

## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2009 saw a transition in the leadership of the Rye Public Library. Kerry Cronin, who had served with excellence as library director since 2006, moved on to another library position. We wish her well in her new endeavors. I am happy to have joined the fine team here at Rye Public Library in November, and thank the Rye community for the warm welcome I have received. I look forward to continuing and enhancing the consistently outstanding service offered by your public library.

Throughout Kerry's departure and during the able interim directorship of Michael Sullivan, our extraordinary library staff seamlessly maintained the service standards you've come to expect of the Rye Public Library. I join the Rye community in thanking Juliette Doherty, Sharon Foster, Shawna Healy, Lisa Houde, Margaret Hutchins, Martha Jones, Brenda Nolette, Gwen Putnam-Bailey, Tricia Quinn, and Pam Woods for their incomparable efforts. We welcomed Jim Chase back from medical leave in 2009, and thank him for keeping our facility in top shape during the year. We are also glad to welcome Juliette Doherty back to her position at the library early in 2010, after a brief interim.

Our community programming and activity schedule for adults and children carried forth through this year of transition without interruption. Our 2009 Summer Reading Program with its *Catch the Bug of Reading* theme, thrilled young readers. Over 1000 participants attended activities ranging from music and movies to an Outdoor Pet Show, all to help promote 367.5 hours of reading among our registered summer readers. Adults took part as well, with 166 participants in this year's adult summer reading activities.

Once again in 2009, Rye Public Library reached outside its walls in our effort to bring services to the community. Our ongoing collaboration with Rye Senior SERVE providing transportation to the library for seniors, served over 200 individuals this year. Our regular visits to Rye's public and private schools grew by an astounding 289% in 2010 with 74 outreach programs serving 1,936 participants!

We owe a debt of gratitude to all who continue to support the library through membership in the Friends of the Rye Public Library, and welcome new members. In cooperation with the Friends, we again offered a broad range of speakers and presentations in 2009, bringing topics of interest, entertainment and edification to the Rye community. The Friends of the Rye Public Library offer support in many other ways throughout the year, and are a vital part of the services we are able to bring to you. I also sincerely thank our other dependable and steadfast library volunteers, and invite interested volunteers to contact the Library. We celebrated longtime volunteers Marjorie Little and Irene Maskwa at their retirement from service in October. As always, we thank our devoted Board of Trustees for their time and effort on behalf of the Library.

Through the continued generosity of a private donor we have added a second Kindle e-reader to the collection. These electronic readers are ready to circulate to our patrons, and available e-book holdings will grow in 2010. Come in and investigate this new evolution of the book. You'll find the Kindle's adaptive capabilities for those with sight or hearing limitations to be remarkable. We thank the Rye Lions Club for their 2009 donation, and are grateful to the many others who made donations, often in the name of loved ones, throughout the year.

Some more of our statistics for 2009: Number of Patrons 5,689 - Total number of items circulated 76,756 - Interlibrary loan materials borrowed 1,490 - Materials loaned to other libraries 1,604 - Community Meeting Room Use 303 - Number of library programs 498

I am very fortunate to have joined such a vibrant and innovative team of staff and volunteers, and look forward to working together to serve the Rye community.

Respectfully submitted,

*Andrew Richmond, Library Director*