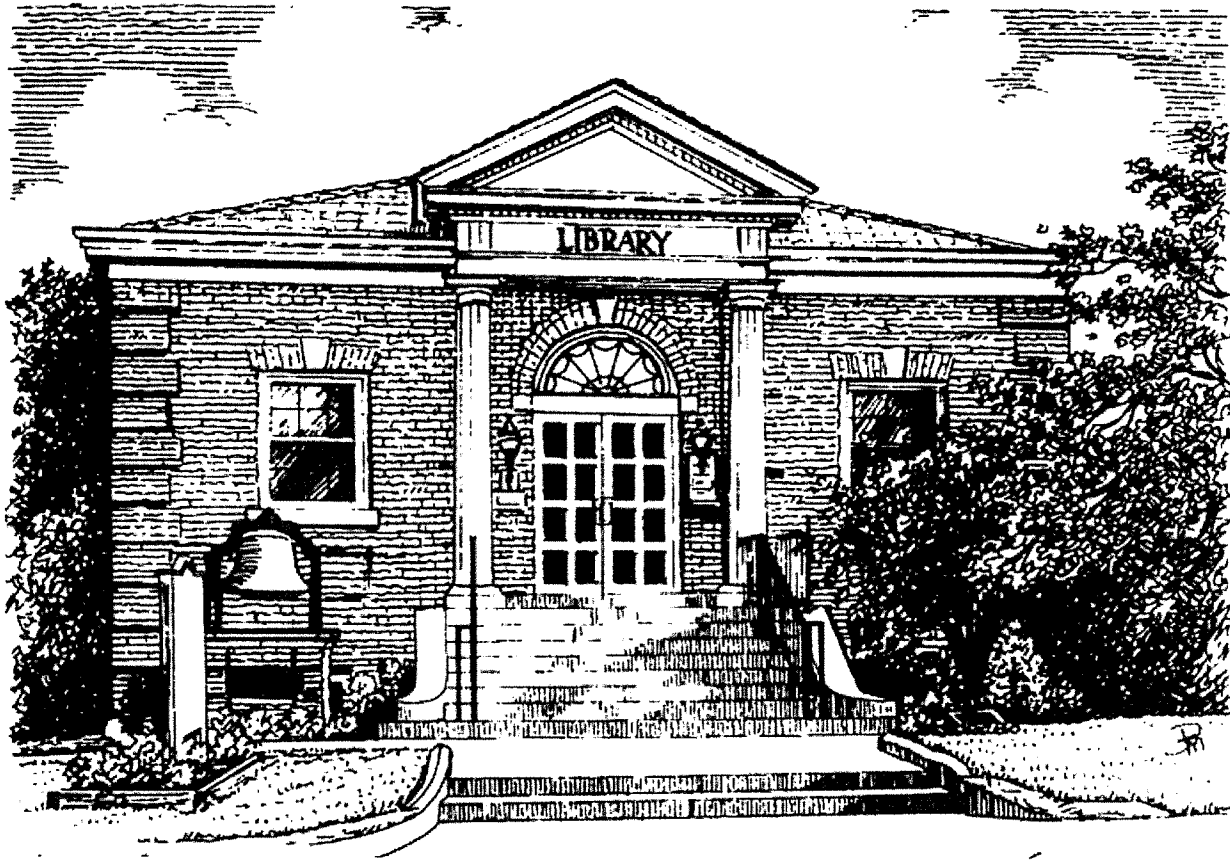


Annual Report 7/2018-6/2019 for East Norwalk Association Library



The East Norwalk Association Library -serving the community since 1915

“I have found that the most valuable card in my wallet is my library card.” –Laura Bush

EAST NORWALK ASSOCIATION LIBRARY

Serving the Community — Since 1915

51 Van Zant Street—East Norwalk CT 06855 / Phone: 203-838-0408 / Fax 203-855-8382
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Annual Report- July 1,2018- June 30, 2019

I am excited to present the Library's annual report. During this past fiscal year 7/2018-6/2019, the library has continued to move forward. We continue to expanded our library collections adding new and popular fiction titles, new and classic dvd's and blue ray. Our updates to our non-fiction book selections focus on trending topics, relevant and noteworthy issues and revised up-to-date subjects of interest. In addition, we have bought new and contemporary fiction and homework help books for children and middle school including the World book encyclopedia. We have also updated book titles for the Hispanic collection with introduction of popular magazines in Spanish. Over the past year library statistics show an increase, we have doubled our circulation from the previous year. Our numbers are modest compared to other libraries but the increase shows that we are still on track with our purchases.

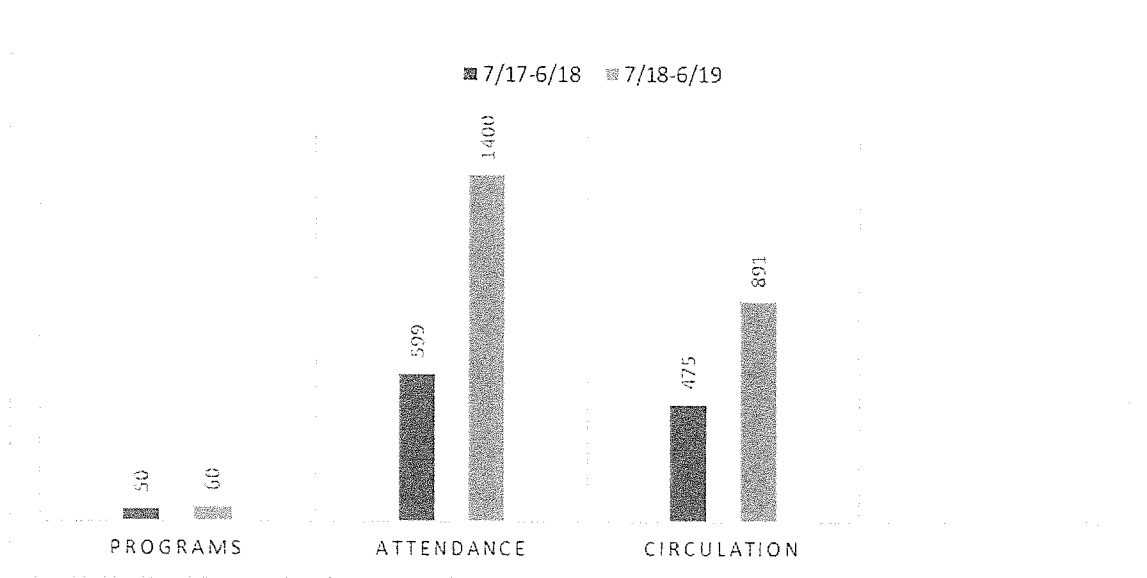
Technology- The Library has updated the routers for faster wi=fi and internet connectivity. Computer use has increased this from last year,

Facility- updates over the year has included the TTD support making the Library a recipient of a grant for solar panels. The over 35 thousand dollar project was completed and included battery backups to store energy, This is valuable because in case of outages, the Library will be able to maintain, lights, heating and air conditioning. The Library is a heating and cooling center in the East Norwalk community.

History and Archives- Last year the library board decided that the local history collection would be better preserved at the Norwalk Historical Library. Therefore the Board donated the original collection to them.

Programming-- Our year round programs engaged and inspired the community. We targeted all audience age-groups. We presented on average at least three programs a month presenting one adult, family and multiple early literacy programs. We also partnered with Norwalk Library to participate with them in the City's summer reading club along with local daycare centers and public schools. Summer programs 2018 did very well. Our attendance numbers doubled from the previous year thanks in part to a grant from the Norwalk Redevelopment Agency. We applied and were awarded six thousand dollars for programs last year and were able to increase our offerings. Volunteers helped us with setting up and cleaning up for programs.

ANNUAL STATS



Where to find out what is happening- We use various means to keep the public informed. Here are the places where we advertise our programs: The Library joined the community app Next Door, Burbio, TTD newsletters. Facebook, East Norwalk Business Association and Constant Contact emails. In addition, we hand out and post our flyers, we talk and tell patrons of events, the community spreads the word through word of mouth, we post on our website, send to the news media, and do outreach to the schools and daycares.

Message from the Director

This past year we have focused on community public relations and establishing our independent identity separate from the Norwalk Library. When asked many people think that we are part of the City of Norwalk public library system. So, we have a lot of work to do concentrating on our messaging and continuing to improve our presence in the community library. We created cross cultural programs that welcome everyone and utilized staff and community volunteers. We have been working hard to reach the community through our social media accounts in order to keep our patrons up to date on many programs, new books and movie arrivals as well as enhance participation in monthly themes or drop in crafts. Working towards the future, we have been continually evaluating our progress and want to share that progress with you. With many new programs, services, resources and community partnerships, the library will become a community center for all residents. We look to our frequent library

user, occasional visitors and non- users to provide us with feedback and ideas to keep the library moving forward.

Finally, I would like to say that we rely on community patronage as well as their financial support. We receive our funding from the TTD, not the City of Norwalk. The TTD gives the Library generous support throughout out the year; but the Library's allocation does not cover everything it takes to operate a Library as we try to satisfy a demanding library community. The funding covers 75% of our operation costs. We are very appreciative that the TTD ratepayers vote each year to approve the Library budget but the appropriation does not pay all the bills. We are always looking for creative ways to raise money. I ask that anyone reading this report to give and tell a friend to donate to the library. Any dollar amount supports book, movies, magazines and programming as well as equipment purchases and furniture. We want to keep the East Norwalk Library moving forward providing quality educational, family friendly programs in an environment that is clean and safe and as always to serve as a support system to the public school.

Now that you have read through the 7/ 2018-6/2019 annual report, I hope that you continue to discover something new about your library

Sincerely,

Sylvia Archibald, Director