

## CIRCULATION

Last year, a total of 106,597 items were checked out of the Library. This encompasses print materials, electronic media and downloaded files. Pelham Library users borrowed 23,111 items from other libraries via the InterLibrary Loan Program; an additional 12,468 items from the Pelham Library were loaned and checked out to patrons at one of the other 38 member libraries in the Westchester Library System and elsewhere. **Those numbers don't reveal the increased use of e-resources, with both the WLS and the Pelham Library increasing the number of e-materials available to patrons.**



## THE COLLECTION

The Library added 2,865 print books to its collection in 2015 and 3,324 other materials (primarily e-books and e-audiobooks and some audio and video products in-house). All told, it offers 66,143 items. In addition, patrons may access the WLS collection of over 3.6 million books and more than 70,000 e-books, among other materials. **The WLS libraries continue to make significant investments in e-resources.** The Library also expanded its own electronic collection, including giving patrons access to *Consumer Reports* online.

## COMPUTERS

**The Pelham Library has seven computers; patrons logged 8,057 Internet sessions, compared with 8,758 in 2014.** Another computer is dedicated to the Library catalog. While the ubiquity of Internet access in our area may have caused the number of Internet sessions to decline, that statistic is a bit misleading. Wireless usage of personal devices at the Library is way up, leaping to 10,710 sessions from 8,213 the year before. One-to-one computer help continues to be available upon request.

## HOURS AND ACCESS

In 2015, the Library was open for 2,098 hours. It is open a minimum of 40 hours per week in the summertime; otherwise, it is open 43 hours per week. **Of course, the Library is also increasingly virtual, as patrons can reserve, renew and download materials via [pelhamlibrary.org](http://pelhamlibrary.org) at any time of day.** Website visits rose to 39,379 in 2015, from 33,051 in 2014, an increase of 19 percent.

## PROGRAMS

**In 2015, the Library held a total of 319 programs, with a total attendance of almost 9,000 people of all ages.** This was a big increase from the year before, when 242 Library programs were attended by 7,176 people. What accounted for the increase? Among other factors, there were more sessions of Story Time; a second, daytime adult book club was added in September; and last fall's *Pelham Reads Alice*, produced by the Friends of the Town of Pelham Public Library, was hugely popular. In summer alone, 1,171 kids attended programs.



Stay in touch! Sign up for our email newsletter at [pelhamlibrary.org](http://pelhamlibrary.org) to find out what's happening.

## REFERENCE

The Library's reference librarians, available whenever the Library is open, handled 11,392 reference questions (including title searches) in 2015. That's compared with 11,111 the prior year. **Who says you can find an answer to anything on Google?**



## REGISTERED USERS AND VISITORS

The Library had nearly 5,900 cardholders at year-end 2015, up slightly from 2014; this represents about 48 percent of the population of the Town of Pelham, which was 12,396 as of the 2010 census. **All told, there were 95,255 visits to the Library last year, compared with 93,757 in 2014.**

# TOWN OF PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

## *Annual Report 2015*



Town of Pelham Public Library  
530 Colonial Avenue  
Pelham, NY 10803  
914-738-1234  
pelhamlibrary.org

### STAFF AT YEAR END 2015

**DIRECTOR:** Patricia Perito  
**LIBRARIANS:** Lillian Hecker, Augusta Turner  
**CLERKS:** Maureen Annunziata, Adrian Coto-Chang, Carolina Coto-Chang, Judy Hellmann, Irene Kobziar  
**PAGES:** George Cisneros, Daniel Gritz, Chelsea Ramsingh  
**BOOKKEEPER:** Debra Allen  
(All together the Library had 9.15 Full-Time Equivalents)

### TRUSTEES AT START OF 2016

**PRESIDENT:** Margaret Young  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Stevenson Swanson  
**SECRETARY:** Laura Woods  
Sandy Angevine  
Catherine Campbell  
Jennifer DeLeonardo  
Karen Fellner (joined in May)  
Samantha Monroe Hinton  
Terrence Mullan  
Carl Pannuti  
Everett Potter

### TOWN LIAISON

Dan McLaughlin

### OPERATING EXPENSES

A municipal public library, the Library is funded primarily by taxes collected by the Town of Pelham. The allocation from the Town in 2015 of \$545,561 accounted for approximately 83 percent of its operating budget. The Friends of the Library funded approximately 11 percent, and the balance came from State funding, fines, fees and donations. The Town also provides support for capital improvements and various exterior maintenance tasks. **Gifts, small and large, permit the Library to expand its collections, services and programs beyond the operating budget.**

### VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER SUPPORT

As with any attempt at summarizing a resource like the Library, some events cannot be quantified. Here are other important highlights of 2015:

- ❖ **The addition of two charging stations**, provided by a gift from the Junior League of Pelham, whose Library Partners Program also coordinates Story Time during the school year.
- ❖ **The launch of the Museum Pass program**, giving Pelham cardholders free, or greatly discounted, access to 13 area museums.
- ❖ **The expansion of the Library's representation in the Battle of the Books competition** to two teams, serving children in grades 5 - 10.
- ❖ **The new planting at the Library entrance in memory of Alexandra DeSantis**, made possible by the DeSantis family, Carleen Murdock and T&F Landscaping.
- ❖ **The financial donations from the Eileen Lam bequest and the Mayer Estate**, making extra Library purchases and programs possible including the new **daytime, 2nd-Friday Book Club**, which gives more Library patrons an opportunity to participate in a Book Club.
- ❖ **The ongoing support of the Friends of the Library**, which, in addition to funding part of the Library's operating budget, funds many programs, including K-Day and Pelham Reads.
- ❖ **The continuing support of the New York State Library Construction Grant program**, which has enabled improvements to the building, including new stair treads, and of the Westchester Library System, which provided a mini-grant to provide support to the popular creative aging program "SOLOFire" and brought the WEBS Career Development Series, "Managing Your Career in Changing Times," to the Library in 2014, and, of course,
- ❖ **The Town of Pelham.**