

**Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library
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Executive Director

Our Mission

Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library, a gateway to lifelong learning, provides convenient access to resources that inform, educate, entertain, and enrich people's lives.

Our Vision

Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library will be an integral part of all that happens in our communities and our county. People's lives will improve because they have convenient, expanded access to great libraries and resources.

Statistics

**Main library, Branches and
Extension Services**

3,413 children participated in Summer Reading and read 22,984 books

Circulated 540,830 materials to patrons

Registered 10,465 patrons for library cards

Answered 109,748 reference questions

Loaned 44,727 items to other libraries

Borrowed 35,242 items from other libraries

Held 2,831 programs attended by 55,968 people

Cataloged 26,008 items

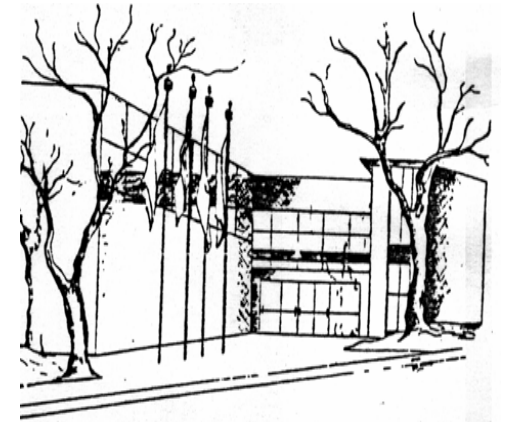
Offered 43 electronic databases that recorded 36,049 searches with 70,379 items examined

Welcomed 66,228 computer users for a total of 65,644 logon hours

Benefited from 4,520 hours of work by 28 volunteers

Our patrons visited us over 188,238 times

**Montgomery County-Norristown
Public Library**



Annual Report 2005

1001 Powell Street
Norristown, PA 19401
(610) 278-5100
www.mc-npl.org

Branches of MC-NPL

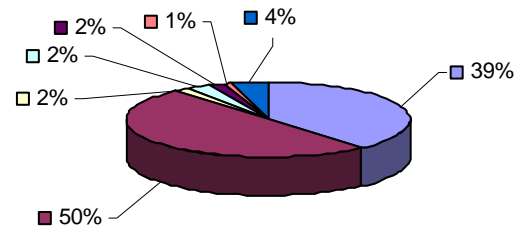
Conshohocken Free Library
301 Fayette Street
Conshohocken, PA 19428
610-825-1656

Perkiomen Valley Library at Schwenksville
290 Second Street
Schwenksville, PA 19473
610-287-8360

Royersford Free Public Library
200 South Fourth Avenue
Royersford, PA 19468
610-948-7277

Upper Perkiomen Valley Library
350 Main Street
Red Hill, PA 18076
215-679-2020

MC-NPL Revenues



Revenues

1. County	\$2,220,000.00	50 %
2. State	\$1,710,099.00	39 %
3. Other	\$ 184,934.00	4 %
3. Local	\$ 90,232.00	2 %
4. Grants	\$ 102,579.00	2 %
5. Fines	\$ 89,700.00	2 %
6. Interest	\$ 35,856.00	1 %
	\$ 4,433,400.00	

**One of the Library's greatest assets
is its staff**

In 2005 the Library:

- ◆ Held 3rd Annual Staff In-Service Day focusing on customer service and personality traits
- ◆ Sent staff members to the annual Pennsylvania Library Association Conference
- ◆ Credited attendance at workshops on: Latino culture, early literacy training, trustee training
- ◆ Reserved the Computer Lab for Gates Workshops on genealogy, the invisible web, and organizing web-based information
- ◆ Broadcasted library teleconferences on: marketing, Google, consumer medical resources, user behavior, blogs, and taxpayer return on investments for public libraries

Events & Services

- ◆ Hosted the Annual Cocktail Party “Learning Starts Here” to showcase and promote library materials and services, featured a booktalk by a local media personality

- ◆ Coordinated 1st Annual Adult Summer Reading Club with 262 participants and 1,443 entries, awarded gift bags and other prizes

- ◆ Took title to the new Books-Go-Round traveling library for Montgomery County day care centers

- ◆ Participated in community and outreach events in East Norriton, Hatfield, Montgomery Township, Norristown, West Norriton, Towamencin

- ◆ Trained twenty-five Head Start teachers

- ◆ Purchased new equipment for printing, laminating, distributing forms, creating displays, viewing and copying microforms

- ◆ Laid groundwork for a Master Facilities Plan

- ◆ Held the first Municipal Managers’ Luncheon

- ◆ Volunteered at a local middle school to assist with Reading Olympics

- ◆ Awarded a contract for the installation of automatic doors at the three main public entrances

- ◆ Produced bibliographies: African American studies, adventure series, Spanish consumer health, job search, business, and more

- ◆ Involved young adults in: summer reading, self-esteem, tattoo programs; chess, knitting, writing, Scrabble clubs; Youth Advisory Board; Build-a-Book-Tree

- ◆ Sponsored 172 programs for adults including: 3rd Annual Gardening Festival; One Book, One Philadelphia *The Things They Carried*; baseball rookies; jazz and blues

- ◆ Donated \$200 to Gulf Coast libraries devastated by Hurricane Katrina

- ◆ Joined the Interagency Council of Norristown

- ◆ Entertained all ages with popular film showings on Movie Mayhem Tuesdays

- ◆ Worked on committees to judge a book writing contest and to select book titles for a reading competition

- ◆ Expanded the Teen Zone collection by adding: audio-cassettes, graphic novels, Spanish books, teen recommendations, biographies, magazines

Branches

Conshohocken Free Library

Received a \$9,232 grant from ASTM International and funds from the Knights of Columbus for Summer Reading Program in which 503 children read 10,045 books. Presented reenactment of a Charles Dickens tale and Christmas tea sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Hosted many programs: tales of knights, Irish dance, castle creations, magic show, annual librarian awards. Recruited volunteers for the Book Brigade. Installed a new exterior library sign.

Perkiomen Valley Library at Schwenksville

Accepted an allocation of \$750 from the Advisory Board for annual programming. Hosted a booktalk by a local novelist. Posted useful Internet sites on the library’s home-page. Ruffled off a handmade quilt during the October book sale. Organized programs for all ages: a winter carnival, gardening with native plants, identity theft, a horse program for children, teen photography workshop. Launched the Summer Reading Program with a Harry Potter Party.

Royersford Free Public Library

Received \$15,000 from the Bard Foundation for young adult materials. Celebrated the library’s 107th anniversary. Enlisted the Spring-Ford Kiwanis as readers for family stories. Coordinated various programs: Chinese culture, gardening, book talk on Upper Providence history, Move & Groove, Magic by Stuart, Eco-Man, Marionette Theatre of the Stars, Mad Science of West New Jersey, TriReaders’ Challenge. Mailed out annual appeal letters. Installed a new children’s computer containing games and activities. Held a poetry workshop for children and a Poetry Open Mic program for adults. Sponsored slide lectures on medieval culture from the U Penn Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Upper Perkiomen Valley Library

Accepted a State Senate citation and a Best Practices Award from the Pennsylvania Library Association and the Early Learning Forum for Reading Goes to the Dogs. Awarded DCED (PA Department of Community and Economic Development) grants: \$50,000 for community room and computer lab improvements; \$6,500 for operating costs. Co-sponsored programs with various organizations on: Pennsylvania German culture (Schwenkfelder Heritage Center), investing (Pennsylvania Securities Commission), pet care (4H), Lenape Indians (PHC), rescue (Greater Philadelphia Search and Rescue), Civil War (Freedom Guard Living History Group). Hosted fundraisers: spring gala, wine tasting, silent auction. New laptop computer donated by the Friends of the Library.

Technology

- ◆ New address: www.mc-npl.org, continued website construction with addition of more services and links

- ◆ Computer Lab improved security for public access computers, developed an online computer skills test, expanded course offerings, created trouble call database

- ◆ Equipped the Children’s Learning Center with two Early Literacy Stations for pre-school - 3rd graders containing specialized computer hardware and educational packages across all curricular areas (\$2,500 Verizon Foundation grant)

- ◆ Received through MCLINC (Montgomery County Library and Information Network Consortium): patron ability to request specific titles online from home, acquisitions module for ordering and tracking purchases, serials subsystem for processing periodicals, improved searching for the online Polaris catalogs, enhancements for the remote databases, statistical methods for ranking the most popular titles circulated

- ◆ Acquired from the POWER (Pennsylvania Online World of Electronic Resources) Library: an upgraded state-wide borrowing system, new databases (book contents, history, health videos), supplemental search interfaces

- ◆ Studied the implementation of downloadable audiobooks, electronic document delivery, live 24/7 online reference service

- ◆ Offered 123 classes in the Gates Computer Lab with 629 attendees

Fundraising

Improved library service with numerous fundraising efforts, including the following:

- ◆ Received \$2,220,000 (5% increase) from the Montgomery County Commissioners

- ◆ Collected over \$13,000 from 3rd Annual Appeal

Grants:

- ◆ \$10,000 from Patricia Kind Family Foundation for children’s materials and programming

- ◆ \$2,000 from Wachovia Foundation for Teen Summer Reading Program

- ◆ Received \$2,000 from West Norriton Women’s Club

- ◆ \$500 PA Humanities Council grant for One Book, One Philadelphia and \$500 from Wal-Mart for teen programs

Community Partnerships

Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library prides itself on its relationships with community groups, organizations, and businesses.

In 2005 we collaborated with:

American Association for the Advancement of Science

Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Montgomery County

Blooming Affairs

County school districts

Delaware Valley Mystery Novelists

Embroiderers’ Guild of America, Philadelphia Area Chapter

Health Partners

Historical Society of Montgomery County

Interagency Council of Norristown

Kimberton Coffees

King Limousine Service

LAM-Valley Forge Lodge 1776, Order Sons of Italy in America

MBF Center

Montgomery County Head Start

Montgomery County Health Department

Morris Arboretum

Norristown Art League

Norristown Chapter of NAACP

Norristown Farm Park

Northeast Financial Corp.

PNC Bank

Police Athletic League

Professional Academy of Cosmetology

RSVP

Ray’s Diner

Red Hill Greenhouse

Society for Creative Anachronisms

Starbucks

Target of Oaks

Tornetta Properties, Inc.

Urban Family Counseling

Verizon Foundation

West Norriton Women’s Club

Whitemarsh Art Center

And many more...