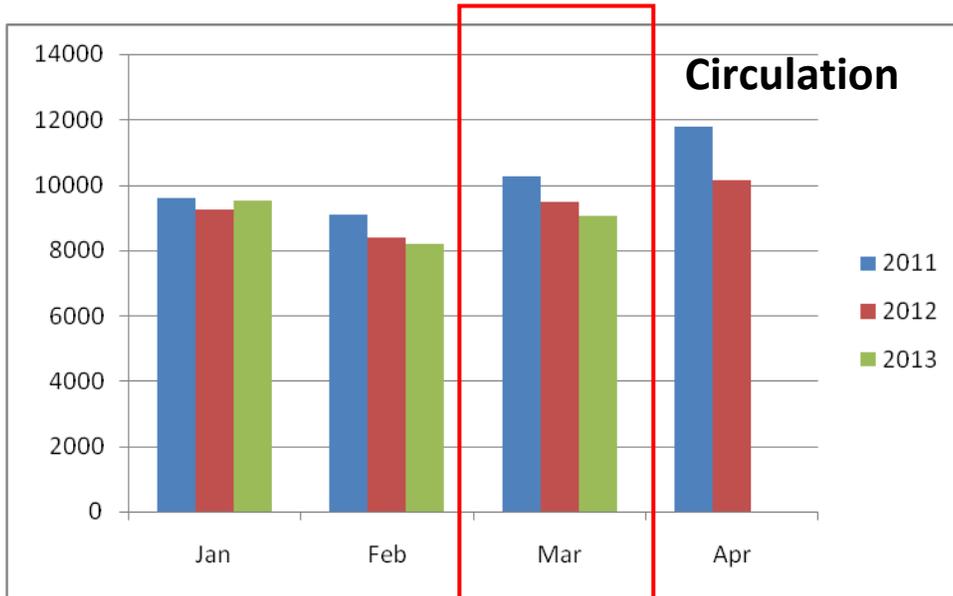


## Avalon Free Public Library Director's Report – April, 2013

March's circulation (9060) increased by 10% from February (8201), and decreased by 5% from this time last year (9491). By the end of March, the library circulated 26,466 items year-to-date, a 2% decrease from the same time period last year (27104).



Visits to the library in March (5033) increased by 4% from February (4840) and decreased by 2% from this time last year (5145). By the end of February there were 15265 visits year-to-date, which was less than 1% decline for this period last year (15341).

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By the end of the first week of April, construction in the foyer had resulted in:

- The enclosing of the new foyer and demolition of the old one
- Installation of electrical lines and HVAC ducts.
- Installation of automatic doors
- The near completion of the hanging ceiling

It is estimated that the construction phase of the foyer project will be completed by the end of April.

**Museum Pass Program** – Patrons will soon be able to checkout family passes for WheatonArts / Museum of American Glass in Millville. The library is participating in the library pass program offered by the museum, and have purchased two passes.

**New Databases** – The library is now subscribing to Gale's Legal Forms Library for Pennsylvania. Access is still available for Gale's Legal Forms Library for New Jersey. NewsBank coverage has expanded to include Access Business, Access Newswires and Access Military, Government and Defense. NewsBank is a news resources which draws from newspapers, magazines, journals and newswire services.

**Bristol-Mysers-Squibb Anti-Trust Settlement Program for Public Library Cancer Prevention Collections** - As a result of the State of New Jersey v Bristol-Mysers-Squibb anti-trust settlement, New Jersey libraries will receive \$157,690.81 to purchase books or other durable materials relating to the treatment, diagnosis and greater understanding of ovarian cancer, breast cancer, Kaposi's Sarcoma and non-small-cell lung cancer. Avalon has applied for this grant and may receive between \$100 and \$300 dollars for the purchases related materials.

**New Library Website** – After the review of three proposals for a new library website and meetings with the web-developers, JSE Computers has been selected to build the next library website. JSE was bid while meeting all the established criteria. The current website was created in 2007 and has become increasingly vulnerable to attack. A key component of the site will be robust content management. Staff members with minimal training will be able to manage web content.

**Staff Development** – Chris Pidgeon completed *Cataloguing Basics: Description*, an online course offered by Lyris. On April 8, the director attended *Ports in a Storm: Libraries as Community Partners in Emergency Response* conference sponsored by the New Jersey State Library, NJLA and the National Library of Medicine. The major theme of the conference was that libraries were “2<sup>nd</sup> Responders” assisting communities achieving a sense of normalcy and serving as a communication hub.