



Branching Out

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2006

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The past year has been an exciting and productive time for the Kent County Public Library as the library aggressively put an emphasis on greater service to all areas of the county by branching out.

In the summer of 2005, the library took steps to increase service hours for the community. We increased the hours at the Rock Hall Branch from 15 hours to 30 hours, thereby doubling the hours of service to the Rock Hall region of our county service area. In addition, we were approached about constructing a branch library in Galena. After working with the Galena Town Council and the Kent County Commissioners we were able to ascertain that the northern part of the county was underserved, so we worked out a strategy that would bring service to the Galena, Millington and Kenndyville areas of the county with a branch library in Galena. In these two moves the library was able to double the number of service hours that we provide to the citizens of Kent County.

Circulation of materials at the Rock Hall Branch doubled and the Galena Branch is circulating about 1500 items per months. The library was really pleased with those numbers.

In addition, the library continued to branch out in 2006 by doing story times and book talks in the schools and with head start, starting several county book clubs, initiating several new adult and teen programs. All with the aim of carrying more of the library services to the community.

In order to help maintain this momentum and continue to keep in touch with our community's needs, Library staff participate in a great many local organizations, including the Arts Council, the Parenting Round Table, the Rock Hall Museum, the Chamber of Commerce, Chestertown 300, and many others.

We look forward to refining our programs and services in order to achieve the vision laid out for us on our road map to the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Keiser', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

R. Jerry Keiser
Executive Director

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans, is sitting on a yellow stool in a library. She is looking down at a book on a shelf. The background is filled with bookshelves and books. The text is overlaid on the image in various colors and fonts.

We enable the people of our community to pursue life long

learning through our responsive collections,

electronic resources and

innovative

services. The public library is the cornerstone of a

community-

where children and adults can experience personal

enrichment and

connect

with one another.

Kent County Public Library Mission Statement

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Rock Hall Branch

Carrie Fredland
Galena Branch

Financial Summary

The library received a “clean” audit report from our auditors Beatty and Satchell which is highlighted in the tables below.

Revenues

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Kent County | \$460,023.00 |
| State of Maryland | \$86,068.00 |
| Federal Grants | \$4,500.00 |
| Special Funds | \$45,002.00 |
| Other Grants | \$48,900.00 |
| Other Income | \$28,116.00 |
| Total Revenue | \$672,609.00 |

Expenditures

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Salaries | \$369,181.00 |
| Employee Benefits | \$110,968.00 |
| Collection Expenditures | \$95,266.00 |
| Other Operating | \$67,194.00 |
| Capital Expenditures | \$30,000.00 |
| Total Expenditures | \$672,609.00 |

Statistical Summary

The library circulated seven items per person in Kent County. It is our goal to increase that number of the next several years.

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Total Holdings | 61856 |
| Total Circulation | 134558 |
| Computer Usage | 21534 |
| Door Count | 113628 |