



Bradford Public Library
Librarian's Report
June 13, 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:

[S.220, An Act Related to Vermont's Public Libraries](#), was signed into law by Governor Scott on Monday, June 3, 2024. On Wednesday, June 5, 2024, the Department presented a webinar featuring an initial overview of the various elements in the new law,

Walk-through: S.220—An Act Relating to Vermont's Public Libraries.

- As of July 1, 2024, patron confidentiality age will be lowered from 16 yrs to 12 yrs of age. Registration, circulation, all records are confidential.
Why?: To promote intellectual freedom, free inquiry, and a love of learning. Aligns the age of confidentiality for kids with the age at which they can make medical decisions autonomously.
How does this affect the library and policy?: Kids ages 12+ will have their own account and be responsible for borrowed items. Our concern is in retrieving long overdue items... That being said, a 12+ patron who uses a parent's email, basically gives parent permission to access circulation should overdue collection be necessary. Patron accounts must be updated to reflect age, guarantorship[s] removed . This level of confidentiality also means we may not tell a parent that their child is at the library should they call and ask... the coming Vokal membership meeting ~ June 14 , 10am; agenda will include what options are to bulk update 12 yo+ patron records in our system with the signing of S.220 and the lower age for patron privacy going live on July 1. This will be very helpful for us!
- *By 2025, Material Selection Policies must reflect and support civil rights with a focus on anti discrimination. Why?: Centers the idea that public libraries are*

for everyone. Highlights the importance of prohibiting discrimination in public library collections and fostering inclusive libraries.

- 13 V.S.A. § 1702. CRIMINAL THREATENING amendment increases safety in public library buildings by providing enhanced penalties for criminal threatening of library staff in both municipal and incorporated public libraries.

OVERVIEW OF S.220 – AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN VERMONT

https://libraries.vermont.gov/sites/libraries/files/documents/Walkthrough_Webinar_S.220_PPT_June_4_2024.pdf

Dreamhost (free) server account has been renewed through July 8, 2025

So much more than books: Betsy was recently asked to be the authorized representative certifying someone's identity proofs for their I-9 employment form for a local person on a call from Maine.

Grants:

Although we requested \$600 this year, we received a check for \$500 from Washington Electric Community Fund. This will cover the cost of Poemtown as JO advertising was free to us this year.

We are waiting to hear from CLiF per the Summer Readers grant offering a book giveaway and children's author presentation.

The VT Dept of Libraries accepted our Summer Program application for \$300.

Professional Development:

The Mental Health First Aid course training hosted by BPL was re-scheduled for June 11, from 9am-4pm and will take place at The Space On Main. The course will be presented by Christalee Kinney and Paige Stevens from the Clara Martin Center. The class includes 2 hours of independent pre-work online in addition to the in-person session. The course is open to the community, with special invitation to local business owners. Gail had taken this course a free months back. Betsy will attend this session. Volunteer Linda Vitale will cover for Betsy while she attends this training/certification.

Technology:

GMLC~ Listen Up Vermont is in the process of adding a movie streaming service for our patrons as soon as September 1. We will register by July 1 with a commitment of \$0.30 per patron. The cost to our collection will be approximately \$400

VTLib has changed up its online learning providers (Universal Class and Learning Express Library are being replaced by Peterson's Test Prep and Udemy). We are

alerting patrons through the newsletter, and we are updating our website to reflect this. We reached out to the local adult ed as many of their patrons use these services.

Volunteers:

BPL is fortunate to have many community members step up and support programming and other needs at the library!

Most recently we have signed on with Hireability Vermont for Vermonters with disabilities. The focus is to support job exploration counseling, work-based learning experiences, life skills and more.. A young man from Groton VT will be doing some light housekeeping, shelving books and other tasks with a support person and be paid by Hireability Vermont.

Circulation

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
house circ '24	631	703	732	618	528							
house circ '23	711	624	780	599	691	817	798	785	556	733	556	638
ILL in '24	116	92	73	81	106							
ILL in '23	68	39	64	64	61	42	49	69	53	50	70	59
ILL out '24	40	31	32	28	35							
ILL out '23	46	28	53	37	43	42	30	33	27	43	31	32
audio/ebook '24	384	402	375	357	342							
audio/ebook '23	331	388	382	367	381	329	359	400	396	375	412	356
Little Libraries Adult	50	37	40	95	53							
Little Libraries Youth	57	61	76	101	103							

Visitor Tracking

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Visits 2024	778	868	924	877	1010							
Visits 2023	691	605	821	697	748	927	918	1151	773	882	556	707

New Patron '24	5	7	6	8	3							
New Patron '23	14	11	13	8	13	15	12	10	7	10	9	8
Program Attendance '24	341	264	240	276	384							
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

Sadly, the whole of OESU is not working with Hunger Free VT. and the Summer Food Service Program this year and so we are not serving as a pick up site. Because I have been approached by folks in the community wondering if we will be offering meals this summer, I am communicating with Hunger Free, Willing Hands, and the HUB Teen Center hoping that we may work together to combat food insecurity in Bradford. Working with The Hub, we will have fresh fruits & vegetables and other foods available for folks in need.

h2rc.org ~ HIV/HCV Resource Center continues to supply us with Narcan and Fentanyl test strips FREE to the community. We have a supply box situated on the shelf above the Little Library on our front porch which we refill weekly and more.

Make Music Day Vermont ~ June 21

Celebrate the Summer Solstice & World Music Day at the library! Bring your own voice or instrument! A keyboard, Conga drum, and amplification will be available for anyone to make music from 10:30am - 4:30pm.

Teen Script Writing ~ Wednesdays 4-5pm

This group will continue to meet on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-5:00 at BPL. (Snacks will be available.) Using Fairy Tales to inspire our writing, teens will work on how to present the stories and characters, what time period we will use, costumes, how to write good dialogue, settings and props. This program serves as a precursor to the BPL Teen Drama Camp.

Teen Drama Camp will run June 24-28 from 10am-3pm at the library.at the library. Local muralist and library patron Matt Denton will work with teens to create sets and a community performance will take place on stage at the Bradford Academy on Saturday, June 29. The program is FREE for all teens and sponsored by Vermont Humanities.

Teen Book Club

A new teen-led book club will meet on Saturday, June 8, and Saturday, June 22 at 10am. The book this month is *Heart Bones* by Colleen Hoover.

BPL READS! We will discuss *Lessons in Chemistry*, by Bonnie Garmus on June 20 at 6:30. This story is about a “gifted research chemist, absurdly self-assured and immune to social convention” (*The Washington Post*) in 1960s California whose career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show.

Hooks & Needles meet the third Thursday of each month from 6-7pm. Bring your knitting, sewing, crochet, sewing, quilting or any fiber arts projects to the group!

Poetry Circle

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

BPL Gallery

Presents the work of local artist Steven Chase and his larger than life oil pastels. Steven has exhibited extensively in the Upper Valley, and has won Best of Show in exhibits at the AVA Gallery in Lebanon, NH.



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!

The Growing Peace Project has made seed packets of *Sunflowers for Ukraine* available for BPL patrons at the front desk.

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. Latino inspired foods are served each week!

The Friday After School Program for elementary school aged children will end for this school year on June 7.

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.