

The Altamont Library ended 1998 on a positive note following strong public support in the face of proposed cuts by the Town of Guilderland. The Town Board voted to restore funding to \$30,000 for 1999, only \$500.00 below the requested level. Trustees and staff of the library wish to thank the community for its affirmation of our mission.

In 1998, the library received \$29,000 from the Town of Guilderland, \$20,000 from Altamont and \$1300 from the Town of Knox.. State aid and grants from Upper Hudson Library System added \$3348.00. Library charges (fines, photocopier etc.) fundraising interest, donations etc. raised \$9020. for total library income of \$62,668. slightly under our budget of \$63,300. Library expenditures totalled \$59,702, personnel costs at \$39,976, materials \$7601, Telecommunication \$4572, building and capital expenditures at \$5232. The budget was underspent because some year-end purchases were deferred during the funding crisis.

The library added 1002 new items to the collection in 1998, not counting periodical issues. The library has 38 magazine and newspaper subscriptions in print and has just gotten access to a large on line periodical service through Albany Public Library, ~~not including current periodicals.~~ The library collection is 12, <sup>197</sup>~~212~~ books, tapes, videos, pamphlets and compact discs.,

The library held 140 programs attended by 1486 participants of all ages. Children's programming led the way with 111 sessions attended by 1191 children and their parents. The library staff answered 1305 reference questions. We borrowed 666 items from other libraries for our users and lent 366 items to other libraries.

At the end of 1998, the library had 1097 registered borrowers. During the year, 19452 people visited the library. The total number of materials borrowed was 23605. Another 3744 items were used in the library without being checked out.

The library is open 43 hours a week during the school year. In July and August, the library is closed Saturdays for a 39 hour week. The library staff is comprised of Helen King, Library Director, Ann Cartmell, Thelma Elgie, Margaret Gardam, and Ruth Painter, clerks. The libraryboard president isChristine Capuano. Trustees are Jean Forti, Walt Fuller, Joan Gage, Joe Giambo, Margaret Jones, Sue Jones, Judy Rothstein, Lynne Strnad and Lori Walrath.