



2007

**OCEAN
COUNTY
LIBRARY**

Connecting People,
Building Community



Annual Report



Ocean County Library: Connecting People, Building Community



Ocean County Library Officers

Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders - 2007

John C. Bartlett, Jr.
John P. Kelly
James F. Lacey
Gerry P. Little
Joseph H. Vicari, Library Liaison

Ocean County Library Commission - 2007

This seven member group is responsible for the budget and policies.

Eleanor E. Hyres, Chair
Joseph J. Harding, Vice Chair
Susan L. Hutler
James F. Malone
Henry J. Mancini
James T. Mullins
Damian G. Murray

Ocean County Library Administration Team - 2007

Library Director - Elaine H. McConnell
Chief Librarians - Valerie Bell, John Glace, and Christine Matteo
Joseph Cahill, Facilities Manager
James Ellis, Human Resources Director
Jessica Lynch, Senior Accountant

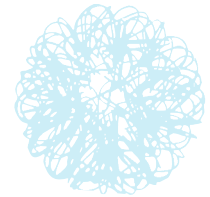


Growth and Expansion

In order to meet the needs of our growing community the Ocean County Library System expanded in 2007 and plans to continue to develop in the future.

The library answered the needs of the growing Whiting area of Manchester by opening the Whiting Reading Center, a location that is convenient to several retirement communities.

The reading center has brought out new customers who did not use the library's services in the past. In its first year the reading center has issued 1,607 new library cards and had a circulation of nearly 70,000 items. Attendance at the reading center exceeded 42,000.



In Toms River a replacement steeple was placed atop the belfry and a coffee shop was opened to meet the many requests from customers for a refreshment station. The coffee shop has also become a gathering spot for business people and high school students.

Ocean County Library has long expressed an interest in expanding the Brick branch to meet the area's growing population. In 2007 The Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Library Commission hired Dennis Kowal Architects to design the expansion. We will work closely with the township to enhance the area and better serve our customers.



Awards and Grants

Ocean County Library received two of the most prestigious awards that are available to libraries: The National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced in November that The Ocean County Library would be one of five libraries nationwide to receive its National Medal. The award was presented to Library Director Elaine McConnell in January 2008 by First Lady Laura Bush in the East Wing of the White House.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. Its mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

The John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award recognized our "Hurricane Katrina – Partners in Caring" project. The award is sponsored by the Library Administration and Management Association division of the American Library Association, the H. W. Wilson Company and the H. W. Wilson Foundation.



The Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission awarded the library a grant for the "2007 Bookfest" reading festival.

We helped the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Coast Survey by exhibiting "Sea to Shining Sea: 200 Years of Charting America's Coasts." The exhibit was donated to the library through a special grant and it was enhanced with local historical documents, including the papers, map collection and publications of Nathaniel Holmes Bishop.

The Manchester branch received a grant for "Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature – Identity and Imagination" from the American Library Association and Nextbook, a gateway to Jewish literature, culture and ideas.

The Lakewood branch received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Library Foundation to upgrade and update computers in the branch.

The American Library Association presented a grant to the Toms River branch for a traveling exhibit entitled "Lewis and Clark and the Indian Country."

The New Jersey State Library awarded us a Diversity Leadership Grant to further our diversity initiative and to expand our services to every member of the community.

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities awarded the Toms River branch a grant to celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month (October).



Community Partnerships

The Ocean County Library partnered with several organizations to fulfill its goal of "Connecting People, Building Community."



Once again the library with assistance from several agencies including the Ocean County Sheriff's Department, The Children's Home Society, Ocean Inc. Head Start, Lakewood Head Start, and Children's Specialized Hospital in Toms River, distributed thousands of books that were donated by the community to area children.

The library partnered with the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program, Ocean County Community Development Corporation's Discovery Place and NetWork Arts to create a permanently mounted mosaic mural in the Toms River branch. The mural shows the diversity and richness of Barnegat Bay.



The library teamed up with members of the State Office of the Attorney General and Juvenile Justice Commission and the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office to present "Gangwise" programs at the Lakewood, Stafford, Brick and Toms River branches. "Gangwise," also offered in Spanish at the Lakewood branch, informed teens and parents of the dangers associated with gangs and offered them tips on gang resistance.

The United States Postal Service unveiled its Star Wars themed sheet of stamps in our atrium to celebrate the Star Wars movie's 30th anniversary May 25.

The library partnered with the State Superior Court to host its Drug Court graduation ceremony. We also hosted a party in Mancini Hall that celebrated the adoption of 29 children in November.





Programming

Our programs are attracting growing attention as more and more of our programs play to standing room only crowds.

We have “filled the house” with music performances by such artists as jazzman Guy Davis and the weekly “Carousel of Music” concert series held outdoors during the summer. Crowds regularly exceeding 700 people sat in the courtyard between the library and the Toms River municipal building.

We had legendary disc jockey and now author “Cousin Brucie” Morrow share his experiences from the “Doo Wop” generation.

Suspense novelist David Baldacci, Latin cook and television personality Daisy Martinez, former White House pastry chef Roland Messnier, past New York City mayor Ed Koch, former pro wrestler Chris Jericho and cookbook author Delilah Winder told standing room only crowds about their life, their dreams and the trials they went through to write best selling books.

Dr. Loretta Long, who played the character Susan on Sesame Street, made appearances at both the Lakewood and Toms River branches, celebrating “Courtney’s Birthday Party” with hundreds of children. She also spoke at a workshop for library staff, sharing her thoughts on drawing minority community members into the library.

The library’s annual Bookfest was centered on the theme “Something’s Cooking at the Ocean County Library.” The one-day event addressed the culinary interests of thousands of county residents. It was preceded by a formal dinner fundraiser hosted by Rick Archbold, author of “Last Dinner on the Titanic: Menus and Recipes from the Great Liner.” Students from the Ocean County Vocational Technical School’s culinary arts department prepared meals based on the final menu served aboard the R.M.S. Titanic.

The inaugural Teen Film Festival drew in hundreds of people and more than 60 short films from as far away as California and Ireland.

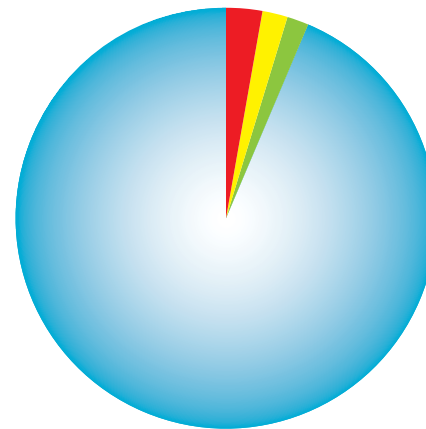


Finances and Circulation

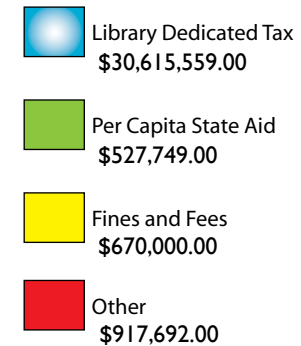
2007 Budget: \$32,731,000

Circulation

Barneгат	189,151
Bay Head	10,043
Beachwood	41,062
Berkeley	201,378
Brick	602,039
Island Heights	54,062
Jackson	434,922
Lacey	245,552
Lakewood	405,596
Long Beach Island	116,382
Little Egg Harbor	204,922
Manchester	456,694
Plumsted	74,283
Point Pleasant Beach	63,141
Point Pleasant Borough	206,365
Stafford	236,968
Toms River	662,632
Tuckerton	38,123
Upper Shores	109,931
Waretown	44,135
Whiting	69,379
Outreach	23,715
System Total	4,490,475

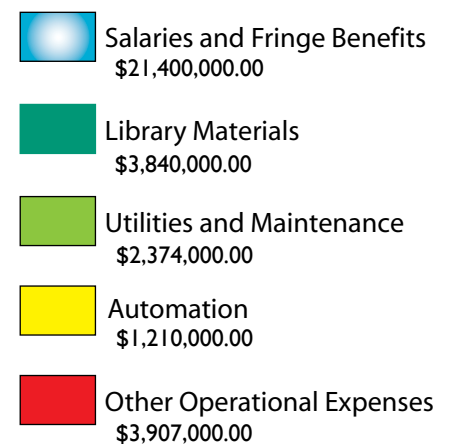


Sources of Funds - Actual



Total: \$32,731,000.00

Expenditures - Actual



Total: \$32,731,000.00



2007 Donations, Grants

Award of a grant from the Gates Foundation in the amount of \$5,300 for the Lakewood branch.

Award of grant from the American Library Association for a Lewis and Clark Traveling Exhibit and \$1,000 for programming at the Toms River branch.

July, 2007: \$3,000 donation to the Hancock County Library (**John Cotton Dana Award**).

\$1,000 donation from David and Sandra Caldwell to the Little Egg Harbor branch in honor of Sandra's parents, Sam and Angelina Yezzi.

\$1,280 donation from the Little Egg Harbor Friends for the purchase of equipment for the branch's teen-gaming programs.

August, 2007: Award of a Diversity Leadership Grant from the New Jersey State Library in the amount of \$25,000.

Award of a grant from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities in the amount of \$500 to benefit the Toms River branch.

September, 2007: Friends of the Toms River Library create a commemorative plate that recognized that branch's expansion and renovation.

November, 2007: A gift of a 50 inch big screen television, valued at over \$2000, from the Friends of the Stafford Branch.

A gift from the Friends of the Jackson Branch for that branch: 18 inch wooden letters to be painted and hung on the wall in the Teen Zone spelling "Teen Zone" at a cost of \$116; two six foot contour replacement benches with inserts by Clean City Squares at a cost of \$2000; a G9 Canon digital camera with flash at a cost of \$786.70.

IMLS Award: The Institute of Museum and Library Services announced that the Ocean County Library was selected to receive its prestigious national award. "The national awards for museum and library service are the nation's highest honor for libraries and museums that make their communities better places to live," said Dr. Anne-Imelda M. Radice, director of the institute. The award is based on the body of work but emphasizes community service, involvement and partnerships. The award ceremony took place in Washington, D.C. We are one of five libraries nationwide to receive the award. Five museums were also selected. The award includes a \$10,000 grant to the library. Thank you to Glynis Wray who prepared the library's nomination.

December, 2007: Donation from the Stafford Friends of \$1,000 for a Nintendo Wii console, software and cases for equipment.

Donation from the Friends of the Stafford Branch of a number of big stuffed animals, valued at \$872, for the Stafford branch children's room.

January, 2007: Award of a grant from the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission for "2007 Bookfest Reading Festival" in the amount of \$1,250.

February 2007: Award of a grant from the American Library Association Public Programs Office for "Lets Talk About It: Jewish Literature, Identity and Imagination" grant in the amount of \$2,500.

May, 2007: Award of a grant from the Ocean County College Cultural and Heritage Center in the amount of \$500 as a One Book New Jersey sponsor.

June, 2007: \$15,000 from the estate of Lahoma Swoyer for the Vogrin-Bell Scholarship Fund.

Community Support

Ocean County Library Foundation

The Ocean County Library Foundation was organized in 2001 to promote awareness and appreciation of the library's role in the community and to assist in the development and growth of the library's facilities so that broader educational and cultural opportunities and services may be provided. The Foundation is a 501.c.3 organization affording it the opportunity to apply for grants not previously available to the library system, and to be able to accept charitable contributions that are deductible under federal, estate and gift law tax parameters. The Ocean County Library gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their gifts to the Ocean County Library Foundation which raised \$7,202.



Ocean County Library's "Wall of Honor", Beach Glass Waves

Edward Aimutis
Marv Beach
Mildred Benson
Morris Brodkey
Rene Brown
Joseph Buckelew
Joan Burns
Capone's
Roseanne Citta
Norma Clark
Diane Conboy
George Coughlin
Janene Coveny
Katherine B Durante
Salvatore Floria
Trudy Gibson
Marie Goione
Evelyn Grich
Hayes, Thomas F.
Hecht, Jean R.
Frank B Holman, III
John Irish

Debra Jacobson
Carla Jones
Sidney Kassenoff
Thomas Kelaher
Marshall Kern
James Kiriakis
Judith Leone
Martin Lev
John Liddy
Lois Link
Leonard "Bud" Lomell
Paul Loughman
Carol Mack
Thomas Malagiere, Jr.
Thea Malatier
Patricia Marciniak
Charles Marshall
Nancy Mayer
Thomasina McCormick
Joan McNerney
Maryann Meehan,
Alan Mellen
Archie Miller
Walter Morrison
Alexander Muir
Damian and Patti Murray
Lena Nilsen
John O'Donnell
Phillip Paulucci,

Helen Paver
Grace Pavia
Michael Perlmutter
Jeanne Pyne
William Reulbach
Paul Rhine
Stefanie Rotsaert
Carolyn Royce
Eric Sambol
George Scardena
Edward Schreiber
Robert and Liz Scott
Anthony Sierchio
Robert Staples
Leslie Terjesen
Rea Teuschler
Sheila Vinton
Barbara R.Wheeler
Barbara Winant
David C. Wintrode

Ocean County Library Branches

BARNEGAT

112 Burr Street
609-698-3331

BAY HEAD READING CENTER

136 Meadow Avenue
732-892-0662

BEACHWOOD

126 Beachwood Blvd.
732-244-4573

BERKELEY

30 Station Road
732-269-2144

BRICK

301 Chambers Bridge Road
732-477-4513

ISLAND HEIGHTS

121 Central Avenue
732-270-6266

JACKSON

2 Jackson Drive
732-928-4400

LACEY

10 E. Lacey Rd., Forked River
609-693-8566

LAKESWOOD

301 Lexington Avenue
732-363-1435

LITTLE EGG HARBOR

290 Mathistown Road
609-294-1197

LONG BEACH ISLAND

217 S. Central Ave., Surf City
609-494-2480

MANCHESTER

21 Colonial Drive
732-657-7600

PLUMSTED

119 Evergreen Road, New Egypt
609-758-7888

POINT PLEASANT BEACH

710 McLean Avenue
732-892-4575

POINT PLEASANT BOROUGH

834 Beaver Dam Road
732-295-1555

STAFFORD

129 N. Main Street, Manahawkin
609-597-3381

TOMS RIVER

101 Washington Street
732-349-6200

TUCKERTON

380 Bay Avenue
609-296-1470

UPPER SHORES

112 Jersey City Ave., Lavallette
732-793-3996

WARETOWN

112 Main Street
609-693-5133

WHITING READING CENTER

Whiting Commons Shopping
Center

Route 530, Whiting
732-849-0391





OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY
101 Washington Street
Toms River, NJ 08753

www.theoceancountylibrary.org