The Oliver Wolcott Library is the principal public library for the Town of Litchfield. Our wonderful town provides nearly 50% of our funding, but the remaining 50% must be raised through private donations and grants. Through your tax dollars and your private donations, you have made all that we have accomplished this year possible. And, we accomplished so much! Here are a few highlights, made possible through your generosity and support:

- Monday Scholars: a new weekly class that combines the best of online learning with the best of classroom discussion
- Sunday Series: a new monthly scholar-led book discussion series
- Screen-free Children's Room: in response to parents and caregivers - we heard you and agree it’s made a big difference
- Book-a-Librarian: personalized technology instruction
- New Beech Tree: a new Copper Beech planted in the spring
- An environment that welcomes all members of our community

Through the pages of the Report to Our Community, you will see a vibrant, special library full of activity and meeting the needs of all. Thank you for loving your library and for helping us to remain at the heart of the community.

John F. Boyd  
President, Board of Trustees

Ann Marie White  
Library Director
**Every Day:**
- 235 patrons visited the library
- 445 items were borrowed at the library
- 274 printed books were borrowed at the library
- 304 patrons accessed us through our web resources
- 21 reference questions were answered by our staff

**Every Month:**
- 1,041 children and 423 adults attended a program event
- 185 items were borrowed from our Bantam branch, the OWL Box
- 24 Book-a-Librarian sessions were provided

**Library Circulation:**
- We circulated 150,585 total items or an average of 445 items per day open
- New nonfiction book circulation increased by 25%
- New fiction book circulation increased by 14%
- OWL is in the top 5% of all public libraries in Connecticut based on total circulation per capita served
DELIVERING ON OUR CORE VALUES...

Adult Program Events:
Author talks, book discussions, live musical and theatrical performances, lectures, workshops, staff book talk events, art openings: each month the library provides a wide-range of culturally-enriching and informative adult program events. An average of 423 adults attended a program each month, a 13% increase from last year.

Author Talks:
Our monthly author talks let patrons listen and meet outstanding authors. This year, authors included The Pollan Family including actress Tracy Pollan, former Executive Vice President and Chairman of Merrill Lynch International Win Smith, former network news producer Marcia DeSanctis, James Beard nominated cookbook authors Bruce Weinstein and Mark Scarbrough, local historian Peter Vermilyea, and more.

Reader’s Advisory & Book Club Services
We keep the community discussing books by offering staff book talk events, book discussions, blog posts on what we’re reading and watching, services to area book clubs, and book clubs at the library, including our popular after-school and summer reading book clubs for grade school children.
**Monday Scholars:**
This year, we launched our Monday Scholars which combines the best of online learning with the best of classroom discussion using MOOC (massive open online courses). Topics this year included: Social Psychology, Introduction to Key Constitutional Concepts and Supreme Court Cases, The Magna Carta and Its Legacy, and Understanding the Brain: The Neurobiology of Everyday Life.

**Sunday Series:**
This year, we introduced our Sunday Series offering monthly book discussions led by a scholar or author. Topics included: four-part series on novels about WWI led by Senior Associate Dean of Yale College Mark Schenker, poetry discussions led by local poet Jim Kelleher, three-part series on Southern Writers led by author Todd Johnson, and a two-part series on Philip Roth led by professor and past Roth Society President Aimee Pozorski.

**Cookbook Club:**
This year, we introduced the OWL Cookbook Club. For each session, we select a food theme and then highlight four cookbooks around that theme. The Cookbook Club meets bi-monthly to discuss what recipes worked and didn’t work, and to share what we all made from our cookbooks. Themes included: tailgating food, bread, cupcakes, and pies.
DELIVERING ON OUR CORE VALUES...

CHILDREN’S PROGRAM EVENTS:
After-school book clubs, Lego Club, ½ Day Clubs, storytimes, Family Day, holiday events, and outreach to area preschools: throughout the year, the library provides a wide-range of engaging and informative children’s program events. An average of 1,041 children attended a program each month, an 11% increase from last year.

INTRODUCING ERIC CARLE BAGS:
Families of preschoolers were gifted a special Eric Carle bag after attending a storytime session here at OWL or at our outreach programs. The bag is filled with information on the importance of reading with your child, and the impact it has on a child’s development.

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION:
We provide storytime sessions that incorporate kindergarten readiness for infants to five years old through our weekly programs at the library and our monthly outreach to area preschools.
Delivering on our core values...

After School Programs:
Our literary and science-based after-school programs engage children’s minds and creativity without the burden of tests and homework. This year, we read *A Bear Called Paddington* during our Books & S'mores Club, continued our popular Lego Club, and created a skit based on Mo Willems’ *We Are in a Play*.

Summer Reading:
Our summer reading program is crucial to school age children to prevent the “summer slide.” The program includes a reading challenge game and several weekly events to keep children reading, socializing, and engaged throughout the summer months. This year, children participating in the reading challenge increased their reading by 38% from last year!

Screen-Free Children’s Room:
You spoke and we listened. This year, the Children’s Room went screen-free. We removed all of the game computers in the children’s room so that when visiting the library, the focus is on books and being together. We also added more tactile, independent learning activities by introducing a weekly scavenger hunt and a special felt table.
Delivering on our core values...

**Book-a-Librarian:**
Book-a-Librarian ensures that everyone in our community is computer literate and technologically savvy with free, one-on-one instruction with our Adult Services Librarian. This year, we provided 290 sessions, or an average of 24 sessions each month, an increase of 34% from last year.

**Outreach to Seniors:**
Beginning in January 2014, we initiated monthly outreach to area senior living centers and bi-weekly visits to the senior lunch service, reaching more than 80 seniors each month that would otherwise be unable to visit the library. We expanded our outreach by also offering free senior bags to anyone 65 years and older. The bags contain valuable information about local senior services.

**OWL Box:**
The OWL Box is a branch of the library located inside the Bantam Market in Bantam. It is a vending machine filled with books, DVDs and audio books. The year, 2,215 items circulated from the OWL Box, or an average of 185 items each month.
Delivering on our core values...

Keeping you informed:
To keep you informed, the library creates a bi-monthly printed newsletter, a weekly e-newsletter, periodic “Meet the Author” e-mail alerts, weekly e-updates on our newest additions to the collection through Wowbrary, a separate children’s program e-list for parents, our website, and other publicity at the library and in the media.

Website & Web Resources:
Our website includes current information and registration for our events, access to My Account, staff picks, book guides, original podcast recordings, information about the library, access to resources like Consumer Reports and Morningstar online, and much more.

Quiet Space:
The Emslie Room offers patrons a quiet space to read, study or work. Free wifi access compliments this quiet space.

Friendly, Personalized Service:
Our whole library team is dedicated to offering friendly, personalized service.
The following section lists donors who contributed to the annual fund, annual Festival of Trees, grants, sponsorships and special projects. All contributions were received between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

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Ian C. Devine & Family
Arthur H. Diedrick
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Furniss, Jr.
Nancy Goldring & Howard Kerpelman
Richard & Anna Heys
Thomas & Judith Hogan
Lynn & Dallett Hoopes
Susan Jordan & Jay Younling
Matthew Karpas & Emily Dalton
David Kleeman & Palmer Marrin
Patricia Lee
Litchfield Garden Club
Audra MacLaren
Gregory & Catherine Oneglia
Susan & Tony Pasquariello
Jan & Bob Petricone
Susan V. W. Pollock
Richard & Lee Reese
Charlie & Molly Roraback
Philip G. Samponaro
Joyce S. Schwartz
Mary Ellen Spiegel & Mitchell Fishman
John H. Staub II
The Westleigh Association
Ann Marie & Harry White
The Women’s Forum of Litchfield

In memory of Joe Devine
Richard & Lee Reese

In memory of Gordon Hayward
Mrs. Joan F. Hayward

In memory of Fred Kenneth Johnson
Emily Dalton & Matthew Karpas

In memory of Ellen Rennie Keeney
Dwight E. Keeney

In memory of Irma F. Lesser
Judith G. Cramer & Sons
Lynn & Dallett Hoopes
Bette & Jerry Geci
The Pasquariello Family

In memory of Bernice R. & Wilbur J. Morse
Christina M. Alexander

In memory of Jan Pyk
The Westleigh Association

In memory of Margaret Reventlow
Litchfield Garden Club

In memory of Mary Lou Reid Robinson
Litchfield Garden Club

In memory of Tish Samponaro
Anonymous

In memory of L.J. Skeie
Christina Morse Alexander & Chris Korn

In memory of June Thomas
Mrs. Joan Tremp Waldo

In memory of Joseph & Florence Versari
Anthony & Joyce Galgano

In memory of George S. Vlasto
Phyllis J. Allen
Joesph J. Famularo Foundation
Antina K. Marino
Marie Watkins
Barbara & Dave Wyzykowski

In honor of Janet & John Baker
Jan & Bob Petricone

In honor of Joyce Briggs
Jan & Bob Petricone

In honor of Emily Dalton & Matthew Karpas
Mrs. Suzanne T. Karpas
Nancy Rogers & Michael Delay

In honor of Susan Pasquariello
Susan & Jedd Levine

In honor of Dr. Joseph Privitera
Eileen Gammetto

In honor of Hitchy Rahilly
Deborah C. Foord

In honor of Tom & Deborah Schaaf
Jim & Dona Casey

In honor of Mary Ellen Spiegel
Jane Hinkel
Lee Reese
Joyce S. Schwartz

In honor of Marie Wallace
Jan & Bob Petricone

Our Core Values

- We creatively communicate and attentively listen to ensure that our services are known and relevant to the needs of the community.
- We are innovative, dynamic risk-takers who embrace new technologies and ideas.
- We select, initiate and promote materials, programs and services that enlighten, entertain, and inform.
- We are a welcoming, friendly place for all members of the community.
- We continuously improve our efficiency and infrastructure by managing our funds and resources wisely and attracting public and private funding.
OWL’s Board & Staff

2014-2015
Board of Trustees

John F. Boyd
President
Emily Dalton
Vice-President
Patrick Boland
Treasurer
Lynne Sherman
Secretary

Egils Bogdanovics
Stuart Chapman
Kyra Hartnett
James Huffstetler
Todd Johnson
Maura Malo
Philip Miller
James Stedronsky

Library Staff

Ann Marie White, MLS
Director
Audra MacLaren, MLS
Adult Services Librarian
Lisa Shaia, MLS
Children’s Librarian
Heather Wilder
Technology Coordinator
Caitlin Costa, MLS
Librarian
Jacqueline Zdanis
Library Assistant

Part-time Staff:
Cameron Bove
Book Club Liaison
Elizabeth DeVos
Development Director
Deborah Janssens
Bookkeeper
Caroline King
Library Asst. & Art Liaison
Tricia Messenger
Library Assistant
Patricia Moore, MLS
Librarian
July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

**Financial Review**

**Source of Funds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town of Litchfield</td>
<td>$334,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Fundraising</td>
<td>264,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>110,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>20,301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Restricted Funds</td>
<td>47,458</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** $776,108

**Use of Funds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary, Benefits &amp; Taxes</td>
<td>$485,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books, Media &amp; Periodicals</td>
<td>89,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology &amp; Programs</td>
<td>53,827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance &amp; Capital</td>
<td>74,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities &amp; Operating</td>
<td>72,387</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** $776,108

**Revenue**

- Private Funding 54%
- Town of Litchfield 43%
- Fees 3%

**Expenses**

- Salaries 52%
- Books, Media & Periodicals 11%
- Technology & Programs 7%
- Maintenance & Capital 10%
- Utilities & Operating 9%
- Payroll Taxes 4%
- Benefits 7%

Financial information is subject to audit.
Grant funds are reported as expended in the year that they are received.

**Energy Efficiency**

- We reduced our electrical energy usage by 10% compared to 2014.
- By implementing a number of energy efficiency initiatives over the last decade, we have reduced our electrical energy usage by 10% compared to last year, 20% compared to five years ago, and 35% compared to ten years ago.