

# BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

## North Branch September 2024

Submitted by: Paula Keegan and North Branch staff

October 8, 2024

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 84 Number of visitors: 4,239	Number of questions answered: Total 6,088 (Reference 3,024, Technical 840, Other 2,224)	
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 105,222	Total Added: 486	
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 5,301 (39.62% of BPL total)	In-house: 1150      Grand total: 6,451	
Public Internet Usage Total: 1,283	Public computer Users for the month: 623	Total Wifi connections: 575	
Room Usage by outside groups Total: 64/156	Room use: 6 Bookings, Attendance: 50 Study room uses: 63. Attendance: 87		
Programming 48 Programs Attendance:520	Virtual: 1 Adult Book Discussion: 20 4 Mindfulness: 20  In person on-site 1 Art with Veronica: 12 1 Button Art: 5 1 BCHS (Sikorsky Archives): 25 1 Family Paint: 22 1 Crochet: 15 3 Gifted Girls: 26 6 E Sports: 23 1 Flyways Film: 2	In person on-site continued: 1 Lawyers in Lib: 12 3 Learn English: 13 4 Little Bears: 67 4 Mahjongg: 28 1 Forest Bathing: 2 1 Mindfulness meditation: 6 3 Playtime: 39 1 Safe Driving: 8 1 Ollie's Book Club: 10 1 Public Speaking: 5 4 Yoga: 87 2 Quilting: 13	In person off-site: 1 Watermark Book Discussion:10 1 Railroad Walk: 50
Other Services	1 Digital Navigator: 3 Passport: NA	13 Notary: 47 ILL requests processed for BPL system patrons: 5 patrons/ 14 items requested	September Coloring sheets: 12      1 Info Tables: 20
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached (2 events/ approximately 147 people) 12 September: Discovery School: 125 18 September: Madison School: 22		
Staff Development	NA		

# BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

P.T. Barnum Signed 1870 Letter: “No one ever made a difference by being like everyone else.”



September continued to be very warm, but with more good weather days than bad. This made for a (hot but) beautiful Sunday afternoon Historical Railroad Walk through Beardsley Park with our popular railroad expert Sue DelBianco. We hope to offer more healthy and info packed outdoor programs like this. The garden continued to provide tomatoes, peppers, baby okra, greens, and more. Monika finds watering and harvesting for our patrons to be very relaxing. Regular and special programs continued to do well (see list). Bina, Monika and the entire staff works very hard at planning, promoting and implementing our programs. One new special program is Ollie’s Book Club. Kids can sign up to read with Ollie for 10 minutes at a time, on Wednesday afternoons.

Displays included Joel H’s Sign Up and Soar (for library card sign up month), which deserves a chef’s kiss for needing to be restocked so often. Hispanic Heritage Month, Fall Into a Good Book, and Back to School were other popular displays that enticed patrons to borrow materials.

A new PT Library Page, Miracle Fagan, started. Joel helped out at a Black Rock Farmer’s Market, surprising a few patrons who later saw him here. Larry F helped pack up East Side one afternoon, and got a shout out from Vivian B: “It was a joy working with him.” Joel also provided a shout out for our Page Joe, who keeps the Children’s Department orderly and looking magnificent. The library outreach tables were a big hit at Discovery School (Deb S. and Joel) and Madison School (Bina W. and Paula C.).

Collection maintenance continues, along with all the rest of the work needed to keep the library a great recreational and lifelong learning resource. In addition to using the LibraryIQ program throughout the library to identify items that need to be weeded to make room for new, Bina reports that new-ish formats are starting to increase in popularity. She is ordering more Wonderbooks. Circulation of Habbi Habbis and Launchpads has started to increase. Vox books are now on order. A tutor who also teaches “was thrilled to learn about these materials for her students,” several of whom are learning English.

Building needs continue. 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. We have been included in a Bridgeport art project and may soon have a mural greeting everyone who uses our driveway. We have started hearing footsteps on the roof as preparations for the new roof take place.

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

We are looking forward to fall and planning for programs and events such as the Halloween Hullabaloo, and even starting to talk about plans for 2025.

