

BLAIRSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

2020-2021 Annual Report

A YEAR TO REMEMBER:

This last year was one for the record books...

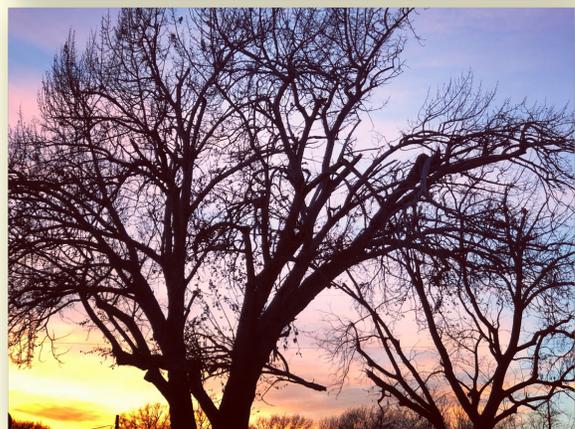
We continued to tackle a pandemic that completely changed the way we serve our community.

We survived a derecho that created catastrophic damage for so many communities, including ours.

We welcomed people back to the library full time for the first time in over a year.

We hosted our first in-person programs for children since the pandemic began.

We pushed to serve our community in every way we could.



LIBRARY PROJECTS

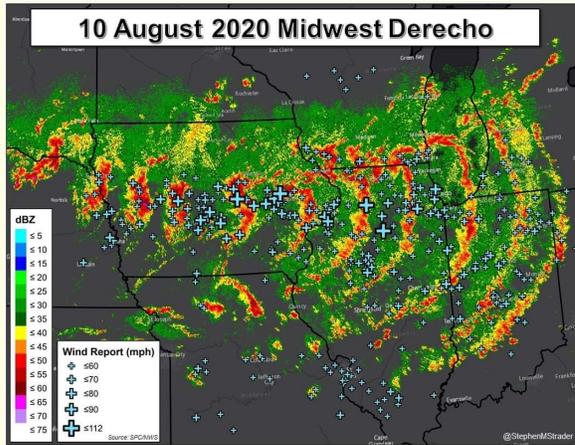
Despite being closed for many months during the pandemic, we used the opportunity to update our library space and complete several projects. These projects included:

- Shifting the large print, romance, westerns, audiobooks and DVDs to maximize shelf space and allow more focus on specific genres.
- Purchasing new display stands for the children's area and the general library space. This allows us to display books more prominently.
- Purchasing new storage for the children's area. This included bins to hold toys, puzzles and games.
- Purchasing a new table for our AWE computer in the children's area.
- Adding shelving to the juvenile fiction area, so that we could make our series fiction more accessible and easy to view.





AUGUST DERECHO 2020



On August 10, 2020 a derecho caused catastrophic damage to Benton County, including Blairstown. Understanding the critical needs in the community, the library stepped in to help where it could. This included setting up a webpage on its website for all the necessary resources for recovery, FEMA assistance, and other pertinent links for those affected by the storm. The library also became the contact point for donations of food and hygiene products for community members in need. We had people bring us donations from as far away as Strawberry Point, Iowa.

The library, along with the fire department, ambulance service and Sauerkraut Days committee threw a community appreciation dinner on August 30th. We were so honored to be a part of this dinner and to say thank you to all who helped get this community back up and running.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members"
--Coretta Scott King

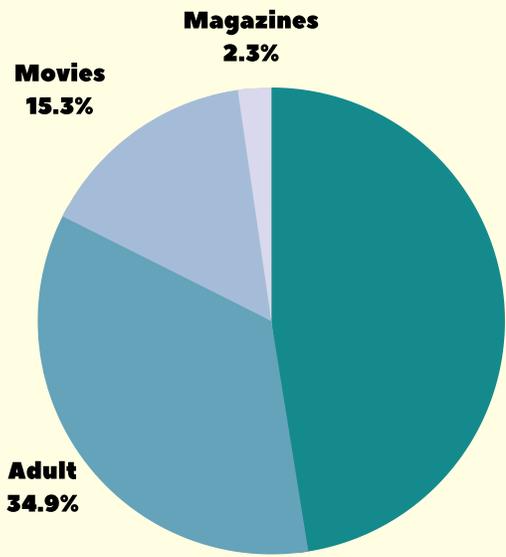


SUMMER READING PROGRAMS ARE BACK!

On June 4, 2021, we hosted our first in-person programming in over a year! It has been an absolute joy to welcome the kids back to the library and to see their excitement about the summer reading program. We've already made slime, done a lot of painting, played games, and of course read!



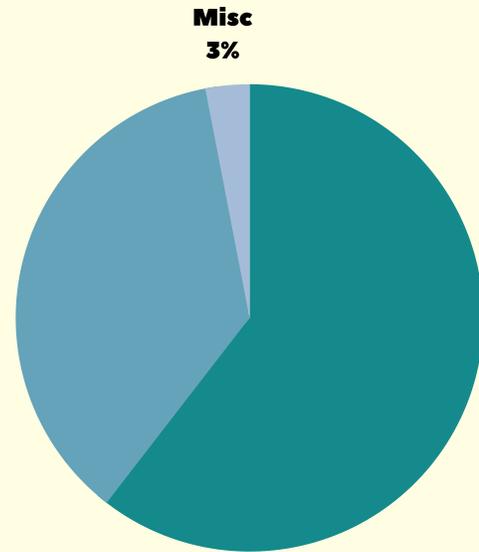
CIRCULATION



PHYSICAL COLLECTION

Juvenile
47.5%

Ebooks
36.5%



DIGITAL COLLECTION

Audiobooks
60.5%

STATISTICS



WE HAD 1,033 PEOPLE VISIT THE LIBRARY



WE HAD 216 DELIVERIES/CURBSIDE PICKUP



WE HAD 104 PEOPLE USE OUR PUBLIC COMPUTERS



WE HAD 2,454 WIFI SESSIONS USED AT OUR LIBRARY



WE GAVE OUT 325 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY PACKETS



WE HAD 123 CHILDREN, 44 ADULTS AND 7 TEENS ATTEND PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

