

## Belmont library brickwork to be fixed

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By GAIL OBER, LACONIA DAILY SUN

BELMONT — Selectmen approved a request for \$15,000 for the Belmont Library to finish repointing the brickwork on the back of the building. The money will come from the library capital reserve account.

Trustee Mary Charnley told the board that the bottom portion of the back of the building had been completed in the summer of 2015 and the goal for the end of this year is to finish the brickwork in rear of the building.

The lower half, said Charnley was paid from the Duffy Fund – a trust fund left to Belmont for the library by the brothers Walter and George Duffy who endowed the library in late 1920s.

Librarian Eileen Gilbert said Friday that the goal of the library is to repoint - or replace old mortar between bricks with new mortar – all three remaining sides of the library over the next two to three years.

Last year, the library spent \$80,000 from the Duffy Fund to renovate the downstairs and an additional \$40,000 from the capital reserve fund to trench around the rear of the building to prevent water leaks that temporarily forced the closure of the basement.

Gilbert said they are seeking alternative grants from various state funds to help offset the costs of the project.



**Over the next two to three years, the Belmont Library Trustees plan to completely repoint all of the brickwork in the nearly 100-year-old library. (Gail Ober/Laconia Daily Sun)**

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