

President's Corner



As stewards of the library, the last decade has kept us busy with a great deal of growth and change. We took care to make improvements to our building and grounds that met the needs and demands of our growing community by expanding the services and resources we offered both inside and outside the building.

In 2012, we transformed the space occupied by the Patterson Town Court into a beautiful Family Center, study room, and offices. We reconfigured our community room to include a café and redesigned the main library to add more public computers, a larger, more efficient circulation desk, and comfortable sitting areas. Outside, we began a 3-year plan to landscape our property and created the Patterson Library Park. We partnered with the United Way of Westchester and Putnam and received grant funding to build a teaching garden, gazebo, shed, ADA compliant patio, and walkways so everyone could have access to our park. We added picnic tables and benches, installed a fence to keep our little ones safe, and added lighting to create a beautiful and tranquil setting for everyone to enjoy.

We held annual book sales to help fund special projects like our fax and scanner station and generator. We hooked up to the town's sewer and converted our heating system to natural gas. We started lending tools for your garden and home. We offered museum passes to make it affordable for families to enjoy the cultural experiences that NYC and the area offer. Adults and children attended thousands of programs and benefited from our partnerships with local businesses and organizations. Whether it was pumpkins from Petersen's Greenhouses, technology funding from Patterson Rotary and PCSB, or support from the Town of Patterson and Patterson Fire Department, plus all the rest, we are proud of the strong community ties we have forged and the work we have done together to make Patterson and the library all it can be.

But as we know, it's all about the people. In the last ten years, we've watched many of our storytime children graduate high school and go on to college. We've celebrated the arrival of new family additions, retirements, and everything in-between. We've said goodbye to dear friends and made new ones. We welcomed new staff, trustees, and volunteers, and transitioned through significant changes. Our wonderful Reference Librarian Patricia DiBerardino retired after 30 years of service, and our longtime Director Patti Harr celebrated 25 incredible years, followed by her well-deserved retirement in 2018. We hired our outstanding current Director, Stephanie Harrison, to take the helm and lead us into what we know will be an exciting future.

It's been a wonderful ten years for all of us here, creating a rich library for our community because for us, you are at the heart of all we do, and we know that none of this could be possible without your continued support. We strive to be fiscally responsible in every decision we make so that our community can benefit from the wonderful resources a thriving library has to offer. As for me, the last decade has been exciting and rewarding. It brought many dreams and ideas to fruition and laid the foundation for what is yet to come. It has been my privilege to serve you, and I look forward to the exciting changes that lie ahead.

Best regards,

Donald Ferraro  
President, Patterson Library Board of Trustees

Before & After



Landscaping



Garden & Park



Main Library



Family Center



1167 Route 311 PO Box 418 Patterson, NY

# 2020 Annual Report

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# 2010-2020 A Look Back

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## Director's Box 2020

Over the years, the Patterson Library staff did many unforgettable things for our patrons—from planting gardens and installing a gazebo to providing information for and connection between people of all ages. However, little did any of us know that 2020 would be the most memorable year for all of us!

There was no handbook on how to serve library patrons during a pandemic, and so when Covid-19 first appeared, the entire staff and board of the Patterson Library worked nonstop to address the evolving needs of our patrons. We have always offered a digital library experience, but now we truly embraced our role as an organization that never sleeps. The advantage of electronic resources is that we could serve our patrons in their homes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with digital ebooks and audiobooks, online databases, Zoom programming, and virtual reference and chat services.

However, as much as our patrons loved and used these virtual and digital services, we knew they missed visiting our building, interacting with our staff, and accessing our computers and wifi (and we missed them too!). We reintroduced in-person services as soon as we could safely do so, starting with curbside pickup of reading, viewing, listening, and programming materials. We then welcomed our patrons back inside our building to use our computers, wifi, and study spaces and receive assistance from our friendly and helpful staff members.

So what is my vision for library services for 2021 and beyond? It is taking the best of both the digital and in-person library experiences you will see displayed in the pages of this Annual Report and using them as a base for even better library experiences going forward. We are proud of our community and how we all pulled together to get through such trying circumstances and are grateful for the opportunity to serve all of you through the best or worst of times.

Thanks,

*Stephanie Harrison*



### Did You Know?

A home valued at \$333,100 dollars in Patterson pays almost \$13,000 in taxes. Only \$235 (1.83%) of that goes to the library!

Data source: <https://www.putnamcountyny.com/real-property/>

### Grants & Community Partners

We received almost \$7,000 in grants and donations in 2020! Thank you to Putnam Arts Council, PCSB Foundation, Mid-Hudson Library System, and our individual donors for your generous support. Special thanks to Petersen's Greenhouses, Patterson Historical Society, Patterson Town Hall & Rec., Patterson Rotary, Blue Olive, Camp Herrlich, Tots-n-Us, Sauro's, Froggy's Deli, Papa John's, and Inner Balance Studio.

### We're Your Remote Office, Classroom, and Go-to Place for So Much More

Free Wi-Fi 24/7  
Free Programs  
Free Scanner and Fax  
Public Computers  
Public Laptops  
Ancestry.com  
Home Tools  
Garden Tools  
Meeting Space

e-Books  
Museum Passes  
Outdoor Park & Gazebo  
Newspapers  
Online Magazines  
Job Search, Resume Help  
Whole Building Generator  
Tech Help  
Latest Releases-Books/DVDs

Our audited financial statements and 990s are available on our website at: <https://pattersonlibrary.org/about-us/budget/>

**2010 - 2020**  
*Check it Out*

**6,782** people borrowed  
museum passes and saved a  
total of **\$100,290!**

**34,364** adults  
attended programs



There were **1,881**  
adult programs

**184,542**

books for children  
were borrowed!



**609,816**

visitors came through  
our doors!



**718,916**

total number of  
items borrowed!



Public computers were  
used **235,679** times!

There were **267,924**  
visits to our website!

**44,485** kids attended  
**3,164** programs



**51,431**

ebooks, e-magazines and  
audiobooks were  
downloaded!



**6,072** teens attended  
**444** programs

