One of the highlights of 2011 was the publication of a book companion to our mural in the Children’s Area. Grants from a number of groups and individuals made it possible for us to collect and print stories of objects, animals and people from the mural. Drop by and read some stories, find the objects, and maybe even play with the mural puppets and stuffed animals.

Other Highlights—
• The Library has more than 250 Friends on Facebook
• 422 items circulated from the Business Resource Center
• More than 11,000 people used library computers or signed up to use the wireless

Waganakising: Stories from the Mural

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Coming in 2012:
• Grants from the Friends of the Library and Northland Library Cooperative allowed the Library to offer downloadable ebooks, audiobooks, music and video. Visit the website (petoskeylibrary.org) to use this new service.
• In partnership with Youth Build, the Library will be providing literacy mentors to some of the students.
• Two of our special collections, The Foundation Center Collection and the Business Resource Center will provide resources and assistance for non-profits and entrepreneurs.
• The Friends will continue their wonderful support of the library with programs and fund-raisers.

“Looking out at the Library from 500 E. Mitchell St., Petoskey, MI 49770 • 231-758-3100 • petoskeylibrary.org

My son has trouble reading so we come to the Library to check out both a book and the same book on CD. That way he can follow along and it helps him be a better reader.”

“Roo, the lovable therapy dog belonging to Kim Brown, comes to the Library once a month. Children love to read to Roo because he accepts everyone for just who they are!

“‘When I was being treated for cancer, I came to the Library every day. Besides checking things out, it kept me from being depressed to be in such a friendly place.’

“We were just here for two weeks but we bought a quarterly card anyway so our son could check out library books. It cost less than the price of one book.”

“Sarah Shuman and her daughter, Amelia, and woodland friends read Stories from the Mural.”

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Facts & Figures

It is thanks to the Library’s loyal patrons who continued to visit the library, check out materials, and attend programs that the Library enjoyed a busy and eventful year in spite of an additional drop in revenues.

- Sixty-two families, individuals and organizations donated more than $9,000 to the gift fund.
- During our two “Food for Fines” events, people donated more than 800 pounds of food for Manna.
- The staff, in addition to the wonderful customer service they offer at the Library, also gives back to the community by working every other month at the Thursday soup kitchen sponsored by local churches.
- Staff members are involved with the Downtown Marketing Committee, the Downtown Events Committee, the Char-Em Poverty Reduction Initiative, Crooked Tree Arts Center’s New Year’s Celebration, United Way, Sunrise Rotary, Blissfield Organization, Project Connect and the public schools.
- We are especially proud of our continued participation with Blissfield Organization and Petoskey Public Schools in presenting an annual Diversity Program for the public.
- The Library checked out 79,269 books, 17,448 DVDs, 7,689 magazines, 9,245 music CDs and 8,203 books on CD.
- Youth Services started a Teen Reader’s Theater program for middle and high school kids and also a Chess Club. 7,379 people came to programs.

“*We’re retired and we come to the Library every day at 3 p.m. to read newspapers and magazines and get out of the house without having to spend money.*”

“*I came to the Library to apply for a job. The staff showed me how to sign up for an email account. Now I will be coming to sign up for public assistance and tax forms.*”