

North Branch June 2026

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

June 2026

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 59 Number of visitors: 4835	Number of questions answered: Total 3151 Reference 1561 Directional 1241 Tech 349
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 97672 Total Added: 450	
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 3968 (41% of BPL total) In-house: 615 Grand total: 4583	
Public Internet Usage	Public computer Users for the month: 604 Total Wi-fi connections n/a	
Room Usage by outside groups TOTAL	Room use: Bookings: 13 Attendance: 169 Study room uses: 64 Attendance: 81	

Programming Programs Attendance:	Virtual: 5 Mindfulness: 25 In person off-site 1 Watermark Book Discussion 18 In person on-site: Regular programs 1 Art With Veronica: 201 Books-In-Between 3 4 Computer Class 45 4 DIG Chess 13 3 E Sports: 23 1 Gifted Girls: 20 1 Lawyers in Libraries: 12 4 Learn English: 12 3 Little Bears: 67 4 Little Hands: 42 9 Mah Jongg: 108 3 Playtime: 39 5 Project Sunshine 44 1 Safe Drive AARP 2 Summer Camp (BYL) 56 4 Yoga Saturdays: 128	SPECIAL PROGRAMS Book Discussion with Marty Podskoch: 26 Rona Leventhal summer Kick-off 15 Rails to Trails Tour at Beardsley Park 30 Woman Behind the Emotions 15 CIRI 70 Self Directed Scavenger Hunt 25
-------------------------------------	---	---

Other Services	0 Digital Navigator: 0 Notary appts: 21 people: 36 docs: 49 Coloring sheets: 450 Info Tables: 0 Passport: NA ILL requests for BPL system patrons: 3 patrons/ 3 items requested 0 Tests proctored: 0
Outreach	6-27-2026 CHS Health Fair - 50 people reached (KG) 6-13-2026 Peace Week Event at Seaside Park – 125 people reached (MA)
Staff Dev and “outside” meetings	BW-Connecticut Storytelling Center Board met at North 9 people.

“I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June.” ~ L.M. Montgomery

Lucy Maud Montgomery probably imagined that world of an everlasting June as warm, relaxing, & indolent. It is clear that she did not work in a library in June! Instead of being a string of lazy, hazy summer days, June was a busy and rewarding month at North Branch, marked by strong patron service, staff development, program planning, and preparations (then kickoff) for Summer Reading.

A meaningful reminder of the impact of excellent customer service came from a patron who shared that although she lives closer to another library, she chooses to visit us because she finds the staff especially helpful and personable. After assisting her with computer and email issues and connecting her with information about our computer classes and social worker services, staff member Ilesha received this feedback and recognized the entire North Branch team for creating a welcoming environment that leaves a lasting positive impression on patrons. Thanks, Ilesha – we know you’re a big part of that positive impression!

June also marked an important milestone for new Library Assistant, Arabella, who spent the month strengthening her knowledge of the building blocks of our library: circulation procedures, shelving, pull lists, book repair, and patron service. She credits experienced Circulation staff member Dana, Paula, and David with great support and training, helping her to develop these new skills. Arabella also contributed to youth programming by assisting with Pokémon Club and helping prepare for a new Anime and Manga Club, bringing enthusiasm and subject knowledge that enhanced participant engagement.

The branch said goodbye to our page, Joe, in June. His reliability, attention to detail, and willingness to help with every task made him a valued member of the team, and he will be greatly missed.

Programming remained active throughout June. Monika brought in programs that helped our adult patrons experience the library inside (discussions with Dale Barzey-Pond, author of *Aging Without Limits*, and local author and historian Marty Podskoch presented The CT 169 Club: Your Passport and Guide for Exploring CT) and out (a walking tour of historic Beardsley Park, led by historian Sue Del Bianco)! Bina hosted the Connecticut Storytelling Center Board, then our Summer Reading Kickoff featured storyteller Rona Leventhal, whose engaging stories delighted attendees of all ages and encouraged audience participation (we’re still laughing over her retelling of the classic story of the Wide-Mouthed Frog). Paula’s Books in Between Book Club enjoyed a thoughtful discussion of *Saving Winslow* by Sharon Creech. Monthly displays - *Score with a Great Book* (novels with athletes as their main characters); *Read the Rainbow* (featuring LGBTIQ+ novels); *Got Game?* (displaying movies full of sports and uplifting stories); and a gun violence book display in honor of Peace Week - offered our patrons thoughtful and timely choices for their reading and viewing pleasure. Behind the scenes, staff continued to maintain collections through book repair, catalog updates, statistics reporting, and patron record management. Summer Reading preparations accelerated as large numbers of new materials arrived and staff worked collaboratively to promote programming for children, teens, and adults.

June also brought several stretches of very warm weather, and the library welcomed many community members seeking a comfortable place to spend time, read, use computers, and connect with library services. However, opportunities for library service don’t just take place at the library – outreach is an important part of how we meet our community. Monika spent a very sunny Saturday at Seaside Park for a Peace Week event hosted by Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse, while Kristin attended the Barnum Festival Community Health Fair at Central High School (on a not-so-sunny Saturday). With Summer Reading now underway and an influx of new books on our shelves, staff are actively encouraging participation by patrons of all ages.

Overall, June reflected the North Branch team's ongoing commitment to exceptional customer service, teamwork, lifelong learning, and community engagement. Maybe a world where it’s always June isn’t so bad after all?