

VLA News

August 2023

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Back Issues

Did you miss previous issues of the *VLA News*? Don't despair! You can read them on the VLA website!

[VLA News back issues](#)

Meet Your Leaders

VLA is here to help you. The people who make up the Executive Board, Section & Committee leaders and Representatives volunteer their time for VLA because they feel that it is important to be involved in an organization that benefits Vermont librarians and their profession as a whole. Below is a list of your VLA leaders. For more contact information, see the [VLA Leadership Directory](#). Let

A Few Important Announcements From Your Past President...

by Kelly L. McCagg

On June 26th Bryn Geffert stepped down as president of Vermont Library Association. Thankfully, Oceana Wilson, Dean of the Library at Bennington College, has agreed to serve the remainder of the two-year term. She will be taking the reins later this summer.

Calling all public library directors! The Working Group on the Status of Libraries in Vermont has engaged consultants to conduct a comprehensive survey of compensation and staffing levels in all Vermont public libraries. The purpose of this survey is to

- Study "staffing levels at public libraries
- whether staffing levels are sufficient to meet community needs
- whether library staff compensation and benefits are sufficient
- how libraries rely on volunteers
- what resources are available for workforce development and training of library staff"

Before starting, please visit the Working Group Staff and Salaries Survey page (https://libraries.vermont.gov/WG_StaffSurv) to become familiar with the survey. We are asked to complete the survey (<https://appengine.egov.com/apps/vt/staffingsurvey>) no later than August 14th.

Finally, I have been in touch with representatives from the Dartmouth Population Health and Rural Health Equity team of Dartmouth Health as they looked for established institutions within the communities served, where all people feel welcome, and where trusted information is sought. They are asking public libraries to complete a brief 15-question survey (https://hitchcock.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cupuj8E217oeB8) (it should take about 5 minutes) that discusses the services libraries provide in supporting community health, including the following: assisting patrons to find information on health topics or navigate social and other support services; serving as daytime shelters for persons without secure housing and/or employment; and, in some regions, offering internet and computer access to facilitate telehealth services.

They are attempting to learn more about library experiences in Vermont and New Hampshire with respect to community health and supporting vulnerable persons so that the healthcare community can better assist libraries in fulfilling their roles. De-identified results of the survey will be shared with all participants, so that we can learn together about the experiences of librarians across the region.

If you have questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Megan Colgan, megan.m.colgan@hitchcock.org.

them know if you would like to be involved in VLA, too!

Executive Board

Incoming President:
Oceana Wilson

Vice President/President Elect:
[Mary Danko](#)

Past President:
[Kelly McCagg](#)

Secretary:
[Loren Polk](#)

Treasurer:
[Barbara Ball](#)

Section Representatives

College & Special Libraries Section President:
[Sarah Scully](#)
Organizes workshops and assists college and special librarians.

Membership & Outreach Chair:
[Erica Shott](#)
Maintains membership database and communications.

Public Libraries Section President:
[Catherine Goldsmith](#)
Organizes workshops and assists public librarians.

Trustees & Friends President:
[Howard Burrows](#)
Organizes workshops and assists library trustees.

Committees

Government Relations Chair:
[Margaret Woodruff](#)
Assists libraries with connections to legislators.

Intellectual Freedom Chair:
[Randal Smathers](#)
Assists librarians with challenges to library materials and issues

Thank you for taking the time to participate in these important studies that will help advance the work of librarians in Vermont.

Kelly L. McCagg
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Connect With Us:
Website: www.vermontlibraries.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/VTLibraryAssociation
Twitter: [twitter.com/@VLAlib](https://twitter.com/VLAlib)
Instagram: [instagram.com/vlalib](https://www.instagram.com/vlalib)
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/groups/Vermont-Library-Association

Public Libraries

submitted by Catherine Goldsmith

The following message came from Vermont Community Foundation.

Dear Nonprofit Partner,

We know your work is critical—especially in this time of storm and flood response. While the level of crisis in our communities is extraordinary, we know that as a Vermont nonprofit organization you are a vital part of our state's recovery.

To support urgent nonprofit needs related to this disaster, we have temporarily modified the guidelines for the Foundation's Special and Urgent Needs (SUN) grant program. For storms and flooding relief, organizations may request up to \$5,000. Grant awards will support:

- Physical and/or capital repairs*
- Loss of revenue because of closure and/or canceled programs*
- Tuition, camp, and/or program refunds*
- Disruption of office functions and/or loss of critical information*
- Damage to technology*
- Unexpected expenses related to transportation disruption*
- Efforts to support staff and/or volunteer health and wellbeing*
- Or similar, urgent needs to be determined by the applicant*

This funding is intended to support those organizations directly impacted by storms and flooding. Grant funding will not support costs related to increased demand for services; the Community Foundation will be making grants toward these areas of need through the VT Flood Response & Recovery Fund. For the latest news regarding the Fund, visit www.vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/vt-flood-response/.

To view additional details regarding Special and Urgent Needs storms and flooding relief funding, please visit <https://vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/special-and-urgent-needs/>

Requests related to storms and flooding relief will receive priority review, and applicants requesting funding for this purpose will be notified of grant decisions within 7-10 business days. Storms and flooding relief funding is limited, and applications will be reviewed in order of arrival.

If the VCF Grantmaking team can be of assistance in any way, please reach out. You may contact members of the team directly or send a message to our grants line at grants@vermontcf.org.

*Best wishes,
The staff at the Vermont Community Foundation*

related to patron privacy.

Scholarship & Awards

Chair:

[Pamela Cartier](#)

Oversees VLA awards and scholarships.

Vermont Library

Conference Chair:

[Kevin Unrath](#)

Roundtables

Inclusion Co-Chairs:

[Bridget Stone-Allard](#)

[Amy Olsen](#)

Supports libraries in providing better service to diverse populations.

Personnel Chair:

VACANT

Assists librarians with questions related to personnel issues.

Technical Services

Chair:

(inactive)

Organizes workshops & assists technical services librarians.

Youth Librarians

President:

VACANT

Organizes workshops and assists youth librarians.

VLA News Editor:

[Janet Clapp](#)

Digital Communications:

[Tessa Johnson](#)

[Susan Larson](#)

[Sarah Scully](#)

[Jessamyn West](#)

Representatives

ALA Councilor:

[Jessamyn West](#)

Represents Vermont in the national organization.

NELA Representative:

[Amy McMullen](#)

Represents Vermont in the New England Library Assoc.

VT Dept. of Libraries

Representative to the

Board:

[Catherine Delneo](#)

Catherine Goldsmith

VLA Public Libraries Section President

Director, [Starksboro Public Library](#)

cl6585@yahoo.com

A FLAIR for Public Libraries

by Josh Worman

Greetings from the northwest corner of the state – otherwise known as Franklin County! As your newly-elected vice president of the Public Libraries Section of VLA, I thought it might behoove me to introduce (or perhaps re-introduce) everyone to a special little group of libraries known as FLAIR. Now, I'm not a huge fan of acronyms – in fact, I've always wanted to start an anti-acronym organization that would be called the American Society for the Prevention of Acronyms, or ASFTPOA for short. I think that really rolls off the tongue, don't you? Well anyway, in case you were wondering, FLAIR stands for Franklin Libraries Are Indispensable Resources. Because we are! We really, really are!!! No, but serious, Lee, here's the story behind the history of this story, or rather this organization, and the acronym that emerged therefrom. Some years ago (no one is really sure when, exactly) a library-loving lady by the name of Deb Grennon came up with the idea that all eleven Franklin County libraries should have some sort of support group – wait, maybe support group isn't quite the right term. Okay, then – some kind of county-wide library group that would meet monthly (all right, maybe not every single month – we do skip a month here and there, in all honesty) for the purpose of "networking" (although that's not really a word that's used very frequently up here in the northern reaches of Vermont, to be quite frank), updating one another on what's going on in the library and the surrounding community, kvetching about library-related pains in the tuchus, 'n' stuff like that. And yea, said group was formed. Now, in the times before the advent of COVID, the group would meet in person, and the hosting library would provide coffee and some baked goods and whatnot. Those were the days, my friends! (Also, the group was known as FLARE back then, but that's a whole 'nother story). However, in these times of Zoom-centric life and work, and life/work, the group meets virtually, which is certainly convenient. Y'know, with the silver linings and such. But no baked goods, and no hot coffee and/or tea. Oh well. Life goes on.

So what's been going on up here in Franklin County library-land, you ask? Well, one major development (or perhaps changing of the guard is more accurate of a statement) involves the Arvin A. Brown Library in Richford. Director Kathleen Engstrom (who also once served as Dear Leader of the Haston) recently decided that it was time to hang up her date due stamp after many years of service. And the trustees decided to hire Christy Liddy, formerly of the Varnum Memorial Library in Jeffersonville, VT to take her place as director of the Arvin. So we say farewell and best wishes to Kathleen, and a big, FLAIR-ful welcome to Christy! This reporter thinks she's going to do an outstanding job in her new role.

Oh, and speaking of outstanding, one cool thing about meeting on Zoom is that Vermont Department of Libraries Consultant for Continuing Education and Small and Rural Libraries Joy Worland, can easily join one of our meetings, and often does! I think she might actually come to every single meeting. In fact, her attendance record is a lot better than some of the Franklin County librarians themselves! Just sayin'. Also, it's a helluva lot easier to have special guests, which is also pretty awesome. Like, fr'instance, back in March, we had Michelle Monroe join us, from Peter Welch's office. We were like, wow! Someone from a United States Senator's office is at a FLAIR meeting! Well, at least, that's what I was thinking. I can't vouch for everyone else. I'm not a mind-reader, after all. Also in June, we had this woman from somewhere talking about something else that seemed important. I just wish I could remember what it was. No, I'm kidding, of course. It was a lady from the VHS (not Beta) (that's the Vermont Historical Society, by the way) who informed us about how they can come to one's library and give one advice about special collections – y'know, all those dusty old things that are sitting on shelves or stored in closets that you have no idea what to do with, and you'd prefer not to even think about them, because there just aren't enough hours in the day, and you're underpaid as it is, and you have to eat your microwaved lunch at your desk, and some groups are doing their best to destroy everything you love about libraries, and, and, and, etc., etc.

Well anyway, that's all for now, campers! Over and out!

Jobs & Subs

For library jobs:
[VLA Job Postings](#)

For library subs:
[Vermont Library
Substitute Pool](#)

ATTN: Gmail Users

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To finish reading the issue, scroll to the bottom of the message and click the link:

[Message Clipped]
[View Entire
Message](#)

Other mail clients should receive *VLA News* in its entirety, but if not, please [let us know](#).

Josh Worman
VLA Public Libraries Section Vice President
Director, [Haston Library](#)
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802-285-6505

ALA

by Jessamyn West

I virtually attended ALA Annual. Virtual attendance at Council meetings continues to work pretty well, and I submitted one resolution about ensuring virtual governance participation.

We had significantly shorter meetings this time because we've gotten the main bylaws changed and the major Council reorganization done, which were big jobs.

I filled in for outgoing Councilor Marti Fiske who moved, and was elected to a three-year term starting in 2020. I am planning on having LibLearnX in January 2024 be my last conference.

So, VLA is looking for a Councilor. It's a pretty low-key commitment: virtual or in-person attendance at meetings twice a year where you represent Vermont's libraries and librarians, and occasional fill-in meetings. Paying attention to ongoing ALA Council issues and communicating about them to VLA. Writing conference reports and doing an annual "State of the Chapter" survey. I've been a Councilor for six years total – I was an "at large" councilor in the early aughts – and it's a great way to meet librarians at a national level and work to get things done.

Do you already attend ALA and could you take on a bit more responsibility? Please contact me if you have further questions or want to get involved.

The rest of my report can be accessed online here and includes links to all my past reports.
<https://www.librarian.net/stax/5419/>

Jessamyn West
VLA Digital Communications
Vermont Chapter Councilor to American Library Association
jessamyn@gmail.com

Friends & Trustees

by Howard Burrows

One of the best things about serving with the VLA Friends & Trustees Section is the chance to meet others from across Vermont. As vice president of this section, I helped to organize the joint VLA Annual Conference with the Vermont School Library Association (VSLA). Though the venue was somewhat limited, we had over 350 attendees! We hope to use this event to find continuing ways to bring our activities closer together in the future.

Now as acting president of this section, I am a member of the board of directors of the Vermont Public Library Foundation (VPLF) (<https://www.vermontpubliclibraryfoundation.org>). As one of the duties, we reviewed 120 short applications for Winnie Belle Learned Fund summer grants: 119 libraries received \$500 each to promote development of young readers in Vermont. It was an educational experience to see the variety of programs and ideas our libraries proposed. Our next funding project from the VPLF will be short-term grants to libraries affected by the recent floods.

A goal for the immediate future will be to survey each library board and/or Friends group across the state. In addition, we have identified a promoter who will help us assemble a larger fundraising event to benefit libraries across the state. To participate or if you have ideas, I would love to hear from you.

Howard Burrows
VLA Friends & Trustees Section Acting President

Vermont Libraries in the News

compiled by Susan Larson

"We have heard from 17 libraries that they were impacted by the storm. Fifteen of those had water damages of various degrees and two libraries suffered from electrical storm-related damage with power surges that impacted their computer equipment,' said Catherine Delneo the state librarian." <https://www.wcax.com/2023/07/23/libraries-hit-hard-by-flood/>

"By some estimates, two months' worth of rain fell in Vermont in just two days. Few parts of the state were spared, but the valleys were hardest hit. Rising water on River Street in Woodstock, Vermont, caused a mass evacuation; although the rainwater didn't inundate Main Street, it caused a water main to break. Danelle Sims, an adult-services librarian at the town's Norman Williams Public Library, told me that workers had been searching for the fractured pipe for a full day and still hadn't found it. In the meantime, the firehouse was letting people fill up jugs and telling them to boil the water before drinking it. The library was closed, Sims said, because 'you can't have a public space without water.'" [The library has reopened.] <https://www.newyorker.com/news/annals-of-a-warming-planet/vermonts-catastrophic-floods-and-the-spread-of-unnatural-disasters>

"Over on Railroad Street, another low spot in town, most of the houses were flooded. The basement at the [Johnson] public library flooded, too, and some water made it to the first floor.

"Jasmine Yuris is the facilities director there. She was salvaging kids books and materials with her own kids." <https://www.vermontpublic.org/local-news/2023-07-15/in-johnson-floods-brought-devastation-but-also-hope-and-togetherness>

"Around 5,000 donated books that were being stored in the library's basement were ruined, along with damage to the building's main controls, including elevator, electrical and sprinkler systems, Dan Groberg, the [Kellogg-Hubbard] library's executive director, said in an interview." <https://vtdigger.org/2023/07/15/montpeliers-kellogg-hubbard-library-recovery-efforts-will-take-months-rather-than-weeks/>

"Fletcher Memorial Library (FML) [in Ludlow, Vermont] says 'goodbye' and 'hello' with a staff change. A huge thank you and shout out to Jill Laramie as she retires for real this time, enjoying life and the adventures it brings...FML would like to introduce a new member of their staff. Beginning July 1, Michelle Stinson, former youth librarian at FML from 2000-2005, is returning in the position of adult services." <https://vermontjournal.com/news/fletcher-memorial-staff-announcements/>

"The Craftsbury community has come together to make [Craftsbury Public Library] go solar, using a model they hope other small, rural towns will emulate," reports WCAX-TV. <https://www.wcax.com/2023/07/05/craftsbury-library-goes-solar/>

"Burlington's Fletcher Free Library is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year – and they're doing that – in a big way," reports WCAX-TV in this interview with library director Mary Danko. <https://www.wcax.com/2023/07/05/fletcher-free-library-celebrate-sesquicentennial/>

"The Rochester Library Board of Trustees has chosen Maya Newroot to be the new library director beginning August 15. She will also continue in her role as children's librarian.

"Since the longtime library director Jeannette Bair retired at the end of June, the trustees have hired a temporary director, Laura Gardener, who will cover that position from July 1-August 13." <https://www.ourherald.com/articles/trustees-pick-maya-newroot-as-new-library-director/>

"Twelve public libraries in Vermont and New Hampshire are recipients of the 2023-2024 Rural Library grant awarded by the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF). The grant provides \$2,500 in new children's books for the public and local school libraries, literacy programming events, storytelling sessions, book giveaways, and more."

The grantees in Vermont are the following:

Alden Balch Memorial Library in Lunenburg, VT

Fairlee Public Library in Fairlee, VT

Lawrence Memorial Library in Bristol, VT

Maclure Library in Pittsford, VT

Rochester Public Library in Rochester, VT

Sheldon Municipal Library in Sheldon, VT

<https://mountaintimes.info/maclure-library-receives-grant-from-the-childrens-literacy-foundation/>

https://www.caledonianrecord.com/features/school/children-s-literacy-foundation-awards-rural-library-grants/article_2ff1b5b2-8071-5619-be0a-d44a62929018.html

<https://www.ourherald.com/articles/rochester-public-library-selected-for-clif-grant/>

"In 2018, a Reuters article about the Haskell Free Library & Opera House, a small-town library straddling the U.S.-Canada border, caught the attention of writer/novelist John McManus.

"Reporter Yeganeh Torbati's article described how...the Haskell library had become a gathering spot for families – many of them Iranian – separated by Trump's policies.

"McManus showed the article to his husband, director/playwright Kareem Fahmy.

"You are going to write a play about this," McManus said.

"Fahmy did. A co-production of his play *A Distinct Society* premiered in January in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Palo Alto, California."

<https://www.dailyherald.com/entlife/20230622/country-spanning-library-inspires-writers-theatres-a-distinct-society>

Morristown Centennial Library director Kendra Aber-Ferri and Champlain Valley Union High School librarian Peter Langella shared their summer reading recommendations on Vermont Public's *Vermont Edition*.

<https://www.vermontpublic.org/show/vermont-edition/2023-06-21/summer-book-show-whats-on-your-reading-list>

"The Director of Burlington's Fletcher Free Library, Mary Danko, said that while book challenges are not currently an issue in Burlington, 'from my standpoint, as a librarian in Vermont, I think what worries us the most, is what I would call the "chilling effect" that this can have.'"

<https://www.ourtownsfoundation.org/libraries-in-the-age-of-book-bans/>

"The Finance Committee of the [Rutland] Board of Aldermen voted unanimously Thursday [June 22] to contribute \$18,000 to the [Rutland Free] library to cover planning costs for a major renovation, contingent on the library actually receiving grant money. The funds will be drawn from the new 1% local sales tax scheduled to take effect next month. Library Director Randal Smathers told the committee he requested the money as a show of commitment that would bolster the library's application for COVID stimulus funds."

https://www.rutlandherald.com/news/local/library-renovation-gets-city-support/article_c30bf1e5-b41f-55fc-a83d-39f1f9107389.html

"The Fair Haven Free Library is taking part in this summer's Good Citizen Challenge. This challenge asks students to learn about their communities – and current events – and find ways to lend a hand."

<https://mountaintimes.info/fair-haven-free-library-encourages-students-to-join-the-good-citizen-challenge/>

Vermont Historical Society executive director Steve Perkins and Dennis Fuller, chairperson of the Canaan Historical Society, spoke with Channel 22's *This Place in History* about Alice M. Ward Memorial Library.

<https://www.mychamplainvalley.com/news/local-news/this-place-in-history-the-ward-memorial-library/>

"The Manchester Community Library is updating and reorganizing its Adult Collection within its Glades system. This 'spring cleaning' is healthy for its book collection and follows the best practices of a modern public library."
https://www.manchesterjournal.com/community-news/manchester-community-library-updates-and-organizes-with-color-coded-glades-system/article_26099c34-0ad3-11ee-8f38-f336ce823515.html

"Toussaint St. Negritude, who is gay and Black, was harassed and followed by protesters at a queer poetry reading [at Cobleigh Library] in Lyndonville on June 10."
<https://vtdigger.org/2023/06/16/vermonts-congressional-delegation-condemns-targeting-of-queer-black-poet/>

"With funny anecdotes and insight, Vermont author Chris Bohjalian entertained over 100 Manchester Community Library supporters in a packed room at the library on Thursday [June 15], championing libraries and deploring book banning that has cropped up across the country."
https://www.manchesterjournal.com/arts_and_culture/author-chris-bohjalian-champions-libraries-at-manchester-community-library-fundraiser/article_0d05ae44-0d26-11ee-893c-a3c9673e9975.html

"That charge stems from the [Dorset Village] library staff's discovery that Kelly allegedly withdrew \$6,000 in cash from the library bank account on Sept. 9, 2021, while serving as president of the library's board of trustees, according to police."
https://www.benningtonbanner.com/local-news/former-board-president-of-dorset-library-takes-plea-on-two-separate-embezzlement-charges/article_7a77fe50-048e-11ee-a08d-bfb90e93a297.html#:~:text=Dorothea%20Kelly%2C%2062%2C%20pleaded%20guilty,in%20Dors-et%20two%20years%20earlier.

"Latham Memorial Library may soon have a chair lift that will allow better access to community space on its lower floor.

"The Thetford Library Federation, which oversees Latham in Thetford Center and Peabody Library in Post Mills, earned a \$25,000 conditional grant from the Vermont Arts Council and must raise an additional \$78,000 to secure the grant for the project, according to an announcement from the library...

"Other Upper Valley libraries have also taken on accessibility projects in recent years, including the Windsor Public Library. Staff there are waiting on a state inspection to approve the library's new chair lift before the public can use it, said library director Barbara Ball."
<https://www.vnews.com/Thetford-library-raises-funds-for-elevator-51192318>

Randal Smathers, director of Rutland Free Library and Vermont Library Association Intellectual Freedom Chair, and Trina Magi, library professor and reference and instruction librarian at the University of Vermont, were guests on Vermont Public's *Vermont Edition* show about book challenges and bans.
<https://www.vermontpublic.org/show/vermont-edition/2023-05-22/vermont-librarians-weigh-in-on-book-challenges-and-book-banning>

"On a recent Saturday afternoon at the Fletcher Free Library in Burlington, a group of nine people sit in a circle in a third-floor meeting room.

"They're here to write poetry through a group called The Poetry Experience. It's led by Rajnii Eddins, a spoken word poet, artist, activist, and community leader."
<https://www.vermontpublic.org/local-news/2023-06-12/meet-the-burlingtonians-aged-10-and-up-writing-poems-about-poison-rain-and-animal-footprints>

"Jeannette Bair, who began her many years as library director at the Rochester Public Library in the fall of 2004, several months after she and her husband, Chris Williams, moved to Hancock from Indiana, is retiring from the library at the end of June."
<https://www.ourherald.com/articles/longtime-librarian-to-retire/>

"Loren Polk is the new library director of Stowe Free Library. She starts June 19."
https://www.vtcng.com/stowe_reporter/news/local_news/stowe-free-library-hires-new-director/article_9dbba6b2-f022-11ed-9381-876e4388e0ad.html

"Trustees of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library have tapped one of their own to serve as their first executive director since Tom McKone retired four years ago."

https://www.timesargus.com/news/local/groberg-named-kellogg-hubbards-new-executive-director/article_2fdcbfe9-1c1d-5107-ac66-973a2560bc31.html

Fletcher Memorial Library in Ludlow has received a Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization grant of \$75,000 from The Preservation Trust of Vermont. "This grant will enable the library to move forward on the restoration of our magnificent spiral marble staircase and inlaid marble floors,' says Director Jill Tofferi."

https://www.eagletimes.com/fletcher-memorial-library-awarded-75-000/article_937a474e-63ba-5a35-9750-5f0d6b6695bf.html

Nine Vermont libraries received funding in the first round of the American Library Association Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities initiative. Congratulations to the following:

Bethel Public Library
Bixby Memorial Free Library
Charlotte Library
Cutler Memorial Library, Plainfield, VT
Kimball Public Library
Lawrence Memorial
Manchester Community Library
Pawlet Public Library
Starksboro Public Library

<http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2023/05/ala-announces-240-recipients-library-accessibility-funding-small-and-rural>

"Last year at the Waterbury Public Library, Youth Services Librarian Cynthia Ryle started noticing more and more young people coming in and asking for books with queer characters.

"In an art club the library hosted, teen participants would show up with rainbow pins, Ryle recalled. So in February 2022, she offered a 'book tasting,' picking a few titles with LGBTQ characters and plot lines that the young readers selected. From there, seeing the interest, Ryle grew the tasting into a full-course monthly book club called Queer Reads."

https://www.timesargus.com/news/local/queer-reads-creates-library-space-for-lgbtq-youth/article_7eac0fd0-89b1-583e-9c41-166e6da342a1.html

"People have been coming out in groups with their families taking pictures and just taking it all in. It's been really incredible,' said Jason Butler, director of the Joslin Memorial Library." Von Trapp Flowers displayed 1,500 tulip stems on the library steps.

<https://www.mynbc5.com/article/1500-tulips-donated-to-library-after-warm-weather-causes-them-to-prematurely-bloom/43714745>

Brooks Memorial Library Director Starr "LaTronica said 'a very large rock' went through the windows at the library at about 2:41 a.m. Monday, causing the alarm to go off.

"They didn't enter the building but now we need some new windows,' she said."

https://www.reformer.com/local-news/vandalism-targets-brattleboro-library-bookstore/article_0cae87a0-eaa2-11ed-9341-2b2aa25b29d2.html

"Brooks Memorial Library to distribute and deaccession portion of art and artifacts collection"

https://www.reformer.com/community-news/brooks-memorial-library-to-distribute-and-deaccession-portion-of-art-and-artifacts-collection/article_219b7e90-dfab-11ed-96d2-03490f8691dd.html?fbclid=IwAR2t_KwXQlRtn1ISQDXqjoCavZOV_-1hkETJ3sDgjFfrf-VF1-kOCdQbVsw

Norman Williams Public Library youth services director Adrian Tans "co-opted a chalkboard that was once called the Town Crier and turned it into the Town Smiler."

<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/stuck-in-vermont-adrian-tans-draws-an-audience-with-chalk-art-on-the-woodstock-town-smiler/Content?oid=38238347>

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Libraries in Vermont Working Group

The Working Group on the Status of Libraries in Vermont will meet August 18, 2023 to discuss "Recommendations & Report Writing." They last met July 28, 2023 on the topic of "Safety."

Information about the group, including testimony and recordings of past meetings, can be found at https://libraries.vermont.gov/services/projects/working_group

In May 2021, the Vermont State Legislature passed S.115 (Act 66), an act that created the Working Group on the Status of Libraries in Vermont and charges that group with submitting a report on their studies by November 1, 2023.

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