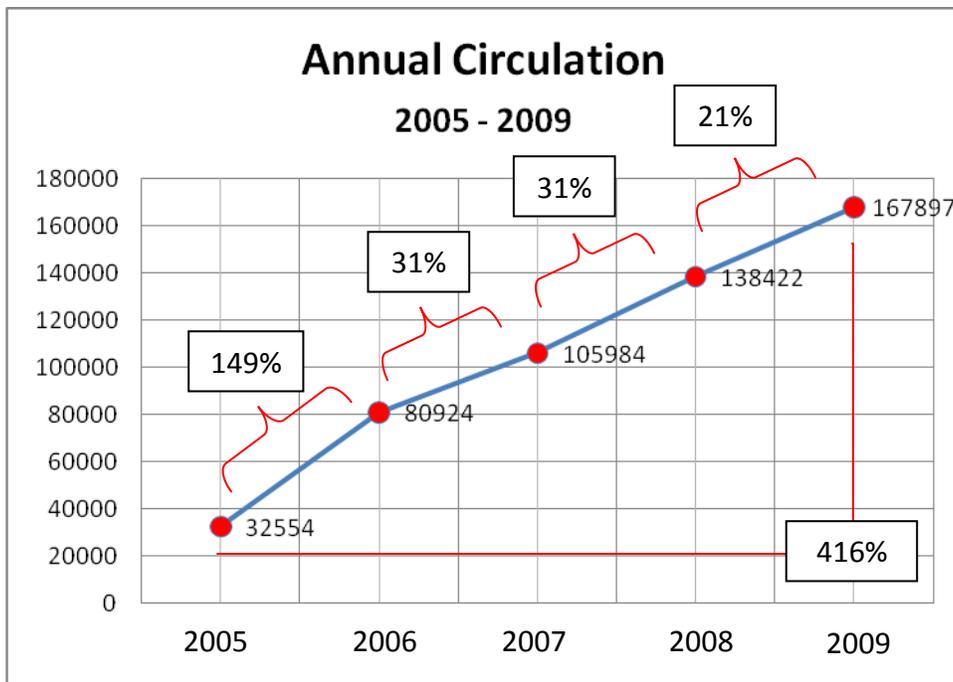
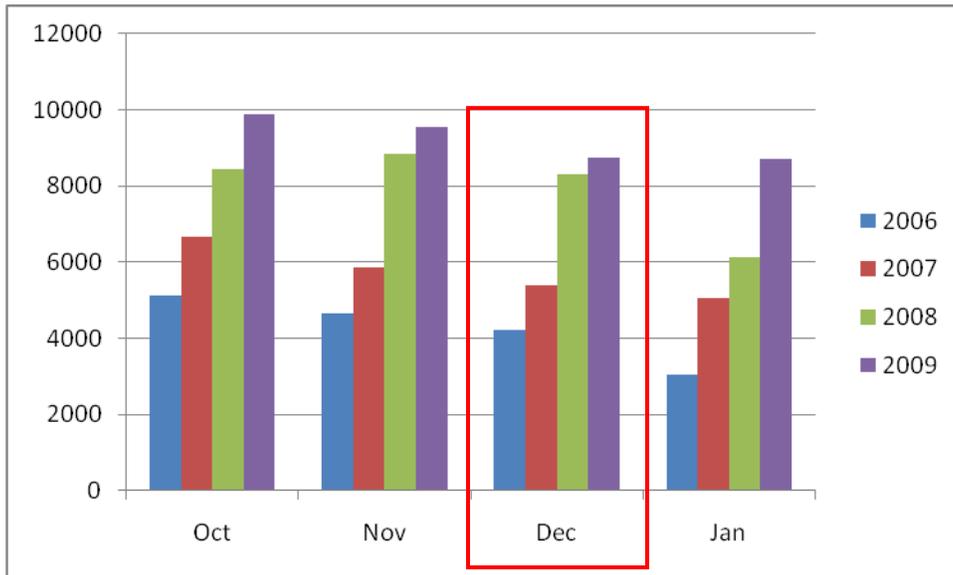


Director's Report for December 2009

December's circulation (8735) decreased by 9% from November (9549), and increased by 5% from this time last year (8293).



Preliminary end of year circulation statistics indicates 167,897 items were circulated in 2009. This is an increase of 21% over last year's circulation of 138,422. Since 2005, circulation has increased 416%.

There were 5020 visits to the library in December, an 8% decrease from November's 5432 visits. Compared to December, 2008 (5217), library visits decreased by 4%. 128,009 library visits occurred in 2009, a 15% increase from 2008 (111,000).

On Dec. 31st, the library lost access to two databases. MyLibraryDV, which streamed theatrical movies, television, and non-fiction programs, was discontinued by Recorded Books as a result of a declining market for the product. Funding for HeritageQuest, a genealogical database which was provided to us through the NJ State Library, was cut. AVPL is evaluating several options to replace this database.

AFPL will be receiving \$575.00 from the State as part of the Compact Disk Antitrust Settlement Program. These funds became available upon resolution of a private antitrust class action suit filed against recorded companies and music retailers. The plaintiffs recommended that New Jersey public libraries be the beneficiaries of the settlement. The judge approved. All New Jersey libraries that submitted the most recent Public Library Annual Report, expressed interest in receiving the funds, and agreed signed the MOU qualified to receive funds.

The library closed early on December 18 due to warnings from the Borough of an impending snow storm. The library was able to reopen on Saturday (Dec 19) and Sunday (Dec 20) by switching the schedules of resident employees with snowed-in mainland staffers.

The Library Director and the Director of the History Center attended a risk management seminar in Vineland on December 9. Shannon and Michelle attended the same workshop on December 1. The seminar was sponsored by the Joint Insurance Fund.

In a letter dated January 6, 2009, Norma Blake, State Librarian, congratulated AFPL on its 5-Star rating.