

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Burroughs-Saden January 2025

Submitted by: Tanarha Smith-Dixon

February 3, 2025

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 79 Number of visitors: 6,405 Number of questions answered: (844 Reference, 291 Technical, 605 Other)
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 287,503 Total Added: 493
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 2706 In-house: 3541
Public Internet Usage]]	Users for the month: 1469
Room Usage	Room: *37 Bookings, Attendance: 273 Adults, 113 teens, 4 virtual
Programming	Adult Services Chess Club, 21 adults & 2 children total <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chess Club, 1/7, 5 adults, 1 child• Chess Club, 1/14, 4 adults• Chess Club, 1/21, 6 adults, 1 child• Chess Club, 1/28, 6 adults Computer Class, 47 totals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Computer Class, 1/8, 4 adults• Computer Class, 1/9, 4 adults

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Class, 1/15, 9 adults • Computer Class, 1/16, 10adults • Computer Class, 1/22, 7 adults • Computer Class, 1/23, 4 adults • Computer Class, 1/29, 6 adults • Computer Class, 1/30, 3 adults <p>Afro-Caribbean Genealogy, 1/4, 20 adults, 2 children My Town, My Story, 1/11, 8 adults Teen Chess Club, 1/17, 1 adult, 2 teens</p>
Other Services	<p>Digital Navigator: 8 Notary: 49 Passport: 10</p>
Adult Services Staff Report	<p>Librarian Jeffrey Coutts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued making carts of books and DVDs and ordered eBooks, and e-audiobooks through Overdrive. • Finalized a monthly board game program with; Board Game Shop: Ethereal Lounge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They will be coming in February to host the board game club and will bring games for participants to use. • Planned Black History Month programs, a March blues concert and programs for the spring including birdwatching at Seaside Park with the CT Audubon Society and a talk with a local forensic scientist. • Planned for a February trip to a local senior center to teach them about the electronic resources we offer. • Continued learning the 3D printer and made several bookends to decorate the shelves with. I also created a 3D printing workshop with John Ash <p>Librarian Adam Cleri:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrote for edited, and sent weekly newsletters • Made Facebook posts • Conducted microfilm search for patron • Every week, ran the Burroughs-Saden Chess Club, including teaching with Chess.com lessons & hosting in person games • Established program with CIRI • Created a cart in Baker & Taylor to be ordered • Posted Paugussett podcast episode • Attended first two meetings of the Teen Chess Club

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Librarian Katherine Mozier-Tichy:

- Unable to hold crafting programs due to supplies not being received in time
 - Reevaluated with John T.: will no longer put projects on flyer, will announce them in week before based on supplies on hand
- Kate and John T. are putting together 2-3 easy crafts/projects to have on hand just in case.
- Rescheduled and held "DIY Votives" program - no attendees: seems canceling/rescheduling may kill interest
- Created February Monthly flyer
 - Included Rhonda Denet concert
- Create Klein marketing graphics:
 - Anthem Band - Banner & logo
 - Rhonda Denet - Banner & logo
- Finalized February programming:
 - Added Douglass Day (Feb. 14) Transcribe-a-Thon when Matt Blaine brought it to my attention
 - Sewing Machine 101; to gauge interest in sewing, Feb. 19 & 22nd.
- Distribute copies of book; *The Stratford Devil* to registered patrons for a virtual author talk with Claude Clayton Smith, on Feb 26, 2025.

Burroughs-Saden/Bridgeport History Center Monthly

Programming
Milestones

- Afro-Caribbean Genealogy with Sandra Taitt Eaddy, January 4th. 20 attended.
- My Town, My Story – January 11th. A public launch program to introduce this CT Humanities supported initiative to create a community based digital archive was conducted by project director Kenia Rodriguez. Attendance was less than BHC had hoped, but the project is ongoing and BHC will be marketing the program throughout the year. 15 attended.
- Memoir Writing Workshop, Saturday, January 18, 5 attended live and 5 attended via ZOOM. 10 attended.
- BHC cosponsored a program on New England vampire beliefs conducted by former CT State archaeologist Dr. Nick Bellantoni.

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Staff Development

- Staff continue to coordinate activities and programs with staff from Adult Services, and Youth Services. Jaime Pettit is taking the lead as representing the BHC and planning and coordinating with other departments.
- Jaime Pettit and Kate Mozier-Tichy (AS) have been working together to recruit Bridgeport students for History Day projects, made contact with Bridgeport school system teachers, and acting as judges for the History Fair taking place at Sacred Heart University on March 1st. The BHC will be represented at the fair with BHC staff presenting information on the department at a table.

Highlights

- BHC experienced a slowdown in visitors for the month of January. The exception is the attendance at the programs that BHC offered. There were still many requests submitted by email and phone.
- Pettit continues to design and publish excellent flyers for BHC programs. She also posts program information on a long list of sites and media platforms.
- As in December, BHC received several small donations for the collection; several more offers are pending.
- Pettit and Van Tuyl together with the assistance of Librarian Vivian Bordeaux have made progress with their inventorying and removal or cataloging of books on the 7th floor. Many items have been either deaccessioned, added to the collection, or have replaced current identical publications in poor condition. Dozens of works on local history and genealogy have been added to the special collections.
- 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.
- BHC is attempting to re-organize some items in the office and make sure that all items are accounted for in collection guides and/or the collections management system.
- Continued selected deaccession activities. BHC eBay agent was contacted and he will sell some deaccessioned periodicals that came in with donations in March.

Burroughs-Saden Youth Services

Programming:

- Prep for Summer Reading 2025 is well underway! We are currently working on our ReadSquared site, which will add a more robust experience for patrons of all ages. We are also narrowing down our choices for incentives.

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- Our Winter I Spy board is a fun, creative, and popular passive program. In January, we had 12 people participate.
- We have a new program on Tuesday afternoons - the *I Survived* Book Club, based on the popular series for late elementary readers. Kids read the books and discuss what they would do if they were in the same situation. 10 kids have attended the program so far.
- Thursday, January 9th was our Bubbles & Bath time Storytime & Craft. 6 kids and 4 adults attended the Storytime, then stayed to create beaded bubble wands!
- Saturday, January 18th, we had an all-day Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Craft. 11 children created unique and inspiration dove ornaments.
- Saturday, January 25th was our monthly Saturday Crafternoons during which 5 children created online jigsaw puzzles.
- Wednesday, January 29th, we held a Lunar New Year Storytime & Craft Celebration! 9 children and 6 adults attended the Storytime, then made origami snakes (2025 is the Year of the Snake) and red envelopes.
- **Weekly programs**
 - Saturday Drop-In Crafts
 - January 4th (13 children)
 - January 11th (19 children)
 - January 18th (11 children)
 - January 25th (13 children)
 - Little Learners
 - January 7th (8 children, 5 adults)
 - January 14th (10 children, 7 adults)
 - January 21st (9 children, 7 adults)
 - January 28th (13 children, 8 adults)
 - SlimeTime
 - January 8th (9 children)
 - January 15th (11 children)
 - January 22nd (8 children)
 - January 29th (10 children)
 - Lego Club
 - January 2nd (6 children)
 - January 9th (8 children)
 - January 16th (10 children)
 - January 23rd (5 children)
 - January 30th (7 children)

Displays:

- In January, we had book displays about: winter, New Year, Muslim Heritage Month, National Hobby Month, & Martin Luther King Jr Day.
- Our seasonal bulletin board is themed *Reading Makes You Bright!*

Collection Development:

- In response to frequent requests from parents, we have been looking for math, language arts, & science book that focus on homework help.

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- We would also like to add a small parenting section to our department, so we are looking for some general titles for our collection.
- As part of his field work, John Tiberi is looking for new books about conflict resolution. He is also working on updating our readers' advisory picture book list.

Outreach:

- Wednesday, January 15th, third graders from the Adam J Lewis Academy visited the library in order to do research on Australia. 15 children and 2 teachers visited and were shown some carefully chosen books about Australian geography, culture, animals, etc. & were also introduced to some helpful databases to help with their projects.
- We sent out an email with a newly created flyer to the school admins & literacy contacts, reminding them that we are available for class visits to the library, classroom visits, parent nights, school assemblies, etc. We also let them know how easy it is to sign up for library cards!

Successes/Concerns:

- We would very much like to have updated bathrooms in our department. There is an ongoing issue with the faucets, there needs to be a changing table installed in the boy's room, and the doors are rather heavy for children.
- We have received several comments from parents who attended our Little Learners Storytime that they feel it's an excellent preparation for kids to move into preschool, as it offers socialization, as well as learning opportunities for everything from ABCs & 123s, to learning to hold a pencil & scissors. It is always nice to hear from parents that - as well as being incredibly fun - our Storytime's are helping with school readiness!

Katherine Mozier-Tichy

Teen Services:

- Hosted a class visit on 1/14: Bridgeport International Academy Book Club. 10 students attended. This visit was facilitated by Adam Cleri.
 - Took the students on a tour of the library
 - Teacher asked the library to pull plays/screenplays for the students to peruse and choose from
 - The visit went well some students have already started visiting the library.
- Unable to hold crafting programs due to supplies not being received in time.
- As with Crafty Corner, these projects will no longer be put on flyers, but will announce a week before based on supplies on hand.
- Adam C. began testing Chess Club with the Teens on Fridays
- HISTORY DAY:
 - We have one student participating. Resources have been pulled for her.
 - The student has been shown how to use the databases online, had a tour of the History Center with Jaime P., and offered other support as she needs.
 - The student is creating a documentary on the history of mental health treatment, in regards to "Rights & Responsibilities," which is this year's theme.
- Planning activities for outreach table at Regional Contest (Mar. 1):
 - LAI Jawon P. is creating crossword, and word search puzzles, with questions themed around local/State history; provided by both Jaime P and Kate M-T.

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- In Teen Focus Group (Part of the Programming Committee): working with Librarian I Hassan from Newfield Branch with Teen prizes and program structure