

**Director's Report to the Library Commission**  
**October 21, 2024**

**Budget News:**

- I will be starting to crunch numbers for the FY26 Town budget in the coming weeks.

**Library News:**

- The Assistant Librarian I – Adult Services position has been filled by Lyndsey Robinson who will start on November 12.
- The Ledyard Public Library is thrilled to announce the unveiling of our new Toy Library on the morning of October 30, 2024! We are so grateful to bring this new circulating collection to our community as we realize the importance of play during the early years of childhood development. Not only are we positive this new collection will attract families, children, and teens, to the library, but it will also help ease the economic burden by offering equitable resources. In addition, we believe in the importance of building early literacy skills such as talking, reading, singing, playing, and writing every day. Children experience the world through play while also developing fine motor skills, cognitive concepts, language, and social skills. Teens use play to interact and socialize with their peers, thus strengthening their mental and physical health. This toy collection will enrich the library experience for children, teens, families, and our community as a whole. This Toy Library collection has been created in collaboration with Traveling Toys, Inc. with generous funding from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut. Thank you!
- Bill Library Association trustees held their annual pot luck meeting at the Bill Library on Thursday, October 17.
- Laura Norcia, Seed Library Coordinator, just closed the Seed Library for the season. We are grateful for all the hours our volunteers spend counting, sorting, and preparing seeds for the Seed Library. At Bill Library, over 3,200 seed packets were handed out for free and Gales Ferry Library tallied over 800 bringing our total to over 4,000 for the year!

**Building News:**

- The new ADA circulation/information desk has been installed at Bill Library. This project was fully funded by the American Library Association Libraries Transforming Communities – Round 2 grant.



Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Smith  
Library Director