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What a privilege it has been for me to serve you during this transitional time in our temporary space as we anticipate our new home.

In difficult economic times like our entire country has faced this year, the critical services from a library for job-seekers and other persons of need become ever more important. Our library continues to evolve in an effort to meet the unique needs of Kirkwood, always keeping a vigilant eye toward our mission: “The Kirkwood Public Library is dedicated to providing information services and resources that enrich and enlighten the community.”

Each member of our community can find personal assistance inside our library and get access to our website 24 hours a day for additional support. We bring the opportunity for lifelong learning to all citizens of Kirkwood.

It is an honor to work alongside a talented and inspiring staff who keep our mission at the forefront while delivering excellent customer service every day.

Sarah Erwin
Acting Director, Kirkwood Public Library

Pardon the dust as we realize our dream of a new library. Kirkwood Library, like much of the world, looks a lot different today than it did a year ago. Suffice to say, it will look even more different a year from now when construction on our new building is finished. After passing a bond issue, it’s been simultaneously an exciting and challenging year with many accomplishments—selecting and hiring a design team; completing a new design, finding and designing a temporary location; obtaining construction bids for the renovated building; selling the bonds; building and moving into our temporary space; and—perhaps most important—keeping it all within budget.

Fortunately, your board of trustees is populated with passionate citizens from Kirkwood who are dedicated to the mission of the library. As stewards for the Kirkwood community, this board has spent countless hours working to make the dream of a new library a reality.

Our new library will not only meet the high architectural standards set by the Kirkwood community, but it will also provide tremendous space inside for our ever-growing collection and for community events catered to everyone from toddlers to seniors.

It’s the library of our dreams. When we build it, we know you will come.

Randall Millenberger
President, Kirkwood Public Library Board of Trustees
Financial Highlights:
The Library issued $6,885,000 in Certificates of Participation during the year to renovate the library. As a result:

- On a government-wide basis (reporting the Library as a whole), the assets of the Library exceeded its liabilities for the most recent fiscal year by $3,116,296.
- The Library’s total net assets increased $562,998.
- At June 30, 2009, the unrestricted fund balance for the general fund was $1,984,821.
- There was a net increase of $1,426,293 of revenues over expenditures in the general fund.

A special “Thank You” to the Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library for their extremely generous donation of $30,000 in fiscal 2009.

On May 4, 2009, Kirkwood Library began renovation of the existing building. We anticipate moving back into the new building in summer 2010. As large as that project is – including the intervening relocation to our temporary home at 200 Station Plaza on Kirkwood Road – we have still found time and energy for additional projects at the Library.

Grants & Awards
Lynn Bosso, Assistant Director of Programs and Youth Services, earned the Missouri Library Association’s Outstanding Library Employee Award, which recognizes a library employee who has made a significant contribution to the improvement and advancement of library and information services.

Kirkwood Public Library earned the distinctive Public Relations Achievement Award from Missouri Library Association. The award recognizes a Missouri library for outstanding public relations during the previous year. The Library won the distinction for the Prop L campaign.

Additional grants this year included:
LSTA Technology Mini-Grant (for DVD Disc-Express)
LSTA Discoveres Program for Seniors
LSTA Summer Reading Program for Children
LSTA Summer Reading Program for Teens
LSTA Technology Grant – Videoconferencing
LSTA Show Me Steps to Career Development

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Kirkwood Public Library
By the Numbers
KPL cardholders: 22,365
Population of Kirkwood: 26,760
KPL weekly hours open: 68
Boston Public Library weekly hours open: 64
(Largest public library in US)
Summer Reading Sign-Ups: 1,665
Last Year: 1,500
Books and AV materials available at KPL: 104,042
Items circulated in an average month: 30,371
Total circulation in FY09: 366,862
Passports issued: 813
Number of countries in the world: 194

Computer Use
Adult: 21,341 (average 1,945 a month)
Teen: 2,185 (average 182 a month)
Youth: 13,040 (average 1,086 a month)
Total: 38,566

Top 10 Categories in circulation for FY09
1. Children’s Fiction
2. Videos
3. Adult Fiction
4. Audio Materials
5. Children’s Non-Fiction
6. Adult Non-Fiction
7. Hot Reads
8. Teen Fiction
9. Periodicals
10. Teen Non-Fiction

*St. Louis County data, July 2008. *Boston Public Library website; largest public library ranked by holdings. **U.S. State Department.