



# North Branch February 2026

Submitted by: Kristin Graf, Bina Williams, and the North Branch staff

February 2026

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 35 Number of visitors: 4019	Number of questions answered: Total 2581 Reference 1162 Directional 1148 Technical 271
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 98811 Total Added: 169	
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 3229 % of BPL total) In-house: 560 Grand total: 3789	
Public Internet Usage Total: 541	Public computer Users for the month: 541 Total Wifi connections n/a	
Room Usage by outside groups TOTAL	Room use: 6 Bookings, 70 Attendance: Study room uses: 65. Attendance: 85	

Programming Programs Attendance:	<i>In person on-site: Regular programs</i> 1 Adult book Discussion: 12 1 Books-In-Between 4 3 Computer Classes 28 4 DIG Chess 30 4 E Sports: 55 3 Gifted Girls: 43 1 Lawyers in Libraries 15 4 Little Bears: 52 2 Little Hands 19 8 Mah Jongg: 79 2 Playtime 32 2 Pokemon 38 4 Yoga Saturdays: 115 4 AARP Tax Assistance 143	Valentine's Day Cards 20 Gee's Bend Quilt craft 10 Scavenger Hunt 36 Art With Veronica 12 2 Sewing 31  <i>In-person offsite</i> 1 Watermark Book Discussion 20  <i>Virtual Program</i> 4 Mindfulness 20
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Other Services	0 Digital Navigator: 0 Notary 15 appts: 9 docs Coloring sheets: 100 Info Tables: 1 15 people Passport: NA ILL requests for BPL system patrons: 2 patrons/ 5 items requested 0 Tests proctored: 0
Outreach	2/4/26 BW: Read Aloud at New Beginnings Family Academy ages 6-11 43 people.



Staff Dev and "outside" meetings

Planning for 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade visits.

The More It Snows by A.A. Milne

The more it  
SNOWS-tiddely-pom,  
The more it  
GOES-tiddely-pom  
The more it  
GOES-tiddely-pom  
On  
Snowing.

Due to Kristin's surgery and subsequent leave, Luis "the bouncing dot" Rodriguez graciously returned to lead the North Branch during her recuperation. We miss her and look forward to her return but are very thankful for Luis' leadership!

Tiddley-pom indeed—this month brought its share of challenges. The branch was closed for two full days and one half-day due to snow, and many of the remaining days were marked by bitter cold. Unfortunately, the chill followed us indoors as well; our furnace is currently out of service. While space heaters have helped take the edge off, patrons and staff agree that the frosty temps belong outdoors! As expected, attendance at some of our regular programs dipped due to the weather.

Despite these hurdles, the North Branch staff has continued to shine. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and dedication to excellent customer service have remained unwavering. Pages Joe and Miracle kept materials organized and moving smoothly. Library Assistants Paula, David, Ilesha, and Lynn created engaging displays for Black History Month, Valentine's Day, and Take Your Child to the Library Day. LA III Dana ensured the circulation desk—and the staff—ran efficiently, while also filling in at the reference desk as needed. Ilesha noted a growing interest in tutoring services for children.

Our programming remained lively and diverse, including:

- Weekly computer classes taught by David;
- Three weekly preschool programs;
- A monthly *Books-In-Between* group for grades 4–6;
- Two adult book groups; a biweekly Pokémon Club that seems to grow exponentially each session;
- Chess; E-sports; Gifted Girls Club; & multiple adult craft programs
- The ever-popular Art with Veronica;
- and, of course, Mah Jongg—so beloved that an additional Saturday group now meets outside of our regular time!

A highlight of February was the return of our annual AARP Tax Assistance program, which began again at the start of the month. As always, advanced sign-ups filled quickly. Our patrons truly rely on this service each year.

It continues to be a pleasure to work at the North Branch thanks to our exceptional, dedicated staff. Their commitment keeps the library warm—despite the weather's best efforts otherwise.

Driveway to North



Heaters are godsend



Shadows on the snow



“Eyelash” hanging off the roof

