

Brownell Library continues to serve many, in FY2014:

- 130,572 visits and 169,403 items circulated!
- There were 10,296 unique user sessions on Brownell's public internet computers!

Programming

- Ongoing Adult programs include: Must Read Mondays book discussion; Fiber Fridays Knitting and Crocheting; the Vermont Humanities Council First Wednesday lecture series; Dine and Discuss book discussion; Community Yoga; AARP tax preparation; Tech Geek Jeannie computer help; Vermont Astronomical Society programs; Return of the Coupon Queen coupon sharing.
- Ongoing Youth programs include: Story Times for Babies, Toddlers and Preschoolers; Friday Night Movies for Teens and Families; LEGOS, Dorothy Canfield Fisher and Red Clover Award Book Programs; Wii gaming; Dungeons and Dragons game playing; Magic the Gathering game playing; Crafternoons; Teen Advisory Board (TAB); Middle School Planners and Helpers (MPH); Songs and Stories with Matthew; Chess for Kids; Teen Manga Club.

Technology

- In June 2014, all public computers were upgraded, and new security and time management software was implemented giving computer users the ability to work on machines more quickly and more privacy with their information.

Staffing

- Long time Library Director Penny Pillsbury announced her June 30, 2014 retirement.
- Traci Eaton joined the staff as Adult Circulation Assistant in August.

Collaborations

- Brownell Library worked with the following community organizations: Summit St. School and their Natural Playground Committee, AD Lawton School Library, Essex High School Library and Botany Dept., Essex Free Library, Essex Junction Recreation & Parks, Five Corners Farmers Market, Essex CHIPS & the Teen Center and Essex Junction Farm to School.

Other Milestones

- The 5 year strategic plan was completed with annual action steps for FY2015, after identifying Service Responses that align with Heart and Soul Community Values.

Summer Reading 2014

- "Fizz, Boom, Read" for kids, focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. 188 kids registered, and 2224 books were read. 64 teens registered for "Spark a Reaction" and read 248 books. 112 kids' events drew 2367 attendees. 29 Teen events had 467 attendees. Teens

assisted librarians with summer events and served as mentors to Reading Buddies.

- Kids made Robots for the Memorial Day Parade. Teens competed at Hoopapalooza and hosted a Marshmallow Roast with Lawn Games for Kids. Retired IBMers presented programs for kids on the Power of Air. We toured Wastewater Treatment Plant and Public Works Garage. Kids explored Cryptozoology and the Physics of Flight. Kids worked in the garden each week and cooked dishes with fresh produce. Teens performed Puppetry and created an Art Display in the library.

Looking ahead to FY2015

- Staff will transition some of the library space bringing adult public computers upstairs and creating a more quiet work space in the lower level with funding assistance from the Brownell Library Foundation.
- The Friends of Brownell Library will fund a new Computer Workstation for Youth.
- The Youth Department will be adding Playaways to their collection with the assistance of some grant funding from Rotary and Heart & Soul..
- Staff will explore the feasibility of including ereaders and tablets to circulate.
- The Friends of the Brownell Library Book Sale Room will be open during all library hours.



Youth Department's summer field trip to Essex Junction Public Works