

Bradford Public Library
Annual Report
January 14, 2021

Leaving the year 2020 behind offers some relief considering the unprecedented challenges of a global pandemic and its immediate impact throughout the communities we serve. Relationships have been altered both personally and professionally. Learning to communicate through masks, via ZOOM, with a nod or a wave may prove to have lasting effects on the population. Some in our community have been affected more than others physically, socially, and economically.

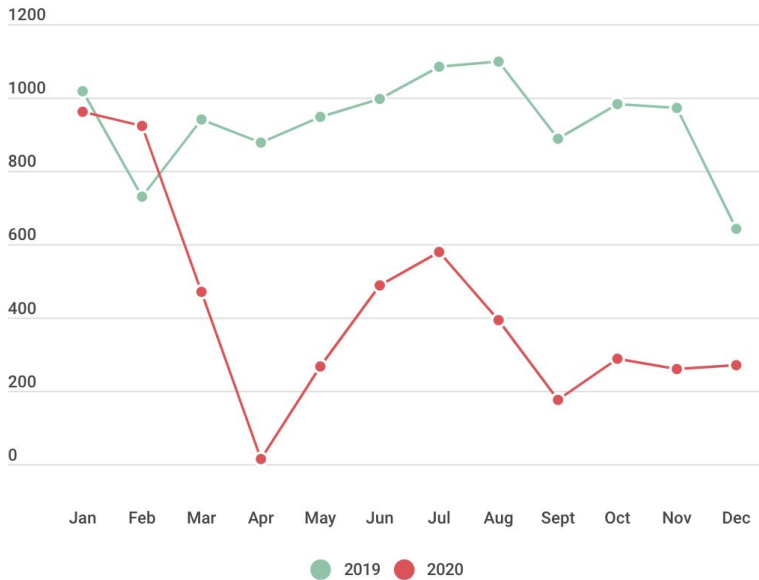
Because of COVID restrictions and protocols and a lengthy construction project we have had to keep our doors closed to the public to a degree we had not anticipated. We are delighted our building is now ADA compliant, and we cannot wait to welcome everyone back into our building once it is safe and recommended to do so.

Throughout this time the Bradford Public Library has continued to serve and function as a robust community resource and center in 2020. We continue to follow state and CDC guidelines and best practices concerning materials handling (quarantine and sanitization), and services offered (curbside lending versus in-person), while trying to offer our best to our population in terms of programming (online, outdoor), services (printing, faxing, WiFi, laptop lending), and community partnerships (Upper Valley Everybody Eats, Teen Speak, and more).

Notable Statistics

- Registered patron accounts, includes family accounts = 1221
- A total of 88 new patrons registered in 2020
- Additions to the collection total 1024 items
- Total in house collection = 14,908 items
- Librarians accumulated 100+ hours of professional development.
- Betsy Kane completed the program and received Vermont Public Librarian Certification in May.

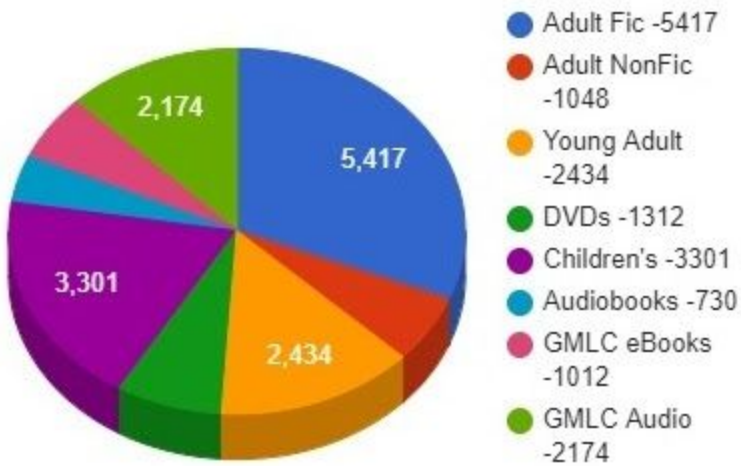
Circulation Comparison 2019-2020



*Circulation numbers were down considerably during the pandemic, yet trends showed consistency

Green Mountain Library Consortium offers a total of 49,094 audio/eBook titles. Bradford patron usage shows an increase for 2020 compared to 2019 (3060 > 3184).

Total Circulation Statistics 2020



Interlibrary Loan totals:

- Loaned ~ 148
- Borrowed ~ 229

BPL maintains four *Free Little Libraries* located at Upper Valley Pediatrics, the Bradford Academy Building, at 148 Main Street, and on the front steps of the library. Books are supplied by donation.

Library Programs engage patrons of all ages and income levels in our diverse community through entertainment, enrichment, and opportunities to encounter new ideas and skills.

- 40 Adult programs
- 50 Youth programs

Attraction Passes offer free or discounted admission to library patrons

- Vermont History Museum
- Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS)
- Vermont Precision Museum
- Vermont State Historic Sites
- Vermont State Parks

2020 partnerships and collaborations include:

- BES ~ supporting young readers through onsite visits, book giveaways, read alouds
- Bradford Resilience Coalition ~ connects all sectors of the community in order to best assess community needs
- Children's Literacy Foundation~ donated 100+ quality children's books for giveaway events
- Margaret Pratt Community ~ BPL provides a rotating collection of Large Print materials based on interest and program events
- Teen Speak~ program support addressing youth risk behavior and resiliency
- Upper Valley Everyone Eats ~ BPL served 10 - 16 meals per week to needy households for 8 weeks
- US Census Bureau~ training and community outreach to support census goals

In Memoriam

Peter Richards, a long-time friend, supporter and trustee of the Bradford Public Library, passed away this past April. Pete had been a trustee of the library for many years. He served as President of the Board for several terms and fulfilled that role with a tight ship. That is difficult to imagine as Pete was the consummate pun-ster. If he could get a groan from his puns, he was happy. His service on the board included helping to create the annual budget, staff evaluation and fund-raising. In the latter, he was constantly seeking information on grants and participating in activities such as the annual book/plant sale and annual appeal. Pete was a fix-it type guy and was called on from time to time to repair something in the building. But he was happiest when he could play a role as he did for several years in the Board's reading of Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Even after Pete was no longer able to attend Board meetings because of declining health, he was interested in the goings on of the Library in general and the Board specifically. In Pete's memory, the Library has acquired a lectern to be used for presentations.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Trede, Library Director