## Burroughs-Saden September 2024

Submitted by: Tanarha Smith-Dixon

October 4, 2024

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: Number of questions answered: 91 (913 Reference, 366 Technical, Number of visitors: 6,912 885 Other)
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 289,554 Total Added: 350
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 3,335 In-house: 1047
Public Internet Usage	Users for the month: 1462 Total Wifi connections: 740
Room Usage	Room: 17 Bookings, Attendance: 138 Adults, 14 teens
Programming	Adult Services  Chess Club, 23 adults & 4 children total  9/3, Chess Club, 9 adults, 1 kid  9/10, Chess Club, 5 adults, 1 kid  9/17, Chess Club, 5 adults 1 kids  9/24, Chess Club, 4 adults, 1 child  Computer Class, 56 totals  9/3, Computer Class, 8 adults  9/4, Computer Class, 7 adults  9/11, Computer Class, 8 adults

	<ul> <li>9/12, Computer Class, 8 adults</li> <li>9/18, Computer Class, 11 adults</li> <li>9/19, Computer Class, 7 adults</li> <li>9/25, Computer Class, 7 adults</li> </ul> 9/7, When the Aztec Eagle Soared Over Bridgeport, 11 adults 9/13, [Apocalypse], 8 adults 9/14, Make Your Own Ice Cream, 19 adults, 15 children 9/18, NVRD, 3 adult volunteers/10 adults came to the table (4 of whom registered) 9/19, Marcia Biederman author talk, 6 adults 9/28, Hispanic Heritage Month movie: Selena, 2 adults
Other Services	Digital Navigator: 21 Notary: 35 Passport: 3
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached
	9/5, Farmer's Market, 50 people 9/19, Farmer's Market, 40 people 9/21, Horizons at Sacred Heart University,
Adult Services Staff Report	Librarian Adam Cleri:
	<ul> <li>Posted the first 4 episodes of Bridgeport Unmasked (BPL podcast) the BPL homepage, newsletter, BHC homepage, Spotify, and YouTube.</li> <li>Collaborated with Andrew Edwards, and City Librarian Elaine Braithwaite concerning a possible misinformation program for staff.</li> <li>Coordinated podcast interviews with Clan mother Shoran Piper, and Librarian Kate Mozier-Tichy.</li> <li>Was a guest on the library-themed podcast "The Checkout Stacks".</li> <li>Worked on BHC movie: "An introduction to using BHC".</li> <li>Worked with Marcia Biederman, local author, on her event</li> <li>Wrote for, found microfilm articles to reference in, edited, &amp; sent weekly newsletters</li> </ul>

- Updated phone messages (new library hours; East Side closed; new holiday closing)
- Researched microfilm requested online from patrons.
- Hosted the weekly Burroughs-Saden Chess Club, this entails;
   teaching lessons with Chess.com, and hosting in person games.

#### Librarian Jeffrey Coutts:

- Continued making carts of books and DVDs for the department.
- Planned the in-person September 19th program; The Disquieting Death of Emma Gill with author Marcia Biederman.
- Planned author talks for the month of October.
- Researched organizing a board game club, and planned a meeting with a librarian from Manchester who is familiar with board game clubs.
- Attended a book promotion event at the Wilton Library on 9/30.
   The event was hosted by two employees of Harper Collins who highlighted popular upcoming books.

#### Librarian Katherine Mozier-Tichy:

- Continued working on Burroughs Adult Services (AS) staff SharePoint.
  - SharePoint will allow the adult service staff to communicate about programming, share files, and much more.
- Created Outlook group to enable easier printing by AS staff.
  - Printing now has its own email and inbox, which is easier for both patrons and staff. Members can be added and removed as needed.
- Established a new email for reference inquiries; currently working on how to make it live via the website (replacing the old email link).
- Researched new headphones for reference desk; old headphones are wearing out, only have 3 or 4 left and they are constantly in use
- Volunteered to be the liaison to the Friends of BPL, starting in October.
- Banner for Klein website
  - Assisted Laura in creating English, and Spanish flyers for Orquesta Afinke
- Scheduled presentation with Digital Navigators on misinformation on the web - Oct 23 & Nov 2
- Began discussing winter/holiday programming in earnest:
  - Music series currently reaching out to various local musical groups for a series of winter/holiday concerts in

- December; created document to start keeping track of contacts made and details
- Adult crafts Planning TWO for December/holidays (will be non-religious with ability for patrons to choose their design)
   one on a weekday evening and one on a Saturday afternoon; am continuing the upcycling type projects
- Reached out to Emeritus State Archaeologist, Nick Bellantoni, regarding a virtual presentation (I have worked with him in the past, both in library programming and an archaeological dig, he is great!)
  - o Reference/HC staff given list of presentations to decide
  - Will be both Reference & HC
  - Leaning towards Vampire talk, even if not in Oct.
  - Will keep list for further program considerations
- Requested to write article on Drum Corps history in Bridgeport: there was an article in the New York Times current Drum Corps and I thought this would be an interesting topic and great local history
  - In process, trying to get interview(s) with former corps members (particularly a man named Ace Holleran, who wrote about Drum Corps for years and is local)

#### Burroughs-Saden/Bridgeport History Center Monthly

Programming Milestones	Saturday, September 7 <sup>th</sup> . When the Aztec Eagle Began Her Soar Over Bridgeport: a lecture on Mexican immigration to Bridgeport, and Bridgeport's Mexican community. By Abraham Lima.
Staff Development	BHC staff have been meeting with IS/Youth Services staff to coordinate program planning.

#### Highlights

 BHC received the next installment of *Telegram* newspapers on microfilm from IDI. The next process will be to inspect each (positive) reel and send the masters to the CT State Library for permanent storage.

- Elizabeth Van Tuyl and Jaime Pettit attended a meeting with other Bridgeport Organizations at HCC to discuss CT's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This is an important anniversary that will require further cooperation with other institutions.
- BHC continues to field many requests from both CT and out-of-state researchers, including the PTB Research Collection and the Locomobile Collection.
- BHC hosted visits from several student groups this month. Many students are interested in conducting family history research.
- Patron and researcher Dr. Daniel Reuben commenced his repairs of the grandfather clock in the BHC research room.
- BHC has received positive responses to Jaime Pettit's new exhibit on Jasper McLevy, Bridgeport Mayor from 1933-1957.
- 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 Connecticut Digital Archives (CTDA), and the BHC
  website.
- Van Tuyl and Pettit continue to devote time monthly to the My Town, My Story (MTMS) project. The MTMS team along with 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 MTMS 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.
- 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 CT Archives Online (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.

#### **Burroughs-Saden Youth Services**

#### **Programming**:

- Our drop-in craft for September 7<sup>th</sup> was Make a Card for Grandparents Day! (17 children)
- On Wednesday, September 18th, we had Pirate Storytime & Bingo with Mad Maddie the Pirate, aka Theresa G. Attendees were (15 children and 7 adults).
- Tamekia Lemus is a local entrepreneur who has volunteered to come in to do crafts with kids, while providing all of the materials gratis. Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> was her first session & the group made laser bookmarks. (9 children, 5 adults)
- Saturday, September 21st was our second "Saturday Crafternoon." Taslima walked 11 kids through painting a sunflower on canvas.
- Kristin & Ana offered a bilingual story time & craft for Hispanic Heritage Month on Wednesday, September 25th. (6 children, 4 adults attended)

• With September being Library Card Signup Month, the Children's Department offered fun activities such as a Guess Who board, hopscotch, and a special frame to take a picture with Cecily, the Giraffe.

#### **Saturday Drop-In Crafts**

- September 7<sup>th</sup> (17 children)
- September 14<sup>th</sup> (13 children)
- o September 21st (2 children)
- September 28<sup>th</sup> (11 children)

#### **Little Learners**

- September 3<sup>rd</sup> (6 children, 5 adults)
- September 10<sup>th</sup> (11 children, 9 adults)
- September 17<sup>th</sup> (19 children, 10 adults)
- September 24<sup>th</sup> (9 children, 5 adults)

#### SlimeTime

- September 4<sup>th</sup> (8 children)
- September 11<sup>th</sup> (7 children)
- o September 18th (21 children)
- o September 25<sup>th</sup> (11 children)

#### Lego Club

- September 5<sup>th</sup> (6 children)
- September 12<sup>th</sup> (5 children)
- o September 19th (16 children)
- September 26<sup>th</sup> (9 children)

#### Displays:

- In September, we had book displays about: Back to School, Grandparents, Pirates, Hispanic Heritage Month
- Our seasonal reading bulletin board is themed We Are Nuts About Reading!

#### **Collection Development:**

- We are currently working on filling out some of the popular series, both fiction, and nonfiction.
- We are reviewing the circulation stats of the new titles that were added to the summer reading list to see if more copies need to be purchased.

 Our holiday books are getting a lot of attention, now that we have all holidays out from the back stacks. It's also been a good opportunity to see where the gaps are in our collection, or where we need updated titles.

#### Outreach:

- Kristin went to Precious Memories Childcare to do a Storytime & presentation on the library for twenty-one 3–4-year-olds and four teachers. Parents received our calendar of events and a flyer of resources/services in their child's daily folder.
- We hosted two 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes (48 children, 8 adults) from Multicultural Magnet School in the Children's Department. Children were given a tour of the library; an introduction to the Children's Department; we gave a demonstration of our digital resources, Habbi Habbi kits, Launchpads, & Wonderbooks; and shown a variety of popular titles, both new and old.

#### **Continuing Education:**

 Kristin attended The Quiet Approach to Leading & Managing Others seminar at the Middletown Service Center. It was incredibly helpful experience, covering a wide range of topics, including giving feedback to staff, dealing with problem patrons, and public speaking.

#### Passports:

• Joy, Andre, & Lynn completed 1 passport application during the month of September.

#### Successes/Concerns:

- Two children from the Multicultural Magnet visit who did not have library cards, came in the next day with parents/guardians and got library cards so they could take out some of the "cool stuff" we showed them during the visit. One of the best successes we could ask for!
- We are very happy to welcome Ana F and Sharon G into our department...they are already working on some very helpful projects.

#### <u>Teens</u>

Kate Mozier-Tichy: AS/Teens Librarian

- Submitted YA cart for purchase in Baker & Taylor.
- Set up SharePoint site with new email for Teen services
- Connected with Horizons at Sacred Heart program; sending them program flyers for children, teens, and families
- Instituted college application support: to help with mostly written materials (essays) and finding resources.
  - Two teens ask for assistance with essays already, thus the inspiration to let other teens know we can help them

- Planned book displays for Oct.:
  - o [Hispanic Heritage Month up until 10/15] will replace with Halloween
  - o [Banned Books Week still up] will replace with Indigenous Peoples' Day for 10/14
  - o Italian Heritage Month up on 10/1

#### **Programming**

- Completed planning History Day program:
  - Scheduled informational event with the Democracy Center (they will be attending virtually) - Oct. 17th
  - Spoke with participating teachers: they will be visiting the library, and I their classroom.
  - Scheduled study hours at BPL, the will operate as drop-in hours in the Teen Room from 4 to 8pm every Wednesday.
  - o Reached out to the dean of Capital Prep Harbor School, sent information
- OpenLab:
  - o Discussed curriculum; Lt. Governor's Coding Challenge may be included
    - Starts Wednesday Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm
- Currently planning holiday winter programs:
  - DIY Delights
  - TekTok