

Hunterdon County Library
Director's Report
April 2007

Full Lineup for National Library Week

On Monday, April 16, The Hunterdon County Library Adult Children's Writer's Group will hold their inaugural meeting at HCL Headquarters. Local author Sheri Oshins will supervise what we expect to be a very popular workshop.

On Tuesday, April 17, the Hunterdon Radio Theatre will perform live in the Meeting Room of HCL Headquarters. The group will perform a second show at the North County Branch Library on Wednesday, April 18. Also on Wednesday, April 18, singer/narrator/pianist Fred Miller will present "They Wrote The Words II," part of his afternoon concert series at the Hunterdon County Library. This program will be repeated at the North County Branch Library on Thursday, April 19.

The Hunterdon Central Fiddle Club will be performing for library patrons in the lobby of HCL Headquarters on the afternoon of Friday, April 20. The Fiddle Club performed a similar concert in December, much to the delight and surprise of library patrons. Also on Friday, April 20, the Friends of the Hunterdon County Library will present the next Festive Friday, titled "Time Capsule: 1969." Music, groovy crafts, a moon bounce, tie dye, trivia scavenger hunt, prizes and refreshments will just be part of the fun.

On Saturday, April 21, the New Jersey Astronomical Association will present "A Grand Tour of the Universe" at the North County Branch.

Finally, there will be daily drawing for prizes at HCL Headquarters, North County Branch and South County Branch throughout National Library Week. There will also be a weekly prize drawing on the bookmobile.

North County Branch Programs Growing in Popularity

The North County Branch had a spectacularly successful month of programs in March for both adults and children. The response to several events was so enormous that repeat performances will be scheduled.

NCB began the month with "An Evening of Celtic Music" with harpist Mary Kay Mann, who performed traditional Irish and Scottish folk music. Beth Coleman Band ended the month, entertaining a large and lively audience with bluegrass renditions of many old favorites. The crowd clapped and tapped along to the music and enthusiastically gave the group a standing ovation at the end of the evening.

The introduction of Saturday afternoon programs has resulted in a wonderful response from the community. Three speakers at the Horror Writers Workshop gave how-to-tips for writing in this genre.

On Saturday, March 31, the branch hosted its first antiques appraisal program. Alan Snyder, an appraiser with over 25 years experience, examined items brought in by an audience of 100 people who anxiously waited to learn if their treasure was, in fact, truly valuable. This event filled to capacity within several days of being announced so a repeat presentation is scheduled for June 2. Already sign-ups are pouring in.

The Youth Services department hosted a “twens” writing project on March 8. Twenty-six fourth, fifth, and sixth graders participated in an interactive poetry workshop hosted by B J Ward. Mr. Ward is a local award-winning poet and teacher. The twens listened to poetry, participated in guided writing and shared their poems with the group. Everyone had a great time.

The Teen Advisory Board for the very successful Teen Café held a Science Fair. Several members of the teen board demonstrated various experiments such as exploding volcanoes and making different varieties of plastic dough. Later everyone got a chance to do the experiments at eight different stations and loved being up to their elbows in messy concoctions.

Circulation Statistics

	March 07	Feb 07	% Change	March 06	% Change	FYTD 07	Last FYTD	% Change
Headquarters	44,904	39,137	14.7%	41,270	8.8%	124,958	67,645	84.7%
North County	40,981	35,502	15.4%	38,848	5.5%	115,602	116,220	-0.5%
South County	8,184	7,732	5.8%	7,442	10.0%	24,106	25,108	-4.0%
Bunnvale	3,440	2,864	20.1%	2,409	42.8%	9,040	6,854	31.9%
Readington	7,013	5,644	24.3%	6,150	14.0%	18,734	17,123	9.4%
Holland/Alexandria	3,485	3,164	10.1%	3,781	-7.8%	10,078	10,528	-4.3%
Tewksbury	3,679	3,215	14.4%	2,292	60.5%	10,101	5,728	76.3%
Three Bridges	2,860	2,069	38.2%	2,402	19.1%	7,278	7,560	-3.7%
High Bridge	918	737	24.6%	871	5.4%	2,700	2,504	7.8%
Frenchtown	590	410	43.9%	486	21.4%	1,441	1,466	-1.7%
Bookmobile	1,056	1,041	1.4%	1,075	-1.8%	3,275	3,091	6.0%
Total	117,110	101,515	15.4%	107,026	9.4%	327,313	263,827	24.1%