Director's Report for March 2007

Circulation turns the corner on seasonal slump. March circulation statistics (6204) increased 25% from the previous month (4952) and 80% (3440) from March 2006. The largest component of circulation remains DVD's at 45% of total circulation. Of note, juvenile books increased from the previous month by 45% which reflects several school assignments during this period.

69 new cardholders added in March. Most of the increase was in the adult category (58). 15 year-round residents became patrons while 21 non-resident homeowners received cards. There were 32 new patrons from Cape May County. The last bill received from the Cape May County Library indicated 6 new cards for February.

Increase in Computer use. There were 1151 computer sessions in March, a 47% increase from the previous month (783).

567 items weeded from collection. Donations were made to Millville Public Library, Bridgeton Public Library, and Loyalton of Cape May.

448 new items added to the collection.

Senior citizen tax preparation service completes 24 Federal and 24 New Jersey tax packages. 11 Avalon residents and 13 Cape May County took advantage of the program which was organized and managed by Milt Kuhn. Vounteers will be available as needed on Fridays to help fill out the Property Tax Reimbursement form (PTR-1) until June 1.

Tickets for Bay-Atlantic Symphony Brass Quintet "sold out". By Saturday, April 7, all tickets not being reserved were distributed. Additional seating is being considered by the concert committee with a decision hopefully occurring April 13.

DVD collection inventoried. Out of 2,537 adult DVDs only 28 were unaccounted for. Out of 920 children's DVDs, only 7 were missing.

Summer schedule set.

May 26	Bay Atlantic Brass Quintet
June 27	James Finegan (golf author)
June 30	Linda Gentille – The American Piano Show
July 25	The Turtle Singer
August 1	Linda Paretsky (mystery author)
August 8	Harlan Coben (mystery author)
August 15	Tom Schied (author)
August 22	Hope Fox (cook book author)
August 23	Jed Gaylin – music director, Bay-Atlantic Symphony – Lecture – The
	Genius of Beethoven
August 25	Bay Atlantic Symphony – Beethoven Bash

Sept 8 Janet Crowle – My Father, Victor Borge: A Daughter's Reflections
Sept 15 Bay Atlantic String Quartet

Children's Summer Programming. In addition to the Toodler and Children's storytimes, the library in collaboration with the Recreation Department is providing a series of mini events throughout the summer:

June 26	Patchwork Puppet Theater
July 10	Captain Visual
July 11	Kids in Motion (Jack Bermeo)
July 17	Haldini Magic
July 18	John Sleven's Puppets
July 24	Makin Music
July 31	Chaku, The Children Chuckler
Aug 1	Hocus Pocus, It's Joe Fischer
Aug 7	Silly Strings
Aug 14	Turtle Singer

The Library is also funding the beach concerts and movies.