



Dear Friends:

On October 1 the Bergen County Cooperative Library System (BCCLS) celebrates its 35th anniversary of services. Bergenfield Library, thanks to Mary Joyce Doyle, was there at its beginnings. BCCLS was officially launched in 1979 with more than twenty members. Resource sharing then and now is the cornerstone of BCCLS policies.

In those 35 years BCCLS has grown to 75 member libraries and the services it provides to both patrons and staff have expanded as well. The most popular provided by BCCLS is still reciprocal borrowing, which permits you to walk into any BCCLS library and borrow books, music and DVDs. At the beginning it was also possible to have books delivered from other member libraries, but it was a cumbersome, slow process.

With member libraries sharing the costs of computerization (and seeking grants collectively), BCCLS libraries automated circulation functions in the 1980's and set the stage for the shared online catalog we have today. Using the catalog you can

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browse other library collections, making it possible for you to request a book from a library many towns away and to have it in your hands a few days later. From the shared catalog, it has been a natural

evolution to shared research databases and other resources such as downloadable audio and e-books now available through BCCLS. BCCLS also provides access to local library websites, offers reading suggestions, hosts a shared calendar for member library programs and so much more.

The hidden secret in all of this cooperation is the far better level of service that each member library – whether large or small, rich or poor – can offer its patrons. No one library can possibly provide the depth and breadth of a BCCLS with its more than 5 million items available for you to borrow. The surprise has been that every member library contributes to reciprocal borrowing, not just those with larger collections.

Congratulations BCCLS! And congratulations to Bergenfield for having the foresight to be a BCCLS pioneer.

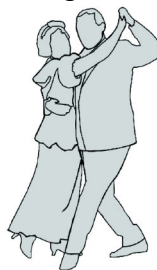
Sincerely,
Mary Riskind, Library Director



Ana R. Chelariu reads from her book, *The Two Pennies Pouch: A Romanian Folk Tale* in the Children's Room.

Remember to **Mango** before you take your next trip. Mango is the online language-learning system that

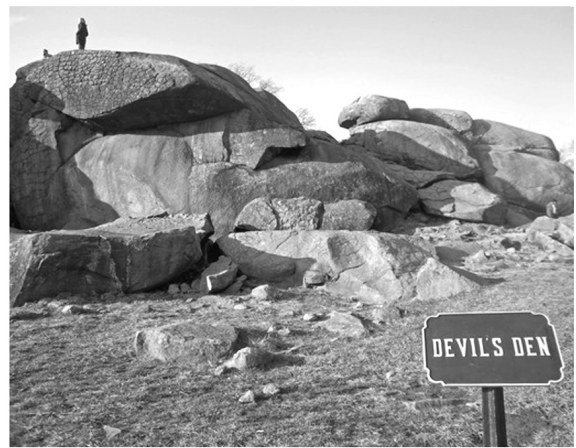
can help you learn over 50 languages. You can access it for FREE with your Bergenfield Library Card. Check the Library website bergenfield.bccls.org/. (Mango Language Services are sponsored by the Friends of the Bergenfield Library.)





Friends Tuesday Morning Programs

10:30 every week
in the Friends Room



Please recycle this newsletter by sharing with a friend, family member or neighbor.