



MT. LEBANON
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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2019 was a big year for Mt. Lebanon Public Library! In the spring, we hosted international best-selling author Erik Larson before a crowd of 1000+. Our summer reading program was bigger than ever as we expanded our teen program offerings and continued our partnership with Matt's Maker Space to provide STEM programs for kids and teens. We were awarded a generous Keystone Grant to accomplish needed repairs to our building. Late in the year, we saw our Learning Lab develop into a beautiful, functional, flexible space – paid for entirely from donated funds!

OUR VISION

The Mt. Lebanon Public Library will enhance its status as one of the premier public libraries in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

OUR MISSION

The Mt. Lebanon Public Library provides informational resources, programs, and services for the personal enrichment, education, and enjoyment of all citizens and for the betterment of the community.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The board of trustees is a seven-member governing board. Each member is eligible to serve two three-year terms and is appointed by the municipality of Mt. Lebanon. The board's duties include advocacy, policy adoption and revision, and general support.

Hillary Lohr, president
William Pope, vice president
Corey Flynn, secretary
Marcia Taylor, treasurer
Evan Jones
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Eve Reynolds

OUR VALUE



In 2019, the cost per resident for Mt. Lebanon Public Library services was \$51*. That's about the cost if a couple bestsellers

*based on municipal funding only (not RAD, State, or table gaming)

29,652



reference questions answered

50



public computers with high speed Internet access

12,569



hours donated by 300+ volunteers

136,105



nonprint items (audiobooks, board games, CDs, DVDs, etc) borrowed

381,388



books borrowed

181,393



e-books, audio & video circulated

43,899

adults, teens, children attended



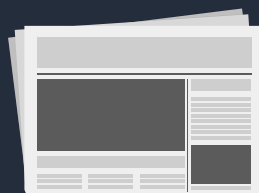
2,211 programs

17,857



Mt. Lebanon residents with active library cards

156



magazine, journal & newspaper subscriptions

104.53



visits to the library per hour

GRANTS & AWARDS

Mt. Lebanon Public Library was honored to receive a Keystone Grant this year in the amount of \$215,164. This generous grant will enable the library to complete several important improvements to the building including; new HVAC equipment, new access controls and the replacement of the worn carpeting on the main staircase. In addition to this grant, Mt. Lebanon Public Library was named a qualified Educational Improvement Tax Credit program recipient. The Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) awards tax credits to eligible businesses contributing to qualified organizations.



LEARNING LAB

In 2019, the library used donated funds to convert and expand 350 square feet of underutilized office and storage space into a new 600+ square-foot Learning Lab on the library's main level. The Learning Lab was designed for flexible, multipurpose programming and small group instruction space. Plans for the space include offering fiber arts, studio arts, teen programming, technology classes, career development and more.

The new space includes ample storage, nesting worktables, stackable chairs, a large sink, and a fully integrated audio-visual system. The room can also be subdivided to allow for two smaller programs at the same time and employs sound management to minimize the sound inside the room from disturbing patrons outside the room.

MATT'S MAKER SPACE

In 2019, Matt's Maker Space funded a second Year of Making at the library. We kicked off the year in January with a Matt's Maker Party with programs and events designed by our Children's librarian, Dana Jones. As in 2018 this generous funding allowed for the library to provide collaborative programming with local organizations such as; Heinz History Center, the Carnegie Science Center, Carnegie Mellon's School of Architecture, the National Aviary and many more. Nearly 1,000 children and teens participated in a range of programs from bridge building to learning about African penguins. Programs were carefully planned to ensure all aspects of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) were touched upon throughout the year.



FRIENDS OF MT LEBANON LIBRARY

Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library raised \$86,000 for the library from The Book Cellar, a used book shop within the library operated entirely by volunteers, and from two fundraising events: Brews for a 'Chili' Night in January (\$8,400) and Beer Garden Bash in August (\$6,850), both chaired by Bob Hagerty and M.A. Jackson. The Friends also published ten issues of :more Friends, the library's newsletter, edited by volunteer Eileen Jacobs. More than 815 residents are members of the Friends.

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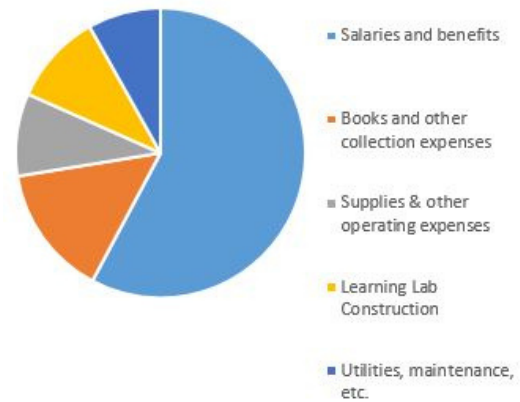
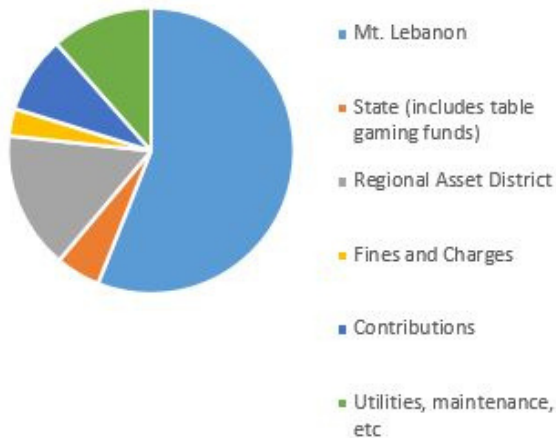
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LEFT: Cathryn Coblin and Barbara Mannon work the Book Cellar desk. In 2019, the Book Cellar brought in \$86,000 in funds. RIGHT: Friends Secretary Eileen Jacobs awarded a Friends Scholarship of \$3,000 to R Tyler John Augenstein.

2019 OPERATION REVENUE & SUPPORT



2019 Operation Revenue and Support		
Mt. Lebanon	1,400,450	56%
State (includes table gaming funds)	125,984	5%
Regional Asset District	389,126	16%
Fines and Charges	77,383	3%
Contributions	217,694	9%
Utilities, maintenance, etc.	287,375	12%
Total	2,498,012	100%

2019 Operating Expenditures		
Salaries and benefits	1,582,071	58%
Books and other collection expenses	400,715	15%
Supplies & other operating expenses	252,241	9%
Learning Lab Construction	279,145	10%
Utilities, maintenance, etc.	223,048	8%
Total	2,737,220	100%

SPEAKER SERIES WITH ERIK LARSON



The sixth year of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library Speaker Series was its most successful. Guest speaker, Erik Larson spoke to a sold out audience of over 1,000 at Mellon Middle School. Erik Larson, is an award-winning non-fiction writer of bestselling books such as The Devil in the White City.



The Mt. Lebanon Public Library Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Library, and the library staff offer sincere thanks to the generous individuals, organizations, and foundations that contributed to the library in 2019. Each gift, no matter the size, is important in helping our library carry out its mission and serve the community. We are grateful for the unflagging support of our many donors. Thank you!

Great care has been taken in preparing these lists to ensure they are accurate. If you believe there is an error, please contact the library at 412-531-1912.

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The Year in Photos



Childrens librarian Rachel Blier and her storytime cart present a kids story-time to some children at a Mt. Lebanon First Friday event on Washington Road.



Library Director Robyn Vittek, left, and library board members Hillary Lohr and Eve Reynolds receive a National Library Week proclamation from Mt. Lebanon Commissioner Steve McLean.



Our many crafting programs were attended by people of all ages.



Families celebrate "Noon" Year's Eve--just one of the many family-friendly special events the library hosts annually.



Behind the "Mr. Baldwin's Trolley" tracks, Michele Ambrosic painted a mural made possible by generous donations from friends of Wilmer Baldwin, his children and grandchildren.



Some of the library staff, including Director Robyn Vittek (right, front) and speaker series coordinator Sarah McGowan (front left) pose with author Erik Larson.



Our annual Brews for a Chili night event quickly sold out and raised more than \$8,000.



Over 100 patrons stopped by the 42-foot long Digital Bookmobile to learn how to borrow eBooks, audiobooks, and magazines for free from the library's Over-drive collection.



One of the Battle of the Books teams pose after the 2019 battle.

Mt. Lebanon Public Library offers programs and opportunities for all ages and interests--from teen computer coding classes and baby storytimes to lectures featuring bestselling authors and arts & crafts classes. We partner with many local nonprofit organization--including the Historical Society of Mount Lebanon and the Mt. Lebanon Nature Conservancy--and offer meeting space to other local nonprofits. Our loyal volunteers work in our gardens, at our special events, and even do some dusting! We host potlucks for welcoming week and offer cozy corners for studying. Mt. Lebanon Public Library *is* the community's meeting space.