

Hitchcock Herald

News from the Hitchcock Museum & Library in Westfield, VT



A New Beginning

Welcome to the first issue of the *Hitchcock Herald*, the monthly newsletter of the Hitchcock Museum & Library in Westfield, VT!

As your new Library Director, I wanted to take a moment to say how thrilled I am to begin serving the Westfield community at the Hitchcock. I have received such wonderful support from community members so far and look forward to the many projects that we have on the horizon (some of which you can read about in this issue!)

I invite you to stop by the Hitchcock during open hours to introduce yourself and let me know what you'd like to see at the library. Is there an author we don't have? A program you'd like to see? Your feedback will help create a library that meets the needs of Westfield residents and visitors to the area. You can also free free to call or email me!

Yours,

Jennifer Johnson

Contact:

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- Email: hitchcockmemorial8258@gmail.com
- Mail: c/o Town of Westfield
38 School Street
Westfield, VT 05874

Hours:

- Tuesday 2pm-7pm
- Thursday 10am-3pm
- Sunday 11am-3pm

Hitchcock Automation Project

The Hitchcock Automation Project will begin in March 2024. The goal of this project is to “automate” the library’s collection. Automating the collection will entail giving each item in the collection a barcode and then cataloging items in an integrated library system (ILS.) The Hitchcock has chosen an online ILS called LibibPro.

An ILS gives the librarian a “bird’s-eye view” of the collection and generates statistics. This information will drive collection development and inform other decisions related to the collection. An ILS also helps to manage circulation (keeping track of what books are checked in and out) and to manage patrons (sign people up for library cards, track down overdue books, etc.)

After this project is complete, library patrons will be able to search the Hitchcock catalog from anywhere to not only see what the library has available, but *a/so* manage their own library accounts to see what they have checked out, place holds, and renew books.

Items will still be available to check out during this project, so stop by the library to sign up for an account and start checking out materials!

ABLE Library

The Hitchcock is proud to partner with the **ABLE Library** (formerly the Library for the Blind & Visually-Impaired), housed at the Vermont Department of Libraries in Barre. If you or someone you know can no longer read traditional print materials due to a visual impairment, mobility impairment (i.e. not being able to hold a book), or reading disability, please contact the Hitchcock for an application for ABLE Library services.

Eligible ABLE Library patrons can receive **free** talking books through the US Postal Service, as well as access to free online audiobooks, Braille materials, and so much more.

Interlibrary Loan

The Hitchcock is proud to begin offering limited interlibrary loan services to patrons. Really want a certain book or DVD, but the Hitchcock doesn’t have it? Your librarian may be able to request it through CLOVER - Vermont’s interlibrary loan system - from another Vermont library. Hitchcock patrons can then borrow the item for a few weeks, and then return it to the Hitchcock to be safely sent back to the lending library. While this service is free for patrons, donations to offset shipping costs would be greatly appreciated. Contact the library for more information!

HITCHCOCK MUSEUM & LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jennifer Stelma - *Chair* * Carolyn Lyster - *Vice Chair* * Karen Blais - *Treasurer*
Beth Berchick - *Secretary* * Beau Harris - *Collections Director*

NEXT TRUSTEE MEETING: March 12, 2024 @ 4pm