

Fall 2012



Enjoy your favorite e-magazines – 24/7 and free



The Library launched a new service which made popular and special interest magazines available to library cardholders in a digital form for free. Readers are able to instantly view magazines on any Internet enabled device.

Made possible through the Library's subscription license, the e-magazines can be read via computer, e-reader, or other mobile device, either in the Library or remotely. Zinio apps are available for iPhone, iPad, Android, Kindle Fire and Blackberry Playbook for ease of use for those with mobile devices.

The new service was another library effort to make e-content available to readers in a convenient and easy way.



NatureConnect



Reconnect, reenergize, and renew through nature at your local library.

Our branch libraries developed sensory gardens as outdoor public learning spaces--for nature programming, unstructured exploration, and the recharging of mind and body in a fast-paced world. Truly a community effort, with Friends of the Library, area garden clubs and gardening centers, Scouting troops, civic organizations, and others offering financial support and botanical expertise, NatureConnect made possible occasions for investigation and play, and for the close observation, keen focus, and creativity that green spaces foster.

Summer 2012



Mind, Body & Sole Start Your Summer Reading on the Right Foot



Mind, Body & Sole was a summer reading and wellness experience for the whole family to enjoy.

An expansion of the Library's annual summer reading program, this collaborative effort between the Akron-Summit County Public Library, Akron Marathon, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Summit County Public Health, and Metro Parks, Serving Summit County, leveraged the Library's existing program to promote reading, exercise/wellness, and use of our community assets along the Towpath Trail in Summit County.

13,000 people participated



Northwest Akron Branch Library celebrated 80th anniversary



Spring 2012



Akron Digital Media Center relocated to Main Library



Community members gained increased access to free digital media training and equipment, thanks to a new partnership between Akron Community Foundation and the Akron-Summit County Public Library.



The Akron Digital Media Center

Funded by Akron Community Foundation and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the ADCMC relocated to Main Library, offering another resource for library patrons and increased community visibility for the media project. The media center helps cultivate local storytelling and community news gathering, and provides video and publicity support to the Library.



Establishment of Akron Community Foundation Library Fund



A recently established fund at Akron Community Foundation makes it easy to make bequests and other planned gifts to support the Library's mission. Completely separate from the Library's ongoing tax support, donations to the Akron-Summit County Public Library Endowment Fund are tax deductible and will provide ongoing funding for Library programs and services in the years to come.



Akron Community Foundation

Established in 1955, Akron Community Foundation is a philanthropic endowment of \$140 million with a growing family of more than 400 funds. The Akron-Summit County Public Library Endowment Fund is one of many agency endowment funds managed through Akron Community Foundation, which ensures capable, sound and secure investment of all donors' gifts and bequests.

Winter 2011



PNC Foundation Grant For You, For Me, For Later



A two-year, \$25,000 grant made possible a new program through which the Library offered hands-on financial education activities to preschool-aged children. Through library programming, preschool participants gained an understanding of the concepts of saving, sharing and spending money while engaging in fun activities with their parents and caregivers.



This City Reads! 5th annual Family Reading Festival



Main Library hosted the Family Reading Festival. Supported by Akron Children's Hospital, Giant Eagle, Buckeye Community Health Plan, Western Reserve Media, Hattie's Cafe and First Book Greater Akron, the Family Reading Festival was a day of fun for all ages. Jim Gill brought his unique brand of singing and silliness to the stage. The Cuyahoga Valley Youth Ballet shared highlights of *Madeline*. Children were entertained by media characters Clifford and Curious George. First Book Greater Akron distributed over 1200 books to children in attendance.



OhioLINK and SearchOhio borrowing consortium



OhioLINK and the resource-sharing network SearchOhio collaboration provides direct access to additional books, DVDs and CDs.



Akron-Summit County Community

How many more items do cardholders have access to?



Akron-Summit County Public Library

Approximately 60 million additional items from the collections of the 90 college and university libraries and 19 public library systems throughout the state.

Fall & Summer 2011



Mobile Website and Catalog Text a Librarian



The Library launched a mobile website to make accessing library services with a smartphone or mobile device easier. • Search the catalog • Access your account • Hours and contact information • Maps and directions • Search & download e-books & e-audio • 24-hour chat or text reference



Akron-Summit County Public Library

Visit our mobile site at m.akronlibrary.org



Storytelling festival returned for 6th year with new voices and an Appalachian twist



The oldest art form known to man featured presenter Jay O'Callahan, proclaimed a "genius among storytellers by Time Magazine and Suzi "Mama" Whaples. The Library presented a full day of presenters, workshops for adults and children, story swap sessions and musical concerts.

Spring 2011



Tallmadge Branch Library celebrated 50th anniversary



The Tallmadge Library Association and Library officials opened the first branch in March 1961.

Tidbit: Did you know that Tallmadge had the first public library in Summit County? A township library was formed September 27, 1813.



Main Event Series – Greil Marcus



The Main Event, an author series featuring prominent voices from the worlds of literature, the arts, politics and journalism, presented bestselling author and critic Greil Marcus in May 2011.

One of the most celebrated and influential cultural critics of our time, Greil is the author of such classic books as *Mystery Train* (1975), *Lipstick Traces* (1989), *The Old Weird America* (1997), and *The Shape Of Things To Come* (2006). Marcus is also well known for his seminal articles and reviews for *ROLLING STONE*, *ARTFORUM*, and many other magazines.



New Health Information Center debuts *Be Well, Be Well Informed*



Committed to making reliable health information easy to find and access, librarians in the Science & Technology Division created a new Health Information Center to help customers with medical information needs, with the focus on well-being. Books in the collection are current and written for everyday folks with practical and easy to understand health information.

Librarians also completed training as Consumer Health Information Specialists through the Medical Library Association, and launched a blog at ascplhealth.akronlibrary.org with additional resources.



2nd Annual Akron Crossword Puzzle Tournament



Back by popular demand, crossword enthusiasts again pitted their skill against *New York Times* editor Will Shortz's challenging crossword puzzles.



Making Connections

2011-2012
Biennial Report



Lolita K. Adair



Sandra K. Auburn



John L. Frola, Jr.



Mark A. Jackson, Sr.

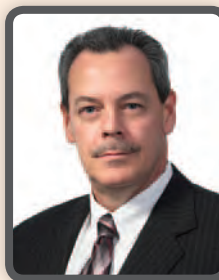
Akron-Summit County Public Library Board of Trustees



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Ray L. Weber



Akron-Summit County
Public Library

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Vision Statement

The Akron-Summit County Public Library is recognized locally as an essential community asset and nationally as one of the finest public libraries in the United States due to its excellent customer service, collaborative community involvement, and high level of customer and employee satisfaction.

Mission Statement

The Akron-Summit County Public Library provides resources for learning and leisure, information services, meeting spaces, and programs for all ages that support, improve, and enrich individual, family, and community life.



A LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY FROM DAVID JENNINGS, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

The Akron-Summit County Public Library continued to demonstrate flexibility and creativity in 2011/2012, with the ongoing challenge of reduced state and local funding coupled with high public demand for service. By 2012 the Library's annual revenue had fallen to a level close to that in 1998, prior to the construction and opening of 16 new library buildings. By the end of 2012 the Library's staff had been reduced by 15% by attrition, without layoff, due to an overall 15% (\$4 million) loss in annual funding.

By reconfiguring and realigning work, however, our management and committed staff have been able to maintain hours of service and the resources/programs we offer. We also have embarked on an organizational priority to become even more engaged and involved with our communities. Here are some highlights of 2011 and 2012:

Bond Re-Funding By re-funding the remaining bonds from the 1997 building program bond issue at more favorable interest rates in 2011, we saved the taxpayers approximately \$2.6 million in interest payments over the remaining 8 years of payment on those bonds.

Establishment of Akron Community Foundation Library Fund With the help of a generous donation from Judy and Roger Read, we established the Akron-Summit County Public Library endowment fund at the Akron Community Foundation. This fund will be an ongoing vehicle for planned giving that will eventually provide support for the library's programs and services.

Bookmobile Because one of our bookmobiles, at 13 years old, was increasingly in need of repair, we purchased a seven-year-old bookmobile from another Ohio library for \$33,000, about 20% of the estimated cost of a new vehicle. With low accumulated mileage, this bookmobile should provide service for our system for many years to come.

Utility Expenses Through the efforts of our Facility Services Department to find ways to conserve energy use, the implementation of an energy grant from the County of Summit, and recently favorable utility cost pricing, we significantly reduced our utility expenditures in 2011 and 2012. The cumulative annual expenditure for electricity and gas has been reduced by 43%, from \$1,536,879 in 2010 to \$881,721 in 2012.

SearchOhio/OhioLink The combined collections of the 20 public libraries in SearchOhio and the 90 Ohio college and academic libraries in OhioLink provide approximately 60 million items now available to customers of our library system. Participation in this resource-sharing consortium greatly expands our community's access to library collections beyond our library's 2 million items.

Akron Digital Media Center We reached agreement in 2011 with the Akron Community Foundation to provide space for the Akron Digital Media Center. In return for space at Main Library, the ADCMC will provide online content for the library by recording library programs and events that we currently do not have the organizational capacity to handle.

E-books We increased our expenditures for e-book titles significantly in 2011, resulting in a collection of over 5000 e-books. This collection grew to over 10,000 e-books in 2012. Our e-books were borrowed more than 29,000 times in 2011, and that number increased to over 100,000 in 2012. We also developed classes to assist new owners of e-readers and tablets.

Computer Training Demand for technology and computer training has remained very high in our community. With the help of the Knight Foundation's grant for mobile computer training, our Electronic Services trainers provided 1,278 computer classes for 10,261 participants in 2011/2012. The over 50 different classes offered range from basic computing or mouse skills to more complex applications like MS Excel or Powerpoint.

Summer Reading / Mind, Body & Sole In 2012 we had over 13,000 people participate in our Summer Reading Program, 3,200 more than in 2011 (32% increase). The addition of the Mind, Body & Sole complementary wellness program provoked new interest in the Library's summer activity. Those 13,080 participants read 82,838 books in the summer of 2012, 18,288 more books than in 2011 (28% increase).

Statistics

	2011	2012
Registered Card Holders	255,121	285,492
Items Available	2,062,288	2,002,130
Total Items Borrowed	5,757,491	5,720,791
Visitors	3,167,709	3,004,841
Child/Teen Program Attendance	112,942	138,084
Total Program Attendance	257,542	263,126
Logins to Public Computers	959,920	890,311

Finances

	2011	2012
Revenue:		
Taxes	\$23,872,831	\$21,846,189
Fines & Fees	\$592,591	\$562,114
Contributions, Gifts, and Donations	\$15,968	\$16,366
Interest Earnings	\$8,752	\$13,223
Other Revenue	\$237,333	\$292,815
Total Revenue	\$24,727,475	\$22,730,707
Expenditures :		
Salaries and Benefits	\$15,633,797	\$15,357,278
Supplies	\$547,646	\$548,601
Purchased and Contracted Services	\$4,176,668	\$3,867,711
Library Materials and Information	\$3,007,493	\$2,939,743
Capital Outlay	\$484,784	\$369,386
Other Expenditures	\$166,331	\$164,912
Total Expenditures	\$24,016,719	\$23,247,631