



Kemmerer Library, Harding Township

STATE OF THE LIBRARY, 2018-2019

PRESENTED BY DR ALISON MAXWELL, DIRECTOR

Library Overview

- ▶ Director and 4 part-time staff operate the Library, 6 days per week
- ▶ Long term and new volunteers perform critical functions including cataloging and processing interlibrary loans as well as supporting circulation desk staff
- ▶ Member of Morris County library consortium (MAIN). Harding patrons can borrow materials from all county libraries.
- ▶ Kemmerer Library is Harding's Community Center
 - ▶ Programs and events
 - ▶ Meeting rooms
 - ▶ Warming Center

The Library as a Library

- ▶ In 2018, almost 14,000 items were borrowed via Kemmerer Library
 - ▶ 40% adult books
 - ▶ 37% children and teen books
 - ▶ 16% audiovisual (audiobooks and DVDS)
 - ▶ 7% e-Readers, eBooks and eAudiobooks
- ▶ Total circulation increased by 8% in the last 3 years
- ▶ Circulation of children's materials increased by 26% in 3 years
- ▶ Of note:
 - ▶ 33% of over-the-counter items came from other libraries in consortium
 - ▶ eLibrary available 24/7 for access to eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines

The Library as a Community Center

- ▶ A place to gather – Yoga, Mah Jongg, card games and puzzles
- ▶ Programs for all ages
 - ▶ Babies and toddlers (Story Hour, Playgroup)
 - ▶ After-school (Friday Crafternoons, Jr. Garden Club)
 - ▶ Teens (Middle School Book Club, Teen Board, College Prep.)
 - ▶ Adults (Author visits, Senior Health, Tech. help, Local interest)
- ▶ Major annual events
 - ▶ New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Chamber Players
 - ▶ Lanzerotti Lecture

The Library as a Community Center

- ▶ Partner events with Harding community groups
 - ▶ Coffee with a Cop
 - ▶ Public Health Nurse monthly visits
 - ▶ Great Swamp Watershed Association well water testing
 - ▶ New Vernon First Aid Squad offered CPR training
 - ▶ 'Celebrate Harding' photo contest with Harding Land Trust
 - ▶ HTS Day of Service to benefit Malawi Visions
- ▶ Meeting room free to local community groups and clubs
- ▶ Open as a Warming and Recharging Center in times of power outage

Who Uses Our Meeting Spaces?

No Charge/Donations

- ▶ Friends of the Library/Fundraisers
- ▶ Harding Civic Association
- ▶ Harding Democrats
- ▶ Harding Republican Committee
- ▶ Harding Republican Club
- ▶ Harding Non-Partisans
- ▶ HTEF
- ▶ HTRA
- ▶ HTS PTO
- ▶ Bridge clubs (2)
- ▶ Harding Land Trust
- ▶ Girl Scouts (2 groups)
- ▶ NVV First Aid Squad

Fee Paying

- ▶ Harding Green Association
- ▶ Meraki Futbol Club
- ▶ 'Have a Heart' Theater Group
- ▶ Herb Society of North America
- ▶ Garden Club of Morristown
- ▶ Garden Club of Madison
- ▶ Ford V8 Club
- ▶ Individuals
- ▶ Master Swim Club
- ▶ Better Angels

Managing the Library Budget

- ▶ Income in 2018 was \$209,000
 - ▶ Twice yearly solicitations from the Board (67%)
 - ▶ Support from the Township (19%)
 - ▶ Friends of the Library fundraising events (10%)
 - ▶ Meeting room fees, book sales and fines (4%)
- ▶ Expenditure is stable
 - ▶ Facilities, utilities, administration and wages are bulk of costs
 - ▶ Frugal with \$s for materials and programs

Growth in 2019

- ▶ Major upgrade to children's non-fiction collection, sponsored by the Friends of Kemmerer Library
- ▶ Continue to engage community and build on our successes
 - ▶ Increase volunteer involvement with patron guided book selection and programming committee
 - ▶ Introduce new reasons to gather eg. movie matinees
 - ▶ Strengthen links with HTS students – another 'Day of Service'
 - ▶ Community-wide, plastic bag recycling project run by Teen Board
 - ▶ New neighbor welcome (third year)
 - ▶ 'Know Your Town' initiative proposed to bring representatives from Township boards and committees to the Library
 - ▶ Seek further collaborative opportunities with Harding community groups