

## Director's Report to the Board 1992

1992 marked the end of Ruth Painter's 27 years of dedicated service to the Altamont Free Library and to the village of Altamont. Upon her retirement in July, Helen King was hired as new director. King is a graduate of the University at Albany School of Information Science and Policy and holds professional librarian certification from the New York Board of Regents.

Attendance in the library topped 17,000 for the second straight year with a recorded attendance of 17,323. Total circulation of library materials was 19,146 items. Extensive use was made of the public photocopier and there were recorded 402 instances of in library use of materials for reference and other purposes. The collection size remained above 13,000 items, with 428 books, cassettes, and video tapes added to the permanent collection. The leased collection had 185 titles added. The library received 2641 books, 241 videos, and 106 audio cassettes from the UHLS pool collection to augment its holdings. The permanent collection, not including pool and leased materials, is 13,405 books, 109 videos and 60 audio cassettes and multi-media kits. The library also received 267 items on inter-library loan in response to specific requests, 12 videos, 3 audio cassettes and the rest books. The staff received 187 reference questions in 1992.

The year's accomplishments include re-instituting the vertical file of pamphlet material as an additional reference source and separating the young adult books from the children's in both paperbound and hard cover. The library's programs for the public were recognized as excellent by the Arts Decentralization committee for New York. The summer reading program "New York is Reading Country" had an average weekly attendance of 21 children. Pre-school story time continued with Mark Wilson and Nancy McNiven as volunteer readers. Library director Helen King has also conducted a bi-weekly story session for visiting children from the Altamont Pre-school.