

ACUSHNET PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Acushnet Public Library celebrated one year at its new location, 232 Middle Road, in December of 2016. Features of the new Library include a Children's Room, a Periodicals Room, two Study Rooms, a Young Adult area, public computer stations, a Community Room, handicap-accessible entries and restrooms, and ample public parking

Since the relocation, the Library has become an even more valued community entity, and experienced the following highlights in 2016:

- 557 new library cards were issued
- A 30% increase in overall circulation from 2015
- The month of August saw the highest circulation in the Library's history
- The Summer Reading Program had its highest participation in the Library's history
- Increases in both programs and attendance
- Precinct 3 polling location

Library Mission and Offerings – Materials, Programs, Services

The mission of the Acushnet Public Library is to provide free and open access to innovative library services, delivered in an efficient and effective manner that will:

- Provide the materials, programs, and services needed to meet recreational needs.
- Provide the materials, tools, and assistance needed to help students succeed in a formal educational program.
- Provide a safe, inviting, and neutral public space that helps to address the need of people to meet and interact with others in their community and to participate in public discourse about community issues.

The Library offers books, DVDs, audiobooks, music CDs, eBooks, newspapers, magazines, Internet access, online databases, and personal assistance using technology, all at no cost. Printers, a copy machine and a fax machine are available to the public for a small fee.

Free children's programs support emerging literacy, and regular story times are offered throughout the year. The annual Summer Reading Program encourages children to read during the summer months while reinforcing the skills gained during the school year. The Library also holds programs for adults. The popular Knitters Group continues to meet twice a month, while a Crafters Group now meets bimonthly as well. A Readers Group meets once a month to discuss titles selected by its members. Regular Technology sessions are scheduled, and the Community Room has attracted various local and state non-profit groups to hold meetings and workshops. New programming is planned for 2017. Additionally, the Library has successfully increased its outreach efforts to Town schools.

The Library currently holds passes to the New Bedford Whaling Museum, Buttonwood Park Zoo, Massachusetts Parks Pass Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Mystic Aquarium, Plimoth Plantation, and Roger Williams Park Zoo. Patrons in good standing are able to check out passes, which provide free or discounted admission to these destinations.

The Library's Museum Pass Program and many special events are made possible by the generosity of the Friends of the Acushnet Public Library, a non-profit community service organization that supports and enhances library services for the community. We are grateful to them for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Information about the Friends group can be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AcushnetPublicLibFriends, and on the Library's website.

To obtain a library card, please present a photo ID and proof of address. A child may have a card with parental permission and when able to print his/her name. No card is required to use materials and services within the Library, with the exception of public computers.

Library Hours of Operations, Staff, and Board of Trustees

The Library is open year-round. Hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Monday and Wednesday; 1:00 p.m. – 8 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday; and 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m., Saturday. The telephone number is 508-998-0270 and the fax number is 508-998-0271. The website is www.acupl.org, and the Facebook page is www.facebook.com/AcushnetPublicLibrary.

Staff of the Acushnet Public Library: Dina M. Brasseur, Director, M.S.L.I.S.; Sandra Medeiros, Patron Services Associate; Mary Marshall, Lesley Perkins, Pauline Prudhomme (retired December 2016), Jacqueline Rolnick, Cynthia Souza, and Bethany Vieira, Library Technicians; Diane Fuller, Custodian.

The six-member Board of Library Trustees has the custody and management of the Library and all related property. The Board typically meets monthly. Acushnet Public Library Board of Trustees: Diane Ferreira, Nancy Francis, Jeri Howland, Kristen Leotti (Chair), Henry Preston, Jean Stripinis.

State Certification and Interlibrary Loan Benefit for Patrons

The Library maintained state certification in 2016. Required: a Director with a Master's Degree in Library Studies from an accredited institution and certification by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners; a minimum of 40 hours open per week; a minimum of 16% of the total budget expended on materials; a municipal appropriation that increases by 2-1/2% each year over a three year average.

LIBRARY STATISTICAL REPORT 2016

Certification entitles Acushnet residents to borrow materials from other Massachusetts libraries and qualifies the Town to apply for state aid and state grants to libraries – these elements allow the library to provide residents with a wider variety of materials, and also allow the library to provide additional services.

The Library is a full voting member of the SAILS Library Network. Through SAILS, library patrons have access to the collections of over 70 libraries. In addition to the automated system, SAILS provides cataloging services, technical support and continuing education. The SAILS system allows users to search the catalog, reserve materials, and renew items from home.

The Library is also a member of the Massachusetts Library System. MLS provides delivery of materials between libraries, regional reference and inter-library loan service, on-line databases, staff training, Summer Reading materials, and professional consultants at no charge to the library.

The Board of Trustees thanks the residents of Acushnet, Town officers, and other Town departments for their support throughout the year. In addition, we thank the businesses, organizations, and individuals who fund our very popular Summer Reading Program, and the many library patrons who donate time and materials.

Respectfully submitted,
Acushnet Public Library Board of Trustees

Active Borrowers	4793
Children’s Programs Held.....	70
Attendance at Children’s Programs	1,377
Teen Programs Held.....	28
Attendance at Teen Programs.....	127
Adult Programs Held.....	86
Attendance at Adult Programs.....	483
Computers Available for Public Use	7
Computers Available with Internet Access	5
Sessions Held on Computers Available with Internet Access.....	1,565
Community Room Use	47
Study Room Use	293

Materials Holdings (Number of Items)

Books	21352
Periodical Subscriptions	105
Videos/DVDs.....	3328
Audio.....	681
eBooks.....	21279
Downloadable Audio/Video.....	5559

Circulation (Times Borrowed)

Books – Adult and Teen	18,578
Books – Children.....	20,674
Periodicals	3,116
Videos/DVDs.....	13,297
Audio.....	1,920
eBooks.....	1,697
Downloadable Audio/Video.....	451
Museum Passes	203
Total Items Circulated.....	59,936