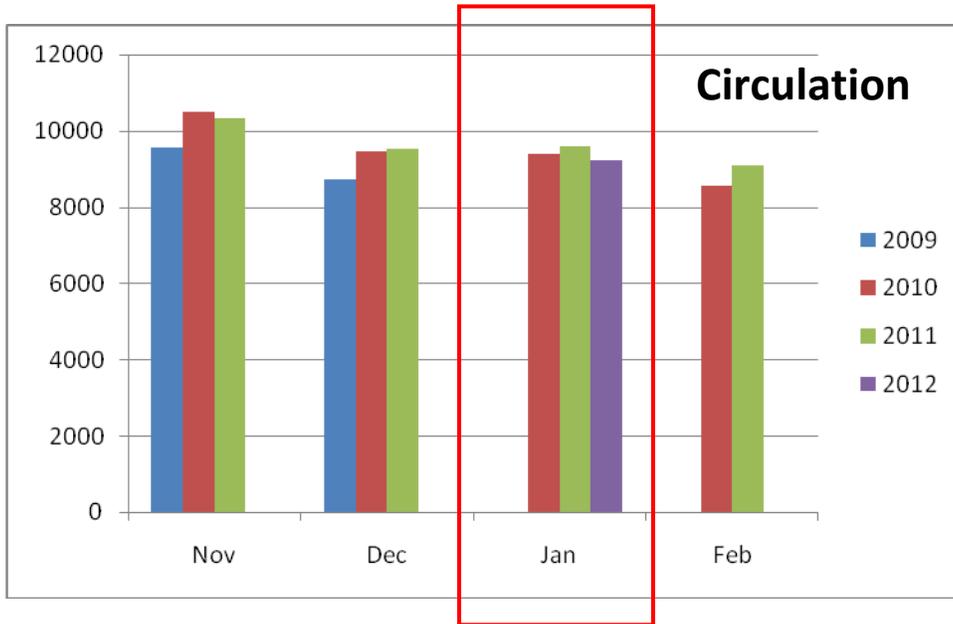


Avalon Free Public Library Director's Report – Jan, 2012

January's circulation (9242) decreased by 1 % from December's (9359), and decreased 3% from this time last year (9567).



Visits to the library in January (5255) decreased by 0.2% from December (5267) and increased by 6% from December of last year (4977).

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Millennium Acquisition Module – A representative from Millennium conducted a three day training session in January for staff members who would be using various components of the system. We are currently working with Brodart, Ingram and Record Books to make the appropriate modifications to accommodate each company.

New Hire - Heather Burns has been hired provisionally to fill the position of library assistant. Heather has an MLS degree from Drexel, is familiar the Millennium Integrated Library System which we utilize and has extensive customer service experience. She was chosen from a field of 250 applications.

Furniture - Replacement chairs for the main reading area have been ordered from Library Interiors. Additionally, furniture has been ordered for the area that is now occupied by the reference desk. These include 2 shelving units, 2 lounge chairs, and 2 tables. The estimated delivery is in late April or May.

Overdrive - We have provided design input for our new web portal to Overdrive and anticipate it coming online in early spring. Overdrive provides our patrons with eBook and eAudiobook downloads through the South Jersey Audiobook and eBook Download Center Consortium. We will maintain our membership in the consortium for at least the next 2 or three years while we build the eCollection. The 1021 licenses for ebooks that we have already purchased will be transferred to the new portal.

Renovations – On January 26, the building committee and staff met with Suzan Globus to discuss renovations to the service desk, bulletin board area and the foyer area.

Strategic Plan – On February 1, the director met with Alan Burger of Library Solutions at the Princeton Public Library. We discussed current trends in library services and how these should be articulated in the next strategic plan. We agreed that the 4 main objectives of the previous plan should form the framework of the new plan.

1. Expand library collections to meet the needs in all formats.
2. Sustain and expand the library environment that allows friendly, knowledgeable staff to provide responsive services.
3. Expand services and programs for lifelong learning from toddlers to seniors.
4. Build a broad base of support and advocacy...by improving awareness of the library...

County Library – Deb Poillon, Cape May County Library director, informed the AFPL director that the county was doing an outreach project to the Stone Harbor Elementary School intending to provide library cards to all students. She indicated in email that we would charged the non-resident fee for all Avalon students at the school. According to the school officials there are currently 28 Avalon students at the school. 20 Stone Harbor students attending the Avalon

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Elementary School have already received library cards from AFPL. Mr. Gluckman suggested that in the best interest of all children in the school district, library cards should be available regardless which community they live in. Poillon said that she "...inclined to make this a special exception..." and would recommend that to her board of trustees which meets on February 15. The superintendent of the school district and the Stone Harbor school librarian were unaware of this outreach program.