

Mission

The Brandywine Community Library's Mission is to encourage learning by providing free and equal access to information, technology, resources and services, be a gathering place for the community, and promote the love of reading.

Directions to the library

When driving on Weis Street in Tipton, turn south at the stop light onto Home Avenue. The library is located on the campus of the Lutheran Home on the first floor of the Old Main or clock tower building. The entrance is in the back, use the white doors between the two porches.

Staff

Heather Wicke.....Library Director
Amber Hadley...Youth Services Coordinator
Lily FenstermacherCirculation Clerk
Joyce Housh.....Circulation Clerk
Morgan Larese.....Circulation Clerk
Kathryn LoringCirculation Clerk
Dona SchlegelCirculation Clerk

Library Hours

Monday	10 AM-7 PM
Tuesday	10 AM-7 PM
Wednesday	10 AM-5 PM
Thursday	10 AM-5 PM
Friday	10 AM-4 PM
Saturday	9 AM-4 PM
Sunday	CLOSED

Book drops are located to the left of the entrance and may be used 24 hours a day for return of materials.



Brandywine Community Library is a Gold Level Library in the PA Forward Star Program and supports the five

literacies – basic literacy, civic and social literacy, health literacy, information literacy, and financial literacy.

No matter what age, the more literate we are, the more successful we will become!



2023 Annual Report

60 Tower Drive, Tipton, PA 19562

Phone: (610)682-7115

Fax: (610)682-7385

Email: bcl@brandywinelibrary.org

Website:

www.berkslibraries.org/branch/brandywine



In 2023 we were proud to be recognized as a PA Forward Gold Star Library for the third consecutive year. Created by the PA Library Association, the program highlights the role libraries play in positively impacting lives through five literacies: basic, information, civic and social, health, and financial. Libraries are recognized by their peers for meeting criteria within the bronze, silver, and gold levels.

We collaborated with the school district to offer library cards to 8th graders, connect with the Birth to 5 program and visit the Pre-K classrooms.

Twenty-two teens read and discussed Prisoner B-3087 by Alan Gratz as part of a Teen Reading Lounge grant we received from PA Humanities. The teens met the author, spoke with German exchange students, and visited the US Memorial Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. Patrons matched half of the grant amount and attended a Community Forum to learn about the teens' experiences.



Summer's "All Together Now" theme was a success with an increase in participants and total minutes read. Event highlights included a blood drive, learning about American Sign Language, and how to support a loved one with dementia. We added craft and movie nights for adults, plus chess

club for all ages. These new programs were well-liked and continued beyond summer.

Sheldon's birthday was celebrated at the Topton Park with lawn games, face painting, balloon animals, and 300 plastic tortoises raced down the creek. Patrons adopted the tortoises to race as a fundraiser for the library.

We were awarded a PA Smart Grant which provided a Nintendo Switch, iPads, Hummingbird kits, a gaming computer, and various board games. School age children and teens will continue to explore the grant in 2024.

For the first time, the library hosted special Sunday hours in December to synchronize with the Lutheran Home's historic Christmas Putz showtimes.

We are looking forward to 2024, our 35th year serving the community.

Board of Trustees

Amy Portzline.....President
 Melissa Hartman.....Vice President
 Jessica Bortz.....Secretary
 Douglas Sherry.....Treasurer
 Amity Grim.....Trustee
 Colleen Kristula.....Trustee
 Nicole Miller.....Trustee
 Mary Shoemaker.....Trustee
 Karen Winegardner.....Trustee

The regular meeting of the BCL Board of Trustees is normally held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. For meeting details, please visit the event section of the library's website.

2023 Circulation & Statistics

Circulation (physical & electronic).....	65,416
Total Collection Size.....	30,866
Annual Number of library visits.....	29,722
Total Registered borrowers.....	1,612
Computer Uses.....	2,677
Programs Held.....	276
Program Attendance.....	5,972
Service Area Population.....	12,632
(2020 Census)	

2023 Operating Income

State.....	\$60,845
County.....	\$36,533
Local Municipalities.....	\$37,650
Other local sources.....	\$55,269
Total 2023 Income.....	\$190,297

2023 Operating Expenses

Salaries & Benefits.....	\$123,133
Collection Expenses.....	\$25,336
Operating Expenses.....	\$26,660
Cost of Fundraising.....	\$8,975
Rent.....	\$11,000
Total 2023 Expenses.....	\$195,104

The Library thanks the following municipalities for pledging their support:

Topton Borough	\$7.25 per capita
District Township	\$2.51 per capita
Longswamp Township	\$2.47 per capita
Rockland Township	\$1.38 per capita