

Hunterdon County Library  
Director's Report  
December 2017



The staff at the South County Branch Library dressed up like scarecrows for Halloween.

Over 1,800 families receive the library's newsletter highlighting monthly events and programs that is sent out monthly by Mary Noone-Kozakiewicz.



A second flag deposit box was added at the North County Branch Library; many flags have already been collected there.

The bookmobile was once again part of the County Parks Department's Touch-a-Truck event on Saturday November 4. Kerri Messinger and Kathy Monti staffed the bookmobile, giving out information about library services and finding books for children to check out. Three new cards were also issued. Freeholder Director Lanza stopped by the bookmobile and commented what a success the bookmobile was.

The Hunterdon County Library participated in the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce Business Expo and Restaurant Showcase on November 9. Jim Thatch, Cheryl Grotrian, and Joan Sabo represented the library. At the library's table, many upcoming events and programs were showcased, especially the Gingerbread Competition (co-sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and Friends of the Hunterdon County Library). Many library services were explained to many patrons, including the Museum Passes. The Hunterdon Chamber Radio was broadcasting live, and Jim Thatch did the Library Show Live at 11:00 am.

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### Knitters Unite! Update

On Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, Cheryl Grotrian made the first drop off of donated hand knit and crocheted items to the Flemington Area Food Pantry. The Flemington Food Pantry was delighted with the items which included 70 hats, 40 scarves, and 10 pairs of booties. Thank you to our talented, generous patrons who are participating this year. Hand knitted items will be accepted at the library until December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Headquarters Library welcomed back gardener and author Marta McDowell whose latest book is ***The World of Laura Ingalls Wilder: The Frontier Landscapes that Inspired the Little House Books***. Her program highlighted the travels Marta made while researching her book. 2017 is the 150 anniversary of the birth of Laura Ingalls Wilder.

North County Branch had hosted some popular adult programs in November. The Sierra Club had a speaker talk about the local sediment spill that was discharged into Spruce Run Reservoir by Eastern Concrete Materials, Inc. from their Glen Gardner Quarry. Bill Noren, who often plays in a band at the library, used to attend Sandee Conroy's Singing Bowls at the North County Branch Library before she moved, became so fascinated with this art, he bought his own bowls and learned how to "play" them. His first presentation at the library was filled to capacity and received great reviews. Jesse Posa did his impersonation of Sinatra to a crowd of 80; he was an amazing entertainer. A local student piano recital drew almost 80 people and had many talented performers; look for some of them on future North County Branch program schedules.

Upcoming for December is a Drop in Craft night on Wed December 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30 that coincides with the Gingerbread Open House.

Also upcoming on December 14<sup>th</sup> is a nature craft workshop presented by the Hunterdon County Parks. Various crafts with natural materials will be made.

During November Youth Services at Headquarters hosted Mad Science for a fun Stunt Planes and Gliders workshop on November 2. Children made many variations of paper planes that they got to try out. Another Pokemon Night was hosted on November 15<sup>th</sup>; though it was the third Pokemon Night for 2017 it was well attended.

On November 9th, the public schools were closed for the NJEA convention, so Youth Services had "Eyes of the Wild" bring their live "Mammal Mania" show to both the Headquarters and North County Branch locations. Children (and parents) enjoyed mammals from around the world while learning about their behaviors, habitats, and survival strategies.



Tweenz at the North County Branch were excited to be involved in the "Bricks for Kidz" program which supports STEM activities for elementary school children. In teams of two, children built a model to simulate being in a whirlpool and one to simulate being in an earthquake.

North County Branch Library hosted a most unique art show in November. In 2014, New Jersey celebrated its 350th birthday. As part of the celebration, photographers from the Isle of Jersey came to photograph people and places in New Jersey. They took their photos back to the Isle of Jersey and developed a photography project comparing life in the two Jerseys. The resulting project: "Atlantus", was produced on 80 newspaper sheets and compiled into packets which were distributed to libraries in both Jerseys. This imaginative project was jointly produced and funded by the Society Jersiaise Photographic Archive on the Island of Jersey, and the New Jersey Council on the Arts, on this side of the Atlantic.