

Friends of the Bergenfield Library — Volume 4, Number 1, Winter 2011

Dear Friends:

Remember your first visit ever to a public library? I sure do. It was an imposing Carnegie library in upstate New York, complete with marble steps hollowed by the thousands and thousands of footsteps that came before me.

Libraries have changed since then. We rely on computers to keep track of our collections, of borrowers and to search for information. Libraries now offer books and music on plastic disks, of all things. Programs for adults, children and teens, once unique, are now commonplace. And remember that shushing librarian? Libraries have become so noisy that we need quiet study rooms!

Some things never change, however. What has not changed is the positive and lasting impact that libraries have on their communities. Libraries are learning centers for young and old.

Libraries are institutions in need of constant attention and renewal if they are to remain responsive to your education needs. Let us know how we are doing. Whether complaints or compliments, we want to hear from you so that we can make your Bergenfield Library even better. Your honest feedback is a valuable gift now and year round. Call me at 201-387-4040.

*— Mary Riskind*, Library Director



On June 12, 2011, the Friends of the Bergenfield Library will be 50 years old. Please mark that date in your calendar and

prepare to come help us celebrate.

Reading aloud with and to our children is known to be the most important thing we can do to help them learn to read by themselves. And, as you can see by the photo below, we need new chairs in the Children's Reading Room. All contributions marked "Chairs" or put directly into our wishing well will go toward a fund to buy new seating for our kids.





### **ESL** Tutoring

The Bergenfield Library ESL (English as a Second Language) program provides tutoring for adult foreign-born residents of the community who need to learn English. The tutors are volunteers from all walks of life who share a desire to make a difference in the lives of neighbors; no previous experience is required. After completing the free training, most tutors are matched with a learner while some may lead a small class or conversation group. Sessions are usually an hour or so per week and all are held in the Library ESL area.

Bergenfield's program has been serving the community since 1980 and is an affiliate of Literacy Volunteers of New Jersey and ProLiteracy America. The next tutor training workshop cycle will start the evening of January 13, 2010.

To volunteer or obtain more information, please contact Don Hansen, Coordinator, 201-387-4040, ext 837

# **Outreach Program**

The Library has an outreach program that brings library items to our homebound residents. Anyone who is not able to get to the library due to disability or illness is eligible. Books, magazines, large print books, audio books, and DVDs can be brought right to your door.

If you know of anyone who needs this program or would like more information, please contact Bobby Huber at 201-387-4040, ext. 822.

The Friends of the Library are the volunteers that make this program work. If you would like to volunteer to deliver to homebound residents, contact Linda Mohr at 201-387-4040.

# Adopt-A-Shelf

The Library is asking for volunteers to participate in the Adopt-A-Shelf program. Spend as little as 30 minutes every week maintaining a specified area by reading the shelves and keeping them neat. Please call 201-387-4040 if interested in volunteering.

# These Businesses and Clubs have supported the Friends of the Bergenfield Library. We ask you to do the same for them.

AA Plumbing & Heating, 25 W. Church St., Bergenfield

#### **Bergenfield Optimist Club**

CMC Deli Store,120 W. Main St., Bergenfield

CNR Products, 25 W. Church St., Bergenfield

Contemporary Woman's Club of Bergenfield

East/West Electrical Contractors, 19 Tyson Place, Bergenfield

**Drs. Freed and Gliksman**,155 N. Washington Ave., Bergenfield

**Gone Stitching**, 31 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield

John Henitz, CFP, 67 Raum Place, Bergenfield Masonic Lodge #77, Tenafly, NJ

Matthews' Diner, 430 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield

**Murphy Carpet Cleaning**, 333 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield

**Dr. Wayne Poller**, 136 N. Washington Ave., Bergenfield

John J. Ryan, Jr., Esq., 333 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield

April A. Savoye, Esq., 151 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield

Service Excellence Org., 26 Palisade Ave., Bergenfield

Shaw's Lock Service, 74 S. Washington Ave., Bergenfield