

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

North Branch May 2025

Submitted by: Paula Keegan and North Branch staff

June 4, 2025

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 56 Number of visitors: 4,176	Number of questions answered: Total 3,749 (Reference 1,876, Technical 279, Other 1,594)
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 102,212	Total Added: 200
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 4,159 (38.72% of BPL total)	In-house: 1,312 Grand total: 5,471
Public Internet Usage Total: 1,099	Public computer Users for the month: 492	Total Wifi connections: 607
Room Usage by outside groups Total: 76/134	Room use: 2 Bookings, Attendance: 23 Study room uses: 74. Attendance: 111	
Programming 67 Programs Attendance: 1212	Virtual: 4 Mindfulness: 20 In person on-site: 1 Tangle (Learn To): 10 1 Sewing (Learn To): 6 1 AARP Safe Drive: 7 4 Playtime: 83 2 Quilting: 10 1 Financial Literacy: 5 2 Gifted Girls: 28 4 E Sports: 33 4 DIG Chess: 65 1 SMS Headshots: 16 1 Medicare: 4 1 Books In Between: 7	In person on-site continued: 9 First Serve Tennis: 294 3 Learn English: 9 5 Little Bears: 143 4 Mahjongg: 40 2 Reiki: 7 4 Yoga Saturdays: 134 1 BCHS: NH Railroad: 20 2 Yoga Wednesdays: 5 1 Adult book Discussion: 7 1 Stories W/Leeny Del Seamonds: 45 1 ST Andrews Class Visit: 57 1 Spring Concert: 70 1 Art with Veronica: 15 1 Bullet Journal (Learn To): 2 1 Lawyers in Lib: 8 In person off-site: 1 Friends Craft Market: 35 1 Family Fashion Collage: 15 1 Watermark Book Discussion: 12
Other Services	2 Digital Navigator: 4 Passport: NA 0 Tests proctored: 0	7 Notary appts: 10 docs May Coloring sheets: 90 0 Info Tables: 0 ILL requests processed for BPL system patrons: 2 patrons/ 2 items requested
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached N/A	
Staff Dev and "outside" meetings	Paula K: Winthrop School Governance Council, Community Safety Training Seminar Bina W: School Readiness Council Dana H: Acorn App Webinar	Deb S: Passport Agent meeting

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Since this is my last narrative monthly report, I thought I would make it a little shorter than usual. I've enjoyed looking back over our accomplishments each month, even though it seems each month goes by a little faster than the one before!

-Paula K

Displays:

- Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Paula C's Titles You MAY Like (novels with the word May in the title), Joel H's DVDs for AAPI (Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander) Month, Gardening, and books that promote joy.
- Joel's original bookmark series continued with "Words from the heart of the Pacific and Asia."

Programs:

- Storyteller Leeny Del Seamonds kicked off the month with a great program for 2 Winthrop School classes and visitors from the general public. This was cosponsored by the CT Humanities Council.
- DIG Chess is back and the public is thrilled.
- Paula C distributed the first title at the initial meeting of North's new book discussion group for middle readers, Books In Between.
- Our regular programs are going well (see our list). Little Bears storytime has grown bigger than the picture book area carpet can accommodate, and will move into the community room soon.
- We did have some disappointments with special programs. Our adult special topics person fell ill, postponing her program, and our RoomBox builder had to cancel her 3-week series because of an extended family emergency.
- First Serve Tennis was back with their spring series of sports and academics, bringing many new faces into the library.

Staff:

- Paula K is retiring in June after 40 years with BPL and 30 years with 3455 Madison Avenue. Thanks for the memories!
- PT LAI, college student and literacy intern for a non-profit, Larry F reports: a couple of months ago I was interviewed by NPR. They were looking for people in the world of literacy (non-profit workers, librarians, educators, etc.) to talk about the importance of literacy and the impact it has had on their lives and the lives of those they serve. When they reached out to Read to Grow looking for people to interview, I was selected because of my background as a library assistant and my work as an intern with them. I went to a studio, gave my interview, signed some contracts, and waited to hear back. A couple of months later and they finally reached out. I've officially been selected! A small 2-minute vignette cut from my interview will be airing multiple times on NPR radio between segments this summer as a part of their campaign to promote the power of literacy.

Building:

- Roof work has been completed. Can the solar be far behind...?
- Antonio, Greg and team have been working on the prep work for the mural painting coming up in June. This involved some stump removal, landscaping and material providing a firm, level space for scaffolding and ladders, and in June there will be power washing the walls for a clean surface so the art will best adhere.
- The garden is growing. We've enjoyed a few strawberries already. We are hoping for a sturdier fence. BYL has some volunteers working on that.
- The winter's potholes are getting wider and deeper. The only benefit is they slow the speed of traffic in the parking lot.

Looking forward:

- Summ Summ Summertime is coming and BPL will be helping Bridgeport LEVEL UP! with great programs, some sponsored by the Friends of BPL, great reading, and great times. So much work goes into summer planning every year, and the rewards are great.
- This summer North staff will be working with our partners to bring as many rich and enriching library experiences into the lives of our patrons as possible. LEVEL UP!