

Annual Report 2006 – Altamont Free Library

Mission Statement

The Altamont Free Library is a state, town and village funded Library, which provides for the informational, cultural, educational and recreational needs of patrons living within the stated area of the Library charter. To this end, the Library provides print and non-print materials, interlibrary loan and reference services, and programs to its users.

The Altamont Free Library is open forty-four hours a week with one full time Librarian and five (.86 FTE) Library Assistants.

Summary

The year 2006 was a year of planning and progress for the Altamont Free Library. The board approved architectural plans for the new Library and hired a development consultant. The Library saw its circulation grow 16% and hosted numerous programs for the community.

Train Station Update:

Linda Cure was hired as the Development Coordinator to assist the Board with fundraising activities. She created materials for the upcoming capital campaign and recruited members for the campaign counsel. The Library Board hired a professional grant writer and applied for several grants. Architectural plans for the renovation of the train station were reviewed and approved by the Board.

Special Programs: January: A school recess crafts program was held for elementary students. February: Mary Heidinger led a scrap-booking workshop. Sarah and Raymond Luhrman presented a program on community-supported agriculture. A Love Your Library event was held on Valentine's Day. April: Baby chicks hatched in an incubator to welcome spring. May: Laurel Tormey-Cole gave a presentation on Native Plants and John Rowen gave a presentation on fly-fishing, the Library hosted the Riverway Storytelling Festival. June: the Library hosted first grade tours of the Library. July: Julia Fuentes led a teen program on Magic Books. July and August: the summer reading club, *Books: A Treasure*, included two craft sessions and a map-making project. August: Magician Ernie McHale put on a show for reading club participants. September: Eric Renaud led a sushi-making workshop. October: Jack Fenimore gave a talk on disaster preparedness. Lorraine Weiss gave a talk and led a walking tour featuring highlights of local architecture. She was assisted by Beth Shaw, who relayed a bit of the history about each structure. November: A cook-off for young Library patrons was held. December: Julia Fuentes led a craft program for adults.

Ongoing programs: Pre-School Story hour (twice-weekly all year except the summer), Toddler story time, Two kids' Book Clubs, Computer Classes for Adults, Read to a Dog, Center for Disability Services Book Club, two Library affiliated adult book clubs, monthly community use of display case.

Community Participation: Display at Altamont Fair, Victorian Holidays, A Visit to Altamont in the 1900s co-sponsored with ACT. Hamlet, the Library's contribution to the Guilderland Chamber of Commerce's *Pigtacular* celebration, won first prize in the People's Choice contest. Provided space for farmer's market at train station.

Circulation and Holdings

For the year, 20,779 items were circulated. The total Library holdings are 14075 items. 1306 items were added to the collection and 204 items were withdrawn.

Finances

Primary sources of income were:

Town of Guilderland: \$42,000

Village of Altamont: \$42,500

Town of Knox: \$4,500

Library Fundraising -\$8452.00

LLSA \$4,500.

A copy of the full financial report is available at the Library.

This amount was raised from traditional fundraising ventures including Election Day bake sale, book sales, library lights and chicken barbeque. A copy of the full report is available in the Library.

2006 Building Fund-\$14619.41

This amount was raised through individual and business donations for explicit purpose of the purchase and renovation of the train station as the future home of the Altamont Free Library.

Personnel

Director: Judith Wines Library Assistants: Alexa Brown (Started in June) Ann Cartmell, Norma Dean, Thelma Elgie (retired in May), Ruth Painter, Susan Thomson (resigned in December), Ryan Black (started in December).

Board of Trustees

President: Tony Kossmann, Vice President: Pat Spohr, Secretary: Mary Dornbush,

Treasurer: Elizabeth A. Ketcham

Trustees: Daniel Capuano, Elaine Clark, Ron Ginsburg (new member -January) Anne Linendoll (resigned in June), Judy O'Rourke (resigned in March), Maureen Ramirez, Barbara Quackenbush, Lynne Strnad.

Future Goals

The Library Board will continue to pursue ways to increase funding sources with the end goal of providing the community we serve with a modern and accessible Library facility to better meet their needs. We will continue to work with community partners and to extend Library services to our patrons, with an emphasis on teens, through outreach activities. The Board will seek to recruit members from the community to the end of meeting these goals.