Let’s Talk Library Funding & Library Districts with Dick Panz!

On Monday, July 23, Richard Panz of Panz Library Consulting Panz will be at the CEF Headquarters in Plattsburgh to talk about the formation of library districts from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All CEF staff, member library directors, and board members are invited to attend this information packed session.

The workshop will review the types of public libraries in New York State and provide information on a variety of funding and governance options available to all public libraries, including placing propositions on municipal and school district ballots and creating school district and special legislative district public libraries. Attendees will learn the steps necessary to implement each option as well as the advantages and disadvantages of each. The workshop will be interactive and attendees will be encouraged to ask questions throughout. An opportunity will be provided for libraries to ask questions and advice regarding their specific situations.

The workshop will be conducted by Richard Panz, founder of Panz Library Consulting. Mr. Panz has more than 34 years experience working in NY State libraries and library systems, 27 of those years spent as a director of two separate library systems serving both rural and urban areas. Under a contract with the New York State Library, he has developed a comprehensive web-based “how-to” guide on public library districts and has provided dozens of consultations with individual libraries in New York State to identify potential funding and governance options and he has conducted many workshops on the topic. In addition he has assisted several libraries through the process of creating library districts, including the Gloversville Public Library and the Chemung County Library District, the first countywide public library district in New York State.

The session is expected to begin at 10:00 a.m. last until 2:00 p.m. with a break for lunch.

Please contact Sue Cotter at 563-5190, ext 10 or scotter@cefls.org to register.
News from Clinton County

Champlain Memorial Library

Thus far in 2007, Champlain Memorial Library hosted two community events sponsored by the Champlain Literary Club. In January, “Community Night” featured John Zurlo as the evening’s guest speaker. Mr. Zurlo regaled attendees with an explanation of his duties as Clinton County Clerk and spoke about the many services offered to County residents through the Clerk’s office. Mr. Zurlo also shared his experiences with his latest hobby - grape growing and wine making in the North Country.

In March, library patron Merrill Freeman organized “Meet the Artist Night,” a venue that showcased 21 local artists, amateur and expert alike. Artists exhibited samples of their art form and were available to converse with attendees and colleagues to share ideas, experiences and inspirations. Attendees were treated to a variety of art mediums including acrylic, oil, watercolor and tissue paintings, as well as sketches, quilting, knitting, pine needle basketry, graphic art design, painted furniture and beaded jewelry. The event was well attended and so well received that we hope it will become an annual event.

After almost a year long hiatus, the Champlain Memorial Library is hosting story hour again. Traditionally story hour has always been run by a volunteer; however for the past year not a soul could be found who was up for the challenge. With still no hope of a volunteer in sight I decided to take action. Knowing I couldn’t run story hour and work the circulation desk at the same time, I arranged for help on Saturday mornings. Although Saturdays are not the best time for some, I am here regardless if one child shows up or twenty. Story hour also gives me the opportunity to implement What’s the Big Idea programs for the library’s youngest patrons.

The Champlain Chapter Cougars are back! For the second year the Champlain Memorial Library is participating in Take a Bite Out of Books. This year we have two returning members on the team ready for a second chance at the trophy as well as three new very bright and excited team members ready to take the battle of the books challenge. We also have two coaches working with the Champlain Chapter Cougar team. Thanks to Maria and Elena Sanchez for all their hard work and dedication.

I would like to give special thanks to CEF Automation Consultant Betsy Brooks who fought the fight when our library was excluded from the newest Gates Grant which gives computers to New York State libraries. I know this library was one of the lucky ones to be reconsidered for this initiative, and we are looking forward to new computers this fall.

-- Alison Mandeville, Director

Mooers Free Library

Mooers Library is finally automated and slowly converting over to the Horizon system. Special events include an upcoming raffle of the Harry Potter books in series, an ongoing book sale, and the summer reading program which promises to be very good this year.

The Mooers Library community was saddened by the recent death of Paul Vogan. Mr Vogan and his wife Betty were mainstays of our library for almost 50 years. Paul did everything from keeping the lawn in tip top shape to fixing the roof. His wife, Betty was librarian here for almost 40 years.

-- Edie Morelock, Director

Local Lions Fund Senior Book Discussion Groups

Book discussion groups will be a hot commodity for senior readers this summer thanks to a generous donation by the Plattsburgh area Lions Club. CEF Outreach staff will offer “Let’s Talk About It” large print book based groups at two Plattsburgh area senior residence facilities that are yet to be determined. The $1,500 grant will be used to purchase large print books and spoken word titles that will stimulate “lively discussion” and hopefully hot debate. If you know of seniors living in a Plattsburgh area organized residence facility who would like to “discuss with us” please contact Julie Weaver at 563-5190 x 18.
Focus On…..

The Dannemora Free Library

Each spring a few brave flowers push their way through the chilly soil of Dannemora to brave harsh winds and unexpected frost. Determination – that’s what it takes to bloom in the Adirondacks. In 1940 a group of determined Dannemora citizens banded together to create the Dannemora Free Library. Since that time the library has grown strong roots within the community. Countless grandparents and parents lead a new generation through the doors, reminiscing about the joys of their own early experiences with the library.

The exterior of the building may have an admittedly institutional feel, but behind the stone façade the library has created a warm and inviting space for the community to gather and reconnect.

Although the year is still young, we’ve already had a lot of excitement in 2007. A community member who went on to fame and fortune (well, at least fortune) outside of Dannemora called to offer his support for the library. Saying that, “Dannemora was my foundation,” his generous gift funded our entire automation project. We are scheduled to go “live” at the end of May.

Summer reading season is almost upon us, bringing mystery and intrigue to our community. The mayor has even agreed to serve as a suspect in our summer-long “whodunit.” I was particularly surprised (and grateful) that he signed up, not only because of the potential political fallout if he turns out to be the culprit, but also because the last time I convinced him to participate in our summer reading program, he ended up being dunked repeatedly in a near-freezing dunk booth during a particularly chilly July.

This summer we’ve been able to expand our program to include “Sneak Peeks,” a group of teens who will meet to review new young adult titles. (Thank you CEF mini-grant!!) We’ve also been able to start a “Books to Go” program that delivers books to homebound seniors.

With so much going on, I’d better get back to work! Happy Spring everyone!

-- Nikki Kourofsky, Director
Clinton County Continued...

Chazy Public Library

Chazy Library has finally gone “on line” as of April 10. After the two years of preparing for automation I thought I could take a break and relax. Ha ha! It’s very exciting, but trying to learn all the new procedures is intimidating (and being between the new and old systems is confusing). However, patrons have been very patient and Betsy is always very helpful during my frequent panics. I guess we’ll get there as so many of you have. And then things will be much easier, right? I hope to get the trustees and substitutes familiar with the new routines soon.

The Trustees are planning to paint the downstairs main room. They decided it might be best to wait until after the Summer Reading Program is finished. We will hold our Story Times twice a month during the summer. This series is coordinated by Trudy and Ken Burger with reading assistance from Linda Brubaker and Diane Sabourin (so far). They all do a wonderful job.

-- Francie Fairchild, Director

Dodge Memorial Library, Rouses Point

The Dodge Memorial Library has a summer-full of activities planned for children. Highlights will include a Summer Reading Program Kickoff which will be held on July 7 from 9:00 to 11a.m. at St. Patrick's Church Hall. On July 10 at 6:00 p.m. author Raquel Rodriguez Young will hold a book signing. There will be a drawing for “Reader of the Week” on July 13, July 20, July 27 and August 3. On July 21 and August 4 we will hold a story hour for children ages 3 to 5 at St. Patrick’s Church hall at 9:00 a.m. A mystery activity for ages 6-12 will follow at 10:30 a.m.

On July 24, we will hold a reading workshop for children ages 3-6 and their parents. This activity is sponsored by Mountain Lake PBS and will be facilitated by Donna Boumil. Tentative plans have been made for a program presented by local juggler Stephen Gratto which will be held at 6:30 p.m. at St. Patrick’s Church Hall. Our End of Program Celebration will be held on August 11 and will feature a raffle and a party to celebrate the Dodge Memorial Library’s 100th Anniversary. We will have more programs to announce and a report on our busy 100th summer to feature in the summer issue of the Trailblazer.

-- Donna Boumil

Northern New York Library Assistants’ Hold Annual Spring Conference

Twenty-seven Library Assistants from across the North Country participated in their Annual Spring Conference, Team Building, on Thursday, April 19, in the Adirondack Room of the Joan Wiley Library at Paul Smiths College.

During the morning session, Dan Davis of Potsdam shared personal stories and led the group through a variety of team building activities. He discussed the importance of building relationships, being empathetic and not passing judgment. “We need to step back and take a personal inventory in order to change”, Davis said, “and realize the importance of affecting others in a positive way each day.”

Neil Surprenant, CEF Board Member and Director of Library and Educational Resources at Paul Smiths, hosted a tour of the Joan Weill Library, which included the Academic Support Center, smart rooms, group study rooms, technical services and the information commons. Surprenant explained that library planners considered ways to make the library warm and inviting to students. While the building is modern, it has elements of traditional Adirondack design.

The Library Assistants’ Committee is committed to providing educational opportunities, communication and staff development for all support staff in our area libraries. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding continuing education for support staff, please feel free to contact any one of the committee members. And, of course, our meetings are always open.

-- Patricia Wiley, Saranac Lake Free Library

-- Tracey LaBarge, CEF Library System

Dan Davis (standing) presented a Team Building workshop. Dan has worked extensively with drug abuse treatment centers and the criminal justice system. -- Pat Wiley, photo
Keene Valley Library Association

We are pleased to announce that our new and improved Book Sale 2007 will be held on August 3 and 4 at the library. On Friday, August 3, there will be a Gala Opening of the Annual Book Sale. A modest admission fee of $5.00 provides access to a reception and first sale offerings. We are also holding an ongoing book sale, called The Book Cellar. Yes, it is in the basement and features best sellers, paperbacks, children's books, and all of the many wonderful donations from patrons.

Local horse enthusiasts have formed a club that will meet at the library on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:15 p.m. Nicky Frechette is offering this opportunity for adults and students to explore the world of horses. Nicky operates a local riding stable where she uses natural horsemanship to train horses and riders.

Our Summer Lecture Series has been set for 2007. All sessions will be held at the library on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

July 9 Bob Marshall in the Adirondacks with Adirondack Explorer editor Phil Brown
July 16 The Amazing Adventures of Jim and Dave
July 23 Adirondack Stories with Marty Podskoch
July 30 Wildflowers on Wet Places with Frank Lescinsky

August 6 Tales From an Adirondack Attic with Andy Flynn
August 20 Mekong: Exploring the Mother of Waters with Pete Suttmeier
August 27 Actively Adirondack by Randy Lewis

--- excerpted from the Keene Valley Library Association online newsletter www.kvvi.net/~library Karen Glass, editor and director

Sherman Free Library, Port Henry

Our library received a grant of $250 from Stewart's in support of the summer reading program. We are planning to send out our annual appeal letter in July and will use some of the money from the appeal towards the Gates matching grants. We are hoping to have our new lights installed in June.

We are in the discussion phase with the summer youth program to have children opt to come to the library one hour a week for the Get A Clue @ Your Library summer reading program. The Moriah PTA is helping us by sponsoring a special reading program this summer called "Be a Reading Champ". For every four books that children read, they will receive a small prize. This program will run from June 1 through August 25.

On August 9, magician Ron Cain will perform at the library as an end of season treat.

-- Jackie Viestenz, Director

This Just In:
Construction Materials Are Now Available Online

Application materials for both the $14 million and $800,000 public library construction grant programs are now available online at http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/construc/index.html. The deadline for submission to the State Library is Friday, September 14, 2007. Please contact Julie at CEF (563-5190 x 18, e-mail wever@cefls.org) if you have questions or want to discuss your project.

A free workshop devoted to this program will be held at the Schenectady County Public Library on Thursday, June 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. DLD encourages any public library interested in submitting an application for a construction grant award to send at least one individual. There is limited seating so early reservations are advised. To register, contact Lois Gordon at the Mohawk Valley Library System at lgordon@mvls.info. To join the CEF car pool, please call Julie at 563-5190 x 18.
Essex County continued...

Schroon Lake Public Library

Sad news: Kathryn Potts, my library aide for the past seven years passed away this winter. She was the best and the patrons and I miss her terribly. My other library assistant left last August so it has been a tough year. Thankfully, we hired two new assistants, Deanne Bowen who comes to us with many years experience working with teens, and Denise Turgen who is a computer wizard. Welcome to both of them!

We received $500 from Stewarts Shops’ Holiday Matching Grant program. The money will be used to buy children's books. New shelving for our circulation area, courtesy of our Friends of the Library, will arrive any day now. This will alleviate congestion behind the circulation desk.

Lots of activities for all ages will be on tap this spring. We are offering a six-week Math & Science Club for 3 to 7 year-olds. The club will meet weekly for an hour to explore basic math and science concepts. We are also excited about Spring Craft Classes for Tweens (ages 12 and up). There will be a small materials fee and pre-registration is required. Topics on offer in May and June include: Memory Board making on Saturday, May 26 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. and Make a Jean Beach Bag on Saturday, June 23 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. In June we will also offer beginning computer classes at dates and times TBA.

A full summer of programs for children is also planned. In addition to the “Get a Clue @ the Library” Summer Reading Program, we will offer weekly crafts and story times. On Friday, August 13 at 11:00 a.m., Stan Burdick teach children how to draw cartoons. Magician Ron Cain will need help to solve "The Case of the Missing Bunny" on Thursday, August 9 at 2:00 p.m.

Adults will find lots going on this summer as well. On Friday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m. Andy Flynn will present a program on "Exploring History in the Adirondack Attic". Andy will share colorful stories about Adirondack life straight from the collections of the Adirondack Museum. On Friday, August 3 at 7:00 p.m., author Marty Podskotch will discuss his two new books: CCC Camps in the Adirondacks and Adirondack Stories.

Marty’s presentation will include pictures he has gathered from former CCC members and their families, and stories that involve the audience.

Several active interest groups meet regularly at the library. Our Book Discussion Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. New members are always welcome at our lively discussions. This month's book will be Our Endangered Values by Jimmy Carter. The quilt group continues to meet the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the meeting room. We just finished a Northern Shores Quilt that we donated to the Friends of the Library to use for a fundraiser. New members are always welcome, and are encouraged to bring a piece to work on or share.

-- Jane Bouchard, Director

Wadham's Free Library

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, our automation project is nearing the launch pad. We hope to go live at the end of June, with a “card party” on June 29 from 5 to 8 p.m. at which we'll celebrate the new system and hand out patron cards - and refreshments. Jeff Scott (Hickory Hill Woodworks) designed and made a new circulation desk for us. It’s just beautiful - made of oak in the Arts and Crafts style. All the elements of our new system are finally coming together and we’re very excited.

Hardworking trustees, volunteers, and staff, and contributions from our Library patrons, the Lake Placid Education Foundation, and Senator Betty Little have helped get us here.

On June 6 Brian Mann will, we hope, talk about his book Welcome to the Homeland. (Maybe it won’t snow this time.) Adirondack Explorer Editor Phil Brown will present a slide show/lecture about legendary hiker and wilderness advocate Bob Marshall and will sign copies of his new book, Bob Marshall in the Adirondacks, an anthology of Marshall’s writings. On July 18, Libby McDonald will discuss her forthcoming book The Toxic Sandbox, the Truth about Environmental Toxins and our Children’s Health.

We’re busy, and we are having fun.

— Liz Rapalee, Director
More from Essex County...

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

Thanks in part to a grant from the New York State Arts Council of the Northern Adirondacks, the library is hosting a year-long series of monthly writers’ workshops. The workshops feature a different genre each month and are held the third Tuesday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Workshops have been presented on poetry, fiction, and playwriting. Playwright Scott Renderer will present “How to Read Aloud” on June 19 and poet Roger Mitchell will hold a critique session July 17. Fred Balzac will conduct two more sessions on playwriting, with a December 18th performance at Upholstery Lounge in Upper Jay. All are welcome to participate in these free workshops.

“How Julie & Friends,” a concert underwritten in part by the Arts Council of the Northern Adirondacks, drew an appreciative crowd of about 50 people on April 15. Julie Robinson Robards was joined by John Doan and Steve Feinbloom for a concert of bluegrass, ballads, instrumental, country and folk music.

A Special Book Lovers and Collectors Sale will take place on Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Included in the sale are first editions, rare books and newer “coffee table” type books encompassing juvenile books, New York State history, conservation pamphlets, nature, and literature.

AuSable Forks photographer Ray Sabbow is exhibiting his photographs at the library through June. Many local landmarks are the subjects of his photographs. Keene artist Marjorie Burns will exhibit her work in July and August. The library will be a stop on the Jay Studio Tour scheduled for July 28th, with local artists Kim Frank and Kay Kowanko participating.

Stop by our annual Books, Antiques, Food and Things sale will be held Friday, July 13 through Sunday, July 15. The final program for our Get A Clue summer reading program will include a concert presentation by Speedy Arnold on July 31 at 2:00 p.m. with family-oriented singing fun, open to all.

We received a Stewart’s grant to partially underwrite volunteer Kathy Recchia’s Children’s Theater Workshop this year. The grant will be used to purchase production rights and scripts and help pay for costumes and props. Kathy will be casting and rehearsing the play this fall.

-- Karen Rappaport, Director

Westport Library Association

A First View Opening has been added to this year’s amazing annual Westport Library Book Sale. It will be celebrated with champagne, sparkling cider and strawberries. Ted Comstock, expert on books and ephemera, will provide verbal appraisal of one item per guest on Friday, July 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. The donation is $15. A beautiful reprint of Bessboro: A History of Westport will be raffled. Raffle tickets will be available in the library and at various businesses around town.

This is a very large sale of amazing old, new, hardback, paperback, and many special books. Regular sale hours will continue Saturday and Sunday, July 7 and 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Reduced price bag sales continue throughout the summer during regular library hours.

The library will be open the following hours from July 1 until Labor Day: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Eager readers always find treasure at the Westport Library’s Book Sale

— Anne de la Chappelle, Director
More From Essex County

Paine Memorial Free Library, Willsboro

The Paine Memorial Free Library is excited to have the opportunity to host Willem Lange’s presentation of "Tales by Willem" on Saturday, June 16 at 7:00 pm at the Willsboro Central School. This event will be co-sponsored by the Paine Memorial Free Library and the Willsboro Central School Drama Club.

Willem Lange was born in 1935. A child of deaf parents, he grew up speaking sign language and first came to New England to prep school in 1950 as an alternative to reform school in his native New York State. During a few absences from New England, Will earned a degree in only nine years at the College of Wooster in Ohio. In between those scattered semesters, he worked as a ranch hand, Adirondack guide, preacher, construction laborer, bobsled run announcer, assembly line worker, cab driver, bookkeeper, and bartender. After graduating in 1962, he taught high school English in Willsboro, New York, filling in summers as an Outward Bound instructor.

In 1981 he began writing a weekly column, "A Yankee Notebook," which appears in several New England newspapers. He is a commentator for Vermont Public Radio and the host of New Hampshire Public Television's weekly show, Wildlife Journal. His annual readings of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol began in 1975 and continue unabated. He has published several audiocassette tapes and five books, and received an Emmy nomination for one of his pieces on Vermont Public Television.

In 1973 Will founded the Geriatric Adventure Society, a group of outdoor enthusiasts whose members have skied the 200-mile Alaska Marathon, climbed in Alaska, the Andes, and Himalayas, bushwhacked on skis through northern New England, and paddled rivers north of the Arctic Circle.

Be sure to mark your calendar for this fabulous event.
-- Cheryl Blanchard, Director

Take a Field Trip to the Ticonderoga Cartoon Museum

If you are looking for a fun-for-all field trip destination then look no further than the Ticonderoga Cartoon Museum. Director and Curator Stan Burdick has issued a standing invitation to clubs and groups to visit the museum which will be open through the fall by appointment set at the convenience of touring groups in addition to normal Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon hours.

The museum houses special exhibits that feature the work well-known cartoonists past and present as well as a “parade of comic starts” (life-size wooden cutouts by the late Arto Monaco). It includes the works of Sid Couchey of Essex (“Richie Rich”), a tribute to Thomas Nast, and hundreds of original art pieces by the “greats” of the comic/editorial art world.

Special tours of the museum can be arranged, or your group can browse on your own. The museum hosts a web site at www.ticonderogacartoonmuseum.com For more information or to book your “private show” contact Stan Burdick at 585-7015.

AuSable Forks Free Library

Our long time Assistant Librarian Anne Sherman retired on May 11th. She will be missed by all!

Tara Osborne, a Junior Girl Scout, (soon to be Cadette Girl Scout) worked on her Bronze Award, the highest award given to a Junior, by pooling her resources and having picnic tables built for the library. Thanks to the generous donation of wood from Hazeldon Lumber and Howard Aubin and the labor of her family and friends, there is now a nice patio out behind the library for meetings, summer reading programs, and patrons wishing to make use of the wireless internet.

Programs on tap for summer include the AARP defensive driving course which will be held again on June 25th and 26th, and our Summer Reading Program will start in July.
-- Carole Osborne, Director
**Essex County continued...**

**Belden-Noble Memorial Library, Essex**

At the Belden Noble Library in Essex, the dates for all of our summer programs are not yet set. However, we have several exciting programs planned to date, including a Power Point presentation by Jim and Colleen VanHoven on their recent trip to South Africa. The program will be held at the Essex Community Church at a June date to be announced.

On July 14, from 3:00 to 4:30p.m., The Adirondack Council will hold a book signing at the library for *Bob Marshall in the Adirondacks*. Editor Phil Brown will give a power point presentation and lead the discussion to which the public is invited. On July 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the Essex Community Church, Jan Eakins will give a power point presentation and discussion, which continues from her previous talk on Thomas Jefferson and Monticello. The discussion will feature other architectural work by Thomas Jefferson as well as his contacts with John Adams.

When we are expecting more than 25 to 30 people, especially in the summer, we are able to use the larger and cooler Fellowship Hall in the Essex Community Church, which is about a 1-2 minute walk from the Library.

The library board is busily planning more programs that will be announced soon.

-- Karen East, Director

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**Larry Hahn** is the new librarian at the Dodge Library, West Chazy. In answer to our request to “tell us a little something about himself, Larry says, “I started on the 24th of April. I have a Masters in liberal studies where I majored in health education and a B.A. in Sociology. I formerly worked for the Plattsburgh Public Library as both a clerk and a page, and was primarily involved in inter-library loan. I am very happy to be here. It is a small library with a long history. My primary goal is to make the Dodge Library more prominent in the community. I am grateful for all the help that the CEF Library System is giving to me.” Welcome back, Larry!

According to the Spring Issue of the North Country Literacy News, **Wendy Terbeek**, Director of the Hammond Library, Crown Point, tutored four young adults in what is required to pass the U.S. citizenship test. After 94 hours of classroom work over a period of four months, each of her students passed with flying colors.

Downloadable eAudiobooks are on the way. Connect, Click and Listen beginning July 1! See the article on page 11 for details!

The Dannemora Free Library will be going live on Horizon on May 30.

We are sad to report that **Ardele Jones**, Librarian at Adirondack Correctional Facility, passed away on May 20. Ardele was a long time member of the CEF community and will be sorely missed. She was a keen gardener and garage saler, a font of information on tons of things, and a good friend.

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*Niki Kourofsky barcodes in preparation for Dannemora’s May 30 Horizon “go live.”*
News From Franklin County

Saranac Lake Free Library

Over 80 Saranac Lake Free Library volunteers and spouses enjoyed a delightful evening at the May 5 Centennial Candlelit Supper honoring past and present volunteers. Volunteers included weekly upstairs and Adirondack Room volunteers, and those who assist with programs, book sales and all other library events and projects. Each volunteer brought a salad, a main dish or dessert, with the library providing ham and beverages. The Community Room was dressed up for spring with white tablecloths, pansy baskets and a display of articles about past volunteers going back to 1907. Following the dinner, Lee Knight presented a program of Adirondack ballads and folk songs from the Marjorie Lancing Porter collection.

The June Centennial event will be a walking tour of historic sites that were part of Saranac Lake when the library was chartered in 1907, while in July “Saranac Lake Reads” will be a community read of A Northern Light by Jennifer Donnelly. The children’s Summer Reading Program will meet three Wednesdays in July and August 1.

-- Pat Wiley, Library Assistant

Still looking for that perfect grant? We still subscribe to Granstation, which is an easy to use and productive grant finding tool. For more information, or to schedule a demonstration session at our place or yours, call CEF at 563-5190.
Donna Hanus Receives Distinguished Service Award

Donna Hanus is the recipient of the 2007 Distinguished Service Award from the School Library Systems Association of New York State (SLSA).

The Distinguished Service Award is presented to a School Library System Director whose work exemplifies six areas of consideration: professional leadership, professional service, information sharing, collaboration, quality programs and creative service. The award was presented by Angus Saunders, Vice Chairperson of the Awards Committee, at the SLMS Conference in Syracuse, New York.

Donna is known as a strong advocate for school libraries and an active proponent of inter system cooperation. At the State level, the fact that School Library Systems can apply for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds on their own is the direct result of her presence and work on the LSTA Advisory Council. Additionally, she currently is a partner with the State Library on an IMLS Recruitment Grant which will bring two new people into the profession.

Donna Hanus has been a dedicated leader in libraries throughout our region. She served as a trustee of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System from March 1995 until December 2006, and was President of the Board from 2004 to 2006. She was a member and officer of the Wead Library, Malone Board of Trustees, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Northern New York Library Network (3R’s), SLSA, and the Northern Area School Library Media Specialists. Most recently, she demonstrated leadership in library automation as the libraries in her system moved to OPALS-NA, the open source central server based system. Libraries throughout the state use the OPALS manual she wrote.

Congratulations, Donna!

-- excerpted from a NYLINE article by Linda Fox, Director, Library Services Capital Region BOCES Albany, NY 12205, and President, School Library Systems Association of NYS

**Clicked on Any Good Books Lately?**

*Downloadable eAudiobooks are on the Way!*

CEF and partner libraries Plattsburgh Public Library, Saranac Lake Free Library and Keene Valley Library Association are sponsoring a one year pilot project that will give access to **downloadable audiobooks** to all north country residents. Our one year subscription will begin July 1 and features over **1,200** titles including New York Times bestsellers and classics for **adults, young adults and children.** Approximately 30 new titles will be added each month.

Our subscription also includes the Modern Scholar Lecture series, Pimsleur Language Programs and other non-fiction collections such as the Holy Bible. We look forward to exploring the world of downloadable audiobooks with you at the June 11 CEFDA meeting which will be held at the Keene Valley Library Association.

A wide range of portable listening devices is supported. Information and training will be available from CEF and is available to patrons 24/7 on the NetLibrary website. Patrons of automated and not-yet-automated libraries will have access to all titles any time they want them from home, work or school.

Our three member library partners are generously providing monetary support for this pilot project, which is also made possible in large part from a LSTA Service Improvement Grant from the NY State Library. Please be sure to thank them for helping to make this new format available to all north country residents. Partner libraries have indicated that eAudiobooks will help them to meet patron demand for these materials. They will continuously evaluate use of this format throughout the project. If you experience similar demand as a result of this project, please consider becoming a supporting partner in 2008-2009. CEF cannot support the cost of this new format alone while maintaining spoken word collections in other (CD) formats.
David Minnich Receives Liberty Bell Award

The Franklin County Bar Association has announced that the 2007 Liberty Bell Award winner is David Minnich, long time Director of the Wead Library in Malone. Ironically, this is the 50th Anniversary of the Franklin County Bar presenting the Liberty Bell Award, and is also the 50th Anniversary of Mr. Minnich’s employment at Wead Library.

The Liberty Bell is awarded to a non-attorney who the Bar Association believes best exemplifies dedication to the duties of citizenship. Judge Robert Main, Chairman of the Law Day Committee characterized the Committee’s choice by saying,

“David Minnich has been a unique and incredible library director and librarian. Over a period of 50 years, he has made the Wead Library in Malone one of the finest library institutions in the state. He built upon the traditions of the fine library he found when he came to Malone in 1957. He reinforced the library’s collection, he introduced new programs, particularly for children, he oversaw the library additions, and he made the Wead Library a visible and integral part of the community through his regular column in the local newspaper. As a citizen, he has worked tirelessly through the local Kiwanis Club to improve the community. These accomplishments make it very appropriate that he receive the Bar Association’s Liberty Bell Award.”

The award was presented at the Bar Association’s Annual Law Day Dinner on May 4 at the Malone Gold Club. Mr. Minnich was joined by his friends and colleagues at the award ceremony. When asked about the award, Mr. Minnich’s reaction was typically modest. He writes, “As far as my reaction is concerned, I thought Bob Main was very judicious in telling me about the award while I was seated, two or three weeks ago. The award was totally unexpected; a slight wind would have blown me over. I feel highly honored.”

Information a la Cart (and did we mention that it’s FREE?)

CEF has recently taken advantage of two exciting and free (yes, free) online memberships. These memberships offer great possibilities for helping member libraries and trustees in two important and relevant areas: health information and grants.

We’ve renewed our affiliate membership with the National Networks of Libraries of Medicine. This free (yes, free) membership makes us eligible for grant funding for access to health information, offers access to training opportunities, subscription to newsletters and provides us with free posters, brochures, bookmarks, etc., as well as guidance to reliable health information on the Web.

Our second free (yes, free) membership is as a registered user of the Foundation Center’s website. Among the offerings of this site is access to grants information in the Philanthropy News Digest as well as specialized newsletters tailored to your interests.

We think these two organizations provide valuable information and access to funding opportunities. We’re encouraging all member libraries to move those mice around and register. They’re FREE, and disprove the adage about free lunches.

You can register to become an affiliate member of the National Networks of Libraries of Medicine at http://nnlm.gov and click your way through Member Services to Join the Network.

Registration for the Foundation Center’s website is even easier. The address is http://foundationcenter.org; point that pointer to Register.

If you have any questions we’re here to help you.

-- Elizabeth Rogers, CEF
Web Wandering

Here’s a really nifty web site: http://access.newspaperarchive.com

It is a historical newspaper database of newspapers from 1759 to 1977, excluding New York State based papers. Access NewspaperARCHIVE is available free of charge to all K-12 schools and public libraries. At no cost, students and patrons can search, view, save and print full-page newspapers from any computer with network access in your facility. Free access includes searchable newspapers from around the world, excluding New York State. A paying subscription includes current newspapers and New York State papers. The site is only available through your library as a member of CEF, so patrons will not be able to access it from home. So far I’ve only heard really good things about it — give it a try!

-- Elizabeth Rogers

Darcy’s Top Troubleshooting Tips For Computers

Some library staff members recently attended training in how to troubleshoot and maintain computers, taught by the very competent and experienced Darcy Purick, who runs the Help Desk at Clinton Community College. I thought it would be useful for those who didn’t attend, and even for those who did, to sum up some of the best tips and techniques we learned in the one-day session.

1. If a computer has frozen up or is refusing to boot up properly, sometimes you can fix it simply by turning it off and unplugging the power from the back of the case for about 10 seconds. This resets the computer at a deeper level.

2. If a computer is acting slow and sluggish, or about once a month, a good practice is to do a disk cleanup, check the disk for errors and then defragment the disk. The way to access these tasks is as follows: Right click on My Computer (on the desktop or start menu), then left click on Open. Right click on Local Disk C:, then left click on Properties. On the General tab, click on the Disk Cleanup button to remove unnecessary files. On the Tools tab, use the Check Now button to check the disk for errors, and afterwards use the Defragment Now button to defragment the drive. Darcy explained that a good metaphor for this is putting your clothes closet in order and hanging like with like so that you can find things!

3. If your computer gives you errors that mention “Virtual Memory”, it probably means that you have outgrown the computer. You may have too much software installed and too much stored on the hard drive. You can remove programs, but you may want to consider upgrading or replacing the computer.

4. A good rule of thumb about replacing computers is that after 5 years you are on borrowed time. Start educating the decision makers in your organization that replacement funds should be available when your computers reach this age.

5. Before installing new software or major updates to software, consider making a Restore Point (available on Windows XP). If the new software messes up your computer, you can return to the earlier state. To access the program to make restore points, go to Start – All Programs – Accessories – System Tools – System Restore. Choose “Create a Restore Point”.

-- Betsy Brooks, Automation Librarian

"Sitting quietly, doing nothing, spring comes, and the grass grows by itself." — Zen Proverb
Staff and volunteers at Peru Free Library prepare to torch the old library book cards. Pictured from left to right are volunteers Marge Kearney, Helle Parker and Jill McLean, Library Director Becky Pace, volunteer Ila Daley and Library Assistant Betsy Settevendemio.

Becky Pace torches a pile of old library book cards