

CIRCULATION

Last year, a total of 104,122 items were checked out of the Library. This encompasses print materials, electronic media and downloaded files. Pelham Library users borrowed 19,544 items from other libraries via the InterLibrary Loan Program; an additional 12,277 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. **The total circulation of e-books was 4,893, a 20 percent increase over 2015, when Library patrons borrowed 4,082 electronic materials.**



THE COLLECTION

The Library ended the year with a total of 33,167 print materials in circulation. It added 2,712 print books to its collection in 2016, down slightly from 2,865 in 2015. Purchase of electronic materials continues as usage increases, and now the collection totals 69,168 items, as compared with 66,143 in 2015. That addition was also partly due to a change in the definition of the category. In addition, patrons may access the WLS collection, which comprises approximately 3.6 million materials.

Photo credit for above: Deborah J. Karson

COMPUTERS

The Pelham Library has seven computers. Patrons logged 8,330 Internet sessions, compared with 8,057 in 2015. (Another computer is dedicated to the Library catalog.) The ubiquity of Internet access in our area may have caused the number of Internet sessions to decline. However, that statistic is a bit misleading. Wireless usage of personal devices at the Library is way up, leaping to 11,563 sessions from 10,710 the year before. One-to-one computer help continues to be available upon request.

HOURS AND ACCESS

In 2016, the Library was open for 2,139 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 at any time of day.** Website visits were 35,004 in 2016.

PROGRAMS

In 2016, the Library held a total of 306 programs, with a total attendance of almost 8,300 people of all ages; over 7,500 of that number were children. A total of 133 school-aged children participated in the 2016 Summer Reading Program, up from 108 the year before. Thirty-three Library patrons received one-to-one instruction; much of this came through the WEBS career development seminar last winter and spring where individual participants received counseling.



Stay in touch! Sign up for our email newsletter at pelhamlibrary.org to find out what's happening.

REFERENCE

The Library's reference librarians, available whenever the Library is open, handled 10,193 reference questions in 2016, down from 11,392 in 2015. **While that number has been trending downward lately, it's still proof that you can't find an answer to everything on Google, and if you did – could you trust it?**



REGISTERED USERS AND VISITORS

The Library had nearly 5,766 cardholders at year-end 2016, issuing just over 600 cards to new or continuing users; the number of cardholders represents about 47 percent of the population of the Town of Pelham, which was 12,396 as of the 2010 census. The newsletter database – which is also used occasionally by the Friends – has almost 2,900 subscribers. **There were approximately 85,000 visits to the Library in 2016.**

STAFF AT YEAR END 2016

DIRECTOR: Patricia Perito

LIBRARIANS: Lillian Hecker, Augusta Turner

SUPPORT SERVICES SUPERVISOR: Irene Kobziar

CLERKS: Maureen Annunziata, Adrian Coto-Chang, Carolina Coto-Chang, Judy Hellmann, Adam Marciano, Carl Wadley

PAGES: Jilsana Bakry, George Cisneros, Chelsea Ramsingh

BOOKKEEPER: Debra Allen

(All together the Library had 9.15 Full-Time Equivalents)

TRUSTEES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016

Sandy Angevine

Margaret Breuninger

Catherine Campbell

Jennifer DeLeonardo, *Secretary*

Laura Woods DiLorenzo

Karen Fellner

Samantha Monroe Hinton

Terrence Mullan, *Vice President*

Carl Pannuti

Everett Potter

Margaret Young, *President*

TOWN OF PELHAM LIAISON

Dan McLaughlin, *Deputy Supervisor*

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 2016 of \$584,710 accounted for approximately 87 percent of its operating budget but 81 percent of total disbursements. The Library received \$3,236 in Local Library Services Aid and \$1,000 in other grants. It also received \$87,714 in gifts and endowments, which includes contributions from the Friends of the Town of Pelham Public Library, which funds about ten percent of the budget.

VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER SUPPORT

As with any attempt at summarizing the Library, it's hard to illustrate using only numbers. Here are other highlights of 2016:

- ❖ **A local community group volunteered to program Chinese-English Story Time.** It alternated every other Saturday, with Spanish-English Story Time.
- ❖ **The Library expanded its outreach to Pelham schools.** Children's Services Librarian Lillian Hecker managed book clubs for 5th grade girls at Hutchinson and Colonial Schools and one for 5th grade boys at Colonial.
- ❖ **The Library continued to support two teams of children for the annual Battle of the Books,** and both teams competed successfully at this annual WLS event.
- ❖ **The Library upgraded its wireless capabilities,** in partnership with the WLS, including increasing speed and adding an access point.
- ❖ **The WLS also launched online bill pay,** allowing patrons to pay overdue fees online.
- ❖ **The donations from the Eileen Lam bequest and the Mayer Estate** continued to make extra purchases and programs possible.
- ❖ **The Friends of the Town of Pelham Public Library** continued to fund many programs, from chess to author talks, in addition to being the second biggest contributor to the operating budget.
- ❖ **Through a \$24,384 grant from the New York State Library Construction Grant program,** the Library completed projects to the building exterior and grounds, including carpentry, new lighting and a new entrance sign. The town also provides support for capital improvements and various exterior maintenance tasks.
- ❖ **We thank the Board and the staff of the Town of Pelham for their steady support.**

TOWN OF PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual Report 2016



Town of Pelham Public Library
530 Colonial Avenue
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pelhamlibrary.org