



October 10, 2024
Librarian's Report
Bradford Public Library

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 changing season brings many new faces to the library with adult programming, home schooling groups, community organizations utilizing meeting spaces, and of course the leaf peepers. *Word on the street* is that BPL is a busy thriving community space with something for everyone!

\$15.9 million dollars in competitive grant monies were awarded to 14 public libraries in Vermont with funding from the U.S. Department of the Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). You can read about the libraries and projects supported with this funding at the [State Website](#).

Maintenance:

Thank you Dave [Samataro] for removing and storing the air conditioners and helping with the storm windows!

Can the maintenance committee check the chairs for repairs? Many of our antique chairs need attention.

Donations:

*We need a few (butt) pillows for the hard wooden chairs... We have many folks using the VT Room as a meeting space and this has been a consistent request!

Grants:

Grants have been submitted to support the Spanish Language program and another in the works supporting Adult Crafting paint series with Westy Copeland.

Professional Development:

VELI Meetup ~ Oct 4, ZOOM. Catchup and an update on our VTLIB funding for VELI participants, which is set for 2025. VELI funding supports children's programming.

Census Data Workshop ~ Oct 11 ~ learn about data resources available to library staff and patrons that will help users understand, access, and use Census Bureau data that can inform research, planning, and decision making at your library. Resources available through the Vermont State Census Data Center and the U.S. Census Bureau will be shared. We will also take a tour of the Census Bureau's website and highlight areas that may be most useful to library staff and patrons.

Library Directors Summit ~ Gail will attend at the State House in Montpelier on Tuesday, October 29th, from 9am to 3pm.

Technology:

BPL now has a free subscription to the Journal Opinion E-Edition. This gives us digital access and ability to search archives, *however limited*, (1990's to present) for our patrons.

Promotion of our new subscription to Biblio+ has been well received with nineteen active users so far, and more emails requesting patron accounts in order to try the service. While all new library patrons receive a welcome letter, non resident welcome letters include the explanation of our 501c3 status and that *"as a non resident we do appreciate and accept donations to help support these valuable resources which may not be available in other libraries."* We have received a promise of a \$25 donation since sending this announcement to a new non resident library user.

Librarians are noticing some inadequacy in our internet service at the circulation desk. Our connection is sluggish and dropping more frequently. One patron recently struggled to move files from an external hard drive to his laptop wirelessly and left out of frustration. Is it time to look into the available fiber connection?

Volunteers:

This month I would like to recognize the volunteer efforts of Oxbow HS student Alex Danforth. Alex makes themselves available every Friday to support the toddler story hour program. If they are not able to make a Friday program, Alex always reaches out to let us know! Thank you Alex!

Circulation:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
house circ '24	631	703	732	618	528	694	805	810	585			
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	59			
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	26			
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	310			
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	65			
Little Libraries Youth	57	61	76	101	103	77	153	99	139			

Visitor Tracking:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Visits 2024	778	868	924	877	1010	861	925	934	714			
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	12			
New Patron '23	14	11	3	8	13	15	12	10	7	10	9	8
Program Attendance '24	341	264	240	276	384	301	160	191	244			
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. Library programs are free and open to the public.

BPL READS! Adult Book Club will discuss *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah on October 17 at 6:30pm.

Poetry Circle

The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 3pm and is open to the public. One member of the BPL poetry circle joins the group via ZOOM from outside of the USA!

BPL Gallery

This month features the weaving of local fiber artist Christine Patt. A former professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, Christine is a member of the Vermont North by Hand Art CoOp and encourages all to visit her studio and others during the Studio Tour on October 12-13. Check map and artist profiles www.vermontnorthbyhand.org before heading out!

BPL CREATES, Adult Crafting group!

The group will meet every Thursday through October to sew on machines with Christine Pratt. We will be making zippered pouches, totes, and lounge pants. This series of classes is for beginners!

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

[Letter to the board from Jorge Loeza](#)

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.

Magic the Gathering ~ ages 11+. This fantasy trading card game of tactical gameplay, and worldbuilding teaches many valuable skills, including reading/comprehension, communication skills, strategic thinking, mental math, and planning ahead.



Sewing with Christine Pratt



Elementary Art Club