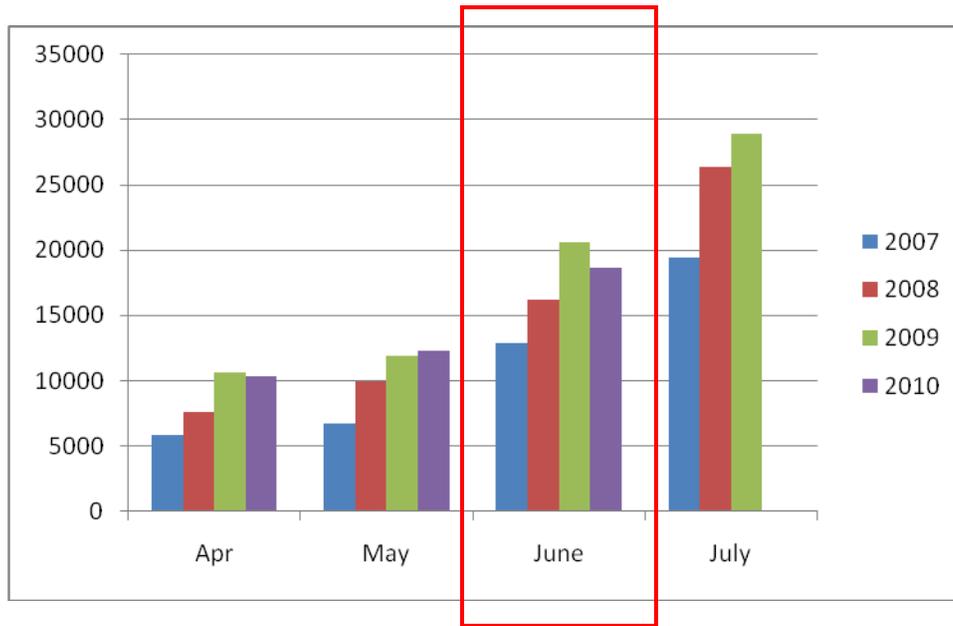
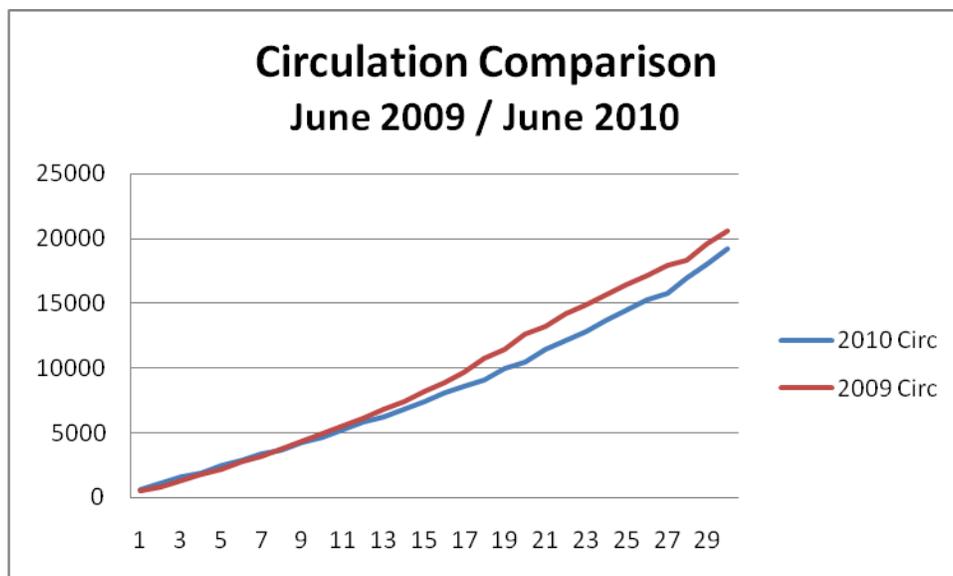


Director's Report for June 2010

June circulation (18647) increased by 52% from May (12271), and decreased by 9.5% from this time last year (20596). At the end of June, the year to date circulation (69344) was .1% below last year (69420).



The impacts of this year's winter storm and perhaps the economy were clearly felt in June. Schools in New Jersey and Pennsylvania remained in session longer to make up for the loss of student contact days resulting from snow-related school closures. Families who previously arrived in Avalon during the second week of June, came towards the end of the month. As a result our circulation was off by 2000 in June, and visits to the library declined by 2100 from the previous year.



State Budget and Current Legislation:

S2070/A2911 Passed on 6/28

This bill would require a municipal free library to transfer any undesignated general fund balance that exceeds 20% of its audited operating expenditures for the previous year to the municipality that established the municipal free library for its general purposes, which may include property tax relief. Previous legislation did not require a library to transfer this surplus.

S2068/A2679 Passed by the Senate 6/28, Currently in Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee

This bill would remove the appropriations for municipal libraries and joint municipal libraries from a municipality's general fund and provide a dedicated line item on the property tax bill.

The state budget that was passed on June 29. This budget includes restoration of the NJ Network funding of 4.299 million and funding for the state library at last year's level. The state library remains within Thomas Edison University and responsibility for administering state aid was transferred back to the state library (in the original budget proposal it was transferred to DCA).

Norma Blake invited representatives from various libraries and library organizations to a July 6 meeting to discuss how the funding should be applied. It is interesting to note that representatives from the south and central library cooperatives were not invited while the northern one (Infolink) was. Interlibrary Loan through JerseyCat will probably be restored. However, at this time, utilization of JerseyCat remains extremely low pending affirmation of continued funding.



We have started utilizing the OCLC interlibrary system on a test basis and will offer ILL service again starting the 2nd week in July. If JerseyCat is funded, we will use OCLC for requests which we cannot fulfill in state.

With credits accrued from the school's book fairs, Deb Ney purchased 2 bean bag chairs for the Children's Room.

10 new HP small form computers were purchased with 19" inch monitors to replace existing computers. We are planning to install them during the 2nd week of July.

Comprise updated our SAM system on June 22. Unfortunately, the upgrade incorporated procedural changes which were not compatible with the way our patrons utilize printing options. To enhance security, SAM required that a patron add money to their account prior to logging onto the system. Patrons were unable contribute to their accounts if they were already logged on. Comprise attempted to remedy the issue with a series of fixes that created further problems by making printing almost impossible. By the end of the week, I asked Comprise to role back all changes to the original upgrade. The following week comprised deployed a series of patches that enabled the patrons to add money to their account at anytime.

Staff Development: Shannon attended the annual spring meeting of the American Library Association conference in Washington, D.C.

A second AWE Early Literacy Station (ELS) was purchased. The ELS is a computer workstation for children which is packaged with 50 educational programs spanning 7 curricula areas, and is appropriate for ages 2 through 10. The touch screen monitor will facilitate use by younger children. The computer is not configured for internet access. A power outlet was added in the Children's Room to accommodate a second AWE computer.

