

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

WALLINGTON'S JOHN F. KENNEDY MEMORIAL LIBRARY



92 HATHAWAY ST
WALLINGTON, NJ 07057
(973) 471-1692

WALLINGTONPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG
WALLCIRC@BCCLS.ORG

OUR LIBRARY

OUR MISSION

...is to provide resources, technology, and programming that cultivate personal and intellectual growth while informing and embracing the proud traditions of our Wallington Community.

OUR VISION

...is to bring people together by inspiring and supporting lifelong learning, literacy, creativity, and cultural expression to find, share, and create knowledge.



2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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OUR STAFF

Kathryn Ennist, Director
Susan Kowalski, Supervising Library Assistant
Sandra Adler, Youth Services Coordinator
Tonette Benz, Library Assistant
Melissa Calabria, Library Assistant
Joy Lasoi, Page



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

If “What’s going on with the new library?” could be considered a reference question we would have quadrupled the number of reference questions answered for 2022 and added significant value to the community. As I look back on 2022, there is a lot to tell people about what is going on with the new library, but there is also much to tell about what is going on with the current library. 2022 brought a new face to our staff, a return of robust youth programming, an increase in library attendance, and so much more.



As I write this, it is odd to think that 2022 was most likely our last full year at 92 Hathaway Street. Construction of the new library started in 2022 and is scheduled to end in 2023. In a matter of months we could be moving into the Library’s new space; leaving behind a facility that we have outgrown, but which has provided so much to the community over the decades.

2023 will be a year of great transition, but 2022 was a year of getting back to what we love about being a Library. Patrons, especially our younger patrons, made a greater return to the library. Our newest staff member, Ms. Sandy, got children’s storytime up and running once again. Programming of all kinds happened with more frequency and better attendance than any we’ve had post-pandemic. Circulation of our young adult collection increased by almost 50%. And while our DVDs might not go out like they used to (we see you streaming services), our still-fledgling video game collection has been going home with patrons of all ages non-stop.

Any public librarian will tell you they love the energy of a busy library, and we here at Wallington are no different. It’s always great to help someone find their next favorite read or help out at a “sold-out” program. Believe it or not, we love it when we are able to find the answer to a particularly challenging reference question. And yes, we even love answering the question “What’s going on with the new library?”. A big THANK YOU to all of our patrons who made all of that possible for us in 2022. It has been the first time, post-pandemic, that we truly felt like we are back in business.

I look forward to bringing the energy of 2022 into 2023 and continuing to build on it.

Kathryn Earnist

Library Director

LIBRARY FACTS AT A GLANCE: VISITING THE LIBRARY



**The Library was opened
2,289 hours in 2022; an
average of 44 hours a week**

**The Library had more than
8,330 visitors during the year**



**Library Staff answered
more than 900
reference questions**

LIBRARY FACTS AT A GLANCE: COMPUTERS & INTERNET



**There were over 3,740
Library WIFI Sessions**

**There were a total of 1,436
Library Computer Sessions**



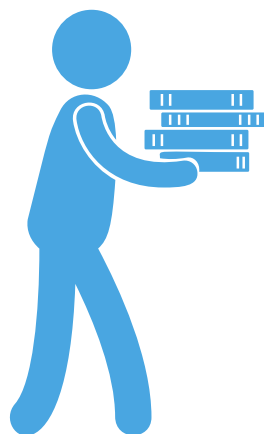
**There were over 5,760 visitors
to the Library's Website**

LIBRARY FACTS AT A GLANCE: COLLECTIONS & CIRCULATION



The Library has over 21,100 physical items in its collection with 1,232 items added in 2022

There are 2,230 Wallington Library Card holders with 243 new card holders in 2022



The Library circulated a total of 24,013 physical & digital items in 2022

LIBRARY FACTS AT A GLANCE: VALUE TO OUR COMMUNITY



Items or Services	Total	Average Price	Cost to Patrons	Value Provided
Computer Sessions	1436	\$25.00	FREE	\$35,900.00
Wifi Sessions	3744	\$10.50	FREE	\$39,312.00
Reference Questions Answered	936	\$15.00	FREE	\$14,040.00
Program Participants	4566	\$15.00	FREE	\$68,490.00
Interlibrary Loans Obtained	5254	\$27.00	FREE	\$141,858.00
Adult Books Circulated	6932	\$25.00	FREE	\$173,300.00
Young Adult Books Circulated	1156	\$25.00	FREE	\$28,900.00
Juvenile Books Circulated	10190	\$17.00	FREE	\$173,230.00
DVDs Circulated	1828	\$20.00	FREE	\$36,560.00
Video Games Circulated	433	\$60.00	FREE	\$25,980.00
Music Circulated	87	\$15.00	FREE	\$1,305.00
Hotspots Circulated	29	\$30.00	FREE	\$870.00
Magazines & Digital Magazines Circulated	90	\$8.00	FREE	\$720.00
eBooks & eAudiobooks Circulated	3122	\$10.00	FREE	\$31,220.00
Digital Movies & Music Circulated	137	\$5.00	FREE	\$685.00

Total Value to Wallingtonians: \$772,370.00

2022 COLLECTIONS: DID YOU KNOW?



Library Patrons had access to FREE passes for 6 museums



Library patrons had FREE access to 4 different electronic resources: Learning Express Library Complete, Mango Languages, America's News, & Heritage Hub



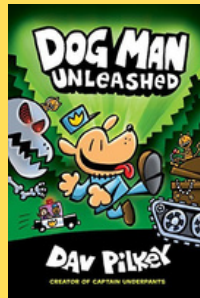
The Library's Most Circulated Titles of 2022



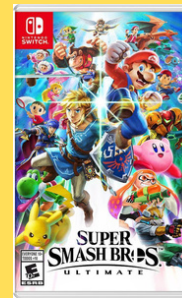
Adult Fiction



Young Adult Fiction



Children's Fiction



Video Games



Film

2022 NEW FACE: MS. SANDY

Welcome!



Ms. Sandy, our Youth Services Coordinator, started with the Library in April of 2022



She has visited with students at Wallington Schools to share stories and tell them all about the library! She has hosted all kinds of awesome programming & events (check out some of them on the following pages!)

We're so happy Ms. Sandy is here! Come into the library in 2023 and be sure to say hi!



2022 HIGHLIGHT: KIDDO STORYTIME



**In-person Storytime
returned to the Library
every Tuesday, with lots
of stories, crafts, & fun!**

2022 HIGHLIGHT: YOUTH PROGRAMMING



In-person youth programming returned in a big way in 2022. We read, painted, cooked, and more! There was summer reading, superheroes, makerspace, and (of course) Rosie!

2022 NEW LIBRARY UPDATE: WALLINGTON VETERANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Anyone who drives by the corner of Hathaway Street and Main Avenue cannot help but notice all of the activity that is taking place at 125 Main Ave. While much work was going on behind the scenes in 2021, it wasn't until Spring of 2022 that residents of Wallington could finally have a visual manifestation of all the work that was being done on their new library.

April 2022 was a bittersweet month for the Library and the community. On one hand, bids for construction of the new library were returned and a contract was awarded for the project. On the other hand, the month saw the demolition of the VFW Post 2640 building. While there was excitement to start the next stage of the new library's construction, it was tempered by the fact that Wallington Residents had to say goodbye to Post 2640. Many in Wallington have happy memories of events held at the VFW Post, but it is our hope that the Veterans' generous contribution will help lead to many more events which will, in turn, create happy memories for generations to come.



Above: Pictures of the demolition of the VFW Post 2640 building.

On the left: Pictures of the foundation work for the new library building.

2022 NEW LIBRARY UPDATE: WALLINGTON VETERANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Demolition ended and construction on the new building began in June 2022. The foundation of the new library was laid, and despite some delays in materials procurement, work on the site has been ongoing throughout the second half of the year. Perhaps the most exciting work happened towards the end of the year, when the framing for the building went up. Residents can finally see the outline of their new library facility.



Construction will continue in 2023, and the new library should be up and running well before the end of the year. Wallington Residents are encouraged to drive by often to see the continued progress on the building, and should be on the lookout for news of all of the wonderful programs, celebrations, and ceremonies that will happen in 2023 to mark the transition from the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library to the Wallington Veterans Memorial Library.

On the left: Pictures of the framing for the new library building

THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY FUNDS FROM THE NEW JERSEY LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION BOND ACT, ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY

