ECHO Presents “Voices for the Lake” Project in Local Libraries

Several local libraries have teamed up with the ECHO Lake Aquarium & Science Center in Burlington to host a hands-on workshop for adults and teens. The Voices for the Lake “Telling Your Digital Story” program features hands-on information about how to publish online through media sharing sites like YouTube, Facebook or ECHO’s new Voices for the Lake website.

The “Voices for the Lake” program, which is made possible with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, aims to raise awareness of Lake Champlain watershed issues and to build a community of people who care about the Lake and associated watershed areas. The project raises public awareness by using Web 2.0 technologies, and workshop participants are able to use a variety of social networking techniques during the workshops. Using their own camera or video recorder, participants learn how to capture an experience by melding audio and video together using editing software such as iMovie or Windows Movie Maker. Each “Telling Your Digital Story” session serves as an introduction for people to contribute to the Voices For the Lake project.

Workshops are scheduled throughout the summer in libraries located in watershed areas in Northern Vermont and New York. Paine Memorial Library, Willsboro, hosted a workshop by program manager Bridget Butler on Tuesday, June 1. This fun session was enjoyed by participants that ranged in age from teen to seniors. The Peru Library will offer a program later this summer. For more information about the program, and a complete schedule, check out ECHO’s web site at http://www.echovermont.org/voicesforthelake

Each library (and the bookmobile) has received discount admission cards to the ECHO Center which is located on the Burlington waterfront. The ECHO Center has many great programs planned for families throughout the summer and we encourage you to encourage patrons to check them out. It’s a fun ferry ride over and back, with an ice cream stand (and a jogging path) both right there as you disembark by ECHOs diving bell!
**Member Library News**

**News From Clinton County**

**Ellenburg Sarah A. Munsil Free Library**

I’m barcoding books every work day waiting for the day of full automation. I do one shelf at a time and am making steady progress. My patrons are looking forward to automation. The library will have a subscription to Library Elf. That way each patron that has a computer will have reminders of when their books or DVDs are due. I have a 17 year-old volunteer who helps me occasionally. She will free me up to barcode while she does other work.

The library is even busier than last year. People are writing resumes, looking for jobs, researching, checking out DVDs and books. We’re the only place in the community where you can drop in and relax. Sometimes a whole family will stop by to use the computers, rest and read in the rocker, and check out books. One mom even fell asleep in the rocker while her kids were browsing. It’s a great to see the families together. A group of teens comes in to chat with each other. I’m thankful we have this warm, safe place in the middle of our town.

We will have a book drop set up outside by this summer. That will make it easier to get books and DVDs back on time.

I plan to set up four small book shelves, in addition to the two we have all ready up, for an ongoing book sale. We charge $2 for a plastic grocery bag of books. It’s a great way to find good homes for donated and weeded books.

-Michele C. Phillips, Director

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**Online Resource for Struggling New Yorkers**

As the economic downturn continues, many families and individuals are struggling to make ends meet. Financial difficulties are sending many residents to libraries for help and information on employment opportunities and assistance programs.

An online resource is now available to assist low and moderate income families in accessing valuable economic supports and services. New York State’s website, www.myBenefits.ny.gov is an e-government hub for human services that allows users to determine if they may be eligible for benefits by answering one simple set of questions. The site is easy to use and confidential.

Currently this online resource provides a prescreening for nutritional assistance (food stamps), Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other tax credits, health insurance programs including Healthy NY, Family Health Plus, Child Health Plus, Medicaid, and the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), free and reduced school meals and temporary assistance. The prescreening generates a customized results screen for the user which tells them which benefits they may be eligible to receive, where and when to apply, and what documentation to bring.

In some New York State counties, users can apply for Food Stamp benefits online and additional counties continue to be added to this feature. myBenefits also includes a link to Resources for Working Families (www.otda.state.ny.us) which provides more detailed information on these programs, as well as links to the NYS Department of Labor and the NYS Consumer Protection Board websites.

If you are not already doing so, you are encouraged to direct patrons to this self-service resource. Also available are free outreach materials which help promote the website and economic supports. Publications can be viewed and ordered at http://www.otda.state.ny.us/main/publications/

A presentation on this great resource will be given at the NYLA Conference in Saratoga Springs in November.

--from the NYLA Bulletin Volume 58 No. 1 Winter 2010

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*Barcoding has begun at the Ellenburg Sarah A. Munsil Free Library. Director Michele Philips (left) and CEF Automation Consultant Betsy Brooks go over some details.*
Literacy Volunteers of Clinton County and Literacy Volunteers of Essex/Franklin Counties are conducting a **Spring Photo Contest**. The Photo Contest will be held in conjunction with the VISTA Spring Awareness Event. Dan Vanolpen of Essex/Franklin LV and Art Menard of Clinton LV are VISTA volunteers working for the Literacy New York New York Reads New York Works project. The primary objective of VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) is to help community based organizations lift people out of poverty. We strongly believe helping adults to improve their literacy skills can break the cycle of poverty.

**To enter:**
- Use the logo prominently in a picture.
- Logo stickers are available at Literacy Volunteers or at any public library in Clinton County. Sample photos are found on the Literacy Volunteers Facebook page, You’re welcome to a sticker even if you don’t enter the contest. Contest ends June 20th.
- Tag the Literacy Volunteers Facebook page to enter your photo, or send it as an attachment to literacyvolunteer@gmail.com
- Winners will be featured on the Facebook page in June.

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**Dodge Memorial Library, Rouses Point**

On May Friday, May 14, I was fortunate enough to be a guest speaker at the Northeastern Clinton Central School Career Day for juniors and seniors. With help and preparation assistance from Betsy Brooks, I was able to share Learning Express Library and other job and career resources with the students. It was exciting to be able to talk with young adults about their future plans.

Plans for the Summer Reading Program are well underway and scheduled at the Rouses Point Dodge Memorial Library. This year, with the help of a DEC Grant, we are able to host more presenters, authors, and storytellers. The Summer Reading Program Kickoff is scheduled for July 7 and will continue through August 13. In addition to programs hosted by the library, the Champlain Youth Commission Reading Program will be meeting at the library.

Due to the overwhelming response from young readers in the community to Take A Bite Out of Books we are anticipating that a young readers book club will begin in the fall of this year. Twelve children in grades 5-7 signed up for TABOB. The group is meeting weekly for one hour to discuss the books. What a great time! We look forward to the competition in July.

~Donna Boumil, Director

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**Dodge Library, West Chazy**

Oh my goodness, has our library been busy. We are continuing with our goal to get online by the end of summer and hope everyone is crossing their fingers for us. We are gearing up and looking forward to the summer reading program. Our young patrons are quite excited to know what exactly is in store for them as they “Make a Splash”.

Our collection acquisitions are coming in almost at the moment of thought and are being met with great approval. We currently have the pleasure of a beautiful display of various artwork by the Creative Critters 4-H Club.

We have several programs in the works for this summer. Dates and times are not finalized, so stay tuned for further updates. However, the most fun we have had recently was our First Annual Bracelet for Mother’s Day event. Young patrons of the area gathered together and made Mom their own, one of a kind unique bracelet to treasure for a lifetime. I think I had more fun than the kids and they were thrilled. We made seventeen bracelets this year. I’m hoping we can do one hundred next year. Stop by “The Dodge” and see what we’re up to.

~ Linda Dupee, Director
Clinton County news continued...

Champlain Memorial Library

Spring has sprung at the Champlain Memorial Library and it is time to do some cleaning. Donna Boumil, director at the Dodge Library in Rouses Point is going out into the communities of Champlain and Rouses Point with the thought if you won’t come to us for story hour then she will come to you. Donna is visiting children at Head Start, the Learning Center and other locations in the northern tier bringing the joy of books and reading to the young. I had the opportunity to clean out my closet and give Donna all my extra What’s the Big Idea? materials. It has really cleared out some much needed space for me and now the Dodge Library is Big Idea ready. Go Donna Go!

Carol Meier, a resident of Champlain, patron and great friend to the Champlain Memorial Library generously donated a quilt that she had made to be used as a fundraiser for the library. The quilt is made of deep blues, and was on display at the library. Many wished to have it for their own, and the lucky winner was thrilled with the quilt. Thank you Carol! Our young patrons are enjoying many new books due to your generosity.

Back in February the Champlain Memorial Library hosted Charlie Stone and Split Rock for an evening of music. Charlie Stone, best known for his morning broadcast on WIRY home town radio, wowed the crowd with his guitar playing and unique vocals. It was a great evening and just what was needed to help alleviate the winter cabin fever blues.

We have recently changed our hours here at the Champlain Memorial Library. We are now open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and closed Sunday, Monday and Friday.

~Alison Mandeville, Director

Chazy Public Library

Chazy Library Trustees have launched a fund raising campaign for our new library and the community response has been wonderful. We hope to have enough in matching funds to apply for the next round of Public Library Construction grants. We think the transfer of the new property will be soon. Then we can start the clean-up of the building and grounds and be ready to gut the interior.

I am in awe of the skills each trustee brings to this daunting project. They have formed Fundraising, Grant Writing, and Construction Committees that are augmented by community members. Their enthusiasm and great ideas are amazing! Stayed tuned for the next progress report.

Back at our present small, but charming, library, I’m trying to get the Summer Reading Program together with wonderful help from Diane Sabourin, who co-ordinates our story times all year, and does a program for the local nursery school each month. In early June, she and Esther Dominy will be doing a program for the two Chazy kindergarten classes. We are blessed to have these two talented volunteers.

~Francie Fairchild, Director

Library Assistants Spring Conference at Saranac Lake Free Library

Thirty-one participants from throughout the North Country attended the New York State Library Assistants’ Association’s Spring 2010 Conference on April 14 at the Saranac Lake Free Library.

Jane Carpenter from North Country Community College talked about “Time Management” during the first of three lively programs. She noted that doing a job more efficiently reduces stress. Ms. Carpenter provided numerous tangible ideas for improving efficiency, including the A-B-C Priority System.

Amy Degnan of the North Country Library System discussed “Genealogy.” She explained where to start, how to be organized, and the meaning of genealogy lingo. Ms. Degnan talked about many reference sources, including Federal census records, various agencies and Heritage Quest.

Library Assistants were able to meet with peers and exchange ideas during lunch, which was followed by Ginger Tebo of the Flower Library presenting “Library Displays.” She emphasized, “Think like a salesman.” Ms. Tebo gave many ideas for capturing attention and highlighting collections and projects. “Use what you have creatively and make your ideas clear to the viewer,” she said.

The conference ended with a tour of the library given by SLFL Director Betsy Whitefield. Highlights included the Dickert Wildlife Collection, and Curator Michele Tucker speaking about the Adirondack Research Room collection.

Pat Wiley, Saranac Lake Free Library
Lake Placid Public Library

Winter in Lake Placid seems to have passed swiftly, although a late April snowfall today brought strong recollections of frigid days again into focus. We are privileged to have on staff Nancy Morelli, our new Director. Her imagination and enthusiasm for change and growth is welcome. We applaud her efforts as she launches us further into the future for Libraries in the 21st century.

Our Technology/Learning Center is maintained by Ron Huber, our computer technician wizard. Ron has a knack for soothing our frazzled nerves whenever we are unable to speak “computerese”. We truly couldn’t do without his pleasant, patient personality. He has upgraded our computer network, from a one to a two-cable modem configuration. This increased band width allows the library to maintain two separate networks; one for public access and one for staff use. Ron increased our public computer stations from five to eight, then installed time management software, thereby controlling the amount of computer time each person is permitted. Ron also uploaded our library newsletter and a library valuation calculator onto our website. Also available on our web site is the Learning Express Library, a database provided through CEF.

The Library hosted several workshops, clinics, and gatherings throughout the winter months. Conversation Italian with instructor Eugene Libre, was a Tuesday morning happening. All who wished to try their hand with a foreign language were welcome. Laughter and learning was shared by all. Conversation & Critique is an ongoing opportunity for artists to gather and discuss personal progress, review techniques, update each other on what is happening in the world of art and to generally converse about any art-related topics.

The library opens its doors one evening a week to a reading group that meets under the competent and enthusiastic leadership of Barbara Ericson. Books with themes related to art and the arts are the focus.

The library was “hopping” during the annual AARP set-up for tax season. As in past years, this service station was very well attended by those seeking help completing their income taxes.

The Artists’ League of Lake Placid met for its monthly meetings on Wednesday evenings. Meetings will resume again in the fall, for League members only. In February, CEFLS offered a new round of eSenior Training technology classes. Our first Senior computer workshop class was full. The second workshop in the series was held the following week.

Library staff members were also busy out and about in town. Louise Martinelli gave book talk with other community members at St. Agnes School, for their Reading Olympics. Some staff members continue to deliver books to homebound patrons.

Continues...
Lake Plattsburgh newspapers extended on NNYLN website

The Northern New York Library Network reports in the May 2010 issue of Points North that coverage for two Plattsburgh newspapers has been extended on the NNYLN Historical Newspapers website which is available at www.nnyln.org. The gap of the Plattsburgh Press Republican between 1820 and 1866 has been filled with editions from 1811-1923. Unfortunately, this paper was filmed badly from folded originals so retrieval will not be as good as was hoped. The years 1924 to 1942 are in line to be added in the coming months.

Coverage of the Plattsburgh Daily Press has also been expanded. It now extends from 1894 to 1942, when it combined with the Plattsburgh Daily Republican to form the current Press-Republican.

Anyone interested in local history should also note that the North Country Digital History site has a new look. Check it out at http://history.nnyln.net/. The site was created to showcase the history of NNYLN’s seven county region. There are currently seventeen institutions that contribute to the NCDH site which features over 23,440 images. NNYLN is looking to add more content to the site and is available to help repositories prepare their collections. For more information contact Pam Ouimet at NNYLN by e-mail to pouimet@nnyln.org or telephone (315) 265-1119.

---Points North Northern New York Library Network May 2010 issue

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Web Wanderings:

Here’s an interesting site that includes reviews of Adirondack books, area news and other topics of local interest.
www.adirondackalmanack.com

We’re hoping that someone will “blog on” about local libraries soon!

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Cali Brooks of ACT, informed us that we are the recipient of a $4,000.00 grant from the Frances Douglas Sillick Fund. This fund money will provide necessary repairs and upgrades for Guy Brewster Hughes Art Gallery, in the Library.

Our library is the proud recipient of a “We the People” Bookshelf award, sponsored by The American Library Association and NEH. This program grant was awarded to 4,000 school and public libraries. The Bookshelf is a collection of seventeen classic hardcover books for young readers, related to “A More Perfect Union” theme. Bookplates, bookmarks and posters accompanied this collection.

We at Lake Placid Library extend our very best wishes for the coming spring season. We want to believe spring is finally here, short as it may be, with summer already sprinting at our heels.

~Louise Patinelli and Nancy Morrelli

Sherman Free Library, Port Henry

We received a $500 grant from Stewart's Foundation to support our summer reading program, Make a Splash at your Library. Our program will be held in July. For three Thursdays the children will be learning about water, hunting for pirates, and learning about their environment. On Thursday, July 22, Ron Cain, magician will present his program, Captain HurriCain's Magicacl Underwater Adventure.

On June 10 we will host a presentation on the social impact of the closing of the Champlain Bridge.

In July we will be sending out our annual appeal letter to the community. We are making plans to install a ramp at the library. The public has been very supportive of the idea and we are hoping for a good response to our appeal.

-Jackie Viestenz, Director

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More Essex County...

Lake Placid news continued...

We the People Bookshelf award

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Senator Betty Little Renews Patron Grant for 2010

Senator Betty Little has renewed the Patron Grant initiative which will net $1,000 each for thirty CEF member libraries within the 45th Senate District.

In order to obtain these funds, CEF is required to develop and report on a project which is pending approval by the New York State Education Department’s Special Legislative Projects Coordinating Unit as we go to press.

In an effort to save a tree and our sanity, we have posted complete application information on the CEFLS web site. Although we cannot begin spending on behalf of member libraries before funding approval has been received, we urge you to check it out at your earliest convenience at http://www.cefls.org/patrongrant10.htm. There is also a link on the http://www.cefls.org/forstaff.htm page that is reachable from the “For Library Staff” menu on the left of the home page.

If you need a paper copy of the packet, please contact Julie Wever at CEF (563-5190 x 18) or by e-mail at wever@cefsls.org.

If you have questions about the program, please contact your library consultant – she is standing by to help you as we work through this process together.

Editor’s Note: As we go to press in mid-June, there is no word from the state budget office about the status of these funds. We do appreciate the fact that most libraries have now returned their selection lists. Stay tuned for more Information!

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

From January through March, Upper Jay resident Stephen Longmire exhibited photographs from his book Keeping Time in Sag Harbor and donated a copy of the book to the library. At an artist reception, Stephen spoke on his current book project, Life and Death on the Prairie. Thanks to Stephen’s research and assistance, we have a new display system for hanging artwork. Currently Joann Wilson is exhibiting pastels and etchings. We look forward to the return of Dan Christoffel in July and August, and his exhibit of jazz portraits. An artist reception is scheduled for Sunday, August 1, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. with music by Spring on Jupiter (Bill Stokes on guitar and vocals, Hans Himelein on alto sax and me on electric bass).

In early April, we had a sale of spring and Easter-themed items, and plan to hold the sale again next year. A successful sale of old and rare books and ephemera took place on April 23 and 24. This was made possible by generous assistance from Alex Rata, Julie Robinson Robards and other diligent volunteers, and a large donation of books from Alex. We are gearing up for our annual Books, Antiques, Food and Things Sale scheduled to be held from Friday through Sunday, July 16, 17 and 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day. We are accepting donations during library hours. A volunteer crew from the National Sports Academy moved boxes and boxes of books to the basement where book sale dynamo Bethany Krawiec is now sorting and arranging.

A colorful new “Reading Train” rug in our children’s section complements the popular book train designed by Arto Monaco where our picture books are located. The rug was purchased with a grant from Stewarts Shops. We are grateful for their gift and their support.

A Quilters’ Gathering meets monthly on a Monday at 4:00 p.m. (call 946-2644 to check the date) and our local Writers’ Collective meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Thanks to CEF’s excellent E-Senior program, Eileen Clar returned in March for two very popular workshops on digital photography. Comments include “I loved it” and “I learned how to use my camera.”

-Karen Rappaport, Director
Black Watch Memorial Library, Ticonderoga

There will be music in the air this summer at the Black Watch Memorial Library! Our expansion Grand Opening is scheduled for Saturday, July 10 at 10:00 a.m. Bagpipes and drums will be echoing in the village.

At the end of July, Nan Hoffman will be coming back to Ticonderoga for her second concert. She will present music and guitar that coincides with the “Make a Splash” summer reading theme. This concert is being cosponsored by our Library and The Heritage Museum of Ticonderoga. Nan has a way of bringing all ages into the toe-tapping mood.

We are happy to be hosting the Clinton Essex Franklin Library System’s Board of Directors on Monday, June 28 for their Board Meeting. This will take place in our newly renovated reading room which is soon to be dedicated to one of our major donors, Jane Parmley.

Questionnaires are being sent out to Ticonderoga High School students asking for their input on favorite books and authors. We are in hopes of bringing in young adults and forming a group this summer. Our children’s summer story hour is being planned now. Many of our younger patrons are eagerly awaiting its return.

We have had over thirty people express an interest in attending a genealogy program in our library. We will be setting up several sessions over the next few months and looking into providing some type of genealogy related software on our computers.

Please come in and enjoy our summer with us. We will be glad to see you.

-Beth Nadeau, Black Watch Library

Celebrate Mark Twain at Keene Valley Library

Samuel Langhorne Clemens was born November 30, 1835 and died April 21, 1910. The year 2010 marks the 175th anniversary of his birth, the 125th anniversary of Twain’s pinnacle work Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, and the 100th anniversary of his death. Join Keene Valley Library in a celebration of the life of America’s most beloved author. On Friday, July 23, we will offer a complete reading of Huck Finn, "North Country Reads Huck Finn”, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 pm. We are looking for readers to commit to half hour blocks throughout the day. Whether you wish to read or not, come in and listen to this amazing novel filled with adventure, politics, humor and spirit! We will serve beverages all day, so bring a lunch or snack and listen to a book, NOT on tape!

Keene Valley Library is also holding a book discussion of Huck Finn on Tuesday, August 17. We are currently writing a grant to provide multiple copies of the book to libraries in the system who would also like to hold a book discussion of this great American novel. The grant will include a request for an honorarium to hire Mark Twain biographer Ron Powers to speak and share his insight into Twain’s life and humor.

Keene Valley Library, is also a sponsor of the John Brown Lives! program on Mark Twain. In partnership with Paul Smiths College and Historic Saranac Lake, John Brown Lives! is featuring Steven Kellogg, Margaret Washington, Jules Hojnowski, and Charles Alexander in a program on Friday, August 13 and Saturday, August 14. More details will be published as the summer progresses. John Brown Lives! is a freedom education project founded to promote justice and human rights through the exploration of people, social movements and events rooted in American History. For information and updates call 518-962-4758 or visit the library’s web site at www.Keenevalleylibrary.org.
Central Library News
From Plattsburgh Public Library

Here at the Central Library we are currently between programs and art shows. Bill Crosby will be showing “Photographic Images” until mid-July. In August, a group show by Helen Ianelli, Mercedes Light and Mary Hinsman will be featured.

On Thursday, June 17, the Friends of the Library hosted their annual luncheon at noon in the Burgundy Room. Carol Blakeslee-Collin, Director of the Clinton County Historical Society was the featured speaker. The Historical Society opened a new exhibit on the Cold War on Saturday, June 5.

We are looking forward to “Making a Splash” with summer reading. Programs on tap will feature Karen Glass, storyteller extraordinaire and director of the Keene Valley Library, Mr. Beau the Clown, Ventriloquist Steve Charney, a folk singer, and the New Hampshire State Company’s performance of Treasure Island. Two (and possibly three) teams of “tween” aged readers will represent Plattsburgh Public at the July 17 TABOB Battle of the Books competition. Enthusiastic team members are busy reading six excellent titles selected by the TABOB group.

We hope to start our Public Computer Center in the Brinkerhoff Room in the near future. We are contracting with One Work Source for a director and computer technician and we will have 21 new computers to help people in job searching, resume writing and in getting jobs. Given the unemployment situation in our area, this will be a tremendous boon to the community.

Thanks to the generosity of many local donors, our handy new book drop is now available at the corner of Brinkerhoff and Oak Streets. The drive up box is capable of holding more than 330 books and other library items. Just open your car window and deposit the books you are returning!

More from Essex County...

E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library

On Friday, April 2, our good friend Jan McCormick was back to give another marbling class for children. Instead of marbling paper, she had the kids marbling eggs. The children had fun, and the library received some of the beautiful eggs for decoration.

We were fortunate to receive a $500 grant from Eye Care for the Adirondacks to go toward the purchase of large print books. We also received $100 from the Honeybee Community Fund.

Upcoming Events at the E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library:

Saturday May 29, 2010 9:30 a.m. Composting Lecture: Go green by composting! Master Gardener Gail Mitchell shares important secrets on cutting your household landfill contribution.

Saturday May 29, 2010 10:30 a.m. Children’s Garden Planning Session: Immediately following the composting lecture Gail will meet with children interested planning this year’s garden.

Saturday June 12, 2010 10:00 a.m. Friends Annual Food and Plant Sale: The Friends of the Library will be hosting their Annual Food and Plant Sale. They will offer a variety of salads, baked goods, Michigan Sauce and starter flowers and herbs. We will also have a Buck-a-Bag book sale.

Wednesday June 16, 2010 6:30 p.m. Underwater Slideshow: Gail Mitchell will be presenting her amazing photographs taken while on exploring the waters of the British West Indies.

--Samantha Baer, Director
TRAILBLAZER

Keene Valley Library Association

The temperature is doing that Adirondack Dance – winter at night, spring up during the day. And when the sun shines, everyone is out and about in their gardens, on their bikes and in their hiking gear participating in a glorious celebration of energy.

The library too is in Spring preparedness mode. The floor repair is almost complete; the Alpine room has been sorted and reorganized, reupholstered and painted. It looks fresh and new. The Mobil Room has also been freshened, but it is filled with an array of book sale items that are being collected and sorted. Despite all of this housekeeping, we have spent a lot of energy preparing an exciting lecture for the summer and are working on our summer benefit event. About 1,000 new books have been added to the library since last year at this time, including a nice selection of audio CDs.

Our Summer Benefit Party will be held on Tuesday, July 20 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Overlook. Wine, cheese and light fare will be featured, along with music by acoustic blues guitarist Joan Crane. Tickets are $35 each or $60 per couple. On Friday, August 6, our annual “Biggest Book Sale in the Town” will be unveiled at an opening reception and preview from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The sale proper will take place on Saturday, August 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. antiques dealer Ted Comstock will hold an “Antique Road Show” from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. that day. Ted will appraise your antiques and collectibles for $5 per item or three items for $12.00 and will donate all proceeds to the library. On Sunday, August 9, a children’s book sale will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and all books will be $2.00 a bag.

Our summer lecture series will be held on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. The series will commence on July 12 with a presentation on Adirondack architecture by Professor Richard Longstreth. On July 19, Tom Both will host a film and discussion on “Three Farms” which will take a look at local organic production techniques. On July 26, Jackie Sauter of North Country Public Radio will tell us everything we ever wanted to know about public radio during a talk entitled “The Future is Now.” On August 2, Ellen Few Anderson of Westport will discuss “Finding the Beauty in Abstract Art.” On August 9, Mary Brown will present a slide show that tracks her six month stint in Antarctica. One August 16, Pulitzer Prize winning poet Roger Mitchell will present a program entitled “The One Good Bite in the Saw-Grass Plant.”

A full slate of programs for children is also planned. For complete details on these and more of the many happenings at the Keene Valley Library, visit our web site at www.keenevalleylibrary.org

Karen Glass, Director

AuSable Forks Free Library

The spring weather has brought not only April Showers and May Flowers but also a new change to the AuSable Forks Free Library. Beginning the week of June 7 we will have a new set of operational hours which are: Sunday and Monday – closed; Tuesday 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Currently at the library through the summer there will be an ongoing raffle for a handmade Dot Madden quilt. Unfortunately the picture does not do this quilt justice but it's beautiful array of summertime greens and daisies would complement the bed of any nature lover so please stop by the library and take a peek at this gorgeous piece of quilting, tickets are $1 each or six for $5. The raffle ends on October 9 when the winner will be drawn and notified.

July looks to be a busy month here with four weeks of our summertime Make a Splash! program for children ages 5-8. Kindergarten must have been completed in the past year to qualify. The program will be run by summer program volunteer/leader Holly Carey on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Please check with the library first as time is subject to change. After having a fun time with the kids during the winter months with Story Time! we are looking forward to summertime shenanigans!

Susanna Carey, Director

Essex County news continued...

The spring weather has brought not only April Showers and May Flowers but also a new change to the AuSable Forks Free Library. Beginning the week of June 7 we will have a new set of operational hours which are: Sunday and Monday – closed; Tuesday 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Currently at the library through the summer there will be an ongoing raffle for a handmade Dot Madden quilt. Unfortunately the picture does not do this quilt justice but it's beautiful array of summertime greens and daisies would complement the bed of any nature lover so please stop by the library and take a peek at this gorgeous piece of quilting, tickets are $1 each or six for $5. The raffle ends on October 9 when the winner will be drawn and notified.

July looks to be a busy month here with four weeks of our summertime Make a Splash! program for children ages 5-8. Kindergarten must have been completed in the past year to qualify. The program will be run by summer program volunteer/leader Holly Carey on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Please check with the library first as time is subject to change. After having a fun time with the kids during the winter months with Story Time! we are looking forward to summertime shenanigans!

Susanna Carey, Director
Franklin County News
Saranac Lake Free Library

Library Mini Golf, a fund-raiser held April 24, was a huge success, with around 200 people playing a round. Forty-five volunteers helped with the event. The course ran throughout the library, including all through the stacks and offices and down the back stairs, so players had a chance to see parts of the library they had not seen before. The food concession did a brisk business selling a hot dog lunch and bags of homemade cookies. Twenty sponsors and donors made contributions to the event.

It will be a busy summer at the SLFL with our seasonal patrons returning and several special programs and events. We will participate in the Summer Reading Program, Make a Splash @ Your Library on Wednesdays in July, from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Children will be organized in three groups: preschool, first and second, and third and fourth grade. Besides hearing stories, children will enjoy craft projects, activities, special guests and on the final day, an ice cream social.

Twelve young people from grades 5 to 7 are participating in Take a Bite Out of Books (TABOB), and meet every Tuesday afternoon to read and discuss six books, in preparation for the Battle of the Books, a jeopardy-style competition to be held on July 17 at the Champlain Centre Mall in Plattsburgh. Peggy Orman, Children’s Programs Coordinator, is overseeing TABOB and the Summer Reading Program.

Our summer “Come to the Fair” book sale will be held August 3 through August 5 with hundreds of hard-cover and paperback books for sale, along with white elephant items, jewelry, toys, food and more.

- Pat Wiley, Library Assistant

HELP WANTED Tools On the Way!

The NY State Library is collaborating with public television stations from around the state to produce 26 broadcast episodes that feature individuals and families who are dealing with job loss, job and educational retraining, family finances and consumer protection issues. All episodes are available for viewing on the “Help Wanted” web site:
http://helpwantedinteractive.org/ A companion “tool kit” is available online as well in print/CD format.

Copies of the print/CD version will be sent to public library systems in June. If you would like a copy, please contact Julie at CEF. Each tool kit is a folder with several print documents and a CD that contains job information and family/consumer assistance resources. Tool kits will also be distributed to state correctional facility libraries by the Department of Corrections. As a partner in this project, the State Library has developed a companion web site to help “Help Wanted” users to locate public library job information services and resources. Check it out at http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/outreach/helpwntd.htm
The Essex County Court House is reflected in the window of the “Glorious Autumn” side of the bookmobile in this photo by Keene Valley resident and “Artist at Large” Sarah Prince.