

Public Libraries in the time of COVID

a year of creative thinking



Jessamyn West
librarian.net/talks/covid

Library Statistics - 2020

Vermont has 183-ish libraries, more than any other state per capita.



4

Carnegie libraries.

Burlington, Fair Haven, Morrisville and Rockingham.



\$33

Average tax support per person, per year.

Vermont is one of eight states that receive no direct funding from the state for public libraries.



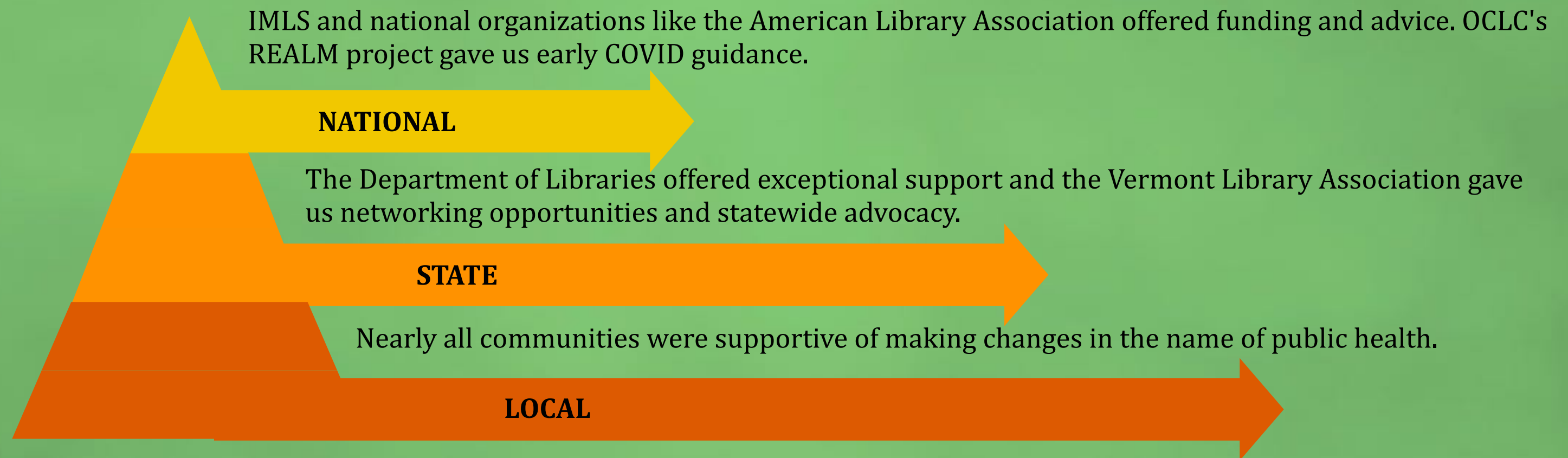
1000

Public access computers.

With an average of six computers per library, Vermont libraries had 417,408 public computing sessions.

The library ecosystem is large, even in Vermont

Each public library has their own budget and determines their own programming, they are also part of a larger support and advocacy network.



In Vermont, it really felt like we were (are) all in this together.

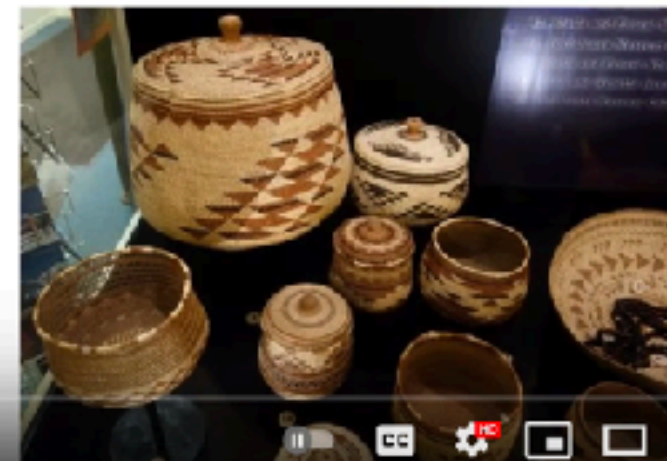
IMLS - top-down funding



IMLS CAG-ML Program Goals

The goal of this grant program is to support the role of museums and libraries in responding to the coronavirus pandemic in ways that meet the *immediate and future COVID-19 needs of the communities and audiences they serve.*

Priority is on providing services for high-need communities.





Test 1 Results

22 June 2020

Five items commonly found in public libraries, which are also in high circulation and expected to arrive back in public libraries in large volumes, were selected for Test 1. The materials were provided by Columbus Metropolitan Library.

[Download Test 1 results](#)

Download [Test 1.1](#) and [Test 1.2](#) raw data.

Item	Material	Conditions	Result
Hardback book cover	Buckram book cover	Testing was conducted by applying the virulent SARS-CoV-2 virus on five materials held at standard room temperature and humidity conditions. Items were laid flat.	Results show that the SARS-CoV-2 virus was not detectable on the materials after three days of quarantine.
Softback book cover	Trade paperback		
Plain paper pages inside a closed book	--		
Plastic book covering	Biaxially oriented polyester film		
DVD/CD case	Polypropylene		

Library Statistics - March 2021

The Department of Libraries has been collecting weekly statistics about public library services during this year.



26%

Libraries that are open to the public.


One percent are closed, with 57% staff-only and 16% are open by appointment.



70%

Libraries doing virtual programming.

Twenty-three percent are doing some form of in-person programming including outdoor and asynchronous events.

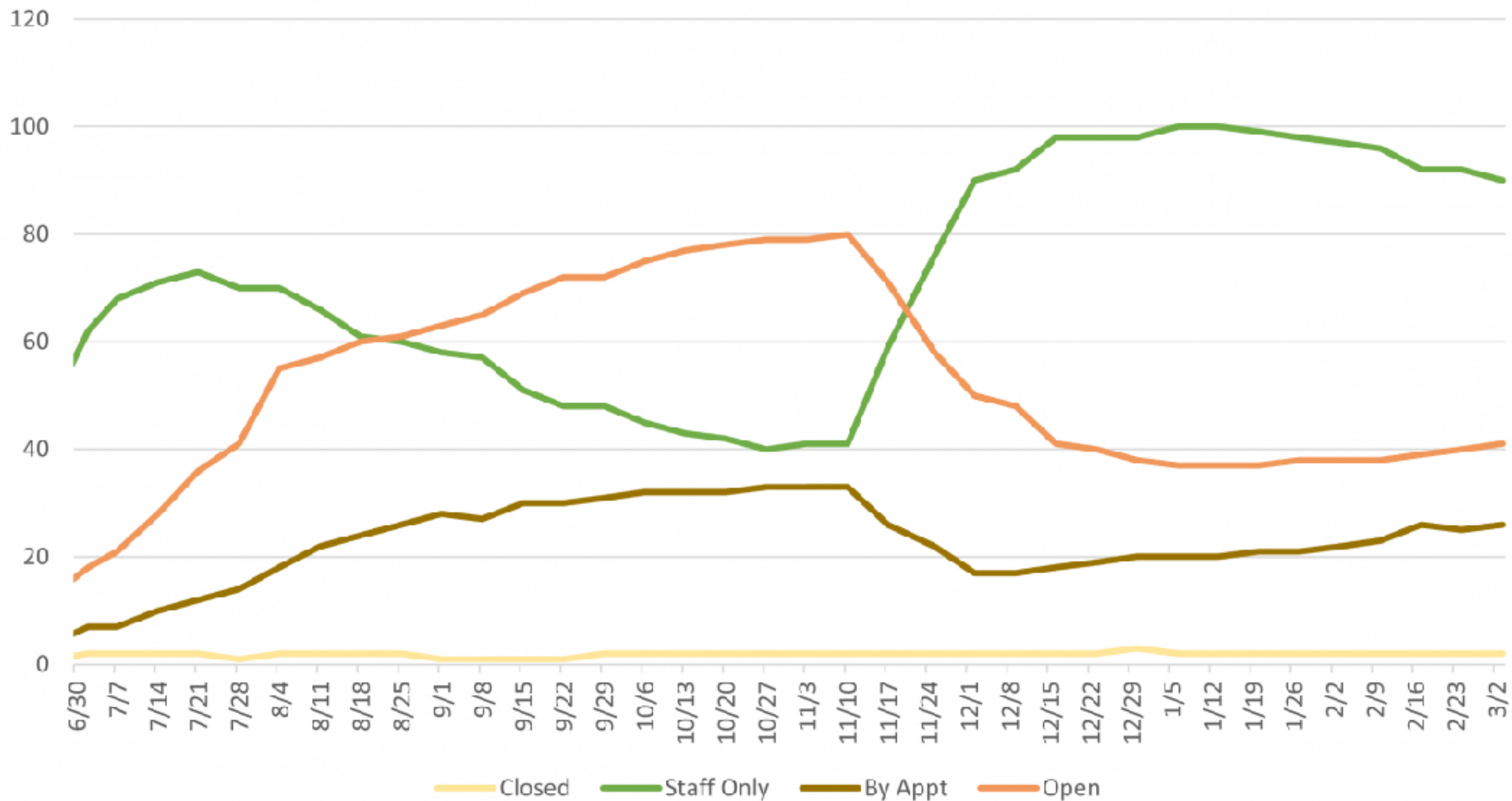


96%

Curbside pickup available.

Also, ninety-nine percent of libraries offer wifi access outside the building.

Library Status During Pandemic



Library Statistics - March 2021

These statistics have allowed public libraries to understand what other libraries are doing and define a "new normal."



89%

Libraries that have not laid off or furloughed staff.

73%

Libraries closed to public but still offering services.

Printing, faxing, and scanning which can be done curbside or by appointment.

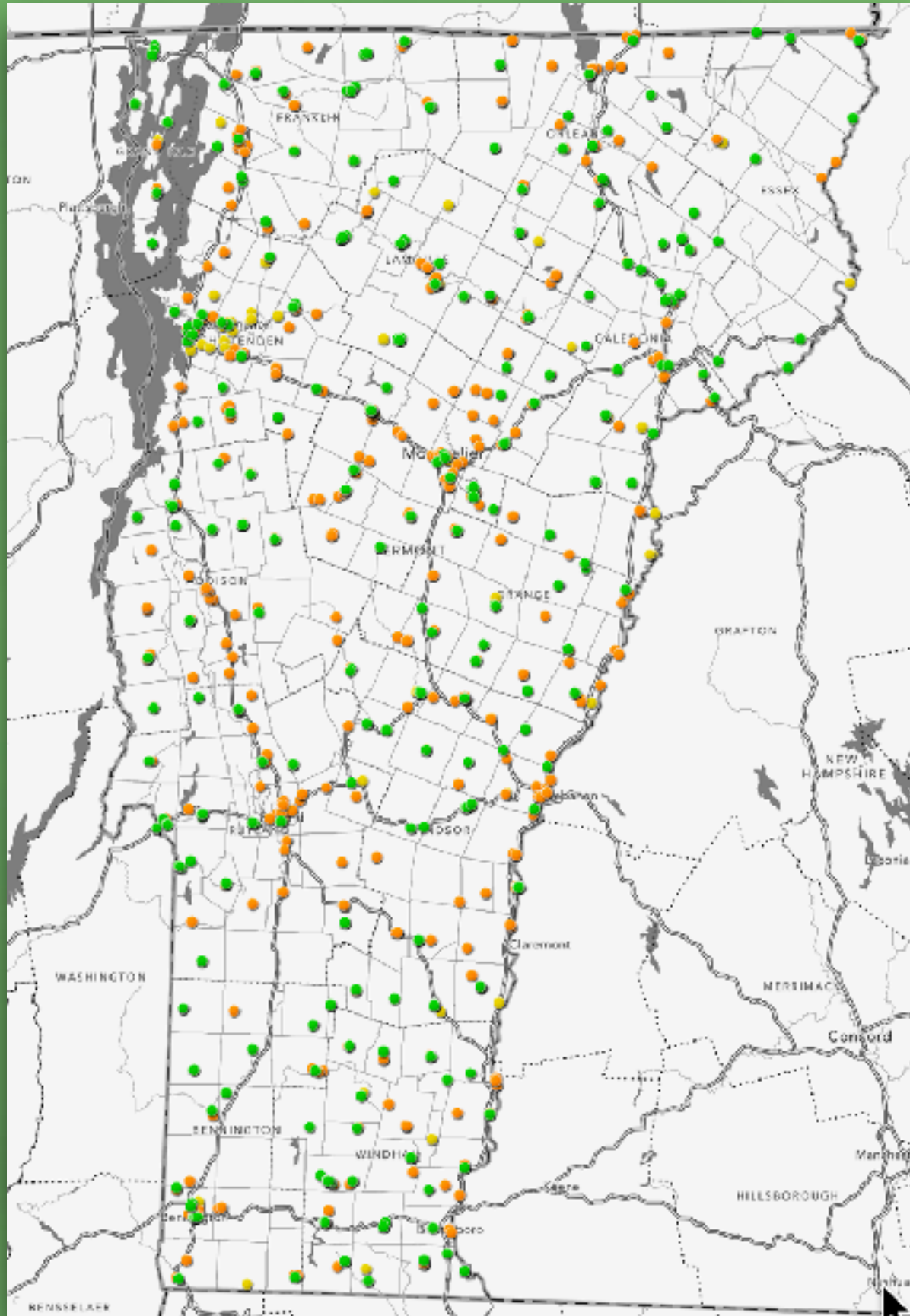
79%

Libraries that offer masks for patron use.

Staying connected

- ▶ more wifi access points
- ▶ on for more hours
- ▶ a map that shows where to find them
- ▶ technology to borrow

165+ libraries (probably more) are access points for their communities



**Chromebooks now
available to check out!**



Click here for policy/agreement.
Contact the library to request a
device to take home!

Chelsea

Staying connected

VTLib and VLA each sponsor regular online meetups for continuing education and updates, most recently a Town Meeting/legislative update.

VTLib sends out twice-weekly resource updates and the State Librarian (Extraordinaire) emails the daily Dept. of Health COVID updates to all libraries.

[storage/pix](#) Governor Phil Scott Announces Next Phase

[Lib.Staff] VLA 1st Thursdays this Thursday 3:30-4:30 -

[storage/pix](#) Newsweek: Libraries are essential services.

librarian question

FYI on a few changes to the website

how do i find the calendar on the VLA website?

[Lib.Staff] VTLIB Listservs Etiquette and Use Guidelines

Vaccine consideration for Library Workers

[VTLIBRARIES] VT Library Programming now on the VL

Membership and Outreach Chair found

[Wild Apricot] Re: Missed Chat with Jessamyn West

Extended NELA VLA memberships

Re: Is there a 1st Thursday presentation today?

[storage/pix](#) VLA Covid-19 Vaccination Statement

[VTLIBRARIES] Tax Assistance Resources



VLA Covid-19 Vaccination Statement

A letter sent to Governor Phil Scott from the VLA Executive Board.

To the Honorable Phil Scott, Governor of Vermont:

Secretary Smith indicated at the press conference on February 2nd that Vermont is “open to discussions about what comes next” with the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. In this spirit, the Executive Committee of the Vermont Library Association asks the State of Vermont to prioritize library workers alongside other front-line workers.

Library workers continue to be grateful for the support and patience of our respective communities as we all cope with the COVID-19 crisis. We have also become even more aware of the value that our communities place on library services and how essential library resources continue to be for people of all ages in our towns and villages. As a group, library workers have made determined efforts to build and enhance library offerings.



P! P! E!

- ▶ Plastic barriers
- ▶ Disinfectant
- ▶ Wipes
- ▶ Hand sanitizer

St. J. Athenæum

Many libraries found friendly ways to introduce patrons to new procedures.

St. Johnsbury
ATHENÆUM
Inspiring lifelong learning since 18

FACE MASK



St. Johnsbury
ATHENÆUM





Curbside or
at-the-door
services

Waterbury



Bixby/Vergennes



Rochester

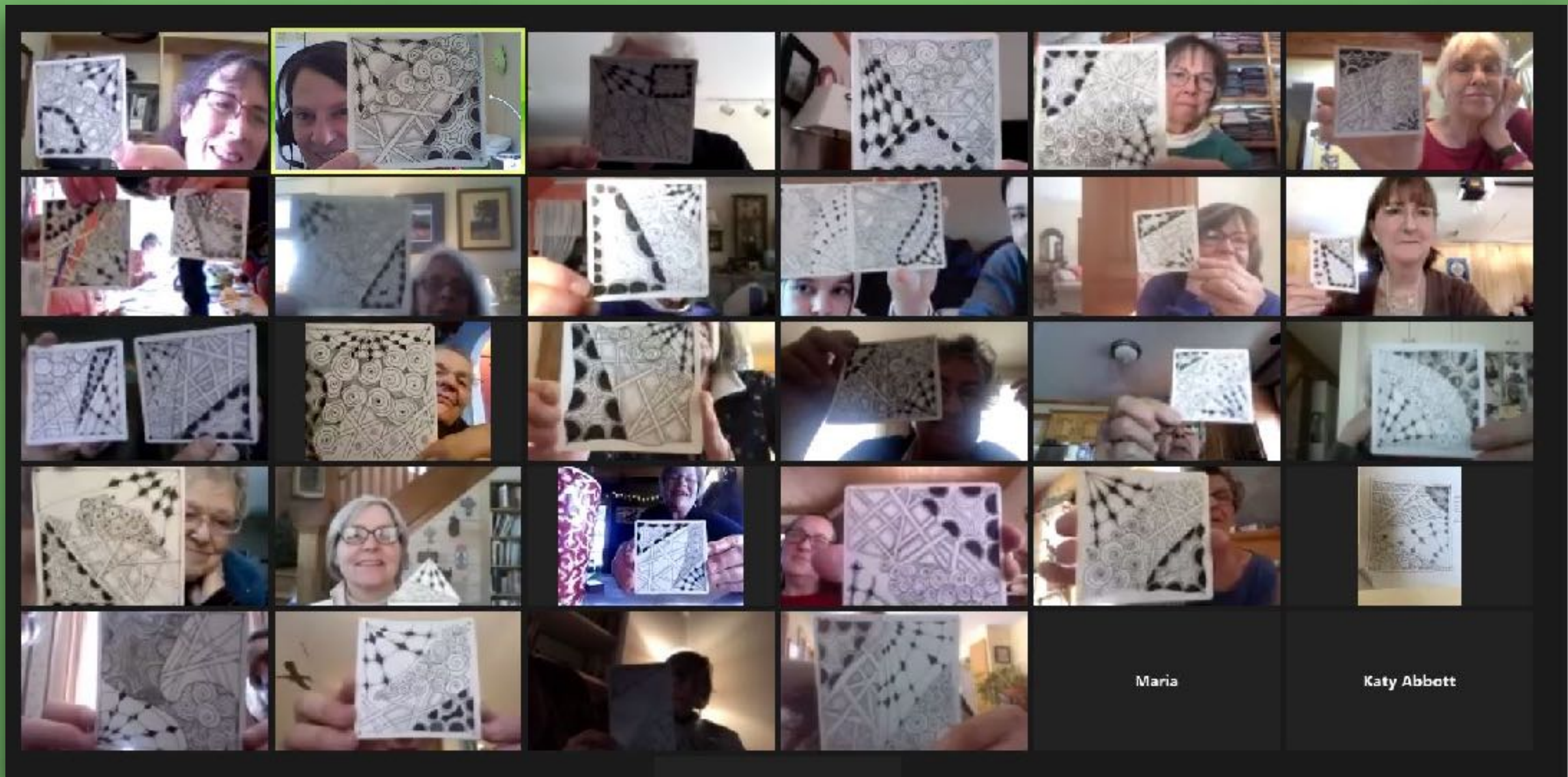


Waterbury



in all seasons...

Virtual Programming



Maria

Katy Abbott

Greensboro

entrants



Virtual Dog Show

judges



Windsor

MARCH 10TH, 4 PM

CRAFTERNOON

STORY AND A CRAFT.
THIS WEEK: KOINOBORI (CARP KITES)



Manchester

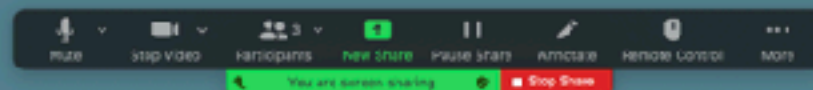
What is going on

ONLINE AND OUTSIDE

JESSAMYN WEST

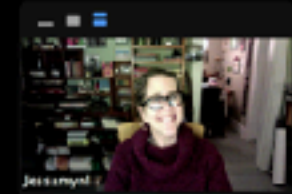
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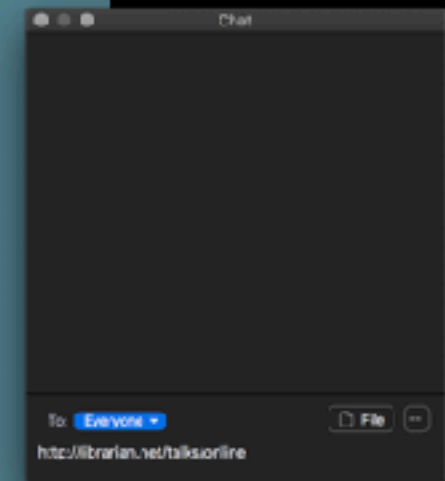


You are screen sharing

Stop Share



Carolyn Cruikshank



Rochester

HARVESTING COLD THE ICE TRADE IN NEW ENGLAND AND ACTON



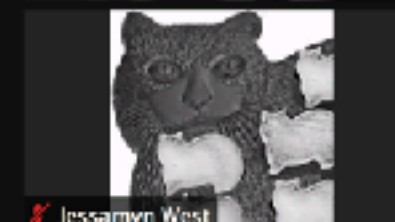
Harry Gettes, Filling the Ice House, 1924



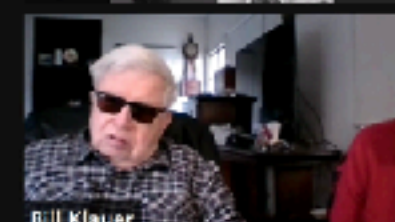
The Acton Historical Society
Doug Herrick, Bill Klauer, and Larry Kerpelman
January 10, 2021



owner



Jessamyn West



Bill Klauer



Doug Herrick



Brewster



Larry Kerpelman, Acton,...



317326

Acton MA?


Outdoor Programming



Norwich



Windsor

Community Circles Project 2020 |  Norwich Historical Society
 Norwich, Vermont

SPONSORS
 Dan & Whit's
 Norwich Public Library
 Gail & Nick Sanders

Norwich Responds to COVID 19

For more information
 visit: www.norwichhistoricalsociety.org or contact: info@norwichhistoricalsociety.org



Town Report of Norwich, Vermont

Fiscal Year 2020

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020



Stowe



Barnet's "Library on the Lawn"




Barnet's "Library on the Lawn"



Waterbury backyard story walk

Distanced Programming



 Actual radius measurement will vary with arm length. Not recommended for T. Rex

Peacham's social distancing aids





Peacham's story walk



Charlotte take out crafts



Norwich
craft-to-go bags



Jeudevine/Hardwick
take home storytime

APL Bingo

Winter 2020 - 2021 - Book Anatomy

B	I	N	G	O
How many SIGNATURES? 	'Library' in the title	Find a How-To book and learn about how something is made	HEAD/TAIL BANDS	STITCH binding
With a DECORATIVE END SHEET	DUODECIMO <i>Typical sized Paperback</i>	A PERFECT BOUND binding	GILT edge	Try the audiobook Printer's Devil
RAISED BANDS	GLUE binding	FREE  SPACE	MINIATURE hardcover (octavo size)	Any Hard Cover book
DECKLE edge	SMYTH SEWN binding	QUARTO <i>Book shape is more square than rectangular</i>	Try an E-book from Project Gutenberg . <i>Prefer audio? Try Librivox</i>	A book about paper folding, printing, or reading
BIBLEs were the first printed books. Check-out a Bible that interests to you.	STAPLE binding	Book with a ribbon book mark	ELEPHANT FOLIO (oversize book)	'Book' in the title



This month we celebrate our local Sugar Industry!

Don and Jodi Gale have filled our glass display case with buckets, taps, articles and instruments, all from their past 32 years of collecting the sweet stuff! Some of the items are donated by **Charlie Leeuw**.

Their exhibit also begins our wrap around display of the milestone we are reaching: 1 year of living with Covid-19. Their business wasn't affected much by the pandemic. The sugaring went on as usual, socially distanced in the woods. The only cancellations were the sugar open houses. This has been one of the defining characteristics of the pandemic- inequities

Williamstown's Weekly book bingo

Lincoln's sugaring displays

Community Building



Norwich Library's graduation celebration

Kimball Library's car parade for Courtney

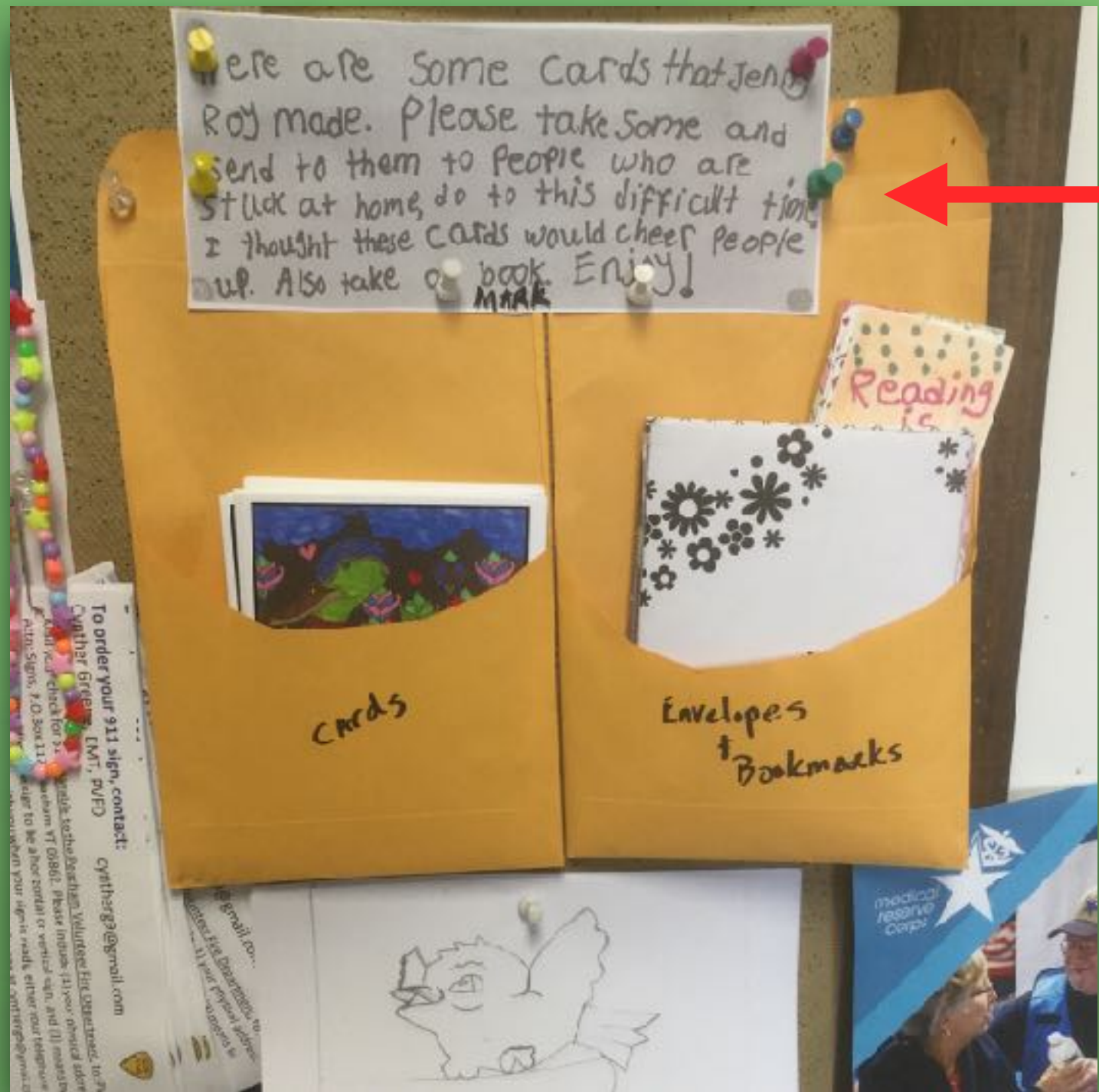


Boys & Girls Club LEGO competition, contestants took their creations to the Boys & Girls Club. Judging in the morning, families sign up for 10 minute time slots to view the creations and admire the winners. Last year: 60 entries. This year: 45 in the middle of the pandemic, from pre-K through high school!

Bixby's 3rd Annual Lego competition

"It truly exemplified the best of what has come out of the pandemic: greater cooperation and collaboration, more creative solutions to programming, and a commitment to offer the community a sense of fun and purpose across generations."

Catharine Findiesen Hays, Director
Bixby Memorial Free Library



Here are some cards that Jenny Roy made. Please take some and send them to people who are stuck at home due to this difficult time. I thought these cards would cheer people up. Also take a book mark. Enjoy!

Peacham



Charlotte

Thank You!

Questions?

@jessamyn | jessamyn@gmail.com | librarian.net/talks/covid