



August 10, 2023

Librarian's Report

Bradford Public Library

Administrative:

At the board's suggestion, an attempt was made to deter folks from loitering and abusing library property by turning off the internet during closed hours. Unfortunately, this interrupted the alarm system. A call was made to Alarmco hoping to resolve this issue without a response. Since then we continue to offer open wi-fi 24/7 outside of the building for the whole community. While trash around the east side of the building has subsided, the front steps continue to be marred by trash, cigarette butts, tobacco, and other unknown stains. Oden Schlager spent some time with a power washer without much success in reviving the appearance of the granite. I scrubbed it again with vinegar, a drop of Dawn detergent and water with no effect.

August 3, 2023 Journal Opinion front page article 'Public wants help for homeless' shares public concern about homelessness, drug use, and vagrancy on library property and around town.

The Working Group on the Status of Libraries in Vermont is studying staffing levels at Vermont libraries. The Working Group will use this data to base recommendations to the Vermont legislature related to staffing, compensation, and benefit levels at municipal and incorporated libraries in Vermont. Library directors are asked to complete the [30 page] survey by August 15.

Hiring a replacement for Anna:

Long time library patron and community member Patsy Belknap is excited to become a BPL staff member. Patsy is a prolific reader of all genres with a special interest in middle school and YA titles. Patsy will work Thursday evening and Saturdays. See her attached resume.

Staff Work Schedule: beginning Aug 19

Tues Gail/Betsy

Weds Gail/Betsy

Thurs Gail/Nancy-Patsy

Fri Gail/Betsy

Sat Patsy/ Betsy-Kathy

Heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Anna for three years of smiles, unending kindness, awesome bulletin boards and so much more! Anna will be missed by everyone at the library 🍷💚💙

Professional Development:

- Association for Rural & Small Libraries (ARSL) Solo-ish Librarian Happy Hour at 7 p.m. ET Thursday, August 3, 2023 via ZOOM
- 08/10/2023 ILL Round Table in Barre, VT.
- 08/11/23: Resource and Funding Opportunities for Rural Libraries webinar.

Technology

BPL FAX services are in high demand for medical and legal documents.

Donations:

Carolyn and Larry Coffin purchased a set of three Sharps Buckets for safe disposal of any object or device with sharp points or edges that could potentially puncture the skin and help limit the potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

Christine Pratt donated a three story, wooden doll house loaded with furniture, family figures, and even a playground. This newest addition to the children’s room is an instant hit with kids of all ages!

Circulation:

July ‘23 Reports

In house 797 items borrowed from BPL

ILL - 49 borrowed, 30 lending

GMLC audio/ebook 359 checkouts

Visitor Tracking / New Patrons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Visits	691	605	821	697	748	927	918					
New patron	14	11	13	8	13	15	12					
Program Attendance	96	139	158	174	176	227	251					

Programs:

Poetry Circle meets on the 3rd Weds., August 16 this month, at 3:00pm.

BPL READS!

We will be discussing Miss Benson's Beetle, by Rachel Joyce on August 17 at 6:30 pm .

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

Resumes on the first Thursday of each month beginning in September.

Curiosity Cabinet ~

Linda Vitale shares a display of Beatrice Potter 'Bunnykins' figurines.

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.

Space Camp ~ August 8 -10, 15-17

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 and new members 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 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 runs from 2 - 4pm through August 18 ending with a Raffle Drawing and Ice Cream Party! Weekly activities include STEAM, games, and 2023 Good Citizen Challenge. Sarah Frechette from PuppetKabob, a Vermont-based touring puppet company, joined us on August 4. Thirty-five children and adults listen to "Franklin's Neighborhood" by Bourgeois & Clark.

Taking inspiration from the book, kids drew a picture of what they like best about the community in the form of a 3D Paper Toy Theater. Kids will then create a paper rod puppet of Franklin to explore!

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

Long time patrons Christopher & Dana Wilson invite you to an annual Hydrangea walk at their home at 1030 Urquhart Rd in West Newbury on August 13 at 4pm.