



September 2023

Library Operations



September is [National Library Card Sign Up Month!](#) Since 1987, the American Library Association has celebrated the return to school by encouraging kids, parents, and everyone in the community to get a library card. If you or others in your household don't yet have a library card, now is a great time to apply and discover the many resources—physical and digital—that today's libraries offer. If you already have cards, perhaps you can check with a neighbor or friend and share the benefits you get from your card as a way of encouraging them to sign up too!

And a library card is a great way for students to save money. As the American Library Association puts it, "Throughout the school year, public librarians and library staff will assist parents and caregivers with saving hundreds of dollars on educational resources and services for students. From free access to STEAM programs/activities, educational

apps, in-person and virtual homework help, technology workshops to the expertise of librarians, a library card is one of the most cost-effective back-to-school supplies available.”

How much money can you save? Visit the [Library Value Calculator](#) to total your potential savings!

Youth Services



Vermont Youth Book Awards Conference
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

Vermont Youth Book Awards Virtual Conference

The Vermont Youth Book Awards virtual conference takes place Thursday, September 28, 2023, from 9:00am-5:00pm! This is an opportunity for librarians and educators to learn more about all three book awards, get inspired by authors of winning titles, and discuss ways to promote and engage book award participation at school and libraries across Vermont.

Each session is 2-hours long with an hour break between. Authors provide inspiration and insight into their winning/nominated books. Book award committee members lead exploration into the award nomination list, highlighting innovative and fun ways to promote and engage book award participation in schools and libraries. The full conference agenda, including keynote presenters will be posted to the individual registration and award pages linked below.

The Green Mountain Book Award conference session takes place from 9:00-11:00am. Library staff, teachers, and others who love great young adult literature will take away ideas and inspiration for discussions and programming.

Register for the Green Mountain Book Award Session

The Vermont Golden Dome Book Award conference session takes place from 12:00-2:00pm. Library staff, teachers, and others who love great middle-grade literature will take away ideas and inspiration for discussions and programming.

Register for the Vermont Golden Dome Book Award Session

The Red Clover Book Award conference session takes place from 3:00-5:00pm. Library staff, teachers, and others who love great picture books will take away ideas and inspiration for discussions and programming.

Register for the Red Clover Book Award Session

Explore the 2023-2024 nominated book lists and learn more on the individual pages for each award:



Small, Rural Libraries

There are so many great small, rural libraries in Vermont doing creative, innovative, and fun things all year round, but in the summer, this expands! Summer 2023 featured libraries at farmers markets and at the Northeast Organic Farming Association's [pizza socials](#). There were opportunities to get a free pass to the Champlain Valley Fair by reading books, cook s'mores in a solar oven, play giant lawn games, and listen to storytelling around a campfire. A whole month of Solar Science Saturdays gave kids a chance to see sunspots and safely view the sun using equipment from the Department – a prelude to the upcoming solar eclipses that will undoubtedly inspire educational and fun programs at Vermont libraries. These kinds of activities often do not require participants to have a library card, but with a card, print and digital materials and more become available. Coinciding with the start of the school year, September is [Library Card Sign-Up Month](#).

2023 Continuing Education (CE) Forum

Learning and Networking in Music City (Nashville, TN)

This August VTLIB's Consultant for Continuing Education and Small and Rural Libraries, Joy Worland, attended the 2023 CE Forum in Nashville, TN. This event is hosted by the [Chief Officers of State Libraries Agencies](#) and is an annual professional development and networking opportunity for continuing education staff at state libraries.



Continuing education staff from twenty-nine states met at the beautiful Tennessee State Library for three packed days of presentations, interactive activities, and sharing highlights and challenges from each state. This group meets online monthly but being in-person for the first time since 2019 made for an extra lively exchange of ideas. Highlights included a presentation on responding to book challenges from John Chrastka, founder and Executive Director of [EveryLibrary](#), and a presentation on instructional design and working with adult learners from Julie Edwards, staff at [Niche Academy](#). Hearing what training and formats are successful in other states is always helpful, and it was also great to share about some of the work going on in Vermont, such as the Working Group on the Status of Libraries in Vermont and the growth of the Department's Certificate of Public Librarianship program.

Other high points: a tour of the state library, which is simultaneously huge and stately but also warm and welcoming, indicated by the steady flow of Tennessee citizens coming in to use the space. Lunch time featured library-related or adjacent presentations, including a fascinating one about the [Vanderbilt Television News Archive](#), a collection of television news broadcasts from national networks going back to 1968. A notable takeaway from a session on improvisation (which the presenter connected to library training!) was the phrase "choose to be delighted" – applicable in all sorts of ways!

[See Upcoming Continuing Education Events](#)

Noteworthy Finds from the Cataloging Desk

Sprouts: To Grow and Eat by Esther Munroe (1979)



The colorful 70's style of this cover is quite attention grabbing and it's surprising that there could be a book with 150 recipes solely focused on sprouts! The author, Esther Munroe Swift (1923-2012), was raised in Montpelier, and moved out of state, but after returning, became a librarian and archivist for the Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT. In 2007 she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Center for Research on Vermont. This volume, "explains the methods and nutritional advantages of growing vegetable and grain sprouts and provides recipes for various dishes, main, side, dessert, salad, and infants" according to GoodReads. *Vermont Place-Names: Footprints of History*, another title by this author, was the focus of a [Brave Little State podcast](#). The photos in the book were taken by Allan Seymour, who, along with his wife, Sally, were filmmakers in Dummerston, VT. Let this title serve as a reminder to eat your greens!

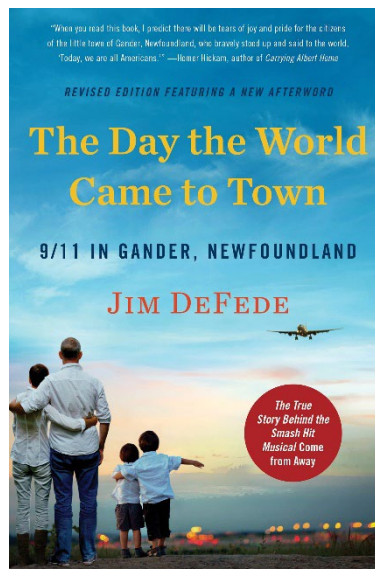
ABLE Library

The ABLE (Audio Braille Large-print Electronic) Library is a free talking book and braille library service. We serve patrons who are blind and visually impaired. We also serve patrons who have a physical or reading disability that stops them from being able to read standard print. We are part of the Vermont Department of Libraries. We are also a network library of the [National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled \(NLS\)](#).

ABLE Book Club

Join us for the ABLE Library book club!
Our next meeting is on Wednesday,
September 20, 2023 from 3:30 to 4:30
pm. We will be talking about *The Day the
World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander,
Newfoundland* by Jim DeFede (Book
number: DBC06240).

We meet online and by phone. Please call
802-636-0020 or 800-479-1711 or email
us at Lib.AbleLibrary@vermont.gov to
find out how to get a copy of the book
and sign up for the club.



ABLE Library Statistics for July 2023

Top 5 Most Popular Books

- *Dead as a Dodo: A Wildwood Witch Mystery* by Elle Adams (DB113073)
- *The Element of Love* by Mary Connealy (DB113948)
- *A Trace of Poison: A Phyllida Bright Mystery* by Colleen Cambridge (DB114009)
- *Hideaway Home* by Hannah Alexander (DB113418)
- *Girl Forgotten* by April Henry (DB113942)

Total number of checkouts: 8,155

Digital cartridge titles: 5,838

Large print: 654

BARD app (audio or braille books downloaded): 1,663

Pride Festival with Pride Center Vermont



VTLIB staff tabled at the Pride Festival in Burlington on Sunday, September 10th. Every year, the [Pride Center of Vermont](#) hosts a Pride Parade and Festival as the final celebration of Pride Week.

This year's theme was *Ruby: 40 Years of Fabulous* and commemorated the 40th anniversary of Vermont's first Pride march and "the enduring passion, strength, and love that have sustained Vermont's LGBTQIA+ community."

Memorable Times Café

Join the Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) and the ABLE Library for our virtual Memorable Times Café on Wednesday, October 4, from 10:30 to 11:30 am. We will be getting together with our friends from Scotland for this meeting. This program is a relaxed social time for people living with mild to moderate memory loss and their care partners. Please contact Barb Asen at CVCOA for more information or to register: basen@cvcoa.org or 802-476-2681.



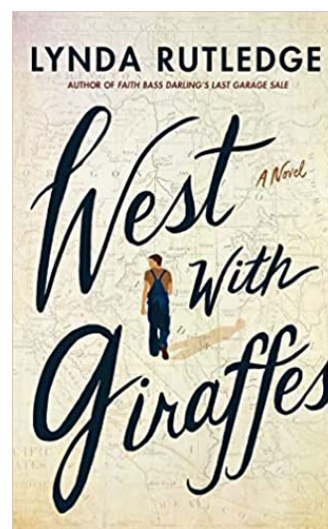
CLOVER Corner

CLOVER (Collaborative Libraries of Vermont) is the statewide interlibrary loan system.

Use Statistics for July 2023

Most Requested Book Titles

- *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge
- *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* by Agatha Christie
- *The Boys of Biloxi* by John Grisham
- *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
- *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi
- *Woman of Light* by Kali Farjado-Anstine
- *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel Brown
- *Unfamiliar Fishes* by Sarah Vowell
- *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt
- *What the Robin Knows* by Jon Young



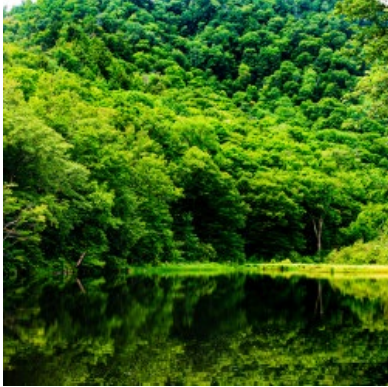
Interlibrary Loan Requests

Total: 5302
Books: 4908
Videos: 316
Audiobooks: 74
Music CDs: 2
Articles: 2

Most Requested DVDs

- *Yellowstone* (all seasons)
- *Doc Martin* (all seasons)
- *Grantchester* (all seasons)
- *9 to 5*
- *Beetlejuice*

Summer in Vermont

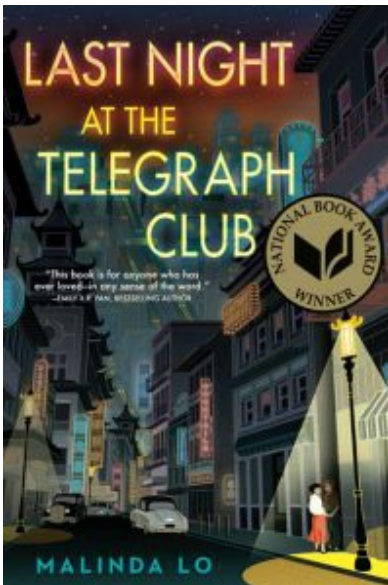


There were a lot of Vermont-focused titles requested in July. Here are a few:

- *A Year at North Hill: Four seasons in a Vermont Garden* by Joe Eck
- *Vermont Confidential: Tales of true crime from the heart of Vermont and beyond* by Paul Heller
- *Identifying Trees of Vermont* by Dr. Moss
- *Architectural and Historical Walking Tour of Windsor, Vermont* by Historic Windsor, Inc.

For State Employees

Fall 2023 State Employee Book Club



The Department is pleased to announce the title for this year's State Employee Book Club: *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* by Malinda Lo. Teenager Lily Hu is fully immersed in the life and culture of San Francisco's Chinatown, home to Chinese immigrant families like hers. But as she comes of age in the 1950s, her passion for rockets and space exploration is matched by her curiosity about the Telegraph Club, located in a neighboring part of the city her parents have asked her to avoid. Lily and her new friend, Kathleen, begin to sneak out at night to the club, which hosts performances by Tommy Andrews, a woman who dresses and performs in a traditionally masculine style. Kath and Lily's interest in each other continues to grow despite the very real danger faced by two girls falling in love in 1954. At the same time, McCarthy-era fears about Communism, coupled with ongoing anti-Asian hate, shake the stability of the Chinese community and threaten to engulf Lily's own father.

This title is the Vermont Reads 2023 novel, and by participating in Vermont Reads we received 125 copies of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*. Planning for discussion sessions is currently underway and next month's newsletter will have the request form for requesting a copy to keep and to sign up for a discussion session.

Online Resource Use

The following are July statistics for the online resources offered by the Department of Libraries. Learning Express, Vermont Online Library, Gale Legal Forms, and Peterson's Test and Career Prep are free to all libraries (public, school, or academic), while Universal Class and Gale Udemy are only available to public libraries.



Learning Express

EBSCO
LearningExpress®

Learning Express provides training to develop workplace, academic, and job-hunting skills. It offers training for occupation exams, skills for school, exploration of careers, resume creation, interview help, and more.

Usage Statistics

Sessions: 41
Registrations: 17
Videos: 5
Tests: 33

Most Used Resources

- Accuplacer Placement Exam
- Real Estate Exam
- Basic Algebra & Geometry
- CDL Test Prep
- Pharmacy Technician Exam
- Statistics Success

Peterson's Test and Career Prep

 **PETERSON'S**

Peterson's Test and Career Prep features access practice exams, in-depth career assessments, college entrance tests, resumé and cover letter building tools, and more. Get ready for the CDL, GED, SAT, or LSAT; explore careers; or prepare for an upcoming interview.

Usage Statistics

Sessions: 63
Card Click Count: 27

Most Used Resources

- College Level Entrance Program (CLEP)

Universal Class



Universal Class offers a wide range of online courses (from business to cooking, computers to social work) led by real instructors and completed at the participant's own pace.

Usage Statistics

Student Submissions: 6,4067
Lessons Viewed: 6,845
Videos Watched: 5,284
New Registrations: 45
New Courses Started: 149
Login Sessions: 734

Most Active Classes

- Bartending
- American History
- How to Write a Grant Proposal
- Creating a Positive Work Environment
- Writing Basics
- How to Draw
- Basic Math
- Marine Biology
- Google Docs

Vermont Online Library



Covering everything from magazine and newspaper articles to DIY car repair and business assistance, Vermont Online Library can help with any topic. Users can (with a bit of work) read articles by issue from sources like The New York Times, The Economist, Cosmopolitan, Esquire, Highlights for Children, National Review, and Runner's World.

Usage Statistics

Sessions: 7,079
Full Text Retrievals: 3,985
Average Session Length: 8.55 minutes
Chilton (automotive repair) Retrievals: 35

Most Used Databases

- Academic OneFile
- Opposing Viewpoints
- OneFile Select
- US History
- General OneFile
- News

Udemy



Gale's Udemy provides access to over 20,000 online courses across a rich variety of subjects: business, technology, personal development, and much more. Patrons can learn anything from how to play the guitar, how to code, and how to invest.

Usage Statistics

Video Minutes: 5855
Lectures Completed: 918
Practice Activities: 44
Active Users: 18
Courses Started: 103

Most Active Courses

- Attention and Concentration Practices
- C++ Programming
- Graphic Design for Beginners
- QuickBooks
- ChatGPT
- RF Antennas

- Linux Training
- Learning Python

Legal Forms



Gale LegalForms offers a huge range of legal documents and templates for use in personal and business legal dealings. Patrons can access documents to facilitate used car sales, bankruptcy, divorce, apartment leases, wills and advance directives, and much more.

Most Active Resources

- Lis Pendens Notice
- Will and Testament
- Salary Verification for Lease
- Lead Paint Disclosure
- Automobile Bill of Sale
- Living Trust

[Explore our online resources](#) and please [contact Joshua Muse](#), our Consultant for Library Technology, with questions.

News from CLIC, the Public Law Library

CLIC (Community Legal Information Center) provides legal reference services to Vermont's general public. Founded in 2015, CLIC is funded by a grant from the Vermont Department of Libraries and is operated by librarians and staff of Vermont Law & Graduate School.



CLIC Book Collection available on CLOVER

To better serve Vermonter's legal reference needs, CLIC's collection of legal self-help books may be borrowed through the state's ILL system, CLOVER. To find legal self-help

books, patrons can do a subject search in CLOVER or access books, arranged by subject matter, [through this research guide](#).

CLIC has an extensive library of NOLO legal titles, which are designed primarily for planning purposes. NOLO is one of the top publishers of do-it-yourself legal books and software. CLIC has supplemented these with more legally specific materials; materials that aim to pick up where NOLO leaves off. That is to say, they provide solutions when patrons are in the thick of trouble. Here are just a couple of examples of what CLIC has recently been able to offer patrons:

- A patron involved in a proceeding to evict her from low-income housing and representing herself borrowed *The Practical Trial Handbook: A Concise and Practical Guide on the Rules of Evidence, Courtroom Procedure and Trial Skill*, so that she would be fully prepared to represent herself during the hearing.
- A patron appealed the dismissal of their employment discrimination claim and borrowed *Employment Discrimination: A Concise Review of the Legal Landscape* to help them appropriately form their arguments for race discrimination and establishing pretext.
- A patron represented herself in a successful foreclosure action using *Foreclosure Defense: A Practical Litigation Guide*.

Vermont Supreme Court Justice Paul Reiber noted in a 2020 Vermont Public interview that, on some dockets, over 90% of the cases involve individuals representing themselves. CLIC's enhanced collection seeks to provide Vermont's self-representing litigants with information that can help them successfully navigate the legal process.

If you have any questions about CLIC's collection, please feel free to contact Pamela Cartier, CLIC Coordinator at (802) 831-1440 or pcartier@vermontlaw.edu.

CLIC is always here to help, via the Ask a Law Librarian Line at (802) 831-1313, or by emailing clic@vermontlaw.edu

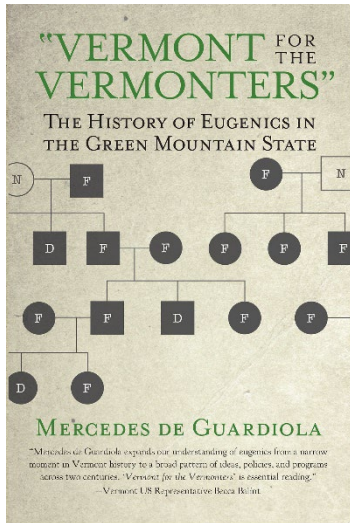


The information provided here does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice. All information in this article is intended for general information only. Please obtain legal counsel for any particular legal matters.

News From Our Neighbors: The Vermont Historical Society

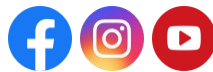
On Sale September 28th:

***"Vermont for the Vermonters": The History of Eugenics in the Green Mountain State* by Mercedes de Guardiola**



In *"Vermont for the Vermonters": The History of Eugenics in the Green Mountain State*, Mercedes de Guardiola examines how the state's eugenics movement emerged out of the public policies of the nineteenth century and led to state-sanctioned programs of institutionalization, sterilization, family separation, and education aimed at the most vulnerable Vermonters. Exploring the social and political legacy of the movement, de Guardiola brings new scholarship and context to one of Vermont's darkest chapters.

This new title will be released September 28, 2023, and is now available through [preorder from VHS](#). Libraries are invited to contact Andrew.liptak@vermonthistory.org for copies.



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