



# North Branch Jan 2026

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

2026

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 39 Number of visitors: 3574	Number of questions answered: Total 1748 Reference 942 Directional 690 Technical 116
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 98895 Total Added: 161	
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 3615 (38% of BPL total)	In-house: 522 Grand total: 4137 Passes 2
Public Internet Usage Total:	Public computer Users for the month: 450 (plus AWE stations est. 65) Total Wifi connections n/a	
Room Usage by outside groups TOTAL	Room use: Bookings, 5 Attendance: 101 Study room uses: 67 . Attendance: 84	

Programming Programs Attendance:	<i>In person on-site: Regular programs</i> 0 Adult book Discussion: 0 0 Bridgeport Community Historical Society 1 Books-In-Between 4 5 DIG Chess 18 3 Computer Class 32 2 E Sports: 32 5 Gifted Girls: 69 3 Little Bears: 34 3 Little Hands 18 8 Mah Jongg: 79 2 Playtime 19 2 Pokemon 14 5 Yoga Saturdays: 150 Scavenger Hunt 23 Dec Scavenger hunt 35	Art with Veronica Lawyers in Libraries 16 Selfie Made Studio 10 2 Quilting with Vera 14  <i>Virtual:</i> 4 Mindfulness: 20 <i>In person off-site</i> 1 Watermark Book Discussion 15
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Other Services	0 Digital Navigator: 0 Notary appts: 16 people 25 docs 25 Coloring sheets: 100 Info Tables: 0 Passport: NA ILL requests for BPL sys patrons: patrons/ 2 items requested 6 0 Tests proctored: 0
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached N/A
Staff Dev and "outside" meetings	

*"I'm not saying I'm ready for the cold weather to end, but I wouldn't mind if January hurried up a little." Unknown*

January was full of snow, frigid weather, closed days, new flooring, and lots for the staff to do:

Kristin has been familiarizing herself with the quirks and joys of the North Branch Library. This month, she met with each member of the staff for a one-on-one discussion of what he or she does, projects that would be interesting to do, and how to make this an even better branch. Kristin has definitely hit the ground running. Right up until she had to leave for surgery, she was working on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class visits, summer reading, potential physical and cosmetic changes to the branch, new furnishings, the Toy Library, and more.

Bina:

Collection management continues apace. A shout out to Joe who is very good about finding the books that need new labels replace illegible ones or books that have the wrong call numbers. A shout out to Ilesha who has been helping me weed the Picture Books. It is painful to see beautiful books that have not gone out in six or more years. These books will be given new homes via Little Free Libraries, Read to Grow, Giveaways, and, of course, the Friends group. I am delighted by the "third partner" in our task--LibraryIQ! Shout out to David who help me inaugurate our Pokemon Club! Week 1—screening of Detective Pikachu. Week 2—playing Battle Academy and swapping cards. At least one kid was horrified at how little I know about Pokemon! The Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media committee chose its winners which were announced during the ALA Youth Media Awards presser.

Monika:

I have been actively coordinating our monthly and new programs. AARP and VITA tax services are prepared and ready for the upcoming tax season. The January Quilting program with Vera was very successful, as was the Art program with Veronica, where participants painted snowmen.

Yoga continues to be a popular program, and Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse has resumed its esports sessions. Our notary services and computer classes remain in high demand. I have also created a Cozy Winter Books display and I'm enjoying ordering new books, many of which are currently arriving.

The Selfie Made Studio program was extremely popular, allowing patrons to receive professional headshots. Our Gifted Girls group continues to meet weekly. Scheduling programs and services helps me stay focused and organized with library operations. Lawyers in the Library is very popular, and patrons often request more similar programs. I worked with the new AARP coordinator to bring back the Safe Driving program.

Additionally, we have a beautiful lobby display featuring a Vintage New Year and winter theme, created with Paul Baudner. For a few years now, Paul has generously been filling our display case with eclectic displays from his vast collections.

Dana:

I had 2 ILL requests for a total of 6 books. I attended two of the Evergreen 3.15 webinar series.

Paula:

Weekly Playtime program.

Set up the monthly book display, this month's theme was Winter novels with blue covers (Read to ease those Winter Blues)

Set up AV display, the theme was Movie Stars that we lost in 2025

Repaired and fixed all the books and materials that were on the "Mending" shelf.

Led "Books in Between" Book Club on 1/20/26

Completed stats entry.

Kept the pending patrons' records up to date.

Submitted supply order for January.

Snowman scavenger hunt, we had 23 participants.

Attended Evergreen webinar on 1/14. The scope of the webinar was to introduce the new look of certain webpages, and where the features will be placed. This update will take effect on 2/23

Attended at a meeting regarding the SRP '26 on 1/27/26.

Submitted 3 book recommendations for the BPL Newsletter.

Ilesha:

I did some weeding with Bina to make room for incoming books.

I feel the first official Pokémon club was a success! I directed some kids and their mom to Community Room B to join in and saw more kids already there socializing - afterwards Bina mentioned to me how engaged they were.

Not directly related to this branch, but I went to the free Reggae Anthem Band Concert at the Klein on the 16th (my second time seeing them at the Klein) and there were more people this time around than the first. People do go to the free concerts the library sponsors! I imagine a similar turnout for Rhonda Denet coming up on February 6th. So I just want to say that I think the ROI has been decent enough to "justify" more of them.

Lynn:

For next month I will attend the cybersecurity information session at Beardsley. A shoutout to Ilesha for weeding children's books in the children's department. I did a Display of winter books at Circulation.

