

Burroughs-Saden November 2024

Submitted by: Tanarha Smith-Dixon

December 3, 2024

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| Service Statistics | <p>Number of new library cards: 114</p> <p>Number of visitors: 5,897</p> <p>Number of questions answered: (727 Reference, 376 Technical, 519 Other)</p> |
| Collection Statistics | <p>Collection Size: 289,911</p> <p>Total Added: 352</p> |
| Circulation Statistics | <p>Total Circ: 3,193</p> <p>In-house: 804</p> |
| Public Internet Usage]] | <p>Users for the month: 938</p> |
| Room Usage | <p>Room: 25 Bookings, Attendance: 241 Adults, 80 teens</p> |
| Programming | <p>Adult Services</p> <p>Chess Club, 19 adults & 2 children total</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/5, Chess Club, 4 adults • 11/12, Chess Club, 4 adults • 11/19, Chess Club, 5 adults • 11/26, Chess Club, 6 adults, 2 children <p>Computer Class, 50 totals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/6, Computer Class, 8 adults • 11/7, Computer Class, 9 adults • 11/13, Computer Class, 8 adults |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/14, Computer Class, 7 adults • 11/20, Computer Class, 9 adults • 11/21, Computer Class, 9 adults <p>11/14, Adult Arts & Crafts, 14 adults 11/14, Bridgeport Rutas, 14 adults 11/14, Virtual Author Talk, 31 adults 11/16, Native American Cultural Event, 14 adults, 12 teens 11/20, LVT, 4 adults 11/21, Mini Zen Garden, 10 adults, 2 teens 11/23, Indigenous Music, 15 adults, 20 children</p> |
| Other Services | Digital Navigator: 12 Notary: 22 Passport: 2 |
| Outreach | Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11/24, Pre-K teacher NBFA books for classroom • 11/26, Class trip to Bridgeport International Academy (B.I.A)—Adam and Kate taught a class of approximately |
| Adult Services Staff Report | Librarian Adam Cleri: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared podcast snippet samples for a presentation given by City Librarian Elaine. • Added to the podcast webpage: "The Checkout Stacks": "A SciFi Philosophy Series with Adam in CT" • Worked on weekly newsletters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wrote for newsletter ○ Found microfilm articles to reference in the newsletter ○ Edited the newsletter • Conducted the Burroughs-Saden Chess Club, including teaching with Chess.com lessons and hosting in person games • Attended a Remembrance event by OurTransLife.org (a potential library partner) • Made library social media posts |

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Librarian Jeffrey Coutts:

- Administered the virtual program: H.P. Lovecraft and Cosmic Horror with literary critic, S.T. Joshi on November 14th. It was well attended; we had 30 people.
 - Obtained a signed book from him to raffle off.
- Held a programming meeting on November 8th wherein we discussed the programming budget, future programs for Black History Month and Women's History Month and collaboration between the History Center and Adult Services on programs.
- Attended an information session related to the Library's database Freegal; it was informative showing the features it has and how to promote them to the public.
- Continued to learn about 3D printing and created several bookends to be used in the library. Also created an H.P. Lovecraft bookmark for the aforementioned H.P. Lovecraft program to raffle off to an attendee.
- Went to the CLC Vendor Expo at SCSU. I learned about different databases that could be integrated into our collection including Hive Class which has a large library of video tutorials for physical activity such as basketball, yoga, etc. I also learned about Today's Business Solutions which offers printing services that rivals the Library's current printing services. They offer mobile printing, printing kiosks, scanning and faxing.

Burroughs-Saden/Bridgeport History Center Monthly

Programming
Milestones

- Memoir Writing Workshop, Saturday, November 16. 5 attended, 3 live and 2 remotely via Zoom.
- BHC hosted an English Class of 8 students and a professor from the University of Bridgeport. The Professor was instructing the class in how to use primary sources for research and writing.
- Francisco Gabriel Lopez Fuentes, archaeologist, conducted the BHC's first, planned fully bilingual program with Abraham Lima as translator and assistant. The topic was sites of archaeological interest in Bridgeport that can be reached on foot. Lopez Fuentes presented chapters from his recently published book on the same topic.

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Staff Development

- No new items for this month. Staff continue to coordinate activities and programs with staff from RandR and Youth Services

Highlights

- Requests submitted by email and phone continue unabated.
- BHC continues to receive positive responses to Pettit's new exhibit on Jasper McLevy, Bridgeport Mayor from 1933-1957.
- Items from the General Oral History Collection were finally placed online. More materials will be available by the end of January. Volunteers have been conducting oral history interviews on behalf of the BHC. These new interviews will be added to the BHC General Oral History collection for its ongoing program. All interviews will eventually be placed on the CTDA and the BHC website.
- Van Tuyl and Pettit continue to devote time monthly to the MTMS project. In November, staff contacted leaders of various community organizations to invite them to the pre-launch meeting. On December 3rd, the MTMS team + the BHC staff will 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 between 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.
- 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.
- BHC has coordinated with the other teams on the Reference and Research Team and has planned several programs for the Fall/Winter season. Micro departments are sharing financial resources.
- 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.

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Burroughs-Saden Youth Services

Programming:

- Ana F led a Learn to Code program which met each Tuesday in November. 6 children came for each session and completed the coding class. Six children came for each session and completed the coding class.
- On Wednesday, November 20th, we had our Thanksgiving Storytime & Apple Turkey craft. It was attended by 6 children and 3 adults.
- On Saturday, November 23rd, Jordan Alexander returned to do the engineering program - InspireInnovation - he ran during the summer. 5 children attended.
- Also, on November 23rd, music historian & percussionist, Craig Harris, presented his Rise Up & Drum Away the Blues program. 20 children & 12 adults attended.
- Local entrepreneur & volunteer, Tamekia Lemus, completed her *Build a Miniature Room* program. 12 children and 8 adults attended the 4-week class.
- Saturday, November 16th was our monthly Saturday Crafternoons, during which 12 children created Flower Pot Turkeys.
- **Weekly programs**
 - Saturday Drop-In Crafts
 - November 2nd (14 children)
 - November 9th (17 children)
 - November 16th (13 children)
 - November 23rd (10 children)
 - November 30th - Library Closed
 - Little Learners
 - November 5th (8 children, 4 adults)
 - November 12th (10 children, 7 adults)
 - November 19th (11 children, 8 adults)
 - November 26th (8 children, 4 adults)
 - SlimeTime
 - November 6th (8 children)
 - November 13th (11 children)
 - November 20th (12 children)
 - November 27th - Library closed early
 - Lego Club
 - November 7th (6 children)
 - November 14th (5 children)
 - November 21st (8 children)

Displays:

- In November, we had book displays about: Native American Heritage Month, Thanksgiving, Veterans Day, Voting, & Autumn.
- Our seasonal reading bulletin board is themed *We Are Nuts About Reading!*

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.

Outreach:

- Wednesday, November 6th, we hosted two 3rd grade classes (24 students, 3 teachers/chaperones) from Adam J Lewis Academy. Children were introduced to the Children's Department & our programs; a demonstration of our digital resources, Habbi Habbi kits, Launchpads, & Wonderbooks; and shown a variety of popular titles, both new and classics. Additionally, since the class is studying Ancient Egypt, they were presented with a curated selection of our books on Egypt.
- Wednesday, November 20th, Taslima and Ana visited the three kindergarten classes (75 children, 6 teachers/aides) at Columbus School. They gave the students library cards (applications were sent to parents and returned to the school), event calendars, bookmarks, and read them several books, including bilingual books for the primarily Spanish class.

Successes/Concerns:

- We are always delighted when children come to the Children's Department after they visit with their class, or after we visit their school. This November seemed to bring them in droves! They are so proud to show their parents around and explain what they learned about our collection or our programs, and especially, to use their library cards!