



Bradford Public Library
Librarian's Report
February 8, 2024

Mission Statement

The Bradford Public Library is committed to supporting and enhancing learning, creativity, and opportunities for personal growth and community connections with reliable information and resources, and the support necessary to navigate those resources in a safe and welcoming environment.

Administrative:

Regarding the [2014] *Law of Public Libraries* document: The Department doesn't plan to work with the Secretary of State's office to reissue a new version of the *Law of Public Libraries* document, but rather will update and expand, as needed, the [Resources to Support Trustees' Work](#) document moving forward. The Department's belief is that referring more directly to statute itself, and attempting less to interpret statute for individual libraries, allows for the many nuances of structure and organization of our public libraries to be honored within the context of the guidance offered. The Resources document will be updated at least annually after the legislative session concludes, so that it contains the most timely information available.

Library staff arrived at work on Tuesday, February 6, to find a lot of trash including used toilet paper on the free book shelf. The incident was reported to the Bradford PD, Select Board, and Town Admin.

Work Schedule ~ Federal Holidays:

There are 11 official Federal holidays this year ~ request 6 paid holidays for 2024

New Year's Day: Monday, January 1st

Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Monday, January 15th (3rd Monday in January)

Presidents' Day: Monday, February 19th (3rd Monday in February)

Memorial Day: Monday, May 27th (last Monday in May)

Juneteenth National Independence Day: Wednesday, June 19th

Independence Day: Thursday, July 4th

Labor Day: Monday, September 2nd (1st Monday in September)

Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day: Monday, October 14th (2nd Monday in October)

Veterans Day: Monday, November 11th

Thanksgiving: Thursday, November 28th (4th Thursday in November) asking approval for the following day as well.

Christmas: Wednesday, December 25th asking approval for Christmas Eve as well

Professional Development:

Gail participated in the Adult Mental Health training on January 25, and February 1, 2024 Washington County Mental Health presented this online 2-part skills-based training course that teaches participants about mental health and substance-use issues. The class included 2 hours of independent pre-work online in addition to the synchronous sessions. A Follow-Up Discussion among participants will take place on Friday 2/9 at 1pm. I (Gail) found this to be excellent training.

Technology:

Printing ,copy and fax services have picked up for the tax season. Marcey Carver is working with the AARP and is directing her ‘clients’ to the library to pick up paperwork. This paperwork is only for those who are signed up for the service.

Donations:

We received a case of COVID-19 Home test kits from the Bradford Fire Department. These test kits are on display and available for free to the community.

Circulation:

January '24 Circulation Reports ~ are comparable to 2023 if not just a tad higher. The jump in ILL borrowing, 116/59 is due to the courier missing the last December delivery during open hours.

In house 631 (2023~638) items borrowed from BPL

ILL - 116 (59) borrowed, 40 (32) lending, GMLC audio/ebook 384 (356) checkouts

Volunteers:

Visitor Tracking

The VINS program held on Saturday, January 27 was very well attended with 157 folks! This event was cosponsored by the Bradford Parks & Rec, Bradford Conservation Committee, and Bradford Public Library.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Visits 2024	778											
Visits 2023	691	605	821	697	748	927	918	1151	773	882	556	707
New Patron '24	5											
New Patron '23	14	11	13	8	13	15	12	10	7	10	9	8

Program Attendance '24	341											
Program Attendance '23	96	139	158	174	176	227	251	307	159	76	157	220

Volunteers:

BPL staff are especially grateful to the many volunteers who support our efforts. Thank you Stuart Granoff for running the Spanish program each week, Linda Weiss for teaching MahJong, John Correlli for running the D&D, and Andrew Josselyn who has library experience and enthusiasm! Many thanks also to the folks who volunteer their time for the CREATE! Program.

Programs:

Patron interest, requests, community needs, and collaborative opportunities drive library programming. High Mowing seeds have been ordered and will be available in the seed catalog as soon as they arrive.

Poetry Circle

The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 3pm and is open to the public.

BPL READS! Will discuss *The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson on February 15 at 6:30.

CREATE! ~ Adult Crafting

This group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6:00pm. On February 1 we created pop up greeting cards for Valentines Day! *If any board member has a craft they would like to present, let us know!*

Glass Cabinet

The Reading Room Cabinet display features vintage kitchen utensils.

Seed Catalog

The seed catalog is full and ready to share. High Mowing seed packets are cataloged and folks may take what they need and swap what they don't!

Dungeons & Dragons (D&D)

Adult campaign runs bi-weekly from 5-8pm in the YA Room. Dungeons & Dragons is a fantasy tabletop role-playing game (RPG) where the players form an adventuring party who explore fantasy worlds together as they embark on epic quests and level up in experience. This game has introduced 6-8 folks in their late twenties and early thirties to the library.

Mahjong

Mahjong emerged in China in the 1800s and became popular in the Jewish American community by the mid-20th century. Like many programs we offer at BPL, the game's history offers an interesting lens through which to see the intersection of people from different backgrounds and create a sense of belonging and community. 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.

Spanish Language / Conversation group

The group meets every Tuesday at 1:30 with at least ten learners in attendance and new members each week.

The Friday After School Program for elementary school aged children meets each week from 3-4:30pm with a focus on crafting and social skills. During this time one of our younger patrons is making new friends through teaching others to play the game of 'Magic - The Gathering' which is a tabletop roleplaying game. A donation of \$125 worth playing cards were donated by the family so that others can play and learn.

Toddler Story Hour ~ Join Ms. Gail and sometimes Waldei each Friday at 10am, with stories, songs and crafts. Parents and caregivers appreciate Story Time as an [affordable] opportunity for children and their adults to make new friends, share with others, and practice fine motor skills.