



ridgefield library

Annual Report for 2009-2010

Enriching Minds.

Enhancing Community.

Christina B. Nolan, *Library Director*
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The inauguration of the **Ridgefield Library Guardian Society** spearheaded an 18% increase in charitable giving to the Library in FY2010, despite an uncertain economy. Guardian Society members commit support of \$1,000 or more annually toward the operating needs of the Library. In its first year, 69 individuals and families stepped up to become Founding Members of the Guardian Society.

The 2009-2010 fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2010 proved that the Ridgefield Library remains a **relevant and vital resource** in our community. Library use continued strong, with the number of **items circulated** (429,854), the number of **reference questions** (17,688) and the **number of programs** (103) and **program attendance** (24,940) all at record levels. *For additional information on Library use and activities during 2009-2010, visit www.ridgefieldlibrary.org.*

The Library's completely **new website** at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org debuted in January, offering enhanced content and information delivery systems and positioning the Ridgefield Library as an essential information resource for the 21st century.

The Library Board, aided by a task force of town officials and community leaders, continued to develop plans to address the facility's shortcomings that impact our ability to provide the best possible library service to Ridgefielders of all ages, now and in the future. For more information about **our vision for the New Ridgefield Library**, contact Library Director Chris Nolan at 203-438-6960.

The dedication and talents of literally **hundreds of volunteers** enabled the Library to offer its most successful **Summer Reading Program** ever, for children, teens and adults, along with many other activities, including sold-out **Dr. Seuss Birthday Parties** for pre-schoolers, hosted by the **Younger Set** parent volunteer committee.

Special events gave Ridgefielders a range of new ways to show their support of the Library. The annual **Ridgefield Library Days at Books on the Common** was joined by a well-attended wine-tasting event with **Cellar XV at Sarah's Wine Bar**. Mystery lovers enjoyed **Murder @ the Library**, a murder mystery dinner theatre fundraiser, while the **Camp Snooze** 4th grade sleepover has become so popular we had to add a second session!

Approximately 75% of the Library's annual operating budget was supplied by a grant from the town of Ridgefield. The remainder was raised through our **annual appeal mailing, tribute gifts, special events, grants and sponsorships, in-kind donations from local merchants**, the tireless efforts of the **Friends of the Library** through their book sales, and other sources. We are pleased and proud to acknowledge the **more than 1,000 individuals and organizations** listed below, whose generous support made it possible for us to maintain the high level of library service Ridgefielders have come to expect and demand. **Our heartfelt thanks to all of you!**

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