

LIBRARY

On November 15th, the Library opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony featuring Eastham Elementary School children. Since then, continual tours have come through the building with patrons offering praise and many excellent ideas and suggestions. We are so grateful to the voters and taxpayers for their vision and support – and to our staff and volunteers who worked so hard to set up, open the library, and help provide many of the very special features throughout: fireplace, Eastham Room conference table, outdoor furniture, technology, exhibit space for rotating exhibits, and especially comfortable furniture.

The Library is back to full service, and we have seen our circulation and usage statistics shoot back to normal levels and more since our move out of the temporary trailers.

Our library programs include weekly Toddler and Pre-School Story hours, the Summer Reading Programs, a monthly book discussion group, Saturday's Music series, Free First Friday Film, and many special series programs that range from One Book One Town to one-on-one technology training. This year's One Book One Town choice "Bringing Nature Home" by Doug Tallamy led to collaborations with dozens of community experts and groups and continues to be a focal point for programming. Assistant Director Karen MacDonald and the Adult Programming Committee are charged with coordinating these special programs. Most of these programs were funded by the Friends of the Eastham Library. We look forward to 2017 programs which will include a new Jazz series, musical afternoons with performances on our beautiful 1906 Steinway Model O parlor grand piano, One Book One Town reading Atul Gwande's "Being Mortal," gaming, and more technology help programs.

Youth Services Librarian Fran McLoughlin continues preschool partnerships with outreach programs while at the same time working with Library staff and volunteers to set up the magical space that is our new Children's Room. The Children's Room has nooks and crannies for young readers to get lost while reading a book in, a spacious program room, educational toys and games, portable iPads and Chromebooks, and comfortable seating for children and adults – all with a pond-theme to encourage educational programming on the environment the library is set in. Our Young Adults too have their very own space now – in a room they helped to create by recommending furniture and features.

The Turnip Festival is also beginning to leaf out beyond a one-day event. Spearheaded by Outreach Librarian Marianne Sinopoli and her army of volunteers, this year the festival's theme to "celebrate everything local" brings the first art exhibit/contest to the new library with a celebration of reclaimed book art made by local students and community members. The Library has a new Art Committee to help guide library staff on our rotating art exhibits. The first exhibit in our gallery space will be the work of the Eastham Painters Guild.

Library Assistant Freya Hemley continues to highlight our programs and important reading interests with countertop book displays on topics ranging from award-winners to timely topics. We are looking forward to more events and programs that tie these themes in with our year-round

programming by bringing local authors and artists, community groups and partnerships in to the library to celebrate all that is Eastham and by using our community rooms to full capacity. We have also set up an online reservation system for our community rooms and our museum passes to make both as accessible to the community as possible.

Setting up a new library is no small task. Library Assistant Connie Wells has the job of adding new books to the collection and cataloging the collection so it makes sense. When our collection was unpacked after two years in storage, Connie made sure that the old and new were seamlessly melded together again.

The Library is thankful for community support and involvement that has been crucial to our success, as has support from all its hardworking volunteers and the Friends of the Eastham Library – we thank you all!

Library Statistics for FY16

Staff: 3 full-time, 3 part-time

Hours open per week: 38

Holdings (books, videos, audio, magazines, newspapers, museum passes, downloadable formats, databases): 55,682

Electronic Holdings: e-Books 150,952, **e-Audio** 5,078

Circulation: 63,669

Registered Borrowers: 7,485

Registered Borrowers who are Eastham residents: 2,916

Interlibrary loans sent out: 10,718

Interlibrary loans received: 13,245

Programs: 188

Attendance at programs: 3,399

Volunteers: 64

Volunteer hours contributed: 7,771

Children who participated in Summer Reading Program: 178 (reading 2,110 hours)

One of the year's highlights for the Trustees and the Capital Projects Committee was their first sip of municipal water from the drinking fountain in the new library – it was cold and delicious! While we continue to face challenges, the new building is performing as everyone hoped – the windowed walkway at the entrance and in front of the new book and circulation area has the feel of a “Main Street” with patrons stopping for a cup of coffee and meeting their neighbors. Through the generous support of the volunteers and donors to the Eastham Library Building Fund, Inc., the Library has plenty of extremely comfortable chairs, tables, state-of-the-art computers and technology for residents to enjoy for years to come. The Library also has plenty of room for books and magazines! Meeting room space is available to community groups, and the small conference rooms and study carrels are perhaps the most popular spots in town.

Through Community Preservation funds, the Eastham Room houses the local history collection

in a climate-controlled space, and the restored 1897 VIS (Village Improvement Society) Library offers an informal gathering place for small groups. The new building is very efficient, and the Trustees anticipate a gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) award as a result (with a resulting reimbursement grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners upon final project close-out for approximately \$86,000). The Town has also recently received a check from the Cape Light Compact for \$78,243 in incentives as a result of calculation of energy conservation of over 90,600 kWh/yr based on the selection and installation of high efficiency cooling, heating, lighting and controls.

Please continue to reflect on what our new Library means to Eastham and share those thoughts with a member of the Board of Library Trustees or Library Staff. The Library belongs to all Eastham citizens and its programs and services should reflect your hopes and dreams.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Harnett, Trustee
Norma Marcellino, Trustee
Mary Shaw, Trustee

Sharon Krause, Trustee
Dave Payor, Trustee
Debra DeJonker-Berry, Library Director