860	7.6%	3,404	-9.6%	9,125	9,068	0.6%
TWK	2,368	2,345	1.0%	2,803	-15.5%	7,370	8,040	-8.3%
TB	1,852	2,017	-8.2%	2,472	-25.1%	5,793	7,056	-17.9%
HB	660	469	40.7%	883	-25.3%	1,664	2,593	-35.8%
F	465	425	9.4%	524	-11.3%	1,207	1,351	-10.7%
BM	793	833	-4.8%	1,157	-31.5%	2,405	3,313	-27.4%
TOT	97,679	90,461	8.0%	106,853	-8.6%	285,661	304,459	-6.2%

	April 15	March 15	% Change	April 14	% April	YTD 15	YTD 14	% YTD
HQ	36,081	42,462	-15.0%	39,343	-8.3%	158,278	167,855	-5.7%
NCB	33,306	35,586	-6.4%	35,472	-6.1%	137,999	145,977	-5.5%
SCB	3,950	4,263	-7.3%	4,194	-5.8%	16,394	17,232	-4.9%
BU	1,566	1,659	-5.6%	2,100	-25.4%	7,194	8,866	-18.9%
R	4,064	4,494	-9.6%	4,745	-14.4%	17,199	18,962	-9.3%
H	2,904	3,077	-5.6%	3,061	-5.1%	12,029	12,129	-0.8%
TWK	2,468	2,368	4.2%	2,607	-5.3%	9,838	10,647	-7.6%
TB	2,049	1,852	10.6%	2,121	-3.4%	7,842	9,177	-14.5%
HB	528	660	-20.0%	666	-20.7%	2,192	3,259	-32.7%
F	343	465	-26.2%	581	-41.0%	1,550	1,932	-19.8%
BM	838	793	5.7%	1,251	-33.0%	3,243	4,564	-28.9%
TOT	88,097	97,679	-9.8%	96,141	-8.4%	373,758	400,600	-6.7%

	May 15	April 15	% Change	May 14	% May	YTD 15	YTD 14	% YTD
HQ	32,863	36,081	-8.9%	38,660	-15.0%	191,141	206,515	-7.4%
NCB	30,617	33,306	-8.1%	36,107	-15.2%	168,616	182,084	-7.4%
SCB	3,691	3,950	-6.6%	4,353	-15.2%	20,085	21,585	-6.9%
BU	1,585	1,566	1.2%	2,230	-28.9%	8,779	11,096	-20.9%
R	3,882	4,064	-4.5%	4,930	-21.3%	21,081	23,892	-11.8%
H	2,494	2,904	-14.1%	3,274	-23.8%	14,523	15,403	-5.7%
TWK	2,225	2,468	-9.8%	2,867	-22.4%	12,063	13,514	-10.7%
TB	1,710	2,049	-16.5%	2,114	-19.1%	9,552	11,291	-15.4%
HB	602	528	14.0%	738	-18.4%	2,794	3,997	-30.1%
F	330	343	-3.8%	415	-20.5%	1,880	2,347	-19.9%
BM	855	838	2.0%	1,195	-28.5%	4,098	5,759	-28.8%
TOT	80,854	88,097	-8.2%	96,883	-16.5%	454,612	497,483	-8.6%

Digital Library New Jersey and eHCL statistics are below.

DLNJ	eBooks	Audiobook	Total
January-14	997	893	1,890
February-14	953	558	1,511
March-14	811	921	1,732
April-14	798	704	1,502
May-14	713	751	1,464
June-14	765	763	1,528
July-14	890	793	1,683
August-14	877	802	1,679
September-14	842	788	1,630
October-14	833	780	1,613
November-14	866	824	1,690
December-14	836	792	1,628
Total	10,181	9,369	19,550

eHCL	eBooks	Audiobook	Total	Zinio	One-Click Digital
January-14	1,694	256	1,950		
February-14	1,574	230	1,804		
March-14	1,519	233	1,752		
April-14	1,464	269	1,733		
May-14	1,573	367	1,940		
June-14	1,799	348	2,147	555	
July-14	2,262	443	2,705	649	32
August-14	1,952	449	2,401	671	84
September-14	1,655	402	2,057	483	16
October-14	1,650	485	2,135	497	14
November-14	1,729	483	2,212	570	30
December-14	1,724	464	2,188	598	37
Total	20,595	4,429	25,024	4,023	213

eHCL	eBooks	Audiobook	Total	Zinio	One-Click Digital
January-15	2,117	522	2,639	761	53
February-15	1,904	581	2,485	623	66
March-15	2,671	1,146	3,817	625	104
April-15	2,494	1,180	3,674	604	99
May-15			0		
June-15			0		
July-15			0		
August-15			0		
September-15			0		
October-15			0		
November-15			0		
December-15			0		
Total	9,186	3,429	12,615	2,613	322

DLNJ	eBooks	Audiobook	Total
January-15	956	649	1,605
February-15	684	560	1,244
March-15	461	372	833
Total	2,101	1,581	3,682

And to round off our statistics, we had 69,339 Internet user sessions at Headquarters, North County Branch and South County Branch in 2014! We also had 327 museum pass checkouts in 2014, with an average overall savings to our library patrons of \$15,000.00.



“Art by the ARC”
June’s art show at NCB

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Paint, Paper & Pins
June 2015
Lebanon Township Historical Museum

All the crafts in the cases this month were taught and created at the Museum's classes. The display includes papier mache models of historical houses, Zen doodles, rug hooking, silk painting and "altered books" like the treasure chest pictured here.

