

Dear Valued Community Member:

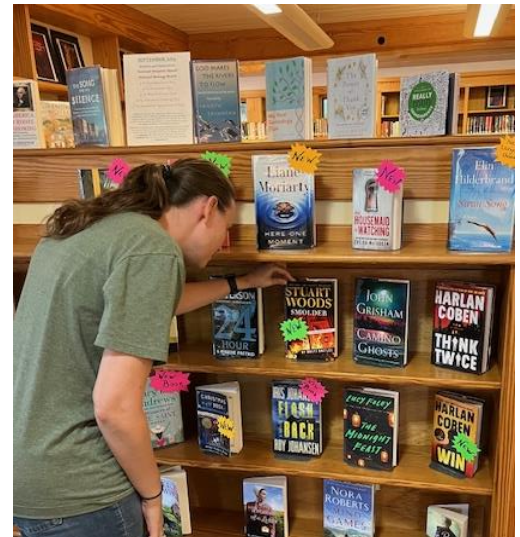
I don't know about you, but if I make a financial contribution to a worthy cause or organization, I want to know how my money is being spent. Unfortunately, such details are seldom forthcoming. So, for all you **past, present, and future donors** to the Berlin Free Town Library (BFTL), we thought we'd tell you **exactly** how your financial contributions help in the daily running of your local library:

## 1) Upkeep of the premises:

- We purchased a **new vacuum cleaner** to replace our old dinosaur vacuum
- We hired a company to **deep-clean the bathroom** surfaces
- We had the **carpeting professionally cleaned**, to hopefully extend its life
- We purchased **two new floor mats**, to reduce the tracking in of dirt

## 2) Provision of vital library services:

- We pay an annual fee for **membership** in the Upper Hudson Library System's (UHLS) **regional database**
- We subscribe to the **Hoopla app** and required UHLS **OverDrive** digital content website, to provide patrons access to audio books, tv/movies, and e-books
- We purchase **monthly new releases** . . . with an increase in **patronage and circulation** over the past two years, especially in adult and juvenile fiction
- We design and distribute our **quarterly newsletter** via e-mail to keep you informed about new Initiatives, programs, and books at the library
- We also purchased a **new color printer**



*"Newly Released"*

## 3) Fun programming and events:



- Thursday-morning **Story Time**
- Friday-afternoon **Stitch Group**
- **Sing, Dance and Play** with Miss Deb
- **Bee My Valentine**
- July 4th **Pie à la Mode Café**
- NYSEG-sponsored **Photo Contest**
- **Upcycled Earth Day** crafts and suncatchers
- Reading and Q&A by **local author**, Alan Webster
- **Easter Egg Decorating**
- **Build a Holiday Pal**
- **"Books by Mail"** for vision-impaired patrons

## Programs Cont/

- Holiday Story Time with **Santa & Mrs. Claus**
- *Journey Around the World* by **VIA Aquarium**



Of course, no summer goes by without our annual **Summer Reading Program (SRP)**, thanks to the Stewart's *Holiday Match* program. This year's *Adventure Begins at Your Library* SRP ran from July 1st to August 16th, with weekly prizes, take-home activity kits, and a raffle of gift baskets. In July, we also **sponsored four Berlin children** to attend the Stephentown Memorial Library **Summer Camp**.

Another program, created in partnership with the Berlin MS/HS Community Active Mountaineers Club, was the **Berlin Free Town Library StoryWalk®** trail, paid for by a grant from the UHLS. The public walking trail begins at Berlin Elementary and is posted along the way with pages from a children's story book. The opening ceremony took place at the school on July 13, 2024.

BFTL also received a **NYS Public Library Construction Aid grant**, with which we are installing a new heat pump and air-conditioning system and replacing the front and side doors.



I hope this Appeal letter has given you some answers on how donations are used by the Berlin Free Town Library. The BFTL is a **wonderful community resource. PLEASE** consider donating to this **worthy cause**. Meanwhile, the Board looks forward to creating **new programs** for the coming year. **STAY TUNED** and **THANK YOU** for your support!

*Star Donovan*

Star Donovan, Trustee

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To donate by credit card, scan the QR code with your phone and/or click on the "Donate" button on our website, or send your check to:

**Berlin Free Town Library, P.O. Box 6, Berlin, NY 12022**

**[www.bftl.org](http://www.bftl.org)**



Donate to BFTL