

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

North Branch September 2022 Monthly Report

Submitted by: Paula Keegan

October 11, 2022

Service Statistics	New library cards: 100 (54 A, 11 YA, 35 J) Number of visitors: 3,630 58 Tech asst.	Questions answered: 4,605 (2,290 Ref, 2,315 Other) Number of interlibrary loans (in/out): 205/505 Number of online database sessions: n/a
Collection Statistics	Adult: 49,258 (30 added in September) Teen: 4,635 (0 added in September) Children: 38,080 (16 added in September)	A&V materials: 13,909 (8 added in September) Magazines & Newspapers: 1,516 (55 added in September) TOTAL: 107,398 (109 added and 456 withdrawn in September)
Circulation Statistics	Adult: 1,502 plus 291 inhouse use Teen: 109 plus 4 inhouse use Children: 1,553 plus 455 inhouse use Hotspots: 15	A&V materials: 541 plus 2 inhouse use Magazines & Newspapers: 59 plus 25 inhouse use TOTAL 3,779 (43.97% of total BPL circ) plus 777 inhouse use. GRAND TOTAL: 4,556
Public Internet Usage	Users for the month: 626 WIFI use: 1365	

Programming Milestones TOTALS: 52 programs Attendance: 1,001 4 Room use: Attendance: 40 GRAND TOTAL: 1,041	Inhouse programs: 1 Voter Registration table: 12 1 BCHS (Bpt Comm Historical Society): 22 1 BOE (Board of Ed) Social Workers: 17 4 Vaccination clinics: 103 3 Little Bears Storytime: 31 1 Monthly study room use: 55 7 Notary appt's: 20 6 First Serve Tennis: 173
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1 BPT Health Dept info table: 25 4 Forest Bath'g: 12 4 Mahjongg: 23 1 AARP Safe Drive: 2 1 Lawyers in Lib's: 12	Virtual programs: 4 Mindfulness: 23 1 Adult book disc: 15 Outreach: 1 Watermark book disc: 16 Other: 11 COVID testing (Attendance estimated): 440
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Staff Development, meetings other than the usual, etc.

Dana Hernandez: Niche Academy webinar: Me Difficult? Nah, They're Difficult!
Digital Navigator meetings and staff intro: Paula K, Monika A, Bina W, Joel H and Larry F
Paula and Bina: 21st Century Ed (bringing STEM and STEAM to Bridgeport schools)
Paula: Winthrop School Governance Council

Highlights

"When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future"
-Queen Elizabeth in her 2008 Christmas broadcast

September brought some respite from the hot temperatures as patrons returned to the rhythm of the fall. We were very excited to finally get a good scanner for patrons, and they have been using it multiple times per day. Communication issues with the Covid testing schedule frustrated patrons. We saw more patrons coming for the new bivalent vaccine during vaccination clinics. Our circulation remains the highest in the system (almost 44% of the total BPL circulation in September).

Programs for September included the return of Little Bears after a brief hiatus. Although patrons signed up for the Explorers Club STEM/STEAM programs, no one came. The supplies came in handy when a young patron's reindeer had a stuffing emergency Mrs. K was able to quickly repair with the needles, thread and dressmaker shears from the Creative Critters program. We will reschedule the Explorers Club series and see if a different time encourages participation.

Regular virtual, live, indoor and outdoor programming continued with Mindfulness, Mahjongg, and Forest Bathing. Lawyers in Libraries, a voter registration table for registration day, the Bridgeport Health Department and AARP Safe Driving were some of the other programs held. The virtual adult book discussion group had its annual social gathering. The book discussion group at Watermark tackled David Wright Falade's *Black Cloud Rising*. The Bridgeport Community Historical Society had good attendance at its first live program since Covid. Notary use continued to increase. We are looking forward to the return of our Yoga instructor in October.

Book ordering was put on hold when Baker & Taylor suffered a cyber-attack that is still affecting ordering weeks later. Weeding, sorting, re-arranging, and reshelving materials continued with other housekeeping tasks. We celebrated Dana Hernandez's 30 year anniversary with BPL. Dana's legacy will live on. She once again shared clippings and babies of two plants (snake plant, mother-in-law's tongue) from the old storefront Newfield when we were there in the early 1990's. We enjoyed a day-long visit from Margaret Girgis (Burroughs) and were able to help East Side during an emergency there, but staffing remains a critical need.

Displays included Hispanic Heritage Month, Queen Elizabeth, Banned Books, Teachers, Back to School and more.

Work continues outside to spruce up the grounds. We were surprised by a solar panel delivery one Friday, but no further action has been seen. Our potholes are back, sadly. The park is in use more than ever, encroaching on our parking during daylight hours. There continues to be evidence of inappropriate park and parking use after hours with broken glass, drug paraphernalia and other unsavory debris particularly in the staff parking area.