

MT. LEBANON PUBLIC LIBRARY 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

"It's funny that we think of libraries as quiet demure places where we are shushed by dusty, bun-balancing, bespectacled women. The truth is libraries are raucous clubhouses for free speech, controversy and community. Librarians have stood up to the Patriot Act, sat down with noisy toddlers and reached out to illiterate adults. Libraries can never be shushed." —Paula Poundstone



Dear Friends,

A recent Pew Research Center study reaffirmed what public library staff already know: libraries are the heart of their communities. Eight out of ten adults feel that public libraries help them find information that is trustworthy and reliable, and 76% say that libraries help them learn new things. Even more humbling, 65% of adults believe that public libraries *help them grow as people*.^{*} That's the kind of fact that makes a librarian proud to come to work every day.

The truth is though, libraries are trusted and helpful learning and community centers *because* of the people in the community. We couldn't offer storytimes in multiple languages, host meetings for diverse interest groups (everything from ukulele aficionados to foreign film buffs), provide one-on-one workforce development counseling, and serve as a safe place for students after school if not for your support.

Inside our annual report you'll find a list of our donors and Friends. These supporters 'put the icing on the cake' by providing money for programming, books, and extras, but everyone in our community is a library supporter and patron. Everyone contributes through tax dollars, by attending our programs, by volunteering at the *Book Cellar* or in our library gardens, and even by checking out books and movies—our use statistics help determine the amount of funding we receive from the state and from the Regional Asset District.

Take a look inside at all of the amazing things that *your* library has accomplished in the past year, and be sure to stop by and take advantage of all that we have waiting for you today!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robyn E. Vittek'.

Robyn E. Vittek, Director

^{*} <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/08/30/most-americans-especially-millennials-say-libraries-can-help-them-find-reliable-trustworthy-information/>

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

368,930

visits to the library

107

visits to the library per hour

361,124

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

526,190

physical items lent

71,589

eBooks, eVideos, eAudios lent

173

items checked out per hour

18,129

Mt. Lebanon residents
with active library cards

42,247

adults, teens, and children
who attended **1,832**
library programs

147,518

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

14,778

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

13,952

hours donated to the library
by more than **300** volunteers

3,451

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

2,408,315

minutes patrons spent on
the library's public computers

4,008,812

minutes patrons spent on
the library's free WiFi

VALUE OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN 2017

In 2017, the cost per resident for Mt. Lebanon Public Library services was \$45.56, 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: 379,389

*·If people had purchased the books
at an average price of \$30 each.....\$11,381,670*

eReaders:

24 Kindles & Nooks (1,193 books on each)

*·If people had purchased the eReaders at an
at an average cost of \$180 each.....\$4,320*

*·If people had purchased the eBooks at an
at an average price of \$12.99 each.....\$15,497*

iPad minis: 8 to borrow with educational and library apps.

·If people purchased the devices at \$399 each\$3,192

Audiobooks, CDs and DVDs borrowed: 146,801

*·If people had purchased 69,110 audio items
at an average price of \$40 each.....\$2,764,400*

*·If people had purchased 99,324 DVDs & Blu-ray's
at an average price of \$35 each.....\$3,476,340*

*·If people had rented the DVDs
at an average price of \$5 each.....\$496,620*

Reference Questions: We answered 72,105 questions.

·If people used a fee-based service for each question (\$15)\$1,081,575

Magazines: We subscribed to 190 magazines,

journals, and newspapers valued at.....\$13,012

Online Databases: We subscribed to 19 databases valued at.....\$37,967

Programs: 42,247 people attended 1,832 programs for adults and children.

·If people had paid \$5 each.....\$211,235

Internet Access: *We provided 44 public computers with high-speed Internet access. Value of access.....\$44,880
Household costs for high speed Internet access (cable or FIOS)
averages \$1,020 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.*

***In 2017 alone, the Mt. Lebanon Public Library generated almost
\$20 million worth of great public services.
(That's a value of nearly \$600 per resident!!)***

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board sponsored two fundraising activities:

- 85th Anniversary '80's Party
- 27th Annual Library Garden Tour and Garden Party

The Board also conducted the library's Annual Appeal in partnership with Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library.

Cherie Moshier, President
June Swanson, Vice President
Corey Flynn, Secretary
Hillary Lohr, Treasurer
Evan Jones
Eve Reynolds
Marcia Taylor

FRIENDS OF THE MT. LEBANON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library raised nearly \$65,000 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 (\$6,676) and *Beer Garden Bash* in August (\$5,867), 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. Nearly 750 residents are members of the Friends.

The Friends' Board

David McKibben, President
Susan Tracey, Vice President
Eileen Jacobs, Secretary
Diane Gerber, Treasurer
Harold Hall, Board Member

The Book Cellar Coordinators

David McKibben, Susan Fretterd, Susan Tracey,



GRANTS & AWARDS

- The Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library awarded volunteers Rajirtha Pulivarthy, Varsha Venugopal, and Tianyi Zhang with \$2000 scholarships; each of these volunteers provided over 100 hours of service to the library.
- The David Kenneth Held Memorial Scholarship of \$1000 was awarded to Kelly Hois.
- The Mt. Lebanon Public Library was one of 17 libraries statewide to be selected for the Harwood Institute's Public Innovators Lab, an intensive three-day training to kick off participation in the ALA's Turning Outward Initiative, which guides libraries to seek community input to make decisions impacting library services.

OUR PATRONS CONNECT



Contact Us

Send us your comments or questions, any hour, day or night. <http://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/233/Ask-a-Librarian>

Text-a-librarian

Text "start" to 412-685-4004 to get started.

Mobile Library

Search our 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

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

Twitter



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



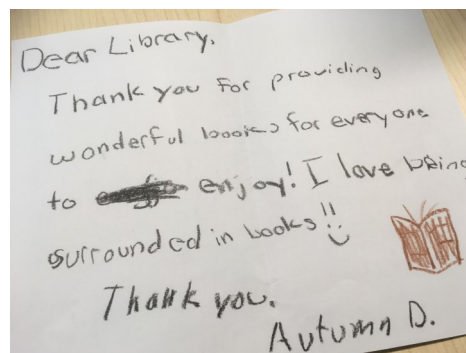
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Mt-Lebanon-Public-Library-96877572181/>

OUR PATRONS SAY

- "I grew up here in Mt. Lebanon, now live in USC but my affections are here. Thank you for the good variety of programs."
- "I love the Mt. Lebanon Library."
- "I like it a lot and don't think you should change anything."
- "...wonderful Mt. Lebanon Library, Pittsburgh." -Joyce Carol Oates
- "I have been a frequent user of our fine library for over 30 years and have benefitted from the services of many on staff."
- "We often brag about Mt. Lebanon Public Library, its many assets and the pleasure we get from this to our friends in other towns, cities, and even countries."
- "Growing up, the library was my mini sanctuary to disappear into a book."
- "The library is so important to me and my family. Four generations have passed through the summer reading program."
- "Everyone who sees the library is excited to see such a great variety of books available on loan."
- "It is a safe, clean place to play and explore; we see friends and familiar faces; great books and other media to borrow."
- "It's an educational and fun place for my daughter to learn and grow."
- "There is so much to do and so many cool programs to attend. It's a marvelous community gathering space."
- "The staff is so friendly and helpful plus the environment is super inviting!"
- "Keep up excellent library, I am lucky to have this kind of library in my area."
- "I really appreciate the summer programs available and I love the enthusiasm of the staff."

"We chose to live in Mt. Lebanon primarily because of its fine public library."



PROGRAM & SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

MORE FUN

- The amazing Global Beat series introduced families to food, music, dancing, and current political issues of countries and regions around the world, including China, Iraq, Africa, Mexico, Ireland and more.
- Pittsburgh Opera presented an in-depth look at the music and story of the creation of *The Summer King—The Josh Gibson Story*.
- Musician Tom Roberts and Illustrator Stacy Innerst shared the art of telling stories through pictures and music, discussing the award-winning picture book *The Music in George's Head: George Gershwin Creates Rhapsody in Blue*.
- Attendees of the “Garden Party Tea” enjoyed an English-style High Tea while learning about Victorian tea rituals from a presenter from Frick Pittsburgh.



MORE TO LEARN

- The Children's Library partnered with the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania to present a multi-part Citizen Science series, introducing children and families to scientific fieldwork and data collection.
- Club 24 returned for a fun summer of math activities for fifth and sixth graders.
- A partnership with the Osher Institute allowed Osher members and the general public to attend several class series over the year, learning about everything from the works of JRR Tolkien to Benjamin Franklin, from the Myths and Legends of Ireland to Obamacare, from Vietnam to the Robotic Revolution.
- Google's Small Business Forum provided networking opportunities and crucial skill-building for small business owners.

MORE ENTERTAINMENT

- Concerts in the Courtyard series welcomed Aaron LeWinter, Mary and Cal, Squirrel Hillbillies, Red Beans & Rice, and Mt. Lebanon High School String Quartet
- Madcap Puppets presented “Monkey See Monkey Do” as a fun Summer Reading family event.
- A partnership with the Silk Screen Film Festival allowed library patrons to attend the 2017 Asian American Film Festival and other fun events.
- Music teacher Margaret Hooton, and her brother Bob Barnett, once again led their fun and interactive after-Thanksgiving Family Sing-Along, which was enjoyed by over 100 people!



MORE STORIES

- Literary Legend Dr. Joyce Carol Oates presented as part of the Wertheim Lecture series (now the Mt. Lebanon Public Library Speaker Series) and attracted over 500 attendees.
- The Summer Reading Program challenged patrons of all ages to read for fun and prizes.
- Master Storyteller Tim Hartman helped families learn how to build stories in a special summer event.
- Mt. Lebanon native Bill Steigerwald discussed his latest book, *30 Days a Black Man: The Forgotten Story that Exposed the Jim Crow South*.

MORE TO CREATE

- Teenagers learned programming and game development with visits from the Carnegie Science Museum's Mobile Fab Lab, and programs like “E-Textiles Middle School Maker Camp” and “An Intro to Twitch and Game Streaming.”
- Attendees of Pittsburgh's Handmade Arcade created FrankenToys with library staff.
- Lawrenceville's greenSinner Florist conducted a terrarium building workshop as part of the spring gardening series.

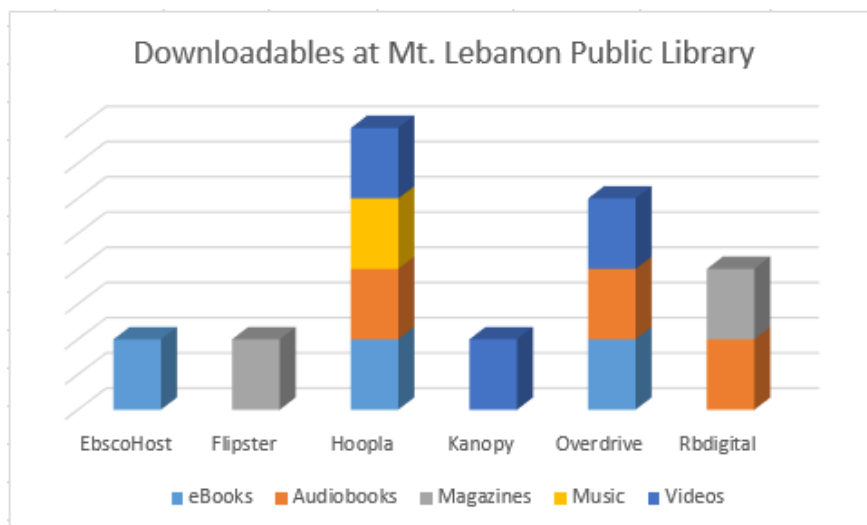
DIGITAL RESOURCES

An entire library of free downloadable materials is available to you 24/7 through our extensive digital media subscriptions! Check out these great resources at <http://mtlebanonlibrary.org/35/Digital-Media>

The Library subscribed to these online databases in 2017. Find them here and use them for free.

www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/234/Online-Databases

- America's Newspapers - Newsbank
- Brainfuse
- Career Transitions - Gale
- CultureGrams - Proquest
- Ferguson's Career Guidance - Facts on File
- Foundation Directory Online
- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Health Reference - Facts on File
- Heritage Quest - Proquest
- IndieFlix (cancelled May 2017)
- Lynda (subscribed November 2017)
- Price It Antiques - Gale
- Reference USA
- Salem History
- Science Online - Facts on File
- Testing & Education Resource Center - Gale
- Universal Class (cancelled December 2017)
- 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 760 titles available

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

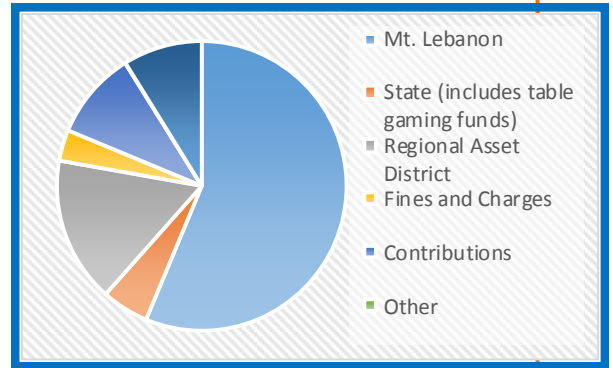
Kurzweil - adaptive reading software and computer equipment for persons with visual disabilities to use in the library

iPad Airs for use during library programs

2017 OPERATION REVENUE & SUPPORT

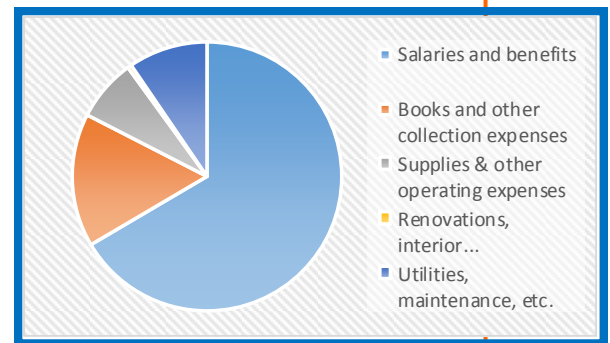
Operation Revenue & Support

Mt. Lebanon	1,304,950	56%
State (includes table gaming funds)	122,193	5%
Regional Asset District	376,569	16%
Fines and Charges	80,283	3%
Contributions	228,552	10%
Other	932	0%
Utilities, maintenance, etc	204,865	9%
Total	2,318,344	100%



Operating Expenditures

Salaries and benefits	1,433,225	67%
Books and other collection expenses	345,501	16%
Supplies & other operating expenses	160,757	7%
Renovations, interior...	10,161	0%
Utilities, maintenance, etc.	204,865	10%
Total	*2,154,509	100%



*Difference in totals due to unused revenue and restricted (donated) funds



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 2016.

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!

Thank you to our 2017 Annual Appeal Donors

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