



Bradford Public Library
Librarian's Report
August 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:

The Vermont Department of Libraries' \$10M for Public Facilities Preservation Initiative Grants for small, rural public libraries in Vermont will be open for application in the coming weeks. The goal of this funding is to provide resources to address repair and mitigation needs in small, rural public libraries that also serve as community meeting spaces and public facilities, with a focus on economically depressed areas. Check out the Department's one-page overview: [Congressionally Directed Funding flier](#) (PDF) Librarians have ideas on how the library space could be updated and improved to better serve the community.

Special Meeting Room Request:

On August 23 Oxbow HS will hold an off-campus retreat at BPL for their Steering Committee, regarding a new [VSAC Aspirations](#) partnership. This meeting will take place on Friday, from 8am-12pm. Gail will open the library to the group of 12 and will be present until normal library hours begin.

Maintenance Musings:

Almost daily the Vermont Room serves as a meeting space for individuals and small groups. One idea for better serving the community is to revisit our use of space, including access to the upper conference room. *On that note...* Fall is the perfect time for straightening and discarding unnecessary clutter from the third floor. We could use a few volunteers to help with this process!

Staffing:

Thank you Anna for stepping in this summer! Best of luck to you for the new school year.

Grants:

VT Reads ~ We received 100 copies of this year's chosen title "Gather", written by Oxbow HS Principal Ken Cadow. We are planning multiple programs surrounding this annual statewide community read and discussion opportunity.

Courier Grant ~ This year the grants will be for \$683.80 covering half the cost of one stop per week to be used toward payment(s) to the courier service vendor. This grant is very important in that it allows us to say "yes" to many requests without being bound to costs accrued by the USPS.

Donations:

A \$300 donation came from Todd Jesdale.

We are always grateful for those community volunteers who not only donate their time but also many materials for programs.

Technology:

GMLC~ Listen Up Vermont is in the process of adding a movie streaming service for our patrons as soon as September 1. BPL has registered with a commitment of \$0.30 per patron. The approximate \$400 cost will come from our collection budget.

Volunteers:

Retired educator Tom Marshall is volunteering at BPL as he works toward Vermont State Librarian Certification.

Special thanks to Larry and Carolyn Coffin for maintaining the little libraries!

Also thank you to Christine Pratt, and Dan Molina for working with Bradford youth and summer programming.

Circulation

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
house circ '24	631	703	732	618	528	694	805					
house circ '23	711	624	780	599	691	817	798	785	556	733	556	638
ILL in '24	116	92	73	81	106	57	89					
ILL in '23	68	39	64	64	61	42	49	69	53	50	70	59
ILL out '24	40	31	32	28	35	23	44					
ILL out '23	46	28	53	37	43	42	30	33	27	43	31	32
audio/ebook '24	384	402	375	357	342	333	344					
audio/ebook '23	331	388	382	367	381	329	359	400	396	375	412	356

Little Libraries Adult	50	37	40	95	53	61	81					
Little Libraries Youth	57	61	76	101	103	77	153					

Visitor Tracking

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Visits 2024	778	868	924	877	1010	861	925					
Visits 2023	691	605	821	697	748	927	918	1151	773	882	556	707
New Patron '24	5	7	6	8	3	3	14					
New Patron '23	14	11	13	8	13	15	12	10	7	10	9	8
Program Attendance '24	341	264	240	276	384	301	160					
Program Attendance '23	96	139	158	174	176	227	251	307	159	76	157	220

PROGRAMS ~ *Patron interest, requests, community needs, and collaborative opportunities drive library programming.*

Summer Food Program

The library will continue providing free lunches and snacks on Wednesday - Friday through August 16. Working with a company called Genuine Foods through the Barre Unified school district, scratch meals will be available each week for kids under 18 yrs at 12:00pm.

Story Hour in the Park, Friday, August 16, at 10am

Special Story Hour in the Park with The Busy Morning Duo, Linda Bassick and Greg Rothwell. The duo will be publishing a children's book based on the song "Squirrel in a Tree" from the album Maple's Busy Morning! The song tells the story of our main character, Maple, having to go home when they weren't ready. Maple's parent asks them to pretend to be different animals as they make their way home for lunch. Kids will sing (and hop, fly etc.) along as they read or are read to. There will be a link in the book to directly connect folks to the song and album.

Summer reading logs are due in exchange for a FREE Ice Cream cone from the Little Grille at the Mill! We will also be holding the Summer Reading Drawing for the building block kits AND see who got closest to guessing how many jellybeans are in the jar!

Golden Dome Book Club for kids ages 9+

Dispatches from [Vermont Golden Dome Book Club](#) by Patsy Belknap

We've had three meetings so far this summer! The first two focused on the graphic novel [Mexikid](#). We made nachos and guacamole and shared our thoughts about how we would have felt in Pedro's shoes. We then moved on to [Honestly Elliott](#), an entry from the 2023-2024 list, and picked the next book for August 17th ([Lasagna Means I Love You](#)). If you are (or know someone) ages 9 - 12, we would love to have you join us every other Saturday from 10:00-11:00. Our next meeting will be August 3rd.

Teen Book Club

This month the group will meet at 2:30 on August 29, *Home Before Dark*, by Riley Sager. In the latest thriller from *New York Times* bestseller Riley Sager, a woman returns to the house made famous by her father's bestselling horror memoir. Is the place really haunted by evil forces, as her father claimed? Or are there more earthbound—and dangerous—secrets hidden within its walls? (goodreads)

BPL READS! Adult Book Club Will discuss *The Secret Book of Flora Lea*, by Patti Callahan Henry on August 15 at 6:30. This author tells a story of “When a woman discovers a rare book that has connections to her past, long-held secrets about her missing sister and their childhood spent in the English countryside during World War II are revealed.”(goodreads)

Poetry Circle

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

BPL Gallery

This month we will show the work of Westy Copeland

[Westy's](#) method is to “paint” her canvases with brushes, rags, stamps, and stencils as well as with her bare hands. She often incorporates collage elements like old music, newspaper, book pages, and maps. Her unique view of the world is presented through layers of color, shape, and texture. The resulting images are like the layers of our lives; more to the story than what first meets the eye.

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.

Spanish Language / Conversation group

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

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.