



OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

Susan Quinn
Director

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Ms. Karla Ivarson
Sent via email opra+request-1677-81f74a14@requests.opramachine.com
May 9, 2018

Ms. Ivarson,

Attached, please find a response to your OPRA request.

Sincerely,

Sara Siegler, MLIS
Assistant Library Director
Custodian of Records

Enclosure: December 2015 Director's Report

-----Original Message-----

From: Karla Ivarson [<mailto:opra+request-1677-81f74a14@requests.opramachine.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2018 5:25 PM
To: Quinn, Susan <squinn@theoceancountylibrary.org>
Subject: Open Public Records Act request - Director's Report, 2015 December

Dear Ocean County Library,

This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested: the December 2015 Director's Report.

Sincerely,
Karla Ivarson

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
opra+request-1677-81f74a14@requests.opramachine.com

Is squinn@theoceancountylibrary.org the wrong address for Open Public Records Act requests to Ocean County Library? If so, please contact us using this form:
https://opramachine.com/change_request/new?body=ocean_county_library

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:
<https://opramachine.com/help/officers>

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an OPRA officer, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's OPRA page.



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Connecting People ... Building Community

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TO: OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION
FROM: SUSAN QUINN, LIBRARY DIRECTOR
DATE: DECEMBER 9, 2015
SUBJECT: LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: DECEMBER 2015

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Library Administration: Director's Office

Susan Quinn, Library Director

Sara Hansen, Assistant Library Director

1. NOTES

- The Library received RFQs for professional services (Legal Counsel, Labor Counsel and Auditor) on December 1, 2015. The review process will be completed in time for the Library Commission's Reorganization meeting in January 2016 as per past practice.
- The County of Ocean requested that the Library make changes to our draft long-range Facilities Plan earlier this summer. I am recommending revisiting the Facilities Plan, and possibly combining it with the Library's Technology Plan (which is also underway) due to the fact that there is new information available. This new information is the recent publication of the results and initial analysis from the 2014 Digital Inclusion Survey by the Information Policy & Access Center at University of Maryland (iPAC) and the American Library Association (ALA). The 2014 Digital Inclusion Survey, looks more closely at the relationship between recent building renovations or construction (within the past five years) and the ability of libraries to provide services to a community's residents by providing free access to public access technologies. <http://li.libraryjournal.com/2015/12/industry-news/digital-inclusion-survey-renovation-matters-help-happens-at-point-of-need-and-staff-still-do-almost-everything/>

As part of the Digital Inclusion Survey, there is a data visualization tool that maps all public libraries using the FY2013 Public Library Survey data file released by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for library locations, names, and other library demographic data. The tool overlays Census data (demographic, economic, health, and education) from the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year dataset (2009-2013) and may be accessed at:

<http://digitalinclusion.umd.edu/content/interactive-map>

- The Ocean County Library Strategic Plan 2013 – 2017: In early 2016, I plan to reconvene the Library's Management Team and staff strategic planning committees to conduct a mid-point review on progress toward the Library's strategic goals.
- A report on Drug & Alcohol Incidents in OCL indicates that the Library's and County's proactive approach which includes regular visits to branches by Ocean County Sheriff's Officers, the addition of an additional security guard, environmental design changes at branch locations and the vigilance of OCL staff in enforcing the Library's Rules of Conduct have resulted in a decrease in drug and alcohol incidents at Ocean County Library branches in 4th quarter 2015. Please see the report prepared by Chief Librarian, Rita Oakes in the Commission mailing.
- Old business from the November Library Commission meeting: Linda Feaster, Librarian 3, Branch Manager, Long Beach Island Branch has advised us that Eileen and Averell Eisner are considering making a donation to the Long Beach Island Branch of a large outdoor sculpture by the late New Jersey artist, Sid Martin. According to the prospective donors, this sculpture, entitled "The Reader," is valued in excess of \$12,000.00, and they feel that it represents the message of a public library. Several of Martin's sculptures can be seen in the front of municipal buildings such as the Monmouth County Center for the Arts. The sculpture's dimensions are 7' deep, 4 1/2' wide and 6' high and it weighs several hundred pounds. The Eisners have given permission to view the statue at their Harvey Cedars home at 6 East 72nd Street where it is currently situated near their swimming pool located in the front of the home. The stipulation is that the recipient of this gift will be fully responsible for the removal and transport of the

sculpture to its new location. While the generosity of the Eisner's is appreciated, it is my recommendation to the Library Commission to turn down this donation with regrets. Photographs of the sculpture were provided to Commission Secretary Georgette Breslin last month and will be available at the Commission meeting.

2. REQUESTS

- Boy Scout Troop 9 and Cub Scout Pack 9 of New Egypt request to use the Plumsted Branch as a drop-off point for donated items to support local animal shelters. **This is listed for approval on the Commission Agenda.**

AFTER-HOURS EVENTS:

- The Tuckerton Library Association requests to opening the branch after hours for their annual open house event on Thursday, April 21, 2016, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. **This is listed for approval on the Commission Agenda.**

3. FINANCE

Jennifer Woodman, Budget Officer

- *Liza Quinn, Senior Accountant*
- *James Wrightson, Accountant*
- **2016 Annual Budget:** Commission Finance Committee members Henry Mancini and Bonnie Peterson and Library Director, Susan Quinn met with Ocean County Administrator Carl W. Block on Tuesday, December 8 to review the Library's 2016 annual budget. The 2016 annual budget will be discussed at the December Commission meeting and the related budget documents are provided for your review in the mailing. **This is listed under resolutions on the Commission Agenda.**
- **Temporary 2016 Operating Budget:** The temporary operating budget is provided in the mailing. **This is listed under resolutions on the Commission Agenda.**
- The Library's pension liability with the County of Ocean is \$1,711,367.00 for 2016. **This is listed under resolutions on the Commission Agenda.**
- **Kronos Automated Timekeeping System:** The Library went live with the County of Ocean's Kronos automated timekeeping system on Thursday, December 3.
- **2015 Budget Transfers:** We propose the transfer of \$140,000.00 from the Sick Pay at Retirement line item (209-290-0049) to the Salary and Wages line item of the General Library Account. **This is listed under resolutions on the Commission Agenda.**
- **E-Rate Program Reimbursement:** The Ocean County Library Finance Department has received two (2) E-Rate reimbursement checks totaling \$166,389.96 and this is reflected as revenue on the November financial statement. E-Rate is a federal program designed to ensure that all eligible schools and libraries have affordable access to modern telecommunications and information services. The Library's application is managed by the OCL Technology Department.

4. FACILITIES

Joe Cahill, Facilities Manager

- *Barry DePaul, Assistant Facilities Manager*
- *Michael Erickson, Assistant Facilities Manager*

- The Toms River Branch carpet replacement project began on the first floor of the branch the week of December 7.
- The Facilities Department continues to make final corrective actions for ADA compliance at library branches in conjunction with the County of Ocean's plan.
- The Brick Branch's stair rail project is delayed as the vendor selected cannot do the work as originally thought and a new vendor is needed for the project. We are seeking additional vendor quotes.
- Signage indicating that library properties are smoke-free and tobacco-free properties were distributed to all library locations. Larger signs for parking lot entryways are on order.
- The Point Pleasant Boro Branch's new furniture was installed as scheduled and this project is now completed.

5. TECHNOLOGY

David Evans, Technology Manager

- Two training programs (one for general library staff, one for supervisors and timekeepers) were developed for the new Kronos Time Keeping System. All training sessions were completed with over 600 staff were trained. Special thanks to the Tech3 Training Team and our staff volunteers for their extra efforts on this project.
- 12 new AccuTrac People Counters (digital door counters) with accompanying VES Software have been received and installation has begun at library branches. We hope to have the installation completed by year-end, but no later than first quarter 2016. This is the final phase of the project. Once the digital door counter project is completed we will have access to accurate information and reports about the number of people visiting all 21 Ocean County Library locations on a yearly, monthly, weekly, daily and hour-by-hour basis.
- The Mobile Lab laptops at branches are being replaced with new state-of-the-art laptops with projected completion by the end of first quarter 2016. The Mobile Lab at Point Pleasant Boro was replaced and is now being used in their meeting room to accommodate the large numbers of teens who visit the branch after-school. Adult patrons were complaining about the noise and activity caused by large number of teens visiting the branch after school and the complaints were resolved with this technology solution.
- Six (6) new Apple iMacs were procured, configured and installed for the OCL Printing & Graphics department to replace equipment that was old and obsolete.
- The Technology User Experience Team is working with the OCL Training department to develop Video Training Sessions to be used by all staff.
- Eight (8) new micro format desktop computers ordered for the Little Egg Harbor branch to replace their aging public laptops have been configured and installed. These units provide the benefits of an "all-in-one" computer with the modularity of a desktop. Four (4) additional micro format computers will be installed in the branch's teen area once OCL Facilities finishes installation of furniture in the space.

- The Technology department is currently seeking potential vendors to redesign of the OCL website. OCL went out to bid twice and failed to receive qualified proposals. Therefore, the library may seek a vendor without going to bid.
- The Technology User Experience Team reported over 9,500 impressions on the OCL Facebook page in November, with a total reach of over 40,000. The OCL Twitter site had over 700 engagements and over 34,000 impressions.
- A new router has been installed at the Upper Shores Branch to replace one damaged during a power outage.

6. COLLECTIONS (BOOKS & MATERIALS)

Jeri Gunther, Chief Librarian, Operations

- *Mary Jo Provencal, Librarian 4, Collections*

- The eLibraryNJ consortium contract is due for renewal in 2016. The cost of renewal is the same as last year, \$16,000.00 and the vendor remains the same (Overdrive). **This is listed under Resolutions on the Agenda.**
- The review of the 2016-2017 RFQ for Various Exempt Services (for provision of materials) is underway. **This will be listed under Bid Awards on the final Agenda.**
- The agreement with Hoopla, a division of Midwest Tape, which will allow library patrons to instantly borrow free digital movies, music, eBooks and more, 24/7 with an Ocean County library card has completed the legal review process with Berry, Sahradnik, Kotzas & Benson and the vendor. **This will be listed under Resolutions on the final Agenda.**
- Donna DeStefano, Findaway World, helped materials selectors prepare an order of Playaways, which will add this format to additional branches system wide. Donna visited Brick at a re-opening celebration following the 2012 renovation, just two days before the landfall of Hurricane Sandy where she introduced many Brick customers to the Playaway audiobook format.
- Our Zinio downloadable magazine collection celebrated its first year in November and was renewed for another year of service. There were 9,676 checkouts in this first year. New magazines added to our collection include the children's titles *Click* and *American Girl Magazine*. Youth magazines were a new addition to this Recorded Books product since we initiated our services last year.
- Gianni Lecciso of Brainfuse provided an introductory webinar for the Brainfuse online tutoring service. This product offers live online tutoring on curricular topics for students from kindergarten through college level, as well as test preparation and writing support.
- Database renewals this month include *World Book Online Reference Center* and *Universal Class*.

7. PUBLIC RELATIONS, PRINTING & GRAPHICS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Jeri Gunther, Chief Librarian, Operations

- *Sal Ottaviano, Public Information Officer*
- *CIRC&E Committee (System Circulation Services)*
- On November 6, CIRC & E Workgroup presented their annual Fall Workshop at the Brick Branch. Highlights from the Workshop included Sara Hansen's presentation, which encouraged staff to have a conversation about circulation numbers and trends; Delivery's Jim Suter and Mike Erickson gave pointers on the proper way to pack delivery bags and carts that will ease the process of delivery and circulation; Deborah Blackwell, Training Coordinator gave a morale-boosting presentation on *The Power of One*. The CIRC&E Workgroup is committed to communicating circulation standards and procedures to the entire library system to provide consistency in customer service operations.

8. Branch Services

Rita Oakes, Chief Librarian, Branch Services

- *Rachael LaVoie-Dohn, Librarian 4, Branch Services*
- *Judy Macaluso, Librarian 4, Branch Services*
- *Susan Gardiner, Librarian 4, Brick Branch*
- *Pamela Dong, Librarian 4, Jackson Branch*
- *Cathi Sheridan, Librarian 4, Lakewood Branch*
- *Suzanne Scro, Librarian 4, Manchester Branch*
- *Adult System Programming Committee*
- *Security Guards*
- The annual agreement for shared librarian services in which the Ocean County Library provides a librarian for the Bay Head School from January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015 is underway. The Ocean County Library's Bay Head Reading Center and the Bay Head School Library are housed in the same building which is owned by the Borough of Bay Head. **This will be listed under Resolutions on the final Agenda.**
- Judy Macaluso, Linda Feaster and three of the Jackson Friends attended the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA) Friends Institute on November 14. Featured speakers were Beth Nawalinski, American Library Association's (ALA) United for Libraries, and Nancy Eberhardt, Director of Pro Bono Partnership serving NJ non-profits.
- Branch Services, working with three community partners, has established schedules for Affordable Care Act enrollment sessions system-wide from November 2015 to January 2016. ACA information and schedules in English and Spanish are accessed through a link on the OCL website. Kick-off information sessions will be held at the beginning of each month, rotating between Toms River, Brick, and Jackson.
- **Barneget Branch (*Givane "Gigi" Hayes, Librarian 3, Branch Manager*):**
The Barneget Branch implemented a new, weekly program, "TED Talks ® at 2." TED Talks ® are videos that present "ideas worth sharing." Using conversational seating, the talks are presented on Fridays, and designed to inspire conversation as well as a desire for life-long learning. The November series featured science-themed talks.

Barneget Youth Services began preschool outreach visits to Laurel Oaks, an "income-qualified apartment community."

- **Brick Branch** (*Susan Gardiner, Librarian 4, Branch Manager*): *BOYS R GR8*, a character building series for boys ages 8-12, which is modeled after the *Girls Groove* program, has included: "Stand by Me— Handling Peer Pressure with Friendship Skills;" "Who is Your Hero and What Makes Them Great;" "Bullies Beware—Why People Bully and How to Deal With It;" and "Respecting Yourself and Others." Two male volunteers are an important part of the program, including a retired drama teacher and a homeschooled teen boy who is a great role model for positive character development.

Rob Rinaldi and Rich Bernaudo, Information Services, visited Brandywine Senior Living at The Gables to do a presentation for the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) on the genealogy database, Ancestry.com, and the many other genealogical tools and resources the library has to offer.

- **Island Heights Branch** (*Christine Maloney, Librarian 2, Branch Manager*): The branch served as a collection point for a Thanksgiving food drive to benefit families served by Ocean Mental Health Services and the Ocean Cares Foundation.
- **Jackson Branch**: (*Pamela Dong, Librarian 4, Branch Manager*): On November 18, Jackson Youth Services hosted the 2nd annual Thanksgiving Parade. 47 customers heard the story *Turkey Trouble*, made turkey hats, did the Turkey-Pokey, and marched in a parade with Jurassic Park and Unicorn floats. Sparks the Library Mascot even joined in on the fun.

On November 19, Jackson staff members Chris Caffrey and Alana Poloski visited the Jackson Food Pantry. They provided 30 local residents with information about jobs from the One Stop Career Center, Ocean County Health Department influenza vaccine information, NJ 211 services, as well as the various library services and programs at the Jackson Branch.

- **Lacey Branch** (*Nancy Bonta Voitto, Librarian 3, Branch Manager*): The Lacey Branch is starting a new partnership with the Lacey Recreation Department, various youth group leaders, and the local Girl Scouts. Led by Lacey Recreation Director, James Wioland, there was an initial meeting of all community groups involved on November 4. The group will be planning teen activities, as well as promoting each other's programs. We hope to share space and help our teen groups grow by giving teens more opportunity to engage in their community.

On November 9, Joan Seele-Goold held *Music and Movement for Adults with Special Needs*. This is in partnership with the Lacey Recreation Department. Due to the popularity of this program, the Lacey Branch will now host two separate programs for adults each month.

- **Lakewood Branch** (*Cathi Sheridan, Librarian 4, Branch Manager*): The Reference Department assisted hundreds of customers navigating the online application for the Lakewood Residential Housing Assistance Program's new waitlist. Many of the applicants had little to no computer experience.

On November 6, Lakewood Young Adult and Youth Services staff displayed a Retro Museum, full of items donated by OCL staff including: Super Nintendo's, retro game emulators, rotary telephones, typewriters and much more. This event attracted teens, children and adults who enjoyed discovering or reminiscing over these items.

On Monday mornings in November, Youth Services staff hosted a Family Place program called "1, 2, 3: Grow With Me." Young children and their caregivers played with developmentally appropriate toys with other children at the program. Caregivers met with specialists during the

program including a speech therapist, occupational therapist, early intervention specialist and a music and movement specialist.

On November 15, Eva Weiner, a survivor of the Holocaust and the ship, *St. Louis*, spoke about the "Voyage of the Damned" and the fate of 900 Jews fleeing Nazi Germany in 1939. The audience heard how the ship went to multiple countries that would not let the Jews disembark. Instead they were sent back to Europe. Many later died in concentration camps.

On November 19, circulation staff and members of OCL's Serving Adults with Special Challenges Committee partnered with a Ladacin Network facility to bring speakers who entertained adults with developmental and/or multiple physical disabilities with a program about carnivorous plants.

- **Little Egg Harbor Branch** (*Kelly-Ann Pennell, Librarian 3, Branch Manager*): On November 12, nearly 70 guests gathered to celebrate the opening of our late autumn art show, "Shore Scenes Photography," featuring four Ocean and Monmouth County photographers exhibiting images of the Jersey Shore. The artist reception featured refreshments and live music by talented local artist Cait Darcy and was sponsored by the Friends of the Little Egg Harbor Branch. Some notable guests included news reporter Pat Johnson; Ann Coen, LBI's premier wedding photographer; and Pinelands Regional High School students looking to speak with photographers about pursuing a career in the field. Eight teen volunteers helped to serve refreshments, photograph the show, and hand out guides.
- **Long Beach Island Branch** (*Linda Feaster, Librarian 3, Branch Manager*): Kristina Quay, MA, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor from the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, held a drop-in session at the LBI branch on November 17, for the purposes of speaking to people with disabilities who are looking for vocational assistance. Ms. Quay will return to work with the people who came to seek her help, and also for another session in December.
- **Manchester Branch** (*Suzanne Scro, Librarian 4, Branch Manager*): Manchester Branch offered a demonstration of Pronunciator's features and language classes. Information Services staff showed library patrons step-by-step how to access this database from the library's website and set up an account on November 16.

On November 9, Ron Owens gave a seminar called "Laughter Really Matters," describing the benefits of having a sense of humor. He told the audience how to develop and use humor to enhance health and happiness. Ron Owen is a humorist, musician, teacher, spiritual facilitator and bereavement counselor.

In honor of Veterans' Day, Jeff Brown made a presentation on November 12: "D-Day: The Invasion of Normandy." Audience members were able to view a military uniform and examine other historical artifacts from World War II. Jeff Brown is a history teacher at Southern Regional High School in Manahawkin.

To commemorate nearly 100 years since the United States became involved in the First World War, Virginia Dilkes gave a presentation on November 23: "Remembering World War I: An Engineer's Diary of the War." Ms. Dilkes read from the journal in which her father, a combat engineer, described his experiences in the field. A volunteer for the U.S. World War I Centennial Commission, she discussed the events leading up to U.S. involvement, the atmosphere of the country at that time, and the effects of the war. Photographs of Charles Edward Dilkes' World War I artifacts and copies of his published diary were on display.

Manchester Branch hosted the following Chapters of Health activities:

In "Supported Employment for People with Disabilities" on October 30, representatives from Waters and Sims Employment Services explained the supported employment approach to vocational rehabilitation which helps level the playing field so that referred individuals with disabilities can participate in the competitive labor market.

In partnership with the Alzheimer Foundation of America's National Memory Screening Program, Meridian Health offered a presentation about memory loss and dementia on November 10. It was followed by confidential individual memory screenings.

In his November 13, workshop "Staying Healthy Naturally in Your Golden Years" Dr. Daniel Bies told attendees how to prevent and treat chronic conditions associated with getting older using natural medicine.

On November 17, health coaches from the Center for Healthy Aging at Monmouth Medical Center's southern campus presented "Brain Health as You Age: You Can Make a Difference" They talked about common brain diseases, reviewed risk factors, and told the audience what they can do to protect their brain health.

- **Plumsted Branch** (Shazia Zaman, Librarian 2, Branch Manager): On November 19, the Ocean County Library and the New Egypt High School partnered to discuss the world of Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai. Plumsted Branch Manager Shazia Zaman and School Media Specialist Dennis Wilno collaborated with a presentation for the New Egypt High School Book Club and Model Congress Club. Shazia detailed her experiences growing up in Pakistan and her time spent as a librarian in Saudi Arabia which helped provide great insight into the book *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb. This was followed by a lively discussion of the struggles of Pakistani girls fighting for an education under Taliban rule. Shazia's insight provided greater understanding of the culture, geography, and history of the Pakistan nation. There were 57 students and faculty in attendance.
- **Point Pleasant Beach Branch** (Matthew Willbergh, Librarian 2, Branch Manager): The branch hosted a collection bin for a Thanksgiving food drive to benefit families served by Ocean Mental Health Services and the Ocean Cares Foundation.
- **Point Pleasant Boro Branch** (Amanda Spino, Librarian 3, Branch Manager): 30 adults attended a meeting of the Point Pleasant Special Education Parent Advisory Committee on November 14. This meeting provided an opportunity for parents of children with special needs to share information and discuss matters of concern and interest.
- **Stafford Branch** (Natalie Niziolek, Librarian 3, Branch Manager): On November 6, the Puppet Show Players presented "Creepy Carrots" for 43 adult and children.
- **Upper Shores Branch** (June Schneider, Librarian 3, Branch Manager): A discussion of Rory Kennedy's documentary, *Last Days in Vietnam*, provided a small but powerful impact program the evening of November 11. The film sheds new light on some of the military maneuvers and bravery displayed by American forces during the final days of the war.

A successful artist reception took place on November 14, with local photographer/historian Denise Wirth. Ms. Wirth (Lavallette Heritage Committee Chair) will hold a talk on the History of Lavallette on Wednesday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Waretown Branch** (Melissa Rutkowski, Librarian 2, Branch Manager): Waretown Branch hosted a screening of the independent horror film, *Yearly Harvest*, on Monday, November 30, 2015. Portions of the film were shot in the library last summer and featured staff member Emily

Guzman in a brief acting debut. The filmmaker, Ryan Calloway, as well as the film's star musician responsible for the soundtrack were in attendance.

9. Toms River Headquarters

Zarita Mattox, Chief Librarian, Toms River Branch

- *Glynis Wray, Librarian 4, System Youth Services*
- *Mary Jean "Jeannie" Collacott, Librarian 4, System Teen Services*
- *Elizabeth J. Cronin, Librarian 4, System Information Services*
- *Toms River Adult Services Programming Committee*

- **The Toms River Branch:** 116 people came out on November 25, to attend the rollicking CD release party of the Stool Pigeons, a local group who played hits of the 1920s and 1930s. The most notable member of the group is local luthier Paul Unkert, best known as "the Guitar Guy."
- **OCL System Youth and Teen Services:** On November 13, librarians Jeannie Collacott, Courtney Nieddu, Joanne Halloran, Christie Aldellizzi and Emily Mazzoni attended the Ocean County Health Department conference "Digital Detox: Technology and Social Media Addiction". Among the presenters were Lacey Township Police Chief David Paprota, Anthony Pierro of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office, and Daniel J. Trolaro of the Council on Compulsive Gambling, NJ. The topics covered included how social media affects the way people interact, how online gaming can lead to online gambling, and the impact of technology on the family.

On November 20, 230 people were treated to a display of memorabilia and a staged radio parody production of *Doctor Who* by the group Raconteur Radio to kick off FanNation. Toms River Young Adult librarians and teen volunteers made Doctor Who themed snacks, and many pictures were taken with the OCL Printing & Graphics-made TARDIS telephone booth. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Toms River Branch.

On November 21, Ocean County Library held its first annual FanNation: the Geekstravaganza at the Toms River Branch. Over 500 people ages 6-78 came out for over 30 discussion panels, workshops, and meet-ups. The library and the Bishop Building buzzed with activity for a celebration of all things geeky – anime, gaming, movies, manga, books, cosplay and more! Especially popular were the meet-and-greets with 11 special guests and themed activities in the upcoming Maker Space. The FanNation System Committee, led by Young Adult librarians Jennifer Strain and Theresa Foster would like to thank everyone who helped to make this event a true success.

10. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

GRANTS

- The library has received a matching dollar-for-dollar grant in the amount of \$1,680.00 with the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission for the purpose of digitizing reels of the Lakewood Citizen; the New Egypt Press, and the Ocean County Review, to make the collection available in digital format for patrons. **This is listed under resolutions on the Commission Agenda.**

DONATIONS

- JD's Hair Salon donated \$50.00 to the Ocean County Library in Memory of Barb Wagner.
- The Friends of the Point Pleasant Boro Branch donated \$2,000.00 to the Point Pleasant Boro Branch for 2016 programming expenses. This is listed under donations on the Commission Agenda.
- The Barnegat Branch was presented with a \$335.00 donation by Judith Okun on behalf of residents of Mirage at Barnegat, with the request of sponsoring a program to celebrate the birthday of their good friend and neighbor, Ruth Flammia. Mrs. Flammia is a retired library director, Barnegat resident, and active library user. The program, *Songs & Letters of World War II*, will be presented by Traveling Literary Theater on Saturday, May 21, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. This is listed under donations on the Commission Agenda.
- The Brick Branch received a donation from Jo Anne Ward in the amount of \$250.00 in Memory of Evelyn Klappholz. This is listed under donations on the Commission Agenda.
- Jacquie and Alan Olans donated \$25.00 to the Brick Branch in Memory of Evelyn Klappholz.
- Patricia L. Merk donated \$50.00 for Science Fiction print materials for the Brick Branch in Memory of Peter N. Cottini.
- The James Stokes family donated \$1,000.00 to the Long Beach Island branch for children's programming. This is listed under donations on the Commission Agenda.

OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

- The Foundation began their 2015 Annual Mailing Campaign Fundraiser this month. Highlights of the year included the Library Foundation's support for the Ocean County Library's 90th Anniversary celebration with an award of a \$10,000 grant to the library for special programming; financial support for advertising wraps for two (2) new library delivery box trucks promoting library services for the 90th Anniversary valued at over \$5,000; and funding for the production of a plush doll of library mascot, Sparks, that can be purchased to raise additional funds. Funding for library programs was reduced in the OCL budget in 2015 by \$20,000 compared to 2014. Thankfully, the financial impact was mitigated when our Library Foundation stepped forward to provide almost 60% of the lost funding. The Ocean County Library Foundation's Great Gatsby Gala for the Library's 90th Anniversary raised nearly \$20,000 with a profit of over \$11,000. The Library Foundation's on-going partnership with the OceanFirst Foundation which brought in a major grant of \$25,000 over a two-year period for English as a Second Language (ESL) classes; Other Library Foundation partnership's included the "Arts in Public Places" J. Seward Johnson Sculpture Exhibition in Toms River in the Summer of 2015; and the Garden State Philharmonic's *Music in the Mind* series with four very special community programs involving poets, musicians, and authors;
- The Ocean County Library Foundation is looking forward to producing another fundraising special event for the Library in the fall of 2016. A theme under-discussion is "Fore! Dewey Decimal Number 796.352: Golf" in which the venerable Jersey Shore miniature golf tradition is re-created in the Library with a 9- or 18- hole golf course tournament with Mancini Hall serving as the "19th Hole" or clubhouse. With the entire Dewey Decimal System at our disposal, the special events possibilities for the Library are endless.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

- Sad News: Friends of the Lacey Library Vice President Janet Siecke passed away unexpectedly. Memorial service details are not known at this time.
- The **Friends of the Little Egg Harbor Library** sponsored The Angeltones Concert on Veterans Day, November 11, with about 40 people enjoying the music from the 1940's and 50's.
- The **Friends Steering Committee** conducted a successful Mah Jongg Tournament on October 14, in Mancini Hall, raising \$1,977.00.
- **Friends of the Island Heights Library** and Teen Advisory Board are hosting an Open House and Bake Sale on December 5.
- The **Friends of the Jackson Branch** sponsored the following programs:
 - On Veteran's Day, retired Adjunct Instructor Martin Mosho from Mercer County College gave a presentation on the American Civil War, covering the socio-economic reasons for the war as well as important battles.
 - The Friends paid for the public performance fee for the showing of *Forks over Knives*, on November 12.
 - On November 17, John Ench presented "The History of Doo Wop" to 50 patrons at the Jackson Branch.
 - The Friends purchased supplies for the *Make It! Adult Craft: Bees Candles* on November 7, and Mason Jar Luminaries on November 28.
 - The Jackson Friends paid for the tuning of the piano.
- The **Tuckerton Library Association** held their Annual Luncheon on Saturday, November 14, at Cuisine on the Green. This special program featured art and antique appraisals by local antiquarians Dan & Marilyn Melega and Ben & Sharon Pulcrano.

11. STAFF NEWS

- In 2012, Joseph Mancini, Mayor of Long Beach Township, and Christopher Seiz, Executive Director of the Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences, invited **Linda Feaster**, Branch Manager of the Long Beach Island Branch, to represent the library as a partner in the project, "Long Beach Island: Planning a Home for the Arts." The Foundation received a \$25,000.00 Our Town grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to lay the groundwork for a cultural district on Long Beach Island. This creative placemaking project began in September 2012, and the team was headed by Rutgers University Professor Leonardo Vazquez of *Arts Build Community*. Hurricane Sandy struck about a week after the first meeting, and it became a catalyst for local artists and nonprofits to work together on this project with an eye to creating something new. After the grant work was completed, Matt Burton, of MT Burton Gallery, kept the focus on founding a new nonprofit organization for artists in the LBI region. This was finally accomplished on November 13, with the ratification of the by-laws of the LBI Arts Council. Matt Burton is the President; Alice McEnerney Cook is the Vice President, and Linda Feaster was invited to be on the Board of Directors and serve as Secretary.
- Lacey Branch Manager, **Nancy Voitko**, was the special guest for Jackson's Homeschool Book Discussion on November 19. Participants in the discussion read the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar.

12. OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Jennifer Doderer, Personnel Director
Deborah Blackwell, Training Coordinator

- The County of Ocean has changed from Ceridian to Wage Works as the benefits continuation provider (COBRA) for dental services. The effective date of this change will be February 1, 2016. The cost to the Library for administrative fees for dental COBRA is approximately \$2,200 per year. Authorize the signing of the Wage Works electronic service contract for the period 2/1/2016 through 1/31/2019 covering dental services COBRA is listed under resolutions on the Commission Agenda.
- Authorizing the Ocean County Library to participate in the vision care plan provided by the County of Ocean for County employees in 2016 is listed under resolutions on the Commission Agenda.
- Deborah Blackwell continues to visit with Branch Managers, Supervisors and Department Heads to determine training needs for themselves and team members.
- A highlight for November's New Employee Orientation sessions was the introduction of the Management Team to new staff members. Management Team members shared a brief biographical sketch of themselves and their work histories while working at OCL.
- The Smoking Cessations workshops were attended by staff seeking to be more informed, inspired and empowered on their journey to becoming smoke free. The small to mid-sized classes encouraged candid, inspiring and supportive dialog amongst all attendees.
- Clearing the Air booklets, from the National Cancer Institute, were given for free to customers in honor of The Great American Smoke Out on November 19. An eye catching display of library materials was also provided by Nicole Massa, Senior Library Assistant, from Toms River Circulation.