

MT. LEBANON PUBLIC LIBRARY

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.

~Henry Ward Beecher~

Mt. Lebanon Public Library is one of the best and busiest libraries in the region. Without a doubt our library serves as the center of the community and we work tirelessly to keep it that way. In 2014 more people than ever attended programs, borrowed items from our collections—physical and digital—and requested assistance from our friendly, professional staff. With the unflagging support of our municipality, the dedication to mission and service by our Library Board of Trustees, contributions by so many generous patrons and the Friends of Mt. Lebanon Library, and the extraordinary work of our enthusiastic staff, we are able to achieve the margin of excellence that is the hallmark of Mt. Lebanon Public Library. We look forward to serving you far into the future.

Cynthia K. Richey, Director

The library is the soul of the community.

The Mt. Lebanon Public Library is one of the greatest assets that Mt. Lebanon has to offer. Please keep up the good work!

We use the library weekly for homework, research, and fun!

Thank you for making the delivery service work so well for the housebound. Everyone is so kind and caring.

OUR PATRONS SAY...

This library atmosphere encourages the whole community to participate.

Thanks to all for your wonderful work and super-friendly service!!

This library is a library that every library should be modeled after. The programs are invaluable, staff dedicated.

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.

BY THE NUMBERS

ADDING IT UP

360,960

visits to the library

105

visits to the library per hour

314,283

visits to the library's website at
www.mtlebanonlibrary.org

583,771

physical items lent

38,511

eBooks, eVideos, eAudios lent

181

items checked out per hour

21,279

Mt. Lebanon residents
with active library cards

37,743

adults, teens, and children
who attended **1,821**
library programs

154,648

total physical items in
the library's collections
(e-resources are in addition)

19,997

books, DVDs, CDs, and other
items added to the collections

14,738

hours donated to the library
by nearly 300 volunteers

3,451

hours the library was open;
includes year-round
Sunday hours

2,914,807

minutes patrons spent on
the library's public computers

2,417,837

minutes patrons spent on
the library's free WiFi

VALUE OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN 2014

In 2014, the cost per resident for Mt. Lebanon Public Library services was \$43*, about the cost of a couple of bestsellers on sale.

(*based on municipal funding for the operation of the library, building maintenance, utilities, and insurance.)

Books borrowed: 397,114

If people had purchased the books
at an average price of \$30 each.....\$11,913,420

eReaders:

31 Kindles & Nooks (580 books on each) = 17,980 eBooks

If people had purchased the eReaders
at an average cost of \$140 each.....\$4,340

If people had purchased the eBooks
at an average price of \$11 each.....\$197,780
Total value.....\$202,120

iPad minis: 6 for adults and 4 for children to borrow with educational and library apps.

If people purchased the devices at \$299 each\$2,990

Audiobooks, CDs and DVDs borrowed: 164,682

If people had purchased 63,476 audio items
at an average price of \$40 each.....\$2,539,040

If people had purchased 101,206 DVDs & Blu-ray's
at an average price of \$35 each.....\$3,542,210

If people had rented the DVDs
at an average price of \$5 each.....\$506,030

Reference Questions: We answered 71,993 questions.

If people used a fee-based service for each question (\$15)\$1,079,895

Magazines: We subscribed to more than 274 magazines,
journals, and newspapers valued at.....\$18,898

Online Databases: We subscribed to 29 databases valued at.....\$66,240

Programs: 37,743 people attended more than 1,821 programs for adults and children.

If people had paid \$5 each.....\$188,715

Internet Access: We provided 48 public computers with high-speed Internet access. Value of access.....\$61,920
Household costs for high speed Internet access (cable or FIOS)
average \$1,290 per year.

The library also offered other free public services, such as scores of online subscription databases and other online resources; public documents from municipal, county, state, and federal services; tax forms; information on local events; plus access to other public libraries.

Mt. Lebanon Public Library generated more than

\$20.1 million worth of great public services.

(That's a value of \$609 per resident!!)

And library cards are **FREE!**

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board sponsored two fundraising activities: A Novel Affair: “Whodunit - a celebration of mysteries” and the 24th Annual Library Garden Tour and Garden Party. The Board also conducted the library’s fifth Annual Appeal in partnership with Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library.

James Cappucci, President
June F. Swanson, Vice President
Cherie Moshier, Treasurer
Judy Smydo, Secretary
Harold Hall, Immediate Past President
Christopher Cahillane, Member
Marylynne Pitz, Member



FRIENDS OF THE MT. LEBANON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library raised nearly \$90,000 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 and *Beer Garden Bash* in August, both chaired by Bob Hagerty, Mimi Ingalls and M.A. Jackson. The Friends also published ten issues of *more Friends*, the library’s newsletter, edited by volunteer Kelly Lotter. More than 775 residents are members of the Friends.

The Friends’ Board

William F. Lewis, President
Diane Gerber, Treasurer
James R. (Bob) Hagerty, Secretary
Deborah Edwards, Board Member & Membership Chair
David McKibben, Board Member & *The Book Cellar* Co-coordinator

The Book Cellar Coordinators

David McKibben, Jean Crawford, Susan Tracey, Eileen Jacobs, Mandy Mitchell, Susan Fretterd, Barb Doherty



GRANTS, AWARDS & HONORS

We received a grant from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council for “Coal Mining Songs of Northeast Pennsylvania,” a song and story program by Jay Smar.

The library received a Best Practices Award from the Pennsylvania Library Association for Dana Jones’ “Crazy for Comics” program for children.

Librarians Dana Jones and Connie Mathews were selected to participate in “Librarians as STEM Educators,” a national 3-year project that will train youth librarians in inquiry-based, STEM learning for K-5 programming.

PROGRAM & SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

- During the **Digital Life Series**, group workshops educated patrons on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Introduction to Mac.
- **Maker Space** was introduced in an Open House and monthly programs featuring state-of-the-art technology and DIY crafts.
- Concerts included The Boilermaker Jazz Band, Susanne Ortner Trio, David Manchester, The Tumblers.
- **Author visits** included Lisa Scottoline for the inaugural Joseph Wertheim Memorial Lecture, Sharon Flake, and the annual local author forum.
- **Zentanglers** group met monthly to practice Zentangle, meditative pattern drawing.
- **Gardeners** learned about landscape design, care and nurturing of roses, gardens of the world, using rain barrels, and more in some of our many gardening programs.
- **Urban Homsteading** programs introduced sustainable living practices.
- Tea at “**Downton Abbey**” featured English-inspired food and trivia fun.
- **David Shribman**, editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, presented unique perspectives on American politics during the Friends’ Annual Program.
- **World Affairs** discussions included human trafficking and National Security Issues presented by U.S. Army War College.
- **International Language Groups** conversed in French, Italian, German, Chinese, and Spanish.
- **Sixteen Library-Sponsored Book Discussion Groups**- 6 for children, 9 for adults, 1 for teens (new!), plus 2 writer’s groups- were held monthly.
- During **Fright Night** hundreds had Halloween fun at this annual after-hours, not-too-spooky affair.
- **Star Wars Day** was filled with crafts, games, snacks, and the afternoon highlight: live Star Wars villain enactors.
- Teens helped at **Teen Volunteer Night** and enjoyed **Otaku Club**, about popular Japanese culture. They also came for the pre-release party for *Percy Jackson: The Blood of Olympus*, the first event hosted by the new Teen Advisory Board.
- **Children’s Creation Station** challenged kids to be creative at themed art activities during the summer.
- The **Touch-a-Truck** afternoon amazed children who got to explore a fire truck, police SWAT vehicle, ambulance, moving van, and more interesting vehicles from our community partners.
- **Families enjoyed these children’s programs:**
 - Sunday Fundays!- February weekend family programs
 - Family Amazing Race- competitive fun for families at stations placed throughout the library
 - Family Fort Night- families built blanket forts and shared stories
 - Family Sing-a-Long with Margaret Hooton and Bob Barnett added to the Thanksgiving holiday fun.
- Children competed in the annual **Chess Tournament** in February and enjoyed the fun reading competition **Battle of the Books** during the summer.
- **Storytimes** entertained babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and those with Autism or Sensory Processing Disorder. Children also enjoyed science storytimes and storytimes in Spanish and French.
- **Summer Reading Clubs:**
 - Children: *Fizz, Boom, Read!*- 1,111 children read 5,796 books.
 - Teens: *Spark a Reaction*- 54 teens read 617 books.
 - Adults: *Literary Elements*- 105 adults read 658 books
- **New magazines** included *The Freeman: Ideas on Liberty*; *Dr. Oz: The Good Life*.
- **RFID self-check-out stations** were activated in both the children’s and adult libraries. Security gates and an automated materials handling system for improved patron service were also installed.

OUR PATRONS CONNECT

Contact Us

Send us your comments or questions, any hour, day or night.
www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/27/about

Text-a-librarian

Text “start” to 412-685-4004 to get started.

Mobile Library

Search our redesigned website that offers full functionality to mobile devices. www.mtlebanonlibrary.org

Friends’ Library Newsletter

Free by mail or email with a membership to the Friends.
www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/230/Friends-of-Mt-Lebanon-Public-Library

KidsRead News Flash

Weekly updates on children’s library news and programs.
Sign up at www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/Kids

Digital Media

Download eBooks, magazines, online music, and videos to your mobile reading devices, phones, or computers for free.
www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/digitalmedia



Flickr

See pictures of library programs and events.
www.flickr.com/photos/mtlebanonlibrary/sets



Twitter

adult library: <http://twitter.com/MtLebLibrary>
children’s library: <http://twitter.com/MLPLKids>



Facebook

Look for Mt. Lebanon Public Library on Facebook.



YouTube

Look at videos from Mt. Lebanon Public Library on YouTube. www.youtube.com/MtLebanonLibrary

Shortcuts to all our social media accounts can be found on the bottom of our website.



YOU ASKED US - WE ANSWERED!

Q. How long was the Silk Road?

A. Including all the twists and turns, it covered about 9,600 kilometers, or a quarter of the way around the globe. We found the information in: Darian, Steven. "Silk Road." *Encyclopedia of Modern Asia*. Ed. Karen Christensen and David Levinson. Vol. 5. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2002. pp. 207-209. *World History in Context*.

Q. How do I renew an Indian passport?

A. BLS International (<http://www.passport.blsindia-usa.com/reissue10.php>) has detailed instructions and an application. We were able to provide full contact information for the patron, too.

Q. Can you give me health information about a lump behind my knee?

A. We used the *Health Reference Center* database and found information about a condition called popliteal cyst, also called Baker's Cyst. The patron planned to consult with a doctor. <http://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/246/Health>

Q. I need information about U.S. Merchant Ships in WWII.

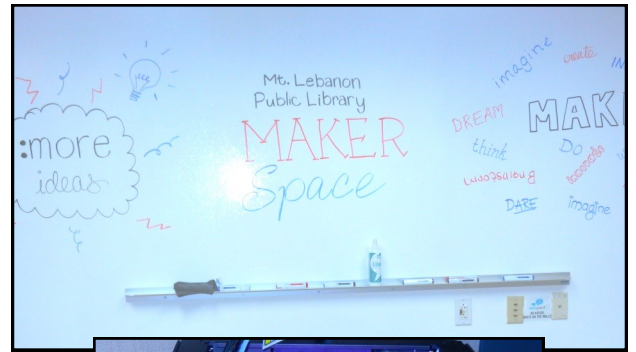
A. We searched the subject “[World War 1939-1945 Naval Operations American](#)” in our online catalog and found the information in the book *The two-ocean war, a short history of the United States Navy in the Second World War*, which had relevant information.

Q. I'm in college—do you have a study guide for the Pharmacy College Admissions Test (PCAT)?

A. We found a study guide and two practice tests for the PCAT in our online database *Learning Express Library*.
<http://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/242/Education>
<http://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/246/Health>

MAKER SPACE

In September we launched our new Maker Space with the goal of fostering creative and technological literacy for patrons of all ages. The central collaborative project area features a large table with seats, a white board wall, ample art & craft supplies, a sink, a sewing machine, and more. The lab features eight computers with digital content creation software, such as Adobe Photoshop and GarageBand, 10 iPads, and a MakerBot Replicator 2 3D printer. In the Maker Space we offered open sessions, innovative book clubs, Gadget Workshops for technology training, and programs in the creative arts (e.g., scarf painting and paper quilling) and science and technology (e.g., circuitry and LED art). Future activities also include computer-programming workshops with Raspberry Pis, 3D printing with Minecraft, and robotics with Lego Mindstorms, as well as other classes and workshops for adults, teens, and children.



DIGITAL RESOURCES

- In 2014 we redesigned our website and added interactive features, highlights, and more content for teens, children, and older adults.
www.mtlebanonlibrary.org
- Overdrive (ebooks), Zinio (magazines), and Hoopla (movies, TV shows, and music) are all free to download to your mobile reading devices, smart phones, or computers.
www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/digitalmedia
- The Library subscribed to these online databases in 2014. Find them here and use them for free.
www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/234/Online-Databases

America's Newspapers - Newsbank

Brainfuse: homework help and online learning and test support

Career Transitions - Gale

CultureGrams - Proquest

Ferguson's Career Guidance - Facts on File

Foundation Directory Online

Gale Virtual Reference Library (Reference eBooks) - Gale

Health Reference - Facts on File

Heritage Quest - Proquest

IndieFlix: 4,500 free independent movies - Recorded Books

Learning Express

Legal Forms - Gale

Lexis Nexis Library Express

Muzzy Online: foreign language lessons for children

My Government - Gale

Online Music: Classical, African American Sound, & Smithsonian Global - Alexander Street Press

Oxford English Dictionary

Oxford Art / Oxford Music / Oxford Reference

Poetry Criticism/Literature Criticism Online - Gale

Price It Antiques - Gale

Reference USA

Salem History

Science Online - Facts on File

Statistical Abstract of the U.S. - Proquest (NEW-June 2014)

Testing & Education Resource Center - Gale

Universal Class: free courses from Accounting to Yoga - Recorded Books

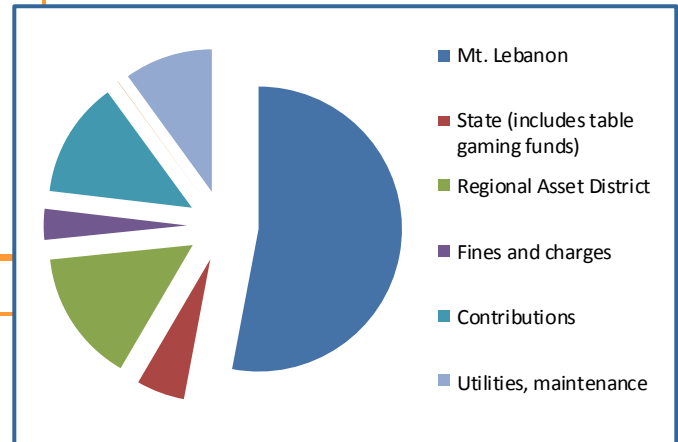
World Book Online

- More free digital resources available for our patrons to borrow or use in the library:
Laptops for use in the library
eReaders (Kindles and Nooks) to borrow with more than 580 books pre-loaded on each
iPad Minis for adults and children to borrow
Playaways - unabridged books and movies on self-contained MP3players to borrow
Wii, Wii U, 3DS, Xbox 360, Xbox One, and PS3 & PS4 video games to borrow
Flatbed scanners to use in the library
Kurzweil - adaptive reading software and computer equipment for persons with visual disabilities to use in the library
3D Printer to use in our new Maker Space
iPad Airs for use during library programs

2014 OPERATION REVENUE & SUPPORT

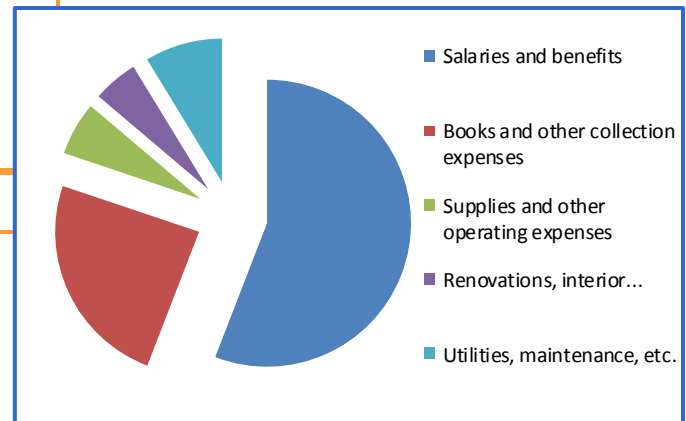
2014 Operation Revenue & Support

Mt. Lebanon	1,182,550	53%
State (includes table gaming funds)	121,297	5%
Regional Asset District	334,508	15%
Fines and charges	78,245	4%
Contributions	293,289	13%
Other	808	0
Utilities, maintenance	222,239	10%
Total	2,232,936	100%



Operating Expenditures

Salaries and benefits	1,235,471	56%
Books and other collection expenses	537,743	24%
Supplies and other operating expenses	133,361	6%
Renovations, interior...	112,387	5%
Utilities, maintenance, etc.	192,589	9%
Total	2,211,551	100%



THANK YOU!

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 2014. 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!

\$1000 and more

Helene Bush Trust
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Mt. Lebanon Lions Club
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