

Library Hours:

Summer	Winter
Mon 10-8	Mon 10-8
Tues 10-8	Tues 10-8
Wed 10-2	Thu 10-8
Thu 10-8	Fri 10-4
Fri 10-4	Sat 10-2

2011 Numbers:

Collection size

•31,399

Registered Borrowers

•4,955

Circulation

•128,839

Library Visits

•81,709

Children's and YA Programs

•131 with an attendance of 1,761

Adult Programs

•109 with an attendance of 689

A Busy Year in Tonawanda

As with most years, 2011 brought change to the City of Tonawanda Library. Bev Federspiel, who had been Director at Tonawanda for 3 years, is now Director of the Lockport Library. This opening allowed us to welcome a new Director to our library, Mr. Glenn Luba. Glenn has worked in the Erie County system as branch manager at the Riverside Library, and many departments at the Central Library. He also brings a fresh eye and lots of enthusiastic ideas with him, and we are thrilled that he is part of our team!

The Buffalo and Erie County Public Library system celebrated its



175th Anniversary this year, and we are growing too. There is a definite increase in the use of eBooks and downloadable audio books, and our in-library computer usage is up 13% over 2010. We held 25% more programs this year, and the number of registered resident borrowers increased by nearly 5%.

We will continue in 2012 with building and

The parking lot entrance to the City of Tonawanda Library, featuring the newly planted rock garden.

collection projects that will create an inviting and very user friendly atmosphere for our patrons. We look forward to serving your needs and hearing your suggestions.

Your Staff—Glenn, Betsey, Carol, Michelle, Sue, Marsha, Laura, Karen(s), Amber, Chantal, John, Lisa, Nick, and Ryan.

Children's Programming



A new Lego creation is ready for display.

Children's programming continues to be popular in Tonawanda! Pre-school and Toddler story hours regularly bring in local families, and the Lego Club is a hit with our kids. In June, we celebrated the 175th Anniversary of the library system with a party.

The summer reading 2011 theme was *One World, Many Stories* and it presented us with opportunities to share tales, activities and crafts with the students who joined us. The Tonawanda firefighters were here for their yearly visit, and we capped everything off with an

end of summer picnic, featuring Glen Colton and grilled hot dogs from the Kiwanis Club of the Tonawandas.

The 13th annual Battle of the Books was held in August, and Tonawanda sent 2 teams with a total of 15 kids to the competition. They fought hard and came in 8th and 11th place out of 36 teams countywide!

October brought in Not-So-Spooky stories, and December saw Santa join us for a well attended evening of stories and picture taking.

Some numbers:

175th Anniversary Party

25 children

20 adults

Summer Reading

153 children

16 YA

Tonawanda Firefighters

45 children

35 adults

End of Summer Picnic

90 children

50 adults

Not-So-Spooky Stories

63 children

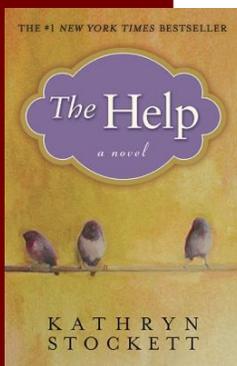
38 adults

Santa's Visit

45 children

58 adults

The Help was one of the titles discussed by The Swiftwater Reading book club in 2011.



For Adults

Library programs aren't just for kids anymore! Many patrons took advantage of our free computer training and attended various classes including Word, Excel and Publisher Basics; Google It!, Introduction to Facebook,

Skype and YouTube.

The Training Lab staff keeps on developing relevant classes, and then they bring the lab right to us!

The Swiftwater Reading Club met seven times to discuss both new and classic books. This book club truly

has a loyal following, often close to twenty people participate.

The crafty in town also had a presence at the library, with our Friday morning Knitting Club. They brought much camaraderie and laughter, as well as support for fellow yarn enthusiasts.

Patron Updates

After months of encoding the library materials for RFID and self checkout, Tonawanda's piece of this project went live at the end of November. Security gates were installed at the entrances, and patrons are now able to check out their own materials, with the option of printing or emailing their receipt. DVDs no longer need to be retrieved from the staff office. They are right out on the open shelf for easy browsing and quick checkout. Change is never easy, but as the pub-

Self Check-outs get patrons on their way quickly.

lic gets used to this new technology, staff has more time for shelving and other projects.

With more and more people buying eReaders, eBooks are becoming



increasingly popular, and the price is right when it comes to free library downloading! Our Computer Training Lab staff has begun posting Training Guides and Online Screencasts to the library website. These resources walk patrons through the steps involved in the downloading process.

Shelf labeling and weeding are ongoing projects that keep the library fresh and patron-ready.

Building Improvements

Our library is looking better these days, thanks to some improvements to the building and the surrounding grounds. A rock garden was installed at the parking lot entrance, complete with beautiful perennials and a bird feeder. Design and labor were provided by our very own Glenn

Luba! Also on the parking lot side, a shade garden has been started thanks to Ed McKee (former Director Mary McKee's husband). The Flag Pole has also been given a fresh coat of paint and a surrounding garden.



“A rock garden was installed at the base of the flag pole..”



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Library Board

Bonnie Bugbee, President
Jay Holler
Sylvia Barry
Kathy Reitz
Susan Tirone

Friends of the Library

The song says "That's what friends are for," and our Friends are here for us constantly! They continued their support of the library in so many ways in 2011.

The big annual Book/Bake Sales were held in January and October, and they were both well attended.

An antique appraisal was held in May, and, Root 5, an a cappella singing group, performed in September. Harpist Beth Anne Brene-man brought some soothing

music to us during the busy month of December, and a popular basket raffle was held as well.

The exterior rock garden and other plantings was a large project sponsored by this group in 2011. Snacks for the Battle of the Books teams, magazine subscriptions for the library and a bulletin board for public notices are just a few of the other things our Friends have supplied this past year.



Some numbers:

Antique Appraisal

- 50 patrons

Root 5 a cappella singers

- 25 patrons

Harpist

- 30 patrons

Various raffles and sales, brought in a total of several thousand dollars for our library. *Thank you Friends!*

A beautiful quilt made and donated by a member of our Friends group was raffled off