

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

North Branch July 2024

Submitted by: Paula Keegan and North Branch staff

August 9, 2024

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 79 Number of visitors: 5,328	Number of questions answered: Total 5,425 (Reference 2,879, Technical 503, Other 2,043)
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 105,824	Total Added: 778
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 5,451 (40% of BPL total)	In-house: 1,208 Grand total: 6,659
Public Internet Usage Total: 1,283	Public computer Users for the month: 649	Total Wifi connections: 634
Room Usage by outside groups Total: 64/156	Room use: 2 Bookings, Attendance: 60 Study room uses: 62. Attendance: 96	
Programming 69 Programs Attendance 961	Virtual: 1 Adult Book Discussion: 20 3 Mindfulness: 15 In person on-site 4 Art with Jade: 35 1 Be a Space Scientist: 16 1 Campfire Stories: 4 1 Class Visit (St A): 20 1 Crochet: 15 3 Do for Others: 55 2 Dungeons & Dragons: 5 18 E Sports: 313 2 Essential Oils: 4 1 Game Night: 8 1 Health D BP checks/info: 20	In person on-site continued: 1 Lawyers in Lib: 9 4 Learn English: 21 3 Little Bears: 72 5 Mahjongg: 46 1 Manga: 3 1 Meet with Ollie: 23 3 Playtime: 64 1 Safe Driving: 7 2 Summer Camp Refuge: 65 1 Talewise Science Explorer: 14 1 Teddy Bear Sleepover: 10 4 Yoga: 87
Other Services	Digital Navigator: 9 Passport: NA	Notary: 8 ILL requests processed for BPL system patrons: 5 Coloring sheets: 194
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached None for July	
Staff Development	Bina W: Camp Explorerer training	

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

“How you connect to a story is your choice, whether it's from reading or listening or watching.”

– Jenn McKinlay, Summer Reading

Summer Reading Theme 2024: READ, RENEW, REPEAT

July was very hot, humid and very wet. Only the garden liked the weather. It flourishes under the green thumb of BYL Coach Don. Programs and displays encouraged patrons to read our books and participate in our activities. A patron complimented Joel H's poem on display, and his summer blockbuster movies display created good vibes as patrons suggested more favorites to add. Paul Baudner's pre-Dunkin era coffee can and coffeepot collection in the lobby has generated a lot of interest. Senior Sleuths, Summer Reading and the Olympics displays moved a little more slowly until we added some topical word searches and crosswords that drew much interest. All staff encouraged participation in summer reading (over 200 North patrons have signed up) and programs (see program stats).

Paula C adds a Spanish story to Miss Bina's weekly Little Bears program and her Wednesday morning Playtime program is very popular. We will restart this in the fall. Bina noted that 8-year-old little Bears alumnae Lexi and Sydney S have enjoyed helping at Little Bears. Two Art with Jade series went very well. These painting classes were funded by Deerfield Academy where Jade will be a senior in the fall. Talewise did a great job as one of our science programs for the summer. Other special programs went very well. Bina told Campfire Stories and had some Teddy Bears spend an adventurous Sleepover. Dungeon Master Larry F started a D&D program and Joel H a Manga program. These had low attendance so we will try them again in the fall at a different time. If we had them weekdays during the storms or during the extreme heat and humidity, all the campers seeking refuge would have been very much involved. They certainly contributed to the high numbers at E Sports.

From Monika A: Our long-term partner "Lawyers in libraries" (CT Bar Association) mentioned that working with our library is very pleasant and everything is running smoothly. (Craft programmer) Vanessa Fasanella told (Monika) that she likes to be in our library, having her programs here.

A volunteer taught beginners to crochet. The Mahjonn group is growing, and the players enjoyed "chilling" here every Tuesday afternoon. Yoga continues to be wall-to-wall popular on Saturday mornings.

Collection maintenance continues, along with all the rest of the work needed to keep library happening. Lots of new books arrived. Joe and Joel mentioned the YA book and graphic novel circulation has significantly increased during the summer, evidenced by how often they need to reshelve and straighten! Deb S has been relabeling shabby labels (some unreadable) and doing much more to keep the children's department in tip-top shape.

Building needs are being addressed as time allows. Dawn B keeps the building clean and welcoming. Falling and disintegrating tiles, and the need for all trash barrels and garbage cans to transform into rain barrels will not let us forget about the roof. The roof will continue to leak until it is replaced, and there was certainly evidence of that in all the rainy weather. In the fall, we hope to do some major pruning and trimming of the overgrown shrubs outside the windows and the vines crawling up the walls. Our HVAC system kept us cool (yay!), but the humidity in the building stayed high enough to keep uncarpeted floors slick and slippery.

Some technology glitches are still in need of fixing. We continue to look forward to updating our programming technology soon.