

GLEASON PUBLIC LIBRARY

2002 Annual Report

The Gleason Public Library proved its worth as a focal point for Carlisle community life as its shared resources were enjoyed at a greater rate than any previous year.

Circulation of library materials continues to increase; 2002 circulation increased **12%** over 2001, our first full year in the renovated building—equaling a **27%** increase over 1998, the last full year in the unrenovated Library. Other measures of use also continue on the upswing, such as seats filled at the Internet computers, requests for specific materials to be added to the collections, and the number of requested items that patrons pick up—a **46%** increase in 2002.

With the generosity of donations to the Library's Endowment Fund, the Library's landscaping project was completed. Brick walkways, benches, and a variety of low-maintenance shrubs, flowers, and trees will provide a beautiful setting for library patrons to enjoy. The Endowment Fund also sponsored a book sale on Old Home Day.

Story times continued to serve children ages 2-6. New this year was a monthly drop-in story time in the evening. The summer reading program with an Americana theme seemed especially appropriate and enjoyed great success. Story quilts made by the participants decorated the Library and provided reading suggestions for library patrons. The Cultural Council and the Friends of the Gleason Public Library sponsored four summer and fall performances. Local daycare centers made monthly visits for story times and the Brownies visited the Library. October witnessed another successful Pumpkin Spectacle with many creative entries.

The Library staff roster did not change during 2002, but an additional substitute assistant, Patricia Simon, was invaluable during some extended staff leave.

The Library's wonderful volunteer shelvers have met the demands of higher circulation, and their work is much appreciated by staff. The Friends of the Library supported a number of cultural discussions, an ongoing book discussion group, and the "Arts at the Gleason" program. As always, credit for the Library's excellent service goes to the Library staff.

GLEASON PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS

Number of titles, December 2001	46,983
Number of items, December 2001	52,141

Number of patrons, December 2001	6062
Circulation, 2002	108,859

2002/Fine money of \$9133 was paid to the Town Treasurer