

BERLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Berlin Public Library maintains an organized collection of books and related materials for both educational and recreational use by the community. Internet access, WiFi, local newspapers on microfilm, audio books, and a movie collection, are all available to the community. We provide access to downloadable books through the New Hampshire State Library and Overdrive. Each department has a computer dedicated for patrons to access the [library catalog](#), which can also be accessed remotely. Patrons, with a library card in good standing, have access to interlibrary materials from participating NH libraries. Fax and copier services are available. The library offers a Children's Summer Reading Program and a weekly Story Hour. Grants from the New Hampshire Humanities Council enable The Berlin Public Library working together with the White Mountains Community College, Fortier Library and the Gorham Public Library to offer Humanities Series at the WMCC Fortier Library.

The Children's 2015 Summer Reading Program theme was "Every Hero Has a Story". Funding for the Kids, Books and Arts is provided by Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation, CHILIS, Cogswell Benevolent Trust and is supported in part by a grant from the NH State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts as well as funds administered by the NH State Library and provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The June 25, 2015 kick-off program, a musical program by Steve Blunt held at the Berlin Recreation Building, attracted 71 children, and 84 adults. The Summer Reading Program consisted of 10 programs, with 362 children and 217 adults in attendance. The 6 week program themes

included visits with Rangers, Chris and Jenna, an outdoor adventure with Berlin Fire Dept. tours, and a Clif Books closing party at Community Field. As in past years, trustees, Ms. Yvonne Thomas and Mr. Paul Tardiff, who read stories on heroes throughout the SPR, helped Kathy Godin with her programs. Adding to the success of the Summer Reading Program was a donation of tickets from Storyland for the children to enjoy. The library thanks Storyland for their continued generosity.



Library Trustee Yvonne Thomas, Blades, Library Director Denise Jensen, Historian "Poof" Tardiff

The Children's Librarian conducted a total of 40 weekly Story Hours for young children from September to June, serving 239 children and 229 adults. In addition, there were 7 School Visits, a Halloween program, a place for 310 Safe Visits, as well as an Afterschool Program for 501 children. The total attendance of all Kathy's programs was 1748 children and 854 adults for a grand total of 602 patrons.

Grants from the New Hampshire Humanities Council made it possible for the Berlin Public Library in conjunction with the White Mountains Community College, Fortier Library and the Gorham Public Library to hold a Fall 2015 series entitled, "The Abenaki: Then and Now." The series was

led by Bob Goodby with his lecture “Digging into Native American History”, followed by a presentation and beadwork workshop entitled “Crafts and Cultural History” by Rhonda Besaw, an Evening of Abenaki Storytelling with Jesse Bruchac and a lecture “Town by Town: Current Native History of Local Area by Donna and John Moody.



In looking at statistics for the FY2016, we found an increase in the number of items checked out at the library. There were 27,976 items checked out, which is an increase of 3,541 over the previous year. In this age of electronics, this statistic shows that patrons at our library still do read books. However, the yearly subscription to the ebook service from the [NH State Library Consortium](#) remains very popular with 1245 checkouts.

Many BPL patrons and staff, current and former, have fond memories of Mrs. Inez Hamlin who passed away last February at the age of 94. Mrs. Hamlin worked at the Berlin Public Library from 1962 to 1986, as Children’s Librarian and later as Head Librarian. Also passing this last year was longtime former Trustee, Mrs. Nathalie Savchick, 94, who was a Library Trustee from 1973 to 2006.

Staff changes came with the addition of four Per Diem staff: Cheryl Nolan, Jean Lemieux, Claire Stiles and Tina Schlie.

| TOPICS | ADULT | JUVENILE | TOTAL |
|---------------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| 000 - Generalities | 26 | 75 | 101 |
| 100 - Philosophy | 238 | 31 | 269 |
| 200 - Religion | 139 | 21 | 160 |
| 300 - Social Science | 291 | 265 | 556 |
| 400 - Language | 35 | 31 | 66 |
| 500 - Pure Science | 76 | 653 | 729 |
| 600 - Technology | 405 | 250 | 655 |
| 700 - The Arts | 226 | 505 | 731 |
| 800 - Literature | 367 | 69 | 436 |
| 900 - Geography & History | 342 | 206 | 548 |
| 910 - Travel | 0 | 31 | 31 |
| BIO - Biography | 246 | 105 | 351 |
| FIC - Fiction | 7,918 | 7,553 | 15,471 |
| MAG - Periodical | 156 | 70 | 226 |
| DVD - Movies | 4,179 | 0 | 4,179 |
| VHS - Movies | 288 | 0 | 288 |
| AC - Audio Books | 3,142 | 18 | 3,160 |
| CD - Compact Disk Music | 18 | 1 | 19 |
| TOTALS | 18,092 | 9,884 | 27,976 |
| PKB - Paperbacks | 96 | 0 | 96 |

We are grateful to the Public Works Dept. for helping the library with maintenance during the year, including help with bathroom repair, light fixture replacement and window repair to name a few. We are also grateful to our neighbors, the Berlin Fire Dept., who are always there to help us with our Children’s Programs or when we need backup for minor problems.

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|-----------------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Walk in Patrons | 13729 | 11222 | 24,951 |
| Phone Inquiries | 1376 | 326 | 1,702 |
| Computer Users | 4098 | 624 | 4,722 |
| Copier Patrons | 2846 | 0 | 2,846 |
| Fax Patrons | 461 | 0 | 461 |
| Microfilm Patrons | 102 | 0 | 102 |
| Interlibrary Loaned | 708 | 0 | 708 |
| Interlibrary Borrowed | 194 | 0 | 194 |

The Staff at the Berlin Public Library appreciate and thank the community for their continued support. We invite all to come in and make use of the valuable resources available at your library.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Jensen, Library Director