

Bennington City Council Meeting
April 14, 2025
Library Report:

Bennington Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 25, 2025
Library Report: Lisa Flaxbeard

The mission of the Bennington Public Library is to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, and strengthen community. To deliver on this promise we rely on three great resources: our staff, our collection, and our physical space.

Library Programs and Services

Last month's program attendance and circulation statistics are included in the February statistical report.

The library received over 40 online signups for the Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs **District II Art Show** from Bennington and homeschooled students ranging from kindergarten through 12th grade. Twenty-eight art pieces advanced to the show which was held in Bellevue on March 22. Twenty-five received ribbons. Nine received first place ribbons and advanced to the Nebraska Women's Club State Convention Art Contest in Lincoln in April. All art pieces will be on display at the library through the month of April.

March Book Madness is in full swing. Winners will be announced April 7.

Johnna will conduct an **Out and About Storytime** at Cup and Cone on Wednesday, April 9th at 10:00 AM.

Our first library **Cat Café** with Felius is this Saturday, March 29th, 9:30 - 11:30 AM. Anyone interested in adopting a cat will need to get pre-approved through the Felius website (<https://felius.org/adopt>) before the event. This event is open to patrons ages 7 and up.

The most recent draft of our **Summer Reading** brochure is attached. As soon as the location of our Star Party is confirmed it will be sent to the printer. The Friends of the Library approved funding for the sponsorship of prizes and the brochure printing costs.

Technology

We did not receive an affordable bid proposal for the fiber optic special construction e-rate funding project. There is a two-week grace period which still gives vendors time to submit a proposal. Cox expressed interest last year but did not meet the deadline. I reached a new Cox representative today. He expressed interest in submitting a proposal. We shall see...

I learned that the company that manages our lighting controls is no longer in business. I will be meeting with a representative from Strategic Electric (the city's electrician) this week to determine our options going forward.

The all-in-one computer which Jason Nocita delivered turned out to not be a touch screen. I am currently researching other possibilities and will consult with our tech contact at the Nebraska Library Commission before proceeding with the purchase of an all-in-one touch screen.

Personnel/Continuing Education

Heather's dad passed away suddenly last week. She is expected to return from bereavement leave on Thursday.

I attended the Nebraska Library Association's Advocacy Day in Lincoln last week. I missed seeing our Nebraska State Senator Kristy Armendariz as she was in a legislative session during my visit, but had a chance to talk with a member of her staff.

Social Media Stats 3/25/2025

TikTok: 1,378 followers; 46K likes

Instagram: 606 followers; 6,274 views in the last 28 days; 1,049 accounts reached

Facebook: 2,031 followers; 9,004 views in the last 28 days; 1,396 accounts reached

Website: 3,007 views in the last 30 days

Bennington Public Library				
February 2025 Statistics				
Monthly stats for February	2025	2024	collectioncode	Checkout
Circulation-Physical items	8128	7938	Adult DVDs	34
Overdrive	2290	2020	Adult Fiction	503
*OD Audio	*1018	*895	Adult Large Print Fiction	1
*OD eBook	*863	*678	Adult Magazines	9
*OD Digital Magazines	*113	*108	Adult Nonfiction	103
*OD BPS	*296	*339	Cake Pans	4
Book Club Kits	30	31	Interlibrary Loan	19
Total Circulation	10448	9989	Childrens Boardbooks	109
Newsbank search/view/session	665/3055/187	553/3035/138	Childrens Chapter Books	275
Computer Use	101	89	Childrens Comic Books	19
Study Room Use	31	24	Childrens Books on CD	1
Conference Room Use	22	21	Childrens DVDs	85
Patrons-City	3	8	Childrens Easy Readers	551
Patrons-Douglas County	41	40	Childrens Graphic Novels	246
Patrons-Omaha	10	8	Childrens Magazines	5
Patrons-Washington County	1	1	Childrens Nonfiction	285
Total new cards issued	55	57	Childrens Picture Books	786
Presch STEAM (3)	95	121	Childrens Playaways	94
Storytime Koala-T (4)	85	90	Childrens Readalongs	62
Storytime-Thurs (4)	165	145	Kits	13
Storytime-Sat (2)	50	62	Special Collections	21
Open Art Studio (4)	76	61	Young Adult Fiction	86
LEGOS (4)	52	23	YA Graphic Novels	5
Read to a Dog	43	19	Young Adult Nonfiction	2
Outreach ST @ Legacy (3)	120	26	Young Adult Playaways	1
Total Children's Programs (25)	686	547	Total Physical Items	3319
Teen Time (4)	8	24		4819
Teen Book Club	0	3		8138
Teen BLAB	0	8		
Middle School Book Club (3)	34	17		
Crochet Corner (2)	9	n/a		
Total YA/Teen Programs (11)	51	52		
Book Club-1st Wed	9	15		
Book Club-3rd Tues	canceled	11		
Book Club-RW	6	6		
Craft Circle	16			
Total Adult Programs (3)	31	32		
Library Visits	2437	2601		
Volunteers/Hours	14/77	15/71		
Copier/Printer 1/13-2/12	3137	1536		

Self-directed/Passive Programming	
Scavenger hunt	
Blind Date with a Book	
Show some love	
Total	351

BENNINGTON DAZE

Friday June 6 - Sunday June 8

Friends of the Bennington Library Book Sale

Thursday June 5 10:00 AM-7:00 PM
Friday June 6 10:00 AM-7:00 PM
Saturday June 7 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Summer Reading Booth in Centennial Park
Saturday June 7 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Color Our World Float in the Bennington Daze Parade
Saturday June 7 11:00 AM



SUMMER FINALE PARTY

**Saturday, August 2
1:00-3:00 PM
Centennial Park**

Water slides, prizes, and fun!

READING CHALLENGE

June 1st to July 31st

Read throughout the summer to earn rewards and be entered into the end of summer prize drawing.

SIGN-UP

Join the Summer Reading Challenge by completing the Sign-Up Form on our website or sign-up in person at the library.

TRACK THE DAYS YOU READ

Paper reading logs are available to pick up at the library or print a copy at home from our website.



READING REWARDS

Preschool-12th Graders

For every **10 days** of reading logged, you earn a "Reading Reward" that can be picked up at the library, anytime during open hours. After you read **50 days**, pick up a certificate for a free book of your choice, courtesy of the **Friends of the Bennington Library**.

END OF SUMMER PRIZE DRAWING

For readers of all ages (Preschool-Adult)

After logging **10 days** of reading, pick up a drawing prize ticket at the library. One ticket per reader limit.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER READING SUPPORTERS

The Friends of the Bennington Library are a non-profit organization committed to promoting the interest and welfare of the Bennington area libraries. They strive to: support the Bennington Public Library, promote literacy, raise funds to enhance library services and programs, and encourage community involvement.



@benningtonlibraryfriends

Donations for the Summer Reading Program can be made to the Friends of the Bennington Library. Thank you for your support!

www.benningtonfol.org

HOURS & INFORMATION

Monday	10:00 AM - 7:30 PM
Tuesday-Thursday	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Friday	CLOSED
Saturday	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sunday	CLOSED

www.benningtonlibrary.org

Bennington
Public Library



SUMMER READING JUNE 1 - JULY 31, 2025

KIDS — TEENS — ADULTS

Storytimes, Community Events,
Prizes, and More!



PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Preschool S.T.E.A.M.

Mondays 10:30 AM | Ages 2-5

Storytime

Thursdays 10:30 AM | Ages 0-5

Saturday Storytimes

June 21 10:00 AM | Ages 0-5

July 19 10:00 AM | Ages 0-5

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS

Summer Movies

Mondays 1:30 PM | All Ages Welcome

Elementary S.T.E.A.M.

Tuesdays 10:30 AM | Grades 1-5

Open Art Studio

Tuesdays 1:30 PM | All Ages Welcome

LEGO @ Your Library

Wednesdays 1:30 PM | All Ages Welcome

Read with a Dog

June 14 10:30 AM | All Ages Welcome

July 5 10:30 AM | All Ages Welcome

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Wednesdays 10:30 AM | All Ages Welcome

June 4 | Wildlife Encounters

June 11 | Omaha Astronomical Society

June 18 | Omaha Street Percussion

June 25 | Made New Omaha Makerspace

July 2 | Kindness Rocks!

July 9 | Dr. Oxygen

July 16 | Papio NRD - Animal Adaptations

July 23 | Bennington Fire Department

July 30 | Fontenelle Forest Raptor Ambassadors

TWEEN & TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Retreat

Mondays 6:00-7:00 PM | Grades 6-12

June 2 | Kick off Carnival

June 9 | Mac 'n Cheese Cookoff

June 16 | Trivia Night

June 23 | Tie Dye (Bring your own item)

June 30 | Black-out Poetry

July 7 | Music BINGO

July 14 | Donut Decorating

July 21 | Foam Party

July 28 | Paint War



Teen Time

Tuesdays 6:00-7:00 PM | Grades 6-12

ADULT PROGRAMS

Second Saturday Craft Circle

June 14 and July 12 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Book-to-Movie Book Club

June 12 4:00 PM | Book Discussion

June 26 4:00 PM | Movie Watch

July 10 4:00 PM | Book Discussion

July 24 4:00 PM | Movie Watch

Cooking with Herbs Class

July 9 4:00 PM

STAR PARTY

Wednesday, June 11 | 9:00 PM

@ Glacier Creek Preserve

14810 State St, Bennington, NE 68007

Join the Bennington Public Library and the Omaha Astronomical Society for a Star Party at Glacier Creek Preserve! All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult.