Have You Seen Our New Catalogs?

We have a fun interface for kids, now available at [http://horizon.cefls.org/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=all-kids](http://horizon.cefls.org/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=all-kids). Kids can use pictures to explore and find books and videos on different topics, using pictures to navigate. A section of the catalog also lists some award winning children's books, and there's also a way to search with a regular search box, but limiting the results to books and other resources specifically for kids. There's also a tab with some good websites for kids. We can add to this if you have any recommendations!

And below is our new ADA Compliant Catalog for the visually handicapped, people who use screen reader software and those who can't use a mouse. It also works on cell phone screens. You can find it at [http://horizon.cefls.org/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=all-ada](http://horizon.cefls.org/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=all-ada).

The new catalogs were made possible with help from Betty Little and Teresa Sayward.

-- Betsy Brooks CEF Automation Librarian
**Member Library News**

**From Clinton County**

**Chazy Public Library**

Story Teller Karen Pillsworth kicked off our "Catch the Reading Bug" summer reading program on July 9 with a wonderful performance called "Spiders, Bugs, and Toads ...Oh my!" I recommend her highly. The children (and adults) were entranced and we were thrilled with the number attending. Attendance has also been good at our subsequent story times. We have switched to 4:00 p.m. on a weekday afternoon, which works much better than Saturday mornings. Readers Linda Brubaker, Ken Burger and Carol Ladd have done a wonderful job with our new supply of bug books and related crafts.

-- Francie Fairchild, Director

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**Notes from the Automation Department**

**Log-in troubles**

I’ve had a few patrons email me with stories of difficulty when they try to sign up for a free account on Netlibrary or when they try to access databases. If they enter their library card number on the authentication page and then are given an error message or are taken to another page requiring login, there are a few things you can suggest.

First – is their library card expired? If so, you can fix that in Horizon by calling up the patron’s record and renewing it. If that’s not the problem, it could be that Internet Explorer is being a bit paranoid about these websites. Your patron can fix this by doing the assigning the websites to the “Trusted Zone.”

- In Internet Explorer 4.x, click **Internet Options** on the **View** menu. In Internet Explorer 5, 6 and 7, click **Internet Options** on the **Tools** menu.

- In Internet Explorer 4.x, on the **Security** tab, click the Trusted Zone in the **Zone** box, and then click **Add Sites**. In Internet Explorer 5, 6 and 7, on the **Security** tab, click the Trusted Zone under **Select a Web content zone to specify its security settings**, and then click **Sites**.

- Type a Web address in the **Add this Web site to the zone** box, and then click **Add**. Add the following addresses, one by one: *netlibrary.com, *ebscohost.com, *galegroup.com, *hwwilsonweb.com, and *cefls.org. The "*" is a wildcard, which tells the browser to trust all pages from that website.

- Click **OK**, and then click **OK** again.

When you add sites to the Trusted Sites zones, you should uncheck the box that says **Require server verification (https) for all sites in this zone.**

--Betsy Brooks, CEF Automation Librarian

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**Beach Bag Browsing**

I highly recommend *The People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. Absolutely the best book I have read all summer!

- Eileen Clar, Chateaugay Memorial Library

Waverly Reading Center patrons are all clamoring for the Jack Reacher mysteries by Lee Child. Reacher, an independent, ex-military cop roams the country, a lone crime fighter who involves himself in a different mystery in each book. Any of these thrillers can be taken to the beach for the afternoon, but are guaranteed not to be put down before the reader goes to sleep that night. Child’s latest Reacher mysteries are *Nothing to Lose*, *Bad Luck and Trouble* and *The Hard Way*.

Deborah Crombie has excelled again with her new mystery, *Where Memories Lie*. Another Duncan Kincaid/Gemma James English mystery, it’s a book all mystery fans are bound to like. Crombie is an American writer but writes as vividly about England as any native of that country. – Judy Wever, Waverly Reading Center

Books I really enjoyed this summer include: *The Zookeeper’s Wife: a War Story* by Diane Ackerman; *Gravedigger’s Daughter* by Joyce Carol Oates; *Geography of Bliss: One Grump’s Search for the Happiest Places in the World* by Eric Weiner (probably my favorite non-fiction of the summer - but only because it was happier than *Zookeeper’s Wife*); *Bridge of Sighs* by Richard Russo (probably my favorite fiction of the summer); and *Still Life* by Louise Penny (a mystery with a southern Quebec setting). – Kathie LaBombard, retired!

**Home to Harmony by Philip Gulley.** If you are looking for a laugh out loud, easy to read book this is for you. This is the first in a series about a Quaker Minister and his trials and tribulations ministering to the people of "Harmony". It is one of the sweetest, funniest books I have ever read.

- Jane Bouchard, Schroon Lake

I haven’t had much time to read this summer, but I can tell you the books that I can’t keep in the library: *Where Are You Now*, by Mary Higgins Clark is extremely popular. I have heard that this is the best book that people have read in a while. *The Spellman Files* and *Curse of the Spellmans* by Lisa Lutz. Are light and funny. For the teens and tweens, of course the Twilight Saga, the Percy Jackson series, *Vampire Academy* and *Frostbite* by Michelle Mead. – Samantha Baer, Wilmington
Let’s Talk Tween on August 22

Join us at CEF headquarters on Friday, August 22 from 9:30 to noon to talk about What to Do With Those Tweens with Maureen Ambrosino. Librarians all over the country are doing great programming for teens. But what about those tweens, kids ages 10-13? They’re too “cool” for elementary programs and too young for teen programs, so what do we do with them? Come hear about great programs you can offer in your library that are easy to set up and run, don’t cost much, and have been done successfully in other libraries. You’re sure to leave with some fun new program ideas! Bring your own program ideas to share and questions you need answered. Maureen Ambrosino, Youth Services Consultant at Central Massachusetts Regional Library System, and former director at Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library, will lead this fun hands-on workshop.

Following the morning session, Sally Anderson of the Vermont Center for the Book will join us at 1:00 p.m. to present important information about the November conference. “Mother Goose” libraries will not want to miss this meeting.

This full day extravaganza was planned to cut down on member library travel and “away” time, and will be punctuated by lunch. Please save the date and watch for more details coming your way soon.

Kiwanis Noon Club Gives Storytelling a Boost

The Major Emphasis Committee of the Plattsburgh Noon Kiwanis Club has awarded a grant to CEF to purchase “storytelling support” materials. Watch for information coming soon about flannel board kits, storytelling aprons and “mitts” for adults and children that will give some additional zip to your story hour!

Mooers Free Library

In between the raindrops, the Mooers Library is holding a summer reading program that features a story hour for preschoolers and reading lists for older students. We have enjoyed more participation in both events this year.

On Tuesday afternoon, August 5, Lisa Marlow, senior public health educator for the Clinton County Healthy Living Partnership, came to our library to talk about breast, cervical and colorectal cancer, and other women’s health issues. The Healthy Living Partnership is a grant funded program that provides free cancer screenings to anyone who does not have insurance or who has limited insurance. We hope to follow this program with more library-based discussions about teenagers, family, and kids issues.

We are preparing for the annual Book Sale, which will be held on Labor Day, and hope to have a nice day for it. The summer is always so busy with vacations and many patrons using the library computers.

-- Edie Morelock, Director

Dodge Library, West Chazy

The Dodge Library held a successful program with Steve and Wendy Hall on Tuesday, July 1. The Halls brought two live owls to our library and attendance was standing room only! They showed a screech owl and a barred owl. Some of the children were even able to pet the barred owl. Steve and Wendy also discussed the awesome eyesight of owls and the way that they are able to turn their heads. The program included information on conservation and the importance of predator bird species. It was a most enjoyable show. Both adults and children were delighted to see the live owls.

The Dodge Library held an election and budget vote on July 26, 2008. We had 21 voters. Nineteen votes were for and two against a $750.00 increase to the budget. Monika Chambers and Julie Layne were voted in as trustees. Congratulations to them both. I would like to thank the entire board for all of their hard work. The budget increase is in anticipation of rising fuel costs.

Our children’s story time is going very well and we are pleased to report that attendance averages 10 children and three adults per session. So far, we have created a butterfly, a grasshopper and a spider, in keeping with the Catch the Reading Bug theme.

I read my poetry at the Lake Forest Retirement Community on Sunday, August 3. This was the first time that I have ever read my poetry to an audience, and the residents seemed to enjoy it.

-- Larry Hahn, Director
LV Fundraiser to Feature Thurston Clarke

You are invited to enjoy an opportunity to attend a luncheon reading by author and Willsboro resident Thurston Clarke on Thursday, August 21, at the Normandie Beach Club in Westport. At this fundraising event which benefits Literacy Volunteers of Essex/Franklin Counties, NY, Mr. Clarke will read from his new book The Last Campaign: Robert F. Kennedy and 82 Days That Inspired America.

Thurston Clarke is the author of eleven widely acclaimed works of fiction and non-fiction books including three NY Times notable books: The Last Caravan, Equator and California Fault. The NY Times Book Review says, “He's funny and he's fair and he swims well against powerful cultural cross-currents.”

Luncheon guests will be able to enjoy a choice of three meals at the Normandie Beach Club, which is located directly on Lake Champlain in Westport. The luncheon begins at 12 noon, with an 11:30 check-in. To RSVP for the luncheon reading or for more information, please call Literacy Volunteers of Essex/Franklin Counties, NY at 942-7607 by August 15. Reservations are $30 per person.

News from Essex County

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

Don & Nadine McLaughlin gave a well-documented presentation “The Jay Bridge: Joining Two Sides of the Town” for our June Tea & Talk program. They spoke on the history of the covered bridge, the process of removing the old bridge and the dedication of the reconstructed covered bridge and park.

Our Books, Antiques, Food & Things Sale set a new record with proceeds from the sale supporting library programs, services and collections. Much appreciation goes to the dedicated volunteers who priced, sorted, carried, unpacked and arranged items and ran the sale. Books and items will continue to be sold in the basement through Columbus Day.

Volunteers Grace Potthast and Kate Zientko presented our summer reading program this year. Catch the Reading Bug weekly programs took place in July, ending with a Saturday, August 2 concert, “Sing A Story-Read A Song!” performed by Nan Hoffman (made possible with a grant from the Ironman Community Fund).

On Wednesday, August 13, at 1:00 p.m., Emily Selleck of the Cornell Cooperative Extension will present a Tea & Talk program on invasive species. On Thursday, August 14, at 7:00 p.m., The Adirondack Center for Writing will present a reading by Elizabeth Inness-Brown, author of Burning Margueritte and Kate Messner, author of Spitfire and other children’s books.

Our Quilters’ Gathering (second Monday at 7:00 p.m.) and Writer’s Collective (third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.) continue to meet monthly.

Many thanks to three volunteers who planted 40 bare root sugar maples provided by the AuSable River Association. The maples have already leafed out and will help stabilize the river bank behind the library.

-- Karen Rappaport, Director

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-- Karen Rappaport, Director

Sherman Free Library, Port Henry

We had a very successful summer reading program using the theme "Catch the Reading Bug". The library was really buzzing on Thursday nights with children and their parents enjoying a book and a craft. Nan Hoffman, folk singer completed the series of programs.

We also held a competition to see who could "Be A Reading Champ". Twenty children participated in the program and over half of them read more than four books this summer. They received small prizes for every four books that they read. One child read 36 books.

The book discussion group will start again in September. They will be discussing Saving Fish From Drowning.

-- Jackie Viestenz, Director, Sherman Free Library
Essex County continued...

Paine Memorial Library, Willsboro

The Paine Memorial Free Library is having fun with the New York State Summer Reading theme "Catch The Reading Bug". Each child that returns books to the library gets to put a bug up showing how many books they read during the week. Pictured in our photo below, left to right, are Courtney Clarke and Stevie Burrows. These girls are part of the summer youth program for One Work Source of ACAP. They are a wonderful addition to our staff.

In keeping with the summer reading theme, our Friday story hour has featured the following stories: The Hungary Caterpillar, The Honey Bee and the Robber by Eric Carle, The Bee Man by Laurie Krebs, From Caterpillar to Butterfly by Deborah Heiligman, and Why Mosquitoes Buzz in Peoples Ears by Verna Aardema

We purchased some lovely books with corresponding bug puppets that the children just adore. The crafts that were completed were lady bug hats, bee antenna hats, bee masks, hive and bee posters, glitter click beetles, bead caterpillars and butterflies and sun visor beetles. The children were so cute as they marched up the stairs with their hats on after each story hour.

Thirty youth readers at our Noblewood Beach site read for thirty five minutes each day, Monday through Thursday. This extra reading certainly helps keep their reading level up or may improve their levels. Go students! Our certified teacher, Suzette Montville is also providing reading assistance.

We have featured many terrific local artists this year. Pat Renolds, Jim Friday, Sean Dye, John Cullen, Happy Marsh, Emilie McBride, Alice Wand and Dennis Kalma exhibited their wonderful works of art. We had many sales that benefited the library. It’s been a busy summer at the Paine Memorial Free Library.

-- Cheryl Blanchard, Director

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I’ve read two stories of family dynamics in their summer homes lately. Sweetwater, by Roxana Robinson, is set in the Adirondacks and involves a visit with new in-laws. Newlyweds Isabel and Paul are visiting Paul’s parents, but Isabel’s memories of the death her first husband keep intruding. It’s a love story, a story of people who finally, in a time of crisis are able to come together.

Wish You Were Here, by Stewart O’Nan takes place on Lake Chautauqua and is also about a family visit to their summer home. After the death of her husband (why are all of these husband’s dying?), Emily Maxwell has sold the family’s home. This is the final visit her children make and the story is one of family relationships and history. I enjoyed the descriptions of the house and its contents, and found them to be a lot like Adirondack places.

One of the best books I’ve read lately is not cheerful but is excellent. Very different from his earlier work, Chris Bohjalian’s latest, Skeletons at the Feast is the story of refugees and their plight during the second World War. This is some of his best writing, both in style and substance. - Elizabeth Rogers, CEF

I am currently reading McMafia, a book about the global reach of criminal enterprises that are now accompanying globalization. It is expected that this area will last long after terrorism has subsided and will continue to grow and become more dangerous. - Larry Hahn, Dodge Library, West Chazy

I’m into David Baldacci’s latest novel The Whole Truth. He is one of my favorite authors, every chapter is an exciting and nerve racking adventure. I also admire him; I found out recently that he and his wife co-founded the Wish You Well Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting literacy efforts across America. - Lynn Dufort, CEF Board Member, Franklin County, and bookmobile patron

Right now I am reading Twenty Wishes by Debbie Macomber. It was recommended to me by several patrons and it’s wonderful! Off the top of my head I would say most of my patrons are requesting James Patterson - Sail; Barbara Walters - Audition; Catherine Coulter - Tailspin; Danielle Steel - Rogue and, of course, Debbie Macomber - Twenty Wishes. Susan Wiggs is also a hot contender as a favorite author. - Deb Crossley, CEF Bookmobile
Library Assistants Committee Seeks New Members

The NNYLN Library Assistants Committee invites library assistants throughout the North Country to join their committee.

The priority of the committee is continuing education for library assistants (those who work in a library, but typically do not have a library degree). While workshop attendance is open to all, committee membership is limited to staff of NNYLN member libraries. The committee usually has about 10 members.

Committee members serve an advisory role, meeting at least twice a year, to plan the two Library Assistants conferences held in the spring and fall. NNYLN staff follows through on the plans, making the arrangements, keeping committee members informed via email.

Workshops are held at various libraries and at different locations throughout the North Country to facilitate travel for attendees. Recent workshops have included:
- Change: It’s a Good Thing
- Setting Professional Goals
- Safeguarding Your Personal Computer
- Graphic Novels
- Leadership Skills
- Personal Safety

Sites have included Canton, Paul Smiths and Plattsburgh, and the fall conference is set to be held in Tupper Lake.

Participation in this committee is an excellent way to network with library assistants from other libraries and to have an impact on designing programs for those in the field.

If you would like to join the committee, contact Bridget Doyle at doyle@nnlyn.org or call 315 265-1119. The next meeting will be take place on October 23 following the fall conference.

--Pat Wiley, Saranac Lake Free Library Assistant

Essex County continued...

Schroon Lake Public Library

Things have been very hectic at our library. This year we scheduled more programming than ever before and all programs have been very well attended so far. We hold story times every Wednesday morning and crafts every Friday afternoon. We also have, weather permitting, story times at the beach! Staff member Dee Bowen has agreed to dress-up in costume and delight children with stories at our local beach. In addition we have hosted ventriloquist Steve Charney, Kerri Marsteller from the Wild Center in Tupper Lake came to do a program on Adirondack insects for kids, and Stan Burdick from the Hague Cartoon Museum came to teach the kids how to draw bugs.

Our YA/Adult summer reading program continues to be very popular. Area businesses donate goods and services that we put into four themed baskets. This year’s baskets include an Adirondack basket, a pasta basket, a s’mores basket and a movie lovers basket. Participants receive a raffle ticket for each book they read during the summer. Baskets are raffled off at the end of the summer.

Our Friends of the Library group has opened a bookstore in the basement of the Schroon Lake Health Center. The Town of Schroon purchased most of the shelving and many volunteers helped to sort items and stock the shelves. The store is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. until Labor Day.

-- Jane Bouchard, Director

Colleen Pelletier, Information and Technical Services Librarian at Plattsburgh Public Library, has been appointed Interim Director of the Dodge Memorial Library, Rouses Point.

Cynthia Preston is the Interim Director of the Elizabethtown Library Association. Cynthia replaces former director Matt Putnam-Pouliot. Welcome, Cynthia!

Samantha Hulcow is the new librarian at Clinton Correctional Facility Annex. Welcome, Samantha!

CEF and Plattsburgh Public Library have each received a $1,000 Community Mini-grant from the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial. Project funds will be used by CEF to purchase books and DVDs about the exploration of Lake Champlain. PPL will use the grant to provide related programs. More information about both endeavors will be coming your way soon!

Ventriloquist Steve Charney and Puppet Harry wowed the summer reading crowd!
In the Jar or On a Spoon: Web Sites You Can Use

Stuffed with too many peppers? Suffering from cucumber overload? Here’s a website that offers reliable information about pickling, making jams & jellies, how and what to freeze (if your tomatoes just won’t ripen, like mine, here’s a way to freeze green tomatoes), and some nice seasonal tips to keep you busy in winter and spring. The site is sponsored by the National Center for Home Food Preservation at the University of Georgia.

http://www.uga.edu/nchfp/how/heatmap.html

If you just can’t keep from tasting what you’re canning, do you have to use a spoon? Here’s a website that explains the consequences of "finger licking." Not just for the novice, this site, sponsored by Penn State Extension, provides safety tips, explanations, best procedures for preservation and safety concerns. Things like canning with a pressure canner, packing safe bag lunches, foods that do not freeze well and safe shipping of food make this a good companion to the University of Georgia’s site mentioned above.

http://solutions.psu.edu/\Food_Preparation_Safety_Storage.htm

-- Elizabeth Rogers, CEF

Check This Out Too:

www.kidsreads.com

This site features “Cool New Books” for June, July and previous months, along with useful information on those pesky, always to keep up with, series. “Books into Movies” and “New in Paperback” are regularly featured sections.

July’s list includes reviews of stand-alone chapter books/middle grade novels such as The Floating Circus by Tracie Vaughn Zimmer, Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School and Other Scary Things by Lenore Cook and Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig by Kate DiCamillo.

E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library

We have two brand new computers in the library courtesy of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The amazing Dan Gould has also replaced the hard drives in the remaining computers and installed Office 2007. This software is the same one used by the schools so students who do not have access to it at home can come to the library to work on projects.

We received a $1500 grant from the Lake Placid Education Foundation earmarked toward young adult fiction. Come and see some of the great new books and audio books we have added to our collection!

The Friends of the Library held their annual Food and Yard Sale on June 14. Many people stopped by to shop, eat and read. They made the day a success.

Our volunteers are hard at work creating the “Wilmington Heritage Quilt” for which we will be holding a raffle. The quilt will be on display at our booth at the Festival of the Colors and then will live at the library until the drawing at our Cookie Sale in December. Tickets will be on sale at the library in August, and at the fall festival. Tickets are $5 for one and 3 for $10.

Colleen Mulvey continues to tell her enchanting stories every Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. Children of all ages love to hear her weave her magical tales. We currently have 10 children participating in the summer reading program. The kids come and listen to one of Colleen’s stories and after the story they do fun activities. The children who attend AuSable Forks Elementary School are using our program to help them with the Senator Betty Little reading challenge. At the end of July, the kids have logged over 125 reading hours!

We are working on updating our website. The library also has a MySpace page. Add us as your friend!

-- Samantha Baer, Director

More from Essex County...

The 2008 NYLA Conference, “Connecting, Collaborating, Cooperating” will be held in Saratoga Springs on November 5-8. Why not plan to go for the day with a colleague, have lunch and check out the exhibits?

A preliminary conference schedule and registration information is available on the NYLA web site at www.nyla.org.
Essex County news concluded

Elizabethtown Library

The Elizabethtown Library just held its annual book sale at the stone church parish hall (UCC). This was a successful event and we were able to raise over $700.00 for the library. Thanks go out to the board members for all their hard work setting up and manning the sale and to our loyal patrons, those in town just for the sale or those just passing through for supporting the library through their purchases.

-- Cynthia Preston, Interim Director

News from Franklin County

Saranac Lake Free Library

The 53rd annual Come to the Fair, our popular summer event, was held August 5 to 7, in our newly renovated Thomas B. Cantwell Community Room, and offered thousands of hardcover and paperback books, white elephant items, jewelry, toys, plants and baked goods. There was a special opening for those who contributed to the 2008 Membership Campaign at the Supporting $35 level or higher the night before Opening Day.

The Saranac Lake Alchemists, our TABOB team, won the Trivia Challenge held at the Champlain Centre Mall in Plattsburgh on July 26. The team had a wonderful time reading the six books, discussing them and taking part in the competition.

Our July Summer Reading Program was a huge success with 60 children participating in the program with its theme “Catch the Reading Bug.” Many volunteers did the planning and presenting of the programs, coordinated by Children’s Programs Coordinator, Peggy Orman.

- Pat Wiley, Library Assistant

Volunteers for the 53rd annual Come to the Fair display signs showing various areas of the fair which ran from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on August 5 to 7.

-- Pat Wiley, photo

More Beach Bag…

There are several new series books out, which are only in paperback. I have found that paperback series make great beach reading because the books are usually light in both heft and content, and you can whip right through them! Cleo Coyle writes a mystery series that would certainly perk up any day at the beach. There’s trouble brewing at the Village Blend coffeehouse in Greenwich Village, and owner Clare Cosi confronts each murder with a cup of good coffee. The books include recipes and coffee-making tips. Problem is, Coyle describes her coffee so well that the reader must go to Starbucks or other coffee place to have one in hand while reading. The books are, in order: On What Grounds, Through the Grinder, Murder Most Frothy, Latte Trouble, Decaffeinated Corpse, and coming in September, Espresso Shot.

Cleo Coyle also writes as Alice Kimberly. Young widow Penelope Thornton-McClure, aided by Aunt Sadie, runs a bookstore, ”Buy the Book,” in New Hampshire. She is also aided by the ghost of private investigator Jack Shepherd, himself murdered over 50 years ago in this very bookstore. Only Penelope can hear his comment and they mutely communicate with each other while solving mysteries. The emphasis is books, not coffee this time. Start with the first one, The Ghost and Mrs. McClure, then The Ghost and the Dead Deb, The Ghost and the Dead Man’s Library, The Ghost and the Femme Fatale, and coming in 2009, The Ghost and the Haunted Mansion.

There are more paperback series coming along. Take a hobby, such as knitting or growing flowers, and there is a mystery series to boot. Michelle Scott has one with a heroine, Nikki Sands, who knows her wines and gets a job in a vineyard (Murder Uncorked, Silenced by Syrah, Vintage Murder and Murder by the Glass). Another is the Flower Shop mysteries, by Kate Collins, with a flower shop as the setting, and puns for titles (Mum’s the Word, Slay it with Flowers, Dearly Depotted). They are entertaining and quite well written. A way to spend the day at the beach, while sipping wine or good coffee.

I’d like to recommend the bookmobile’s wonderful books on preloaded MP3 players. These are great for those with vision problems as well as all who love to listen while in the car or doing needlework or other work at home. Currently my favorite books include: Karen Slaughter’s Fractured, which might be my favorite of the summer. Others on my list are Sail by James Patterson, Executive Privilege by Philip Margolin, The Broken Window by Jeffery Deaver, Killer View by Ridley Pearson and I Shall Not Want by Julia Spencer-Fleming. Other good ones include Sweet Love by Sarah Strohmeyer, Twenty Wishes by Debbie Macomber and Certain Girls by Jennifer Weiner. -- Dorene Meyer, Bookmobile Patron
Fourteen Local Teams
Take a Bite Out of Books

Seventy young people in grades five, six, and seven in eleven libraries in the CEF system took part in the Take a Bite Out of Books Challenge on Saturday, June 26. Fourteen teams from ten libraries competed for the TABOB trophy. There was a lot of excitement at the Champlain Centre Mall and the teams really stepped up to the challenge. Keene Valley and Saranac Lake warmed up by holding a separate challenge of their own earlier in July.

The Saranac Lake team won the championship (for the second, but not consecutive, time). Peru Team One came in second. All participants received prizes and a book.

The libraries that took part in TABOB 2008 included: Champlain Memorial Library, Dannemora Free Library, Dodge Library, West Chazy, Peru Free Library, Plattsburgh Public, Keene Valley, Saranac Lake, Goff-Nelson Library, Tupper Lake, Schroon Lake Public Library, Sherman Free Library, Port Henry, and Black Watch Memorial Library, Ticonderoga. Congratulations to all of them for involving these young people, and for all their hard work in coaching them.

-- Jackie Viestenz, Sherman Free Library, Port Henry

Saranac Lake Alchemists Claim TABOB Trophy

The Saranac Lake Alchemists won the TABOB 2008 trophy on July 29 as they narrowly beat out Peru Team One for the championship.

The Alchemists’ overall favorites book-wise were The Book of Story Beginnings and Miracle on 49th Street. They also liked King of Mulberry Street and would have liked Letters from Wolfie more except that it was so sad. They got universally angry on behalf of the folks from Freedomtown in White Lilacs. None of them were too enthralled with the non-fiction selection Blizzard but tackled it gamely regardless.

They always have fun coming up with team name(s) and designing their banner and this year was no exception. They have fun with a game we do for practice which involves koosh ball tossing (they don't get a toss at all if they don't answer question correctly, if they do answer right then they have to choose whether to go for the easy one point shot, the medium hard two point shot or the really tricky three point shot). They also had a lot of fun at the mini-competition in Keene Valley in June.

– Peggy Ormond, Youth Services, Saranac Lake

Saranac Lake Winning Alchemists

The Schroon Lake Hippies confer on an answer.

The Peru Book Hunters were quick on the buzzers!
Put Your Mold on Hold

Given our ongoing wet summer, we thought it might be useful to reiterate the mold clean-up resources and information provided by Cornell University Book Conservator Michele Brown during her June 13 workshop.

Michelle writes that “molds are fungi, and obtain nutrients from organic compounds. Library materials are composed largely of cellulose (paper and cloth), and will readily support mold growth, given the right environmental conditions. Mildew is another name for mold.”

Recognizing a mold outbreak:
✓ Growing or active mold has a distinctive musty odor
✓ Mold colonies are visible. They are generally green or black, but may be any color. Active mold may look fuzzy, and smears when you rub it.

Coping with a mold outbreak:
✓ Locate the source of the moisture (leak, HVAC malfunction etc.) and initiate drying. Lower the humidity, using dehumidifiers if necessary.
✓ Acquire personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves, non-vented goggles, and coveralls. Mold is toxic and allergenic. You should be protected from inhaling it, touching it or ingesting it.

Web sources:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
http://www.cdc.gov/mold/faqs.htm
A site devoted to environmental hazards and health effects.

Conservation Online
http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/bytopic/mold#general:
A web site devoted to mold.

Northeast Document Conservation Center Preservation Leaflets.
http://www.nedcc.org/resources/leaflets.list.php
Emergency Salvage of Moldy Books and Paper
Part of a series of leaflets on preservation issues.

All CEF consultants attended Michele Brown’s workshop, which was made possible in part with funds from the Northern New York Library Network’s “CE Assist – Training on Demand” program. For a copy of Michele’s complete mold resource guide, and a sympathetic ear, contact your CEF consultant.

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More from Franklin County...

Wead Library, Malone

Our summer reading program has been a lot of fun! About 35 kids participated, and the program will wrap up in early August. We’ve raised tadpoles and butterflies, and kids brought in their own bugs that they captured. We had a visiting gecko, and honeybee hive, so we also learned all about those creatures.

During the week of July 21, we hosted a fun drumming program that was presented by a local music teacher, and the kids really livened up the library. An article about the program appeared in the Malone Telegram on Saturday, July 26. It really wasn't too buggy, but percussion is great anytime!

Our preschool program is going well, with about 15 regular participants. We’ve been reading lots of stories, and making insect craft projects. Kids and staff have agreed that bugs made a good summer theme!

-- Sue Wool, Childrens’ Services, Wead Library

Attention, What’s the BIG Idea?™ librarians!

Mark your calendars for the final What’s the BIG Idea?™ conference from Sunday afternoon, November 9 until noon on Wednesday, November 12 in Burlington.

Conference participants will receive the final, hot-off-the-presses Librarian Manuals for:

Shapes and Spaces: Geometry for Young Children
Patterns & Relationships / Change Over Time
More Than Counting

...plus much more! It’ll also be your chance to catch up with the Houston and Delaware librarians and see what they’ve been up to.

We will be emailing you updates as conference details become available. In the meantime, you will receive travel forms to complete and return ASAP. If you have questions or if you know right this minute that you won’t be able to attend, please email Wendy at wendy@mothergooseprograms.org or call her at 1-800-763-2665, ext. 107. We can’t wait to see you!
Still Browsing…

Here is what is in my beach bag:

**Howards End** by E.M. Forster
Follow the lives of the Schlegel sisters and how their lives take a turn after meeting the Wilcoxes. Written in 1910 Howards End is considered to be Forster's greatest novel. (See the Merchant and Ivory film version for impeccable period detail and exquisite costuming.)

Zadie Smith's **On Beauty**
This contemporary satire of race, class and privilege loosely (and amusingly) parallels Howards End. Ms Smith’s has a genuine gift for writing dialogue spoken by characters who absolutely thrum with life. On Beauty will introduce you to two families, one of which, you will never forget.

**The Namesake** by Jhumpa Lahiri
Written in her lucid prose Lahiri tells about the assimilation of an Eastern Indian family into contemporary American society. This seemingly gentle story shows us the powerful pull and underlying strength of family. Lahiri won the Pulitzer Prize for her first book **Interpreter of Maladies.** To round this out try **A Passage to India** by Forster. -- Becky Pace, Peru Free Library

**World made by hand**, by James Howard Kunstler
Some will say I have morbid taste in reading, and I guess it’s true. I enjoyed **The road,** by Cormac McCarthy, which I listened to in downloadable audiobook format, and now here’s another post-apocalyptic novel that really gripped me. In this book, the world has run out of oil and people have gone back to doing things the old fashioned way. The novel is set in upstate New York somewhere north of Albany, in a little town called Union Grove. Cut off from any outside authority, the little town of Union Grove has to make its own rules, and the main character reluctantly shoulders a leadership role when forces both inside and outside the town threaten its residents. I thought it was a good story, and thought-provoking!

**An uncertain inheritance: writers on caring for family**, edited by Nell Casey
I’m only part way through this, but I like it so much I’ve already purchased a copy for my sister. The writing is wonderful, and each of the 19 essays describes a different experience of caring for a family member. Many are about adult children caring for their parents, which is what my sister and I are starting to try to do. Every essay reveals a different facet of something which is hard to understand and harder to describe. I don’t know if it will help us in a practical way, but it’s comforting to know that other people share the same struggles and that there’s no right way to go through it.

--Betsy Brooks, CEF Automation Librarian

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Franklin County news continued...

Chateaugay Memorial Library

“Aahh!” the children exclaim excitedly at the sight of the newly hatched butterflies flapping their wings contentedly in the mesh enclosure. Here at the Chateaugay Memorial Library the air buzzes in anticipation of the activities planned by Director Eileen Clar, as local children gather on the carpet to listen to a story. All of us are “catching the reading bug”, the theme for this year’s summer reading program. Using beads, pompoms, and an obscene number of pipe cleaners we create bugs and arachnids, colorfully blending science and the love of literature in hopes of nurturing young readers in their quest for the magical. Mail-order cocoons hitch on top of the library shelves and young girls and boys alike “ooh” and “ah” over the butterflies’ delicate wings and minute antennae.

Throughout the library, taped to shelves, are yellow paper bees, winding their way through the children’s section, through the New Arrivals, all the way to the Juvenile fiction. Painstakingly crafted, each bee bears the name of a book title and author, which each child must borrow, read, and return with their name on it. After reading the set number of books, the children have to make the difficult and life-altering decision of which prize to choose from within the treasure box, a veritable plethora of diversions.

Outside one can see a newly refurbished building, the upcoming home of the Chateaugay Memorial Library. Many of the visitors to the current library impatiently ask when we will be moving the collections; anticipation of this event is palpable in the faces of long-time patrons eager for more room and increased selection. The new building is lovely, centering on the town’s favorite colors – soft maroon for the floors and white for the walls. These are the colors of the fierce Chateaugay Bulldogs. Late September is the anticipated time for relocation, and the town could not be happier with this improvement of Chateaugay’s resources. New offices, more computers, increased selection, and a spacious and comfortable atmosphere are expected to draw great crowds to the library.

-- Hannah Hanover, Library Intern, Clerk

Our new home!
Look who caught the “READING BUG!!” on the bookmobile!