



Bradford Public Library
Librarian's Report
September, 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:

Fall planning is underway with a focus on adult programming, homeschool support, year-end reporting, and the ongoing challenge of maintaining and growing our web presence. More than ever before, the library serves as a meeting space for families, community groups, and organizations. Being the only private space, our Vermont Room, however small, is reserved almost daily. The new school year has reclaimed the OESU parking lot, and lack of convenient parking is once again the topic of conversation upon entering the library!

On Tuesday, September 17, BPL will be the featured library on the podcast '[Where the Books Are Now](#)' highlighting Vermont Public Libraries. Each week, host Nancy Tusinski talks with a library director or staff member from a Vermont Public Library about what makes that library special, gather some book recommendations, and discover some not-so-well-known treasures, collections, and services available to library patrons.

Maintenance:

The recent dry weather gave us an opportunity to shampoo the carpets in the children's room on Sunday, September 1. What a difference! Holiday books stored in the bottom drawer of the craft closets have a musty / mildew smell. I am looking for a product to place behind the drawer until the heat comes back on and dries things out.

Grants:

I am currently looking for funding to help support the BPL CREATES Adult Crafting program which began again on September 5 with Westy Copeland. I am hoping to provide a series of workshops with Westy. I am also looking for funding to continue with the popular Spanish language program.

VT Reads:

Programming for the VT Reads program is in the works. Copies have arrived and will be on display as speakers and program dates are confirmed.

Technology:

Biblio+ is live for our patrons as of September 4 providing free and unlimited access to an exciting, ad-free catalog of groundbreaking film and captivating television available on any device. Download Biblio+ on any device from your App Store and sign in using your BPL patron account number and password.

Volunteers:

I took advantage of an opportunity to bring story hour mom Kelli Young to a recent VELI training conference at the Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee. Kelli has supported me as a volunteer in the children's room with the Crazy 8's Math Club. Inspired by the day's activities and literacy discussion among librarians at the conference, Kelli asked if she could be of more help with children's programming! Win, win, win....

Grief & Loss Support Group:

The Visiting Nurse and Hospice of VT & NH (VNH) Grief & Loss Support Group provides a facilitated experience with a small group of others who have experienced the loss of a loved one and want support around the grieving process. Sessions are facilitated to create a safe environment in which you can share authentically and feel deeply heard. There will be experiential exercises including journaling and ritual to help you gently expose the layers of grief and move toward greater acceptance.

The group will run for six weeks at BPL on Wednesdays from 3:30-5pm beginning September 4 and running through October 9. Pre-registration is required and the current group is full. Otherwise participants contact Jill Morgan, VNH Spiritual Care Counselor, to register: (802) 735-4639 or <mailto:jimorgan@vnhcare.org>. Due to the response for this program, Ms. Morgan hopes to offer another session after October 9.

Circulation:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
house circ '24	631	703	732	618	528	694	805	810				
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	45				
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	21				
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	318				
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	76				
Little Libraries Youth	57	61	76	101	103	77	153	99				

Visitor Tracking:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Visits 2024	778	868	924	877	1010	861	925	934				
Visits 2023	691	605	821	697	748	927	918	1151	773	882	556	707
New Patron '24	5	7	6	8	3	3	14	15				
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	191				
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 ~ closed

The library provided 140 free lunches and snacks this summer to Bradford children. Meals were provided by Genuine Foods through the Barre Unified School District. This was a joint effort between BPL and the Groton Free Library. Groton volunteers drove to Barre each week and delivered meals to Groton. Gail delivered meals from Groton to BPL.

Summer Reading ~ closed

Close to 50 reading logs were handed out this year! Approximately 15-20 coupons for Ice Cream Cones at the Mill were awarded to congratulate our summer readers! Two Summer Reading Drawing winners were awarded a lego building kit, a Dino Dig excavation kit, and a Sea Creature sticker book. FYI ~ there were 625 jelly beans in the jar! The young person who came closest to this number took home the jar of jelly beans!

BPL's Great Puzzle Challenge!

Back by popular demand, the next great puzzle challenge will take place on Saturday, September 14. Four teams will work to complete a 500 piece puzzle and chance to win a pass to the Old Church Theater. One of our teams had to back out and so as of today there is room for one more team!

Golden Dome Book Club for kids ages 9+

The Golden Dome Book Group will continue to meet with Patsy at 10am on the first and third Saturdays. This month the group is reading *Lasagna Means I love You* by Kate O'Shaughnessy.

Teen Book Club

This month the group is reading *Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell. Meetings will take place on Thursdays, 8/29, 9/12, 9/26, at 4pm.

BPL READS! Adult Book Club Will discuss *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah in October. Books are becoming available at the circ desk weekly!

Poetry Circle

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

BPL Gallery

Freestyle collage by 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.

BPL CREATES, Adult Crafting group resumes!

First Thursday of each month 6-8pm. This month we had a full house in the reading room with paint and collage inspired and led by our featured artist Westy Copeland. On October 3 we will be sewing on machines with local fiber artist Christine Pratt.

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.

Toddler Story Hour ~ Join Ms. Gail 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.

Friday Afternoon Art Club ~ Fridays from 3 - 4:30pm
For elementary school aged kids interested in drawing, paint, clay, collage and more!
Weekly projects are on display in the children's room.