

# BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

## North Branch April 2024 Monthly Report

Submitted by: Paula K with North Staff

May 7, 2024

Service Statistics	<p>New library cards: 98 (62 A, 5 YA, 31 J)                  Number of visitors: 5,028                  Number of online database sessions: n/a</p>	<p>Questions answered: 6,654                  (3,071 Ref, 3,008 Other, 575 Technical Assistance)                  Number of interlibrary loans (in/out): 317/794</p>
Collection Statistics	<p>Adult: 47,945 (37 added in April)                  Teen: 4,501 (7 added)                  Children: 37,299 (89 added)                  Hotspots: 30 (0 added)</p>	<p>A&amp;V materials: 12,066 (53 added)                  Magazines &amp; Newspapers: 1,558 (58 added)                  TOTAL: 103,399                  (244 added and 461 withdrawn in April)</p>
Circulation Statistics	<p>Adult: 1,648 plus 171 inhouse use                  Teen: 166 plus 28 inhouse use                  Children: 2,123 plus 583 inhouse use                  Hotspots: 3</p>	<p>A&amp;V materials: 557 plus 9 inhouse use                  Magazines &amp; Newspapers: 83 plus 9 inhouse use                  TOTAL 4,580 (37.59% of total BPL circ) plus 800                  inhouse use.                  GRAND TOTAL: 5,380</p>
Public Internet Usage	<p>Users for the month: 508                  WIFI use: N/A**</p>	<p>**Computer network issues prevent reporting</p>

<p><b>Programming Milestones:</b></p> <p><b>88 programs</b>  <b>Attendance: 2,018</b></p> <p><b>4 Room use:</b>  <b>Attendance: 112</b></p> <p><b>GRAND TOTAL</b>  <b>Attendance: 2,130</b></p>	<p><b>Inhouse programs:</b></p> <p>12 Notary appts: 27                  5 LITT Mixed Chess: 35                  1 BCHS Baseball program: 15                  2 Do For Others: 30                  1 Essential Oils: 6                  1 AARP Safe Drive: 13                  1 Lawyers in Libraries: 12                  2 C2 Study Skills: 8                  1 Autism Activity: 10                  5 Mahjongg: 41                  4 Little Bears: 73                  1 Earth Day Art program: 14                  1 DIG Chess Demo: 5                  5 DIG Chess Spring Camp: 103                  1 Cigar Box Craft: 18                  1 First Serve Tennis: 31</p>	<p>1 Eclipse Glasses Giveaway: 700                  1 Eclipse Prep Program: 50                  1 Eclipse Watch Party: 150                  4 Yoga: 77                  8 E-Sports: 45                  3 weeks Coloring sheets: 221                  1 Gifted Girls: 8                  3 LV Learn English: 15                  1 Digital Navigator: 2                  4 Quilting: 21                  1 Make the Sale Talk: 5                  3 Tax AARP: 108                  1 Thu Night Café: 80</p>	<p><b>Virtual programs:</b></p> <p>5 Mindfulness: 25                  1 Adult Book Group: 19                  2 Tax VITA: 20</p> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <p>1 Watermark Book Group: 12                  1 NWWA Blood P screening Table: 15                  2 Test proctoring: 4</p> <p><b>Outreach:</b></p> <p>2 Madison Report Card Conferences: 141</p> <p><b>(Study room use:</b>                  68 Uses of study rooms:                  Attendance: 111)  <b>(ILL Requests: 5)</b></p>
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Staff Development,  
meetings other than  
the usual, etc.

Bina W: School Readiness Council  
CLA (CT Library Association) 2-day Conference

“Thank you for getting that book for my son.” “Thank you for having this event.” “Thank you for helping me.”  
-multiple thanks including one written note to our terrific staff members.

April sprang forth with so many things to celebrate and honor! Joel H’s Poetry Month display included activity sheets to write a poem and audiobooks in addition to books, “re-attracting many poetry fans.” Other displays included April Fool’s Day, Earth Day, Ramadan and Eid-Al-Fitr. Autism Awareness (month) materials drew interest and Eclipse info was very popular.

The Eclipse also contributed to an increase in new and renewed library cards when patrons came in to claim the over 700 pairs of eclipse glasses given out. There was an Eclipse Prep program, and then the big day arrived with (thankfully!) excellent viewing weather for the over 150 people who truly shared the experience with each other outside the Branch, commenting to each other and waiting patiently for a turn at the telescope a patron provided for an extra close look. One young man arrived in the nick of time with even more glasses to share. NASA Partner Eclipse Ambassador Bina used her usual sign-in list, and one patron proudly wrote 88 ½ for her age! Bina wrote: ‘The Eclipse Program was something I stumbled across and enjoyed bringing to Bridgeport. I look forward to future science programs with NASA and other partners “met” through the Eclipse. As one person in the educational videos said, tell people “I am a guide on the side, not a sage on the stage!”’ That last part about helpfully guiding (patrons) is something Library staff at North Branch and throughout BPL and Libraries everywhere know all about.

Regular programs continued. DIG USA donated Spring Break Chess Camp for the entire week of school vacation. The Cigar Box Purses were beautiful. So were the Earth Day paintings. Another year of Tax Assistance concluded successfully. First Serve Tennis has started their afterschool program of sports and academics. See our very full list!

Bina, Joel and Paula C spent outreach time at Madison School during report card conferences and Bina gave a shout-out to both for their enthusiastic promotion of the Library and Library card use. Many families were happy to hear the message in Spanish.

Spring cleaning continued with renewed focus on collection maintenance. Larry F monitors the magazines and is working on the CD collection. Deb S has been readying the children’s and teen collection for summer with new labeling. Under Dana H’s guidance several collections have been sorted, organized and weeded. Joel, Larry and Paula C have already searched for over 1100 items on the long missing list, cleaning up the catalog and the Branch shelves. We continue to benefit from sharing Black Rock’s excellent page Joe. Monika’s notary certification was renewed. In her first five years as a notary for BPL she has notarized documents for patrons 225 times.

Building needs are being addressed as time allows. Custodian Dawn B has the building looking sparkly for spring. We all look forward to the new roof and repairs to the damaged overhang. Some technology glitches are still in need of fixing.