

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Burroughs-Saden August 2024

Submitted by: Tanarha Smith-Dixon

September 4, 2024

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 111 Number of visitors: 6,401 Number of questions answered: (994 Reference, 496 Technical, 672 Other)
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 290,499 Total Added: 394
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 3,367 In-house: 1027
Public Internet Usage	Users for the month: 1373 Total Wifi connections: 214
Room Usage	Room: 16 Bookings, Attendance: 130 Adults, 20 teens
Programming	Adult Services Chess Club, 13 adults & 0 children total <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8/6, Chess Club, 2 adults, 0 kids• 8/13, Chess Club, 4 adults, 0 children• 8/20, Chess Club, 4 adults 0 kids• 8/27, Chess Club, 3 adults, 0 children Computer Class, 77 total <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8/1, Computer Class, 9 adults• 8/7, Computer Class, 8 adults• 8/8, Computer Class, 9 adults• 8/14, Computer Class, 6 adults• 8/15, Computer Class, 10 adults

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/21, Computer Class, 9 adults • 8/22, Computer Class, 10 adults • 8/28, Computer Class, 9 adults • 8/29, Computer Class, 7 adults <p>Bridgeport Library Literacy, 8 total</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/5, 4 adults • 8/12, 4 adults <p>Bridgeport Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center classes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/1, 3 adults • 8/21, 20 adults
Other Services	Digital Navigator: 5 Notary: 45 Passport: 9
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached 8/1, Farmers Market, 65 people 8/15, Farmers Market, 50 people 8/29, Farmers Market, 60 people 8/17, Mayor's Backpack Giveaway, 600+ people 8/17, Open House, 200+ people
Staff Development	<p>Adult Services</p> <p>Librarian Adam Cleri:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watched a webinar on library security • Secured League of Women Voters assistance with Voter Registration Day. • Entered new email addresses collected from Summer Reading forms into Constant Contact, for patrons who wanted to receive the newsletter. • Submitted 3 recommendations to Laura M for email software to replace Constant Contact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MailChimp ○ MooSend ○ Klaviyo

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- The board approved our proposed subscription to Buzzsprout. Using this, in early September. Adam will post podcasts to the library's website, and to other podcast websites.
- Tested and presented to Rebecca, Constant Contact's AI service, in which the AI takes one's inputs and creates newsletters, emails, and event promotions based on the inputs.
- Worked with Digital Navigators to secure Patrick Palafox to teach a cyber security class.
- Answer reference questions on burroughsrooms email.
- Edited and wrote for the newsletter each week.
- Posted Facebook promotional posts

Librarian Jeffrey Coutts:

- Planned programs for the fall
 - Make your own ice cream program
 - Spoke with local author Marcia Biederman about her based in Bridgeport true crime book "The Disquieting Death of Emma Gill".
- Worked with a vendor to obtain a new database; A to Z World Food, which has numerous recipes from around the world for patrons to peruse.
- Had a meeting with Kanopy to expand the library's catalog of streaming movies and shows. Plays on Kanopy increased up by nearly 200 from our first month of having the database in July to our second month in August.
- Relocated the new graphic novel section to make it more visible to patrons and increase circulation.

Librarian Katherine Mozier-Tichy:

- Finalized Claude Clayton Smith author talk on Dec. 12th
- Planned & finalized Hispanic Heritage Month programming in conjunction with Jaime of HC
 - We are going to have 3 movie nights, one for each age groups (teens, adults, and children)
- Currently planning presentation with the Digital Navigators (Andre & John) & Adam about media, misinformation, and finding quality sources of information for election information ("Navigating the Noise: Fact-Checking Fake News").
 - Planned for 2 days: Sept 18 & 19th in conjunction with Adam's Voter Registration event/table.
- History Center: Have been approved to write article about local Drum Corps history inspired by the recent New York Times piece

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- Have reached out to local drummer, and writer Ace Holleran who was also very involved in the world, he wrote about Drum Corps

Burroughs-Saden/Bridgeport History Center Monthly

Programming Milestones	No programs schedule for August
Staff Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Archivist Jaime Pettit and Youth Services/IS librarian Kate Mozier-Tischy have commenced a project to garner information on a selected set of books stored in the BHC area of the 7th floor stacks. They will be recording valuable data on each publication which will allow the BHC staff to make decisions about the status of these publications – which ones should be kept and cataloged and which ones to send the CT River Book Auctions. This is an ongoing effort.• Michael Hawkins continues completing new tasks as an Archives Technician for the BHC, including assisting with manuscript collections re-housing and performing scans on demand

Highlights

- BHC continues to field many requests from both CT and out-of-state researchers.
- BHC has received positive responses to Jaime Pettit's new exhibit on Jasper McLevy, Bridgeport Mayor from 1933-1957.
- Elizabeth Van Tuyl continues to work on collecting and reassessing various oral histories held by the department. This takes a long time due to the necessity of listening to and editing audio content. It is hoped that the BHC will receive funding for transcription and capture of audio content from outdated formats. All audio content will eventually be uploaded to the CTDA.
- Van Tuyl and Pettit continue to devote time monthly to the MTMS project. The MTMS team + the BHC staff will soon hold a meeting to instruct BPL staff on the program and how the public can contribute to it. The History Center was selected as a participant in the "My Town, My Story" project. The project is a joint effort b/w the CTDA and CT Humanities. The BHC is working with doctoral candidate Kenia Rodriguez and the CTDA staff to find innovative ways to collect materials from community groups and individuals for preservation and presentation.

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- Continued corrections/additions to current online sources such as finding aids and collection guides. This is a work-intensive project and takes time. CTDA has eliminated finding aids on its site, therefore the BHC archivists will have to update finding aid records on the CAO and BHC websites. Discoverability of BHC collections is the ultimate goal.
- Continued cataloging work in BHC's collections management software.
- Management and planning for the BHC's storage area continued. There is an ongoing need to buy and implement supplemental shelving as a work around to inadequate storage in the stacks and cages, but there are limitations.
- Continued selected deaccession activities.
- Several projects remain on hold as the department waits to hear about funding.

Burroughs-Saden Youth Services

Programming:

- In August, we had the final session of InspireInnovation, a 4-part engineering program for kids ages 8-14 which started in July. We had 6 kids attend. Jordan, the New Canaan HS senior who ran the program, recently reached out to ask if he could do the program again in the fall, so we are currently discussing when to schedule.
- Wednesday, August 7th, we hosted Marvelous Marvin's Brain Science - a magic program which included discussions of science and reading. It was fantastic and enjoyed by all who attended! (25 children, 20 adults)
- Wednesday, August 14th, we had a Happiness Storytime and Craft to celebrate National Happiness Day. We asked kids to create a collage of things that made them happy & several parents joined in as well (6 children, 4 adults attended).
- Saturday, August 17th, the library threw a Literacy and Education Open House. The Children's Department welcomed approximately 125 children & adults. We had two crafts (color a keepsake bookmark & make a duct tape pencil case); a visit from a therapy dog; giveaway bags; 2 bilingual storytimes; and multiple presentations on AWE stations, ABC Mouse, Launchpads, Wonderbooks, and Habbi Habbi language kits.
- August saw the end of our weekly Monday Crafternoons program due to low (but enthusiastic!) turnout. Saturday, August 24th, we began a new monthly art and craft program which will offer more complex projects.
- August 29th was Lego Bingo Day and we had 10 children attend.
- Weekly Program Attendance:
 - **Saturday Drop-In Crafts**
 - August 3rd (14 children)
 - August 10th - canceled/ Library closed due to HVAC issue
 - August 17th - canceled/Library Open House
 - August 24th (11 children)
 - August 31st - canceled/Library closed for Labor Day weekend
 - **Little Learners**
 - August 6th (15 children, 12 adults)
 - August 13th (13 children, 10 adults)
 - August 20th (12 children, 8 adults)
 - August 27th (20 children, 15 adults)
 - **SlimeTime**
 - August 7th (7 children)

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- August 14th (8 children)
- August 21st (6 children)
- August 28th (9 children)
- **Lego Club**
 - August 1st (5 children)
 - August 8th (7 children)
 - August 15th (3 children)
 - August 22nd (5 children)
 - August 29th (8 children)

Displays:

- In August, we had book displays about: summer, STEM, travel, Legos, the brain, and back to school.
- Our summer reading bulletin board is themed Read, Renew, Repeat.

Collection Development:

- We moved a large selection of holiday books out from the back stacks so these titles are available for browsing year-round.
- We have moved our World Language section close to our Spanish Language section.
- We are working on weeding the beginner readers, biographies, and holiday books, since those sections have a large number of very "well-loved" titles that need to be replaced.

Continuing Education:

- A belated congratulations is due to Junior Librarian, Taslima Sultana, for completing her MLIS from Southern Connecticut State University!
- Jawon Pringle, Library Assistant I in Youth Services, has been accepted to - and started - an MLIS program at North Carolina Central University - hooray!

YA/Children's

Kate Mozier-Tichy: AS/Teens Librarian

- Continued working on CT History Day support program:
 - Finalizing flyers & forms
 - Collaborated with Jennifer Russell, and Instructional Technologist for the Bridgeport Board of Ed., she has been reaching out to the schools and now have 50+ students interested in the program, working directly with classes and teachers
 - Collated sample student binder of needed information and materials
- Set up August Book displays:
 - Back to School: "Summer's Over, but you Can Find more Fun in a Book"
 - Victory over Japan Day (Aug, 15th)
- Currently getting ready to put up Sept. Book displays:

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- Voting/Civics
- Hispanic Heritage
- Put up Fall bulletin board: "Be-LEAF in yourself this fall" with information on setting goals and planning; teens can add their own goals on cardstock acorns to our "Productive-tree"
- Created statistic spreadsheet for gaming; PS4, board games, and more that are used in the Teen Room (tallies for # of users each day)
- Created "Post High School Resources" section for graduating seniors (etc.) about career and college options
 - Housatonic Community College brought over new brochures for FAFSA & the Free Tuition program
 - Included worksheets from: The College Place
- Planned "OpenLab" program with Frank Kuchinski of the Bridgeport Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (flyer attached)
 - Weekly workshop for teens to learn about coding, design, and entrepreneurship
 - Will be using Frank's creation: the breathing-enabled gaming device from [Ongo Health](#)
- Completed weeding books in the teens department
- Currently figuring out how to set up a Teen Volunteer program - we would like to establish a "Teen Advisory Board" for Burroughs-Saden in order to drive teen/YA engagement and involvement in the library