



July 13, 2023

Librarian's Report

Bradford Public Library

Administrative:

Warning; this content may be unsuitable for some....

The summer season and, perhaps coincidentally, the ending of the ARPA housing relief program has brought new challenges to BPL. Librarians are seeing more folks dependent on resources including wifi, the restroom, a cool or dry place to rest, and/or to recharge physically and electronically. Unfortunately library staff have come to work finding books from the free shelf torn apart and discarded under the book drop smeared with blood, and in two cases used as TP alongside a pile of human feces. After the long weekend, well over a dozen cigarette butts and other trash needed to be cleared from the front steps. Other days were met with the need to douse the steps with boiling water to clear vomit and phlegm. Libraries throughout the state are reporting an increase in similar challenges.

Hiring a replacement for Anna:

Gail is in the process of finding a replacement for Anna by her last day of August 18, 2023.

Two good candidates are not able to commit at this time. The position requires an 18 hrs / week, late evening hours and every Saturday. Will the board consider raising the payscale in order to entice and retain folks to staff the library?

Teen Drama Camp Performance!

On Saturday, July 1, nine teen actors presented 'Camp Gottawanna' in the Bradford Academy Auditorium for 75 audience members. The play followed a week-long Drama Camp sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council and BPL in collaboration with the Old Church Theater. Teens from surrounding towns met for the first time, made lasting friendships, chose parts, memorized lines and generally had a great time as a group. Everyone wants to do it again next year and even meet at the library this winter for some script writing. Great job everyone!



Professional Development:

Staffing & Salary Survey Informational Webinar for library Directors - Wednesday, July 12, 2023, 9:00am - 11:00am

Technology

Palace Project ~Is now available for BPL patrons. The Palace app is available through mobile phones and tablets (except Kindle) offering more audio/eBook choices for our patrons. Patrons may access all GMLC and Palace offerings in one place. The Palace Project is free to public libraries through our state library.

Circulation:

June '23 Reports

In house 818 items borrowed from BPL (up from 691 in May)

ILL - 42 borrowed, 42 lending

GMLC audio/ebook 329 checkouts

Visitor Tracking / New Patrons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Visits	691	605	821	697	748	927						
New patron	14	11	13	8	13	15						
Program Attendance	96	139	158	174	176	227						

Programs:

Summer at the library is booming with daily programs and every available space in use Tuesday - Friday. There is something for everyone at the library!

BPL READS!

We will be reading [Miss Benson's Beetle, by Rachel Joyce](#) in August. .

In 1914, when Margery Benson was 10 years old, her father showed her a book of magical creatures, none more fantastic than the golden beetle of New Caledonia. Thirty-six years later, jobless and alone, she's determined to have the adventure of her life and find that beetle. When she advertises for an assistant to accompany her, the woman she ends up with is the last person she had in mind, but together these two British women find themselves drawn into a cross-ocean adventure that exceeds all expectations and delivers something neither of them expected to find: the transformative power of friendship.

CREATE! ~ Adult Crafting

On hold for the month of July!

Curiosity Cabinet ~

The shark teeth, sea glass and even sea horses on display this month by Linda Vitale remain until the collection of Skulls and Claws arrives from a local taxidermist/collector/library patron!

Dungeons & Dragons (D&D)

Adult campaign runs bi-weekly from 5-8pm in the YA Room

Mahjong ~

Learn to play Mahjong each Thursday from 2 - 4pm. Experienced players help us learn. No experience necessary, experienced players welcome! 8-12 committed mahjong players participate each week.

Orange County Parent Child Center Playgroup~

Weekly playgroup will meet each Wednesday from 3-4:30 with a focus to provide support and education to families with young children with the goal of helping all Vermont families get off to a healthy start, while promoting well-being and building on family strengths.

Space Camp ~ 7/11-13, 25-27

In collaboration with the Space on Main Digital Fabrication and Robotics Day Camps, participants will come to the library for a break from technology to read, borrow books and/or other youth related library activities.

Spanish Language / Conversation group

The group meets every Tuesday at 1:30 with at least ten learners in attendance.

This month we purchased a Review & Practice text book for each learner with funds from the Spanish Grant through the Vermont Humanities Council. We are also trying traditional Latin American foods each week!

Wellness Warriors~

Rising 5th and 6th grade youth are invited to a special 4 week program on Thursdays from 6pm - 7:30pm on July 13, 20,27, and August 3rd. Each week we will explore a different aspect of wellness beginning with make-your-own smoothies and follow the group's interests which may include activities such as martial arts, yoga, journaling, recipes, nature, and art. Weekly programs are free and will be led by volunteers from the Mentoring Project of the Upper Valley.

Friday Summer Program - Children's Friday Afternoon Summer program will begin July 7

Activities will include STEAM, movies, and 2023 Good Citizen Challenge

Toddler Story Hour ~ Join Anna, or Ms. Gail and Waldei each Friday, with stories, songs and crafts at 10:00 am.