Honorable Selectmen:

On June 11, 2016, the Blackstone Library entered its twelfth year in its present location at 86 Main Street. The library ended 2016 with the continued dedication to be an integral part of the community where people of all ages can meet in a friendly, accessible, and comfortable environment.

The Blackstone Public Library is fully compliant in the requirements for State Aid, and did not need to apply for a waiver in order to remain certified by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). Certified libraries are eligible to receive State Aid grant funds from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, and are also eligible to apply for other state grants, such as the Library Services & Technology Act grant.

As a member of The Massachusetts Library System (MLS), the library benefits from sharing among member libraries of all types. In addition, the Blackstone Library supports an annual membership to Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing, Inc. (CW MARS). This online library consortium allows patrons access to thousands of material from libraries throughout Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Cheever, Library Director

In FY17, the library’s warrant articles for new computers, a new copier, and print management software were approved. Phase 1 of the computer replacement plan is in place with the installation of 10 new Dell Optiplex Windows 10 Professional computers for patron use, and 5 of the same for staff use. It has increased efficiency at the circulation desk as well as given the patrons a more reliable computer experience.

The print management system has made patron printing more streamlined and efficient. Patrons release their print job at a computer kiosk, enter their payment into the coin box, and release their print job to the copier. This has saved on staff time and decreased ink and paper waste.
Thank you to the Friends of the Blackstone Public Library for your ongoing support and fundraising efforts.

**General**
The library is open 1,820 hours per year. (35 hours per week)
There are 6,400 registered borrowers to date.

**Visitors**
Approximately 44,836 people visited the library in 2016.

**Interlibrary loan in a twelve month period**
Calendar Year 2016
ILLs received = 8,080
ILLs sent = 11,913

**Circulations in a twelve month period**
Calendar Year 2016
66,085
This includes all circulations and renewals from the library regardless of material ownership.

**Meeting Room Usage in 2016**
Large meeting room 156
Quiet Study #1 221
Quiet Study #2 200
Historical Room 57
Total 634

**Ongoing activities for adults:**
Library Book Group, Knitting Group, and the Coloring Group

**Ongoing activities for children:**
Lego Club, Toddler Story-time, Story-time & Craft, Wag & Read with a Therapy Dog.

Please call the library for more information at (508) 883-1931 or check the library’s webpage at http://blackstonepubliclibrary.org

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**Staff Members:**

**Director**
Lisa Cheever

**Assistant Director & Children’s Librarian**
Tressy Collier

**Head of Circulation & Technical Services**
Donna Ansell

**Library Aides**
Denise Binette
Dianne Buehler
Robin Dias
Donna Foster
Ellen Goudreau
Olivia Herbert
Amanda Landry
Cheryl Marino-Page
Amy Mezzadri

**Substitute Library Aides:**
Karen Miller
Ana Mendes

**Custodian**
Roger Marvelle

**Congratulations to library aide Sheila Robeau for her retirement in November 2016. She will be missed.**
A summer reading program was held with performers and activities. Seventy-nine children completed the 2016 summer reading program. Several popular children’s programs were *Touch the Trucks, Barn Babies, Ice Cream Making, Alex the Jester, One Man Circus in a Suitcase, Banana Bread in a Mug, Intro to Line Dancing, Yoga for Kids,* and *This A-Way Mezudio.*

The library held its second annual Young Adult Summer Reading program. Twenty-one young adults completed the summer reading program and participated in fun, educational, and cultural events. Some popular events were *Vision Rocks, Chocolate Party, Water Olympics, Mason Jar Glow Lamps,* & *Mind Bending.*

The library offered its first Adult Summer reading program. In 2016 eleven adults completed this program. Three adult programs were offered: *Decoupage Tiles, Chocolate Party,* and *Mind Bending.*

Grant funds are used to provide programming, materials, and staffing not covered by the operating budget.

<table>
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<th>Fund</th>
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ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Access the library 24 hours a day without ever leaving home by just clicking on the library’s webpage. All you need is your library card!

- A to Z World Culture
- A to Z World Travel
- A to Z the USA-State information
- A to Z Maps Online-State information
- ArtistWorks-learn to play an instrument
- Atomic Training-software training
- Boston Library eCard
- Chilton Library-automobile
- ComicsPlus
- Consumer Health Complete-for your health care needs
- E-books, E-audio books, & eVideo
- Eventkeeper online calendar
- InstantFlix-free movie streaming
- Legal Forms Library
- MA Commonwealth eBooks
- MA Statewide databases
- Miss Humblebee’s Academy-preschool
- OneClickdigital-eAudio & eBooks
- Price It!-Antiques
- Testing & Education Reference Center-high school, college prep, career tools, & graduate tools
- Tix Keeper: Museum Passes
- Universal Class-free online classes in just about anything

PROGRAMMING

The library continues to offer quality programming for children, teens, and adults. In 2016, the children’s librarian held 256 children’s programs with 1,984 in attendance. Some programs were the Nightmares in the Library Halloween Party, Father Goose’s Tales Puppet Show, Slime Making, & Rainforest Live Animal Program. The library offered 7 Young Adult programs with 68 in attendance. The library offered 43 programs for adults with 628 in attendance. Programs included: Farewell to Downton Tea, Poetry Reception, Ribbons & Greens, Wreath Making Workshop, North Sea Gas, All the Presidents’ Women, Clean Eating, and Volunteer Appreciation Night. There were also concerts, writing workshops, tech workshops, and author visits.

These programs were possible due to grants/donations from:

- UniBank
- Dean Bank
- The Friends of the Blackstone Public Library
- Library’s gift account
- Law office of Daniel T. Doyle
- Blackstone Cultural Council
- Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners