



ANNUAL REPORT FY2020

Newbury Town Library, 0 Lunt Street, Byfield, MA 01922
www.newburylibrary.org

OUR COMMUNITY

... MAKING CONNECTIONS

Founded in 1926, the Newbury Town Library maintains a schedule of 36 open hours/week, 32 hours/week in July and August. The NTL provides services to more than 7,000 residents and town employees in Newbury, Byfield, and Plum Island, as well as many neighboring communities. A member of the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLIC) since 1987, the NTL has access to cutting edge technology as well as important staff trainings. The Library is the cultural, educational, and social hub of Newbury; a place to learn, share, create, converse, play, study, read, relax and explore.

OUR MISSION: The mission of the Newbury Town Library is to provide free and open access to materials, services, and new technologies supporting life-long learning, as well as to encourage and enable the pursuit of knowledge and the satisfaction of curiosity in our community.

****LIBRARY CLOSURE IN MARCH 2020 DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC****

FY20 — AT A GLANCE

(July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020)

SERVICES:

70% Percentage of Newbury residents with a library card
 24,795 NTL visitors last year (35k in FY19, 29k in FY18)
 655 Volunteer hours worked by 20 volunteers
 18,192 Public WIFI sessions
 117 Families received discounted admission to museums and attractions with our Discount Pass Program

Other services include: scanning, computers, faxing, printing, making copies, and providing tax forms and information

COLLECTIONS:

36,719 Items circulated
 8,394 Digital circulation (Includes eBooks and eAudiobooks.
 Does not include streaming video content, online courses, etc.)

IN FY20, the library collection included 110,185 items, including 51,310 print materials and 43,142 digital holdings.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

507 Mailchimp eNewsletter subscribers
 718 Facebook followers
 405 Twitter followers
 205 Instagram followers

COMMUNITY USAGE OF ROOMS:

293 Library room bookings by community groups

PROGRAMS:

298 Youth programs
 5,741 Attendees of youth programs
 144 Adult programs
 1,164 Attendees of adult programs

Free access to online language learning, self-improvement courses, assistance for job seekers, newspapers, journal articles, art lessons, and more, used by hundreds of patrons each month.

2 | NEW IN FY20



WAYS WE'VE REACHED OUT TO EXTEND OUR SERVICES/MAKING CONNECTIONS

- Virtual Programs for adults and children
- Curbside Pickup
- Stay-At-Home Library
- Emergency/COVID-19 webpage of information and resources
- Online library cards
- Increased communications like weekly newsletters
- Collaborated with COA to provide outreach to seniors
- Home Delivery
- Community Room - for the community and by the community
- New Trustees
- Kanopy
- Universale Class
- Mass RMV Practice Tests

CHALLENGES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN FY20

FY 20 was a fiscal year that had its challenges and the Library hung tough along with the rest of the Newbury community. The Library supported the community and the community supported the library as we all adapted to the new normal.

Though our ability to connect face to face with the community shifted in March of 2020 when the state wide state of emergency began, our ability to connect in other ways remained steady and even improved.

AFFILIATIONS

Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC)

The state agency that certifies libraries and ensures state standards for library services are met. Public libraries are required to meet certain spending levels each year in order to receive state aid and maintain certification.

Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLC)

The MVLC is our library network. Our dues to the network funds the shared library patron and item database, a staff and public computer network, part of our WiFi network and access to electronic resources including eBooks.

Massachusetts Library System (MLS)

The library is a member of MLS, which provides the following services: delivery of library items between Massachusetts libraries, access to online magazines, newspapers and journals; access to eBooks through the Commonwealth Collections; and continuing education for library staff.

me: isolation hasn't gotten to me too much
also me:



Before we closed our physical doors...

- The Friends of the Library threw their most successful Harvest Festival fundraiser ever. Selectmen Mike Doyle and Financial Committee Chair Marshall Jespersen judged the Literary Pumpkin Contest at the festival and prizes were given out to the winners.
- The Library program Old Town, Byfield and Plum Island: The Town I Knew brought folks from all parts of Newbury together on two Saturdays to share stories and memories of growing up in the town.
- A Teddy Bear sleepover took place in the Childrens Room and those bears got into a whole bunch of mischief at the library
- Bradley the Donkey escaped from the neighboring farm and the story of his escape went viral. Bradley returned after the pandemic hit and participated in a short outdoor video with Jane Wolff reading him the Wonky Donky.

After we closed, we pivoted to offer high level service to our patrons virtually, and then once COVID-19 rules allowed, we added Curbside Pickup of materials. Our regular programs such as Book Group, Genealogy Group, and StoryTime switched to a virtual platform.

In addition library patrons played virtual trivia with The Trivia Brothers and learned to cook online with Liz Barbour of The Creative Feast. Children picked up Take n' Make craft kits to do at home or virtually together on Zoom. We had conversations with patrons over the phone that we used to have at the front desk or in the stacks. We missed our library patrons and they missed us.

At the beginning of Fiscal 2020, none of us could have foreseen what the rest of the year was going to bring. It was a year of enormous challenges. Hand in hand with those challenges, it was also a year of enormous opportunity to serve our public. By the end of Fiscal 2020, there was sunlight and fresh air and yoga on the library lawn.

Submitted by

Jean Ackerly, Library Director

Erin Ouimet, Assistant Director

and the Trustees of the Newbury Town Library

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesdays/Thursdays from 10am - 7pm
Wednesdays/Fridays from 10am - 5pm
Saturdays from 10am - 2pm*
(*Between Labor Day & Memorial Day)

LIBRARY STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Director: Jean Ackerly
Assistant Director: Erin Tuomi
Youth Services Librarian: Kati Bourque
Circulation Librarian: Jane Wolff
Library Associate: Marcia Jansson
Library Associate: Pauline Fabiano
Library Technician: Ellen Alden

We continue to host volunteers from the community, including seniors that work at the library through the town's Senior Tax Work off Program.

TRUSTEES

Chair : Dick Passeri
Margaret Grimes, Secretary
Richard Ravin
Terry Litterst
Alex Burke

FRIENDS OF THE NEWBURY TOWN LIBRARY

President: Tammy Cotter
Vice President: Patty Olson
Treasurer: Pam Myers-Kinney
Secretary: Linda Rivera
Member: Maureen Haley
Member: Joan Friedman

