



HILLSDALE  
LIBRARY

# 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Pursue your passion | Hillsdale Library

At its June meeting, the Library Board adopted a new mission statement to better reflect the activity and commitment of the Library.

## Our Mission

*"We help people pursue their passion. This is accomplished by knowledgeable, qualified, and enthusiastic staff that guide, teach, and assist the public in the use of the manifold collections, services, and possibilities offered by a dynamic free public library."*



The Library logo was updated. With the generous help of the Friends of the Library several thousand pens were given away to encourage people to pursue their passion.

The Annual Report will emphasize how the Hillsdale Library has helped its patrons and the wider community which it serves. Interspersed are testimonials offered by the public.

Additional information is available upon request.

David J. Franz, Library Director

About the cover photo - 20 Children convened within the MakerSpace at the library on May 3 to create stomp rockets. The rockets were constructed of paper, masking tape, corks, and cardboard. The launchers were constructed from donated 2-liter bottles, pvc pipe, duct tape, and recycled bi-cycle tubes donated by Cycle Craft of Parsippany. Stomp Rockets were the last in the series of First Friday events in the MakerSpace. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, "Think It, Make It, Share It" is a series of programs designed to foster creativity in the community.



## Over 108,000 people walked into the Hillsdale Library. We've attempted to help every one of them.

Staff kept notes throughout the year whenever they felt they truly helped someone in a unique way. Here are some examples:

"Today I helped a patron navigate the NJ Transit website to find schedules from Hillsdale to NYC."

"Today I helped a patron by proctoring his final examination for Thomas Edison College!"

"Today I helped a patron by downloading the Skype app to his iPad so he could speak with his father in Poland. They connected using the library wi-fi."

"Today I helped a patron seeking a DVD related to Washington D.C. for their family road trip. They walked out with *A Night at the Museum: Smithsonian*."

"Today I helped a patron find the value of his used car and then found the book that showed him how to replace the shingles on his house."

"I have been a resident in the town of Hillsdale since August of 1972 and a patron of the Library since then. I can honestly say that the library has improved every year. Under the current leadership and staff I look forward to visiting the library because of the treatment I receive just walking through the door. I have never had a request that was not answered. I wish the staff a very happy and healthy new year and I look forward to visiting the library in 2014." – Ken Gibney

## 13,400 people used the computers.

This does not include statistics from the Children's room or users connected to the public WI-FI network.

In December the Library participated in the national Hour of Code program to encourage the public to learn computer programming. 45 participants received special edition "code red" Hillsdale Library t-shirts.

Inkscape and GIMP were added to the suite of applications available on the public computers. These are open source programs that are used to create graphics and edit photographs.

"Nothing but praise and thanks to you, your staff, and the BCCLS system. They are always helpful, courteous, and enthusiastic. I use the library for books for my 2 book clubs and what little free-reading time I have. I depend upon the van for titles available from the member libraries. Thank goodness you were able to stave off cancellation of that feature. I'm looking forward to increased availability of ebooks, although it will be a long long time, if ever, before paper disappears.

Thanks for being there. Enjoy your outdoor billboard signs, too." -  
**Leslie Nassau**

Pictured: Meghan and Margaret Minogue



## 394 new library cards were issued.

There are 6,534 registered Hillsdale Library cardholders. Of these, 3,391 used their card at least once this year. An additional 1,075 used their card at least once in the last two years.

Our ever-changing message board greets the public and strives to reflect the humorous personality of staff. Our sign and sign makers won a New Jersey Library Association Public Relations Award.

"A year ago my husband and I, in the process of moving from Washington, D.C. to northern New Jersey, were looking at homes in the area. Finally, after months of searching with a (very patient) realtor, we found a house in Hillsdale that seemed to have what we were looking for. Before submitting a bid, we decided to take a look at the community we would be joining. After a cup of coffee at Starbucks, we headed for the library. As we entered the building, our decision was made. A town that would support such a lovely building with such a welcoming atmosphere and friendly staff would certainly be a place where we could make our new home.

We have not regretted our decision. Hillsdale has proved to be lovely place to live, and the library has become a focal point for our family here. We have come to treasure, among all that the library has to offer, the children's room for our grandsons, the monthly book club for me, the good selection of mysteries for my husband, the choice of audiobooks for our car trips, the BCCLS system and digital selection for us all. I love walking into the building and seeing so many young people engaged in various activities, older people enjoying a quiet read in one of the sun-filled rooms, young and old sitting at the computers, students working together on school projects, parents reading to their little ones. MY Hillsdale Library is indeed a very special place." - Corrie Schweigler





1,285 visitors participated in 101 activities sponsored by community organizations.

The meeting room is utilized by the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, senior clubs, The Garden State Rose Society, the Pascack Valley Stitchers and Quilters, Kids for Earth, the Science Fiction Society of Northern New Jersey, and numerous other community organizations.

Pictured: Rich Curran with his collection of Boy Scout memorabilia

“For the past several years that I have been going to the Hillsdale Library, the staff has been very helpful and willing to find a particular book or answer any other questions you may have. Each time I am checking out my books the staff will recommend another book that this particular author has written. I love Hillsdale Library, not because of the books that are available, but also the many activities it has for children and seniors. Thank you Dave and staff for making Hillsdale Library one of the best.” - **Joyce Merlino**

“Just wanted to let you know how much we enjoy the library and all of the offered services. Every one of the librarians has been wonderful, helpful, informative and always enthusiastic about everything "library". My family has been connected to the Hillsdale Library for decades. Thank you for all you do each and every day.” - **Rilly Cardaci-Miron**

## 3,122 visitors participated in 180 activities sponsored by the Library.

The Library offers a variety of programs. There are traditional story times, book groups and summer reading programs. The Friends of the Library run the Summer Film Festival and Foreign Film Series.

The Library introduced a new Museum Pass Program, generously supported by the Friends of the Library.

All ages are invited to participate in the Think It, Make It, Share It series of activities designed to foster creativity within the community. Central to the TMS program is the MakerSpace where people can gain hands-on experience making things.

"I go to the Hillsdale library a lot and the ladies are super nice and very knowledgeable and very helpful. You have a wonderful staff." - Debbie Altscher

"The Hillsdale Library has become the dynamic hub of our community. The entire staff is welcoming and extremely helpful. It is truly a unique experience in today's increasingly impersonal environment. Our membership is fortunate to have an abundance of unique and engaging programs to enjoy. There is truly something for everyone." - Carol Mulé



Pictured: Summer Reading Party and Make Your Own Paper Quilling Tool.

## 8 Individual artists and photographers exhibited at the library.

The Hudson Valley Woodturners and artists from the Hillsdale Art Studio also exhibited.



Susan Benner



Eli Hilu



Daniel Tackney-DiGrazia



Nick Metz



Hope Sperling



Phyllis Polevoy



Bertharis Lantigua



Mel Flanzman



## Fun-Raising – The Friends of the Library Donated over \$10,000

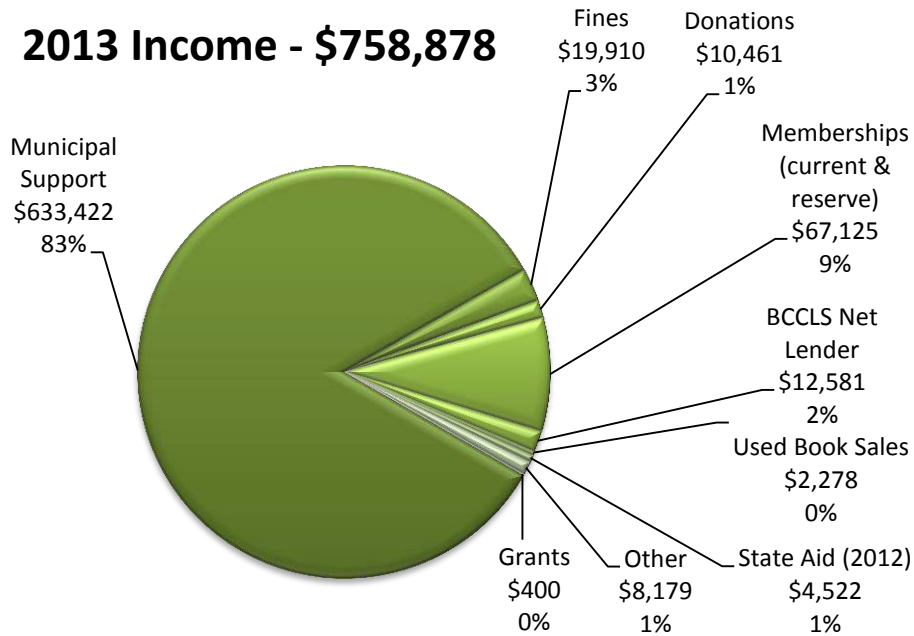
In addition to the annual membership drive, the Friends of the Library held fundraisers at Wendy's and the Iscreamery. Winner's of the chicken nugget challenge and the bannana split eating contest won limited edition RED Hillsdale Library T-shirts.

The Lê Family contributed a sizeable donation to the Library. Study Room #2 is now named in memory of Daw Ngwe Kyi.

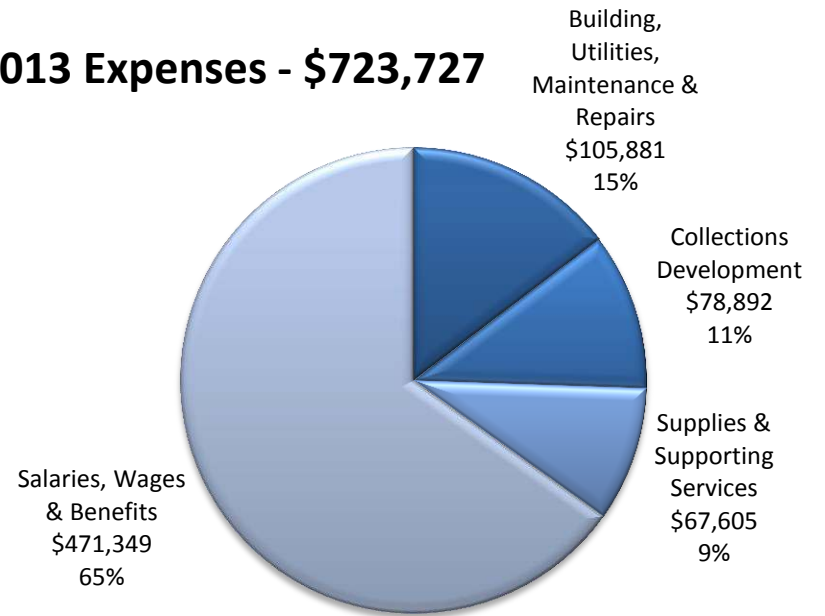


# Charts, Graphs, and Performance Measures

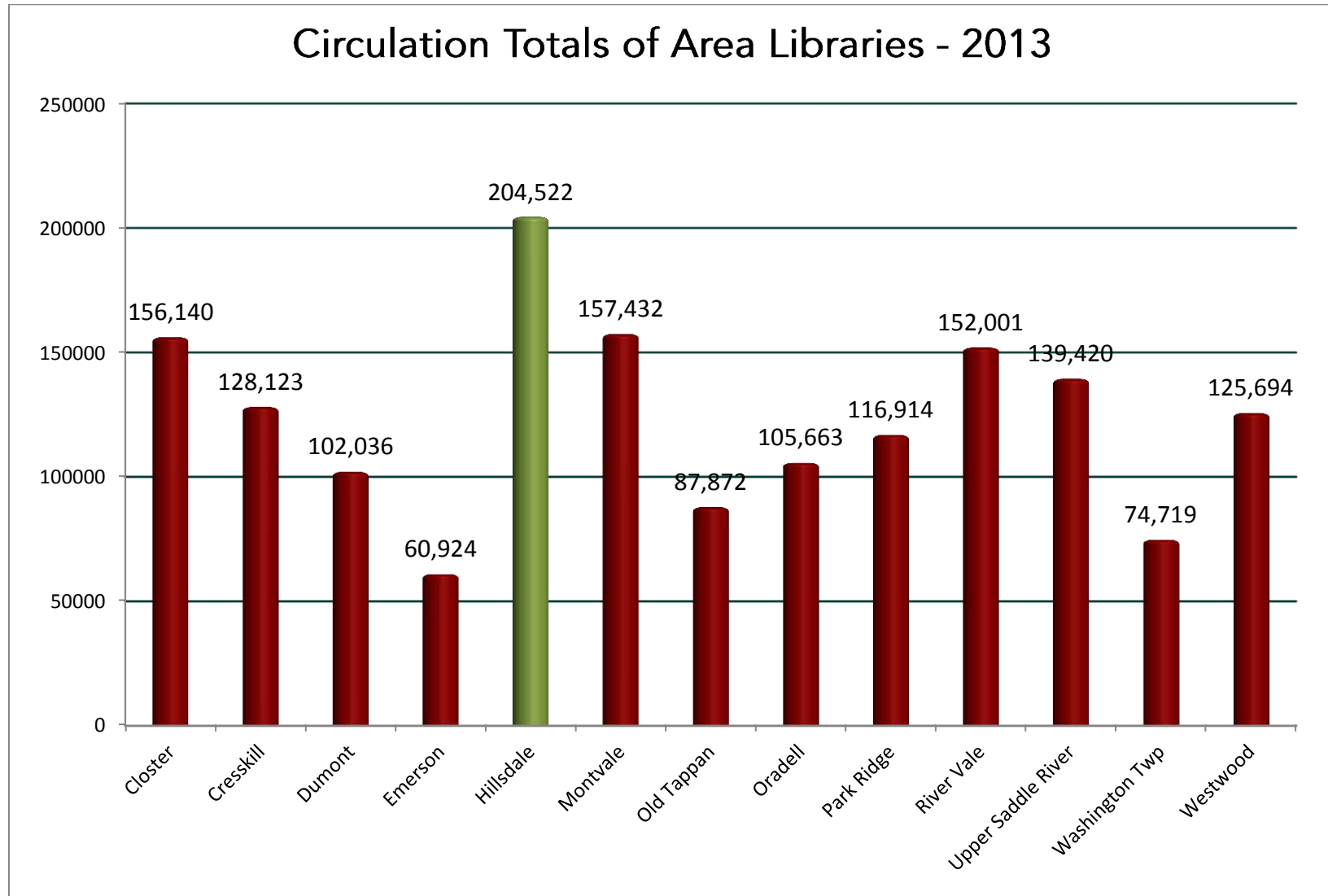
**2013 Income - \$758,878**



**2013 Expenses - \$723,727**



The Library was able to maintain its hours of service and relatively healthy materials budget due to the carryover of reserve 2012 membership receipts.



The Library continues to lead area libraries in terms of total annual circulation.

## Fast Facts:

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- 394 new borrowers were registered in 2013. There are 6,534 registered Hillsdale Library cardholders. Of these, 3,391 used their card at least once this year. An additional 1,075 used their card at least once in the last two years.
- The Library was open 2,857 hours during 341 days in 2013.
- Although annual circulation of items did drop in 2013, Hillsdale Library remains the leader among area libraries.
- The Children's Room alone circulated more items (108,653) than 32 other libraries in the Bergen County Cooperative Library System.
- Approximately 108,000 people visited the Library.
- 3,122 visitors participated in 180 Library sponsored programs.
- 1,285 visitors participated in 101 community group activities held in the meeting room.
- 13,400 People used a library computer during the year. This does not include wi-fi users or children's department computers.
- 5,700 books, 202 audiobooks, 600 DVDs, and 173 CDs were added to the Library's collection. There are 76,624 items in the total collection.

## Parting Thoughts

The Library received this kind note from Mickey Duggan, a resident who wished to pay his library fines after moving out of town.

Dear Hillsdale Library,

I have moved out of state so am returning this by mail. The enclosed should pay my debt to society.

Put any extra in petty cash or buy coffee.

The main thing I will miss about Hillsdale is the library. You guys are great.

Gratefully,  
Mickey Duggan

RECEIVED SUMMER 2013

## The Board of Trustees

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[myhillsdalelibrary.org](http://myhillsdalelibrary.org)

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