

As Hamilton East Public Library grows in its service to those who do not speak English as their primary language, special sections in both the Fishers and Noblesville libraries now house a collection of **Spanish** materials.

The Youth Services Department, in cooperation with Riverview Hospital and local obstetricians, issued invitations to **expectant and new parents** helping introduce babies and their families to their library and the unique programs and services it offers.

Community Connections

The newly renovated Hamilton East Public Library was the focus of two **awards** by the Associated Builders and Contractors of Indiana. Meyer Najem Construction received an Award of Excellence for their management of the simultaneous building and renovation projects of both the Fishers and Noblesville Libraries. At the same ceremony, K.R. Montgomery and Associates, architects for the project, and Delaware Glass and Mirror received an award for the design and construction of the glass curtain wall at the Noblesville Library.

To reach out to **Hurricane Katrina victims** who evacuated their homes and were staying in the Noblesville and Fishers areas, the Hamilton East Public Library offered access to library materials through temporary library cards.

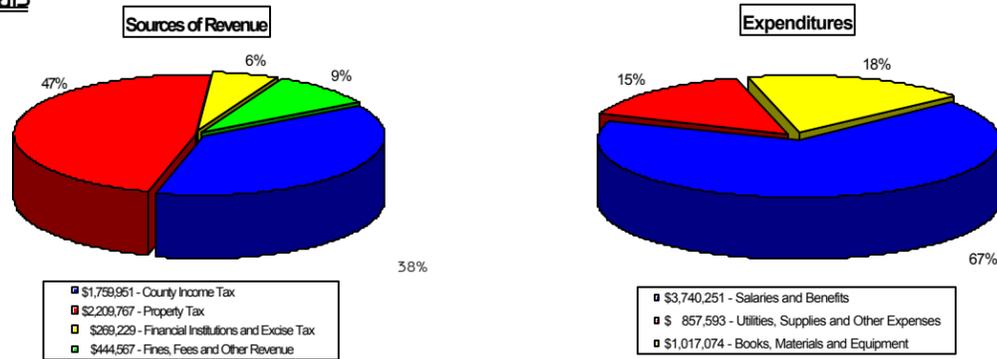
New **public meeting spaces** were opened for use by outside non-profit clubs and organizations. In 2005, these groups utilized the library's meeting rooms 498 times. The Library also hosted several **large-scale meetings** including an all-day workshop of the Indiana Library Federation and a two-day meeting of ADOLPLI (Administrators of Large Public Libraries in Indiana).

Due to unforeseen budget cuts and growing cost of maintenance, Hamilton East Public Library was forced to cease offering **remote drop boxes** to its library users. Drop boxes were located near the Hamilton Southeastern School Corporation Building in Fishers and at South Harbour Shoppes in Noblesville.

Noblesville Mayor John Ditslear presented a **proclamation** on behalf of Library Director David Cooper proclaiming Sunday, January 30, 2005 as "David Cooper Day" in Noblesville. Cooper has served as Director of the Hamilton East Public Library (formerly Noblesville-Southeastern Public Library) for 25 years.

The Hamilton County Commissioners appointed Rex Dillinger and Bill Crandall to the **Library Board of Trustees**. They replaced Jane Gasch and Lyneen Burrow, both of whom served on the Library Board for many years.

Focus on Financials



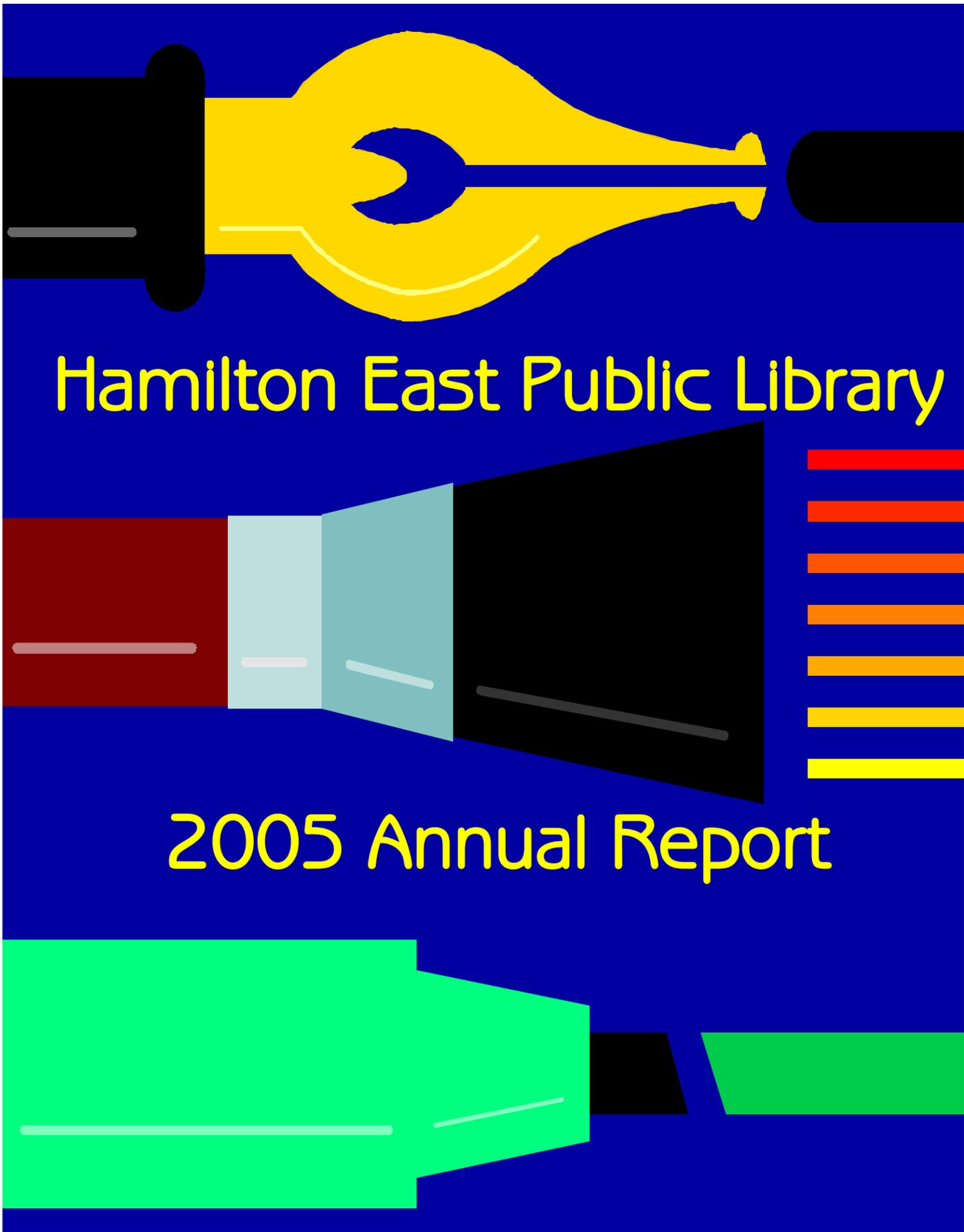
Administration	Department Heads	HEPL Board of Directors
David L. Cooper, Director	Rob Brown, Systems Administration	Robert James, Jr., President
Gall Winsmore, Assistant Director	Holly Kennerly, Technical Services	Rex Dillinger, Vice President
Robyn Neal, Business Manager	Mary Patterson, Circulation	Marianne Jacobi, Secretary
Cheryl Jurgens, Marketing Manager	Linda Shaw, Reference	David Wallace, Asst. Sec./Treasurer
Tim Myers, Facilities Manager	Anne Marie Short, Youth Services	Bill Crandall
Marcie Stafford, Bookkeeper	Melissa Stewart, Outreach	Lucille Noblitt
		Steve Sharp

Noblesville Library
One Library Plaza
Noblesville, IN 46060
(317) 773-1384



Fishers Library
Five Municipal Drive
Fishers, IN 46038
(317) 579-0300

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Thanks for Growing with Us

With excitement and curiosity, library users watched as the final steps were completed in Hamilton East Public Library's two-year **building construction and renovation project**. Temporary walls that once shielded the public from the renovation started to come down and revealed a glimpse of new lighting, carpeting, shelving, and furniture, all updated with a new look and layout. After the final shifting of library materials, staff and furniture was complete, the main entrance doors reopened to two beautiful new libraries.

Saturday, May 7th, marked a special day in the library's history as HEPL celebrated the culmination of the projects with **rededication ceremonies** at both library buildings, complete with music, formal ceremonies, and ribbon cutting ceremonies. Guests were welcomed to open houses at each location where they enjoyed refreshments, special displays and giveaways all centering around the theme, "Thanks for Growing with Us." The day was proclaimed as "Hamilton East Public Library Day" by both the Fishers Town Council and Noblesville Mayor John Ditslear.

Facts and Figures

At the end of 2005, library **collections** totaled 466,008 items, including 357,548 books, 272 bound serials, 46,773 videocassettes and DVDs, 37,430 audiocassettes and CDs, 1457 items in electronic format (CD-ROMs, disks) plus 745 subscriptions. Approximately 50,000 new items were added to the collection throughout the year, totaling \$756,320 in purchases.

In 2005, the number of **new borrowers** registered totaled 9847 people. An additional 13,416 cards were renewed and/or replaced. The total number of registered borrowers is now 66,480.

Each day the library was open in 2005, an average of 368 **reference questions** were answered. The yearly total of 131,009 questions marks an increase of 25% over 2004's figure. The library team consists of 32 degreed librarians and 125 additional staff members.

Purposeful Programming

Over 24,600 individuals – youth, teen and adult - participated in programs through the Hamilton East Public Library in 2005. The **Outreach** Department served adults and families through its 1083 programs with a total attendance of 11,906 persons. These numbers reflect a 26.5% increase in the number of programs offered and a 31% increase in the number of persons attending those programs over 2004's figures.

The **Youth Services** Department regularly offers educational programs to area children and families. In 2005, 12,722 participants attended 884 different programs. This year's Summer Reading Program reached 6447 individuals including 1004 adults, 306 teens, 4186 youth and 951 infants. These numbers reflect an increase in the total number of registrants of 23.5% over the prior year's numbers.



The new **TeenZones** in both the Fishers and Noblesville Libraries have become popular getaways for teens to study, read and socialize. Library staff has developed many educational and recreational programs, such as scrapbooking, board game nights, and novel exchanges to keep the TeenZones buzzing with activities. A special event called "Ink Ellipses, an Evening of Creative Expression" drew over 80 teens. **Teen Advisory Boards** were formed to assist with programming ideas, special events and offering suggestions on books and materials for the TeenZone collection.

The Friends of the Library reintroduced the **Murder Mystery** program for its

seventh year attracting over 80 amateur sleuths. The Friends also opened up new Book Shops in both the Fishers and Noblesville Libraries. Monies from the sale of materials in the Friends Book Shops help to purchase items that fall beyond the normal scope of the library budget and needs that arise after the budget has been completed.

Technologically Speaking

Self check-out stations were installed at the Circulation desks in both libraries. Library patrons with no outstanding fines or fees now have the option of checking out library materials at one of these terminals. In just the first month of use, the self check-out stations were used 1676 times to check out 5186 items.

For the convenience of library users, materials on "hold" were made available through a **self-serve** process. When "hold" materials become available, patrons requesting those materials will be notified, the materials are clearly labeled with the patrons' names and set out near the main Circulation desk for easy pick-up and check-out.

To allow computer lab users to make payments into their printing accounts without having to leave the lab area, **automatic payment machines** (APMs) were installed in each computer lab.

A survey of **public computer** usage showed an average of 4467 people using the library's computers each week. Within the computer labs at both the Fishers and Noblesville libraries, lab users logged in 71,348 different sessions for a total usage of 36,208 hours. In comparison to 2004, these numbers reflect an increase of 175% in the number of sessions, and an increase of 156% in the hours of usage. Library users currently have access to 122 public computers, 95 of which have connections to the Internet.

Throughout the year, there were 4,009,584 requests for **HEPL website** pages. This figure reflects a 37% increase over last year's numbers.

E-mail has proved to be a very effective and efficient way to communicate with library users. In 2005, 239,485 e-mails were sent to library users notifying them of items due in two days, overdue materials and availability of items on hold. Sending these notices electronically saved taxpayers \$76,635.20 in postage costs. There are 39,493 or 59% of all registered borrowers with email addresses in the library's system.

Service Centered

For the convenience of library users, all materials are now checked out at one central **Circulation desk** in each library. Also, to serve the public with fewer delays, separate service areas are now available for those who wish to pay bills and register for library cards.

Offering a unique service to area residents, in 2005 **Mobile Outreach** delivered 31,558 library materials to 21 area preschools and daycares and 7 senior facilities. They also conducted 140 programs enriching the lives of more than 2080 children and adults. In addition, over 156 residents were served through the **homebound delivery**, an increase of 38% over last year's figure.

The **Adult Literacy** program serves our diverse community through its one-on-one tutoring program and language skills programs. In 2005, over 350 programs assisted participants from 41 different countries, many gaining skills that allowed them to pass exams for the GED, admission to local colleges or universities, driver's licenses, and realtor's licenses. Others were able to master language skills necessary to secure employment or job promotions.

