

Friends of the Bergenfield Library — Vol. 5, No. 2, Spring/Summer 2013

Dear Friends:

E-books, e-Readers and eBCCLS – the “e” stands for electronic. And if you don’t care, read no further. But if you do care about the future of libraries, please read on.

Electronic books are now available for FREE from the public library through eBCCLS. Through its member dollars each BCCLS library contributes to the collection of downloadable audiobooks and e-books available. The number and variety of mobile devices that you can use, now including the Kindle, continues to grow. The number and variety of titles available continues to grow but less predictably.

E-books are very much an emerging technology. There are high expectations

for e-books and as a result many misperceptions.

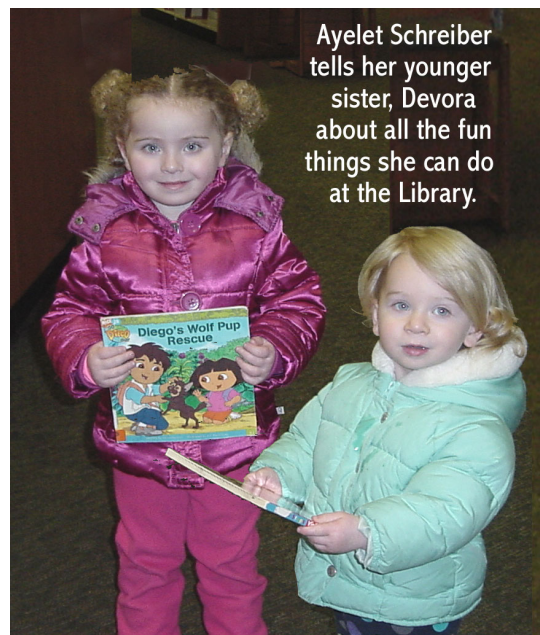
There is the common assumption that “everything” is available as an e-book. Not so. Not even

if you were to try to buy them through Amazon. There are some publishers who are holding back, not making their titles available as e-books. There are some publishers who refuse to sell electronic books to libraries. There are publishers who license certain distributors but not others to sell their products. BCCLS, for instance, is working with two distributors – OverDrive and 3M – because each company has titles that the other cannot get.

Copyright laws have yet to grapple with e-books. Under the old laws, everyone who purchases a book has “right of first copy”, which means you can give your copy of the book to the Library for its Book Sale or that the Library can purchase a copy for others to borrow. As it stands now,



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Ayelet Schreiber tells her younger sister, Devora about all the fun things she can do at the Library.



Donna McDermott Thorland regaled a huge crowd at the Friends' Author Event on St. Patrick's Day.

March 17th saw a standing-room crowd (we found chairs for them) in the Friends Room at the Bergenfield Library. Hope you were there!



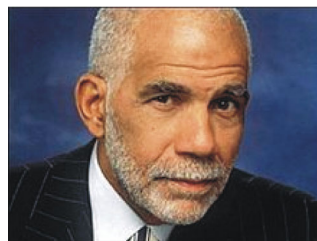
As though our Author Events were not enticing enough, homemade Irish Soda Bread from Mary Ann Mannino, and Shamrock cookies from Dianne Schussler wowed the crowd. (All I did was slice some cheese, but it's the thought that counts...)

e-books continued

e-books are leased, not sold to you. Legally there is a big difference.

Despite the crazy patchwork of stop and go lights governing how we access electronic books, libraries ignore electronic books at their peril. The physical book is not dead, or even dying. But there are times when a small, lightweight device is ideal – for travelers, for people exercising on bikes or treadmills, for those who need large print or cannot turn pages, for students with heavy textbooks.

Think of the book as a mobile device. To remain relevant, the Library is becoming a different kind of mobile – yet the same. Libraries are still about books and access to information. *Sincerely, Mary Riskind*



“As a child, I loved to read books. The library was a window to the world, a pathway to worlds and people far from my neighborhood in Philadelphia.

And even today, as I travel around the world, I often visit places I used to dream about because of the books I'd read. The library made a difference in my life.” – *Ed Bradley, 2001 Interview*

Remember to **Mango** before you vacation this summer. Mango is the online language-learning system that can help you learn languages like Spanish, French, Japanese, Brazilian Portuguese, German, Mandarin Chinese, Greek, Italian and more. You can access it for FREE with your Bergenfield Library Card. Check the Library website.

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