



FY18 a very busy year for the public library

The Blakesburg Public Library was an active place during FY18. The year began with the completion of the Summer Reading Program. A Bedtime Math Foundation Grant enabled the library to offer Crazy 8's Math Club for 3d-5th graders and the library participated in the Corn Carnival in Sept. The "Cooks for Books Crock-Pot Cook-Off" was held in October.

November brought the "Small Town Christmas" event to the former elementary building. The library staff decorated six Christmas trees and the library for visitors to enjoy during the Loving Shepherd Food Pantry event.

Also in November, the Friends of the Blakesburg Public Library purchased a building that will be renovated into a permanent home for the library. This was due in large part, to a generous individual donation and fund-raising.

In December, Library Board of Trustees member Michael Potts presented an educational program on trains, followed by a showing of "The Polar Express" complete with cookies and hot chocolate (just like the classic Christmas movie).

In January and February, the library began plans for the annual Father-Daughter dance which was held in March. April brought National Library Week, and summer baseball and softball registration. The library received a Pilcrow Foundation Grant in April and purchased \$1,700 worth of books in part due to a Friends of the Library donation and private donors who added \$500 worth of books on top of the 2-1 matching grant.

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Library Director Cheryl Talbert and Board Member Mike Potts participate in the Loving Shepherd Food Pantry's "Small Town Christmas" event (left). A young man works with the NASA Little Bits electronic kit @ the library during a summer program (above).



A group dressed as Candy Land game pieces represent the library and its Friends group in the Corn Carnival parade with their "Our Future Looks Sweet" float (above). A well-dressed couple enjoy a dance at the library's annual Father-Daughter dance (right).



FY18 Budget At A Glance

REVENUE		EXPENDITURES	
City Allocation	\$ 4,500.00	Wages	\$ 9,394.00
City Payroll Levy	\$ 1,864.00	Payroll Benefits	\$ 3,849.00
County Allocation	\$ 6,305.00	Physical Collection	\$ 1,998.00
State Funding	\$ 894.00	Electronic Collection	\$ 323.00
Other Income	\$ 5,304.00	Operating Expenses	\$ 3,004.00
Total	\$ 18,867.00	Total	\$ 18,568.00



FY18 a busy year for BPL

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The school year ended in May, but children were able to maintain their reading skill by participating in the library's Summer Reading Program, "Libraries Rock." Participants in daily programs created musical instruments and other crafts, checked out books and movies, played games, enjoyed story times, music and watching great family-friendly movies.

The library collaborated with the Loving Shepherd Food Pantry to provide lunch and snacks to youth who used the library during the summer. The summer months also brought the first "Java and Jigsaws" event to the library, along with adult coloring, and tech help for adults.

In FY18, the library began a strategic planning process, holding two meetings with community members to obtain their input. This diverse group came up with a lot of great ideas, and their input was greatly appreciated. The library's Strategic Plan, which is part of its new accreditation process, will be made available to the public in 2019.

Who we are and what we do

Library Staff — Director, Cheryl Talbert; Assistant Director, Chris Johnson; Library Assistant (sub), Carrie Glosser.

Library Board of Trustees — Board President, Sonni Deevers; Board Secretary, Penny Fisher; Board members Ed Hannan, Michael Potts and Kathy Hunt.

Library Services—We provide a collection of books, audio books, e-books, and videos for all ages; programs for all ages; Interlibrary Loan and reference service; research assistance; photocopying; faxing; access to WI-FI; 8 computers; databases; notary public; and meeting space.



"Libraries Rock" Summer Reading participants made drums in June, 2018. Twenty-two children signed up for the program, with 15 participants completing their reading goals. Prizes were awarded in early August.

FY18 Library Statistics

Visitors	2,617	Total Items Circulated	1,713
Books	6512	Savings to Community	\$42,825
E-Books	46,074	City Circulation	937
Total Books	52,586	Rural Circulation	522
Audio Books	189	Interlibrary Loan Sent	195
E-Audio Books	19,446	Electronic Info Retrieval	77
Total Audio Books	19,635	E-Books Downloaded	98
Videos	624	Audio Books Downloads	79
Download Videos	50	Annual Computer Use	1038
Total Videos	674	Number of Programs	43
Other Materials	140	Program Participants	456
Web Page Views	4,268	Database Searches	295
Total Physical Items	7,465	Physical Collection Value	\$186,625
Total Download Items	65,520	Total Download Value	\$1,638,000
Total Collection Items	72,985	Total Collection Value	\$1,824,625