Uncommon Approaches to the Common Core  - by Karen Batchelder, CEFLS

Public Libraries are often seen as community centers in terms of their collections, programs, services, and space. With the implementation of the Common Core State Standards now occurring in New York and 45 other states, the time is perfect for public libraries to be seen in their communities as an integral piece of the CCSS.

On August 13th and 14th the New York State Education Department presented a conference in Albany to help develop an understanding of the Common Core with the goal to create common skills, a common base of information and common language so that conference participants will be able to effectively support teachers, students (including English-language learners and children with special needs), and parents. It was aimed at school librarians, public librarians, academic librarians, and representatives from museums, archives, public television, NYS historic sites, performing arts organizations, and public historians. NYSED Commissioner King gave the opening remarks which included some of the statistical analysis of the success rates of graduating students from NYS institutions. Kate Gerson, who is leading the implementation of the standards in New York State, gave a two hour presentation going further into that evidence and gave an overview of the Common Core Standards.

There are 6 shifts in ELA and in Mathematics that have been adopted and are being implemented in our schools as of the start of this new school year. These standards were introduced to educators in 2010 in preparation for their implementation. Most nations teach and learn in this way and studies have shown that those students are better prepared at graduation for college and careers than those from US schools.

The 6 Shifts in ELA
Shift 1: Balancing Information and Literary Text
Shift 2: Building Knowledge in the Disciplines
Shift 3: Staircase of Complexity
Shift 4: Text-Based Answers
Shift 5: Writing from Sources
Shift 6: Academic Vocabulary

The 6 Shifts in Mathematics
Shift 1: Focus
Shift 2: Coherence
Shift 3: Fluency
Shift 4: Deep Understanding
Shift 5: Application
Shift 6: Dual Intensity

Regional table discussions produced ideas about possible collaborations between public and school libraries. Here are a few:

- Link on library website to Common Core resources
- Common Core FAQs for parents on library websites
- Informational bookmarks with links to resources for parents available in libraries
- Informational meetings held in public libraries for parents, students and involving school librarians and teachers. Show student resources that support new standards
- Public librarians can attend meetings in schools to bring awareness to resources available in public libraries

Links to resources: http://www.engageny.org  http://vimeo.com/user7931682

Free app for your smart phone: CommonCore by MasteryConnect
Member Library News

News From Clinton County

Champlain Memorial Library

The Village of Champlain is celebrating its 225 year and to help celebrate this anniversary the Champlain Memorial Library is hosting a series of talks about Champlain and life in the village. Last April Mark Barie and his wife Christine Racine spoke at the Champlain Memorial Library about their new book Crossing the Line, a history of the border at Rouses Point and Champlain. It was during this event that a lot of different topics about Champlain came up. Not being a native of the area, most of what was discussed was all new to me. As a result, the idea of Let’s Talk About Champlain was born.

The series of weekly talks began on September 18 and concluded on October 23. The round table open forum discussion encouraged residents to share their early memories and pictures of their lives in Champlain. On Sept 18, the topic was “Life in the Village” and the response was great. After over two hours I finally had to remind everyone how late it was for I think they all would have stayed for another two hours. On September 25, the topic was the “Sheridan Iron Works”, and it too was a great success. Other topics included “The Savoy Hotel,” “Flooding in the Village”, “Canal Boats” and the “Frog Pond”.

-Allison Mandeville, Director

Dodge Library, West Chazy

Dodge Library enjoyed another visit from our CEFLS liaison, Betsy Brooks. Betsy was here to help with some social media issues as well as password concerns. We’re always thrilled to have her and anyone from CEFLS come visit. Their assistance is immeasurable.

We’re sponsoring a writing contest for students throughout the school year. At the end of the year a select board of judges will choose a winner from various categories and we will publish that student’s book for them to keep. We will also publish and keep that student’s book in Dodge Library for others to check out as well. More details are coming soon!

-Linda Dupee, Director

Common Core: Libraries Make The Connection(s)

On Monday, November 4, plan to join us in the Plattsburgh Public Library’s Second Floor Auditorium for another thrilling installment of our Family Literacy series made possible by a grant from the Lake Placid Education Foundation.

Youth Services consultants Ann Sayers and Karen Armstrong have planned another lively session brimming with tips and resources for public librarians and staff, school librarians, teachers and anyone who is interested in connecting the dots about the Common Core. The agenda for this all day session includes:

9:00 a.m. Overview
- Hands-on-the Texts
- Basic Resources for All
Lunch (provided by CEFLS) from 12:15 to 1:00
Afternoon (1:00 to 3:00 p.m.)
- School and Family Connections
- Outstanding Non-Fiction Book Talks
- Book Browsing/Networking

Lunch will be provided and mileage to CEFLS member librarians will be paid. Please RSVP to Julie Wever (email wever@cefls; phone 563-5190 x 18) so we can plan to seat, feed and provide materials for you.

This workshop and funding for all associated costs is made possible by a grant from the Lake Placid Education Foundation to the CEFLS.

Calling all Grant Seekers!

Our subscription to Grantstation is getting dusty! This interactive website allows grant seeks to identify funding sources through access a searchable database of “thousands of foundation and corporate grant makers that are actively accepting proposals.”

If you would like to schedule a search session or if you’d like us to search for you, please contact Julie or Karen at CEFLS. It’s here and we are standing by!
The Rouses Point Dodge Memorial Library coordinated a very successful Summer Reading Program with over 60 children, age birth to 12, registered for the program. We held at least three programs per week during the months of July and August with approximately total 650 attendees. Programs included: Melvin the Magnificent, Cornell Extension Service (worms), Dave Ruch, “Speedy” Arnold, movie matinees, game day, Champlain Youth Commission reading program, beading and preschool story time. Many of the programs were made possible through funding received from the Council for the Arts Decentralization Grant.

We began the fall season with a huge bang, thanks to an adult pastels painting class instructed by local artist Connie Cassevaugh. Funding for this class was made possible by a grant received through the Council for the Arts Decentralization Grant. Ten adults, age 50+, will participate in this six week long class. In addition to this class, student artists from this class and the two previous adult painting classes will be able to participate and show works of art at an art show at a date to be determined.

Upcoming events include a story time for preschool age children which resumed on October 1 at 10:00 a.m. Children ages birth to five and parents are welcome to join us for a story, age appropriate activity and snack every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. Once a month, Sonya Lague from Kindred Spirits will be present at story time to provide a story and yoga. For more information about story time, please call Donna at 297-6242.

The Knitters & Crocheters group resumed meeting on Wednesday, October 2 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. This group will meet every Wednesday evening throughout the winter and spring. People of all ages, talent and knowledge are welcome. If you want to learn to knit or crochet, please feel free to join us. There are many people willing to share their talent.

We are looking forward to a visit from approximately 60 UPK students from the Champlain Children’s Learning Center who will tour the library and see the “process” of checking out a book. The most memorable part of the library tour is the “return box” in the front door of the library. Happy Fall!

-Donna Boumil, Library Director
Chazy Public Library

Chazy Library has been very busy already this fall. A couple of long-planned programs came to fruition in September, by happenstance, not design. We have just finished a basic computer course (requested by the Chazy Senior Citizen Group) which was held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The class was taught by Rini Green, who teaches at the Chazy Elementary School. She found teaching adults quite different, so was glad to have attended the CEF workshop on “How to Teach Adult Learners”, as was I. It helped greatly to be able to borrow laptop computers from CEFLS. One difficulty was the range of previous knowledge among the class members. To help with this, Rini volunteered to come to the library for two hours a month to answer computer questions on a one-on-one basis.

We are currently hosting an ongoing course in Observational Drawing taught by artist Grace Potthast on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. This series, which is funding by the IMLS Life Time Arts grant, will continue until mid-November. Grace teaches at Chazy Elementary School and is a fabulous teacher. Those participating are so enthusiastic, and I hope we can find funding for future classes.

We hosted a Book Signing by one of the local veterans whose military service memories are recorded in Sacred Remembrances, a book compiled by Holly Middleton. A book signing of the memoir How Was I Supposed to Know? by local author Lorna Lee was held on October 10 at 6:30.

On Saturday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to noon we hosted a workshop on “Writing Memoirs and Family Stories”, with writer Susannah Risley. I wish I could participate in these programs, but since they go on in our downstairs Community Room, I can’t even listen in. Going down to take attendance or occasionally monitor is just tantalizing! We also had the pleasure of hosting a CEF Board Meeting in our Community Room. The Chazy Board of Trustees and I found it an interesting and enlightening experience.

We are pleased to be back into our monthly Saturday morning Story Times for young children. Trustee Kristin McAuliffe has recruited a new group of volunteers to do this activity. Program coordinator Diane Sabourin also does a monthly program for the local Peter Pan Nursery School on Wednesday.

We have been blessed with an intern from SUNY Plattsburgh English department, three to five hours a week for four months. Jessica Bright is an English major planning to go on to library school. She is a real treasure and an immense help.

- Francie Fairchild, Director

Altona Reading Center Posts Record SRP Numbers

This year the Altona Summer Reading Program collaborated with the Clinton Essex Franklin Library System to sponsor: Dig into Reading. The Reading Program took place four Mondays in July from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Altona Town Hall. Fifty four children ages 4-14 participated. Average weekly attendance was 42 children. Throughout the four weeks, 22 parents/grandparents helped out. The program could not be this successful without these amazing volunteers.

During the Reading Program, the children listened to a variety of books, took out books on loan from the Clinton Essex Franklin Library System as well as from the Altona Reading Room, made a craft, and participated in a cooking activity. The craft and cooking projects required the children to read prior to beginning their activity. The children painted terra cotta pots, made glass magnets, painted pictures frames with sand paint, and made dinosaur fossils. They made hummus, granola, parfaits, Nilla sand cups, and pinwheels.

On the final date, each family was provided with a mini cookbook compiled of the recipes made during the program. Additionally, each child chose a pencil and a book that was theirs to keep for participating in the Reading Program.

- DeAnn Gregory, SRP Program Coordinator
Schroon Lake Public Library

This year we had 67 children enrolled in the SRP program; of those, 42 were local children. Forty 40 young adults and 16 adults participated in our teen/adult SRP program. We were able to offer six story times, five craft classes and three extra performers. Offerings included a Raptor program with the Wildlife Institute of NENY, Magician Ron Caine, and All ‘bout Critters Burrowing Animals. We ended the year with a make-your-own sundae party that was donated by Stewart’s Shoppes. A total of 497 patrons attended our programs during the summer months!

Volunteers are an integral part of our summer in the library and frankly we could not offer the programming slate without them. Our volunteers assisted with crafts, ran our garden club, read and assisted with story time, and worked at the circulation desk. These volunteers gave us around 96 hours of their time during the months of July and August.

Our library received two mini-grants from the CEF Library System, one for $100 and another for $200. These extra funds really helped to off-set the cost of our SRP programming. Donors were Glens Falls National Bank, Stewart’s Shoppes, Friends of the Library, Schroon Lake Chamber of Commerce, Upstate Agency, Friedman Realty, Schroon Lake Fish and Game, Railroads on Parade, MT. Severance Store, WalMart, Stone Bridge and Caves, Morningstar Bistro, Anna Hay, True North Yoga, Schroon Lake Pharmacy, and Decesares Pizza.

I often have to ask patrons to vacate the meeting room so that I can set-up for a program. During one of these times there was a gentleman that was using his laptop who asked what I was setting up for. I told him it was the end of summer ice cream party for the kids that participated in the summer reading program. He asked how he could help so Anne and I suggested scooping ice cream, but he could not stay. To make a long story short he handed us a check for next year’s program for $300.00. Wow, were we happily surprised!

This summer our WiFi usage was off the charts. Luckily, Rich Schoenstadt had the foresight to have us update our wireless router so we were able to handle the crowds without a single crash. There is no way to accurately count how much our wifi is used as it is available when we are closed and, even when we are open, patrons use it outside or downstairs so we don’t know they are connecting. In many instances this summer we counted at least 30 people using it at one time. We sent many patrons to the golf course for connectivity as well. We had many complaints from patrons who had no place to sit to use their devices.

-- Continued on next page --

Treats in Our Booook Bag
This Fall:

Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America by Gilbert King. This is the harrowing, heart-breaking account of four poor black boys who are falsely accused of raping a young white woman in rural Florida in 1949. The “Groveland Boys,” as they came to be known (after the small citrus grove town where they lived), were defended by an attorney from the NAACP offices in NYC whose reputation was emerging onto the national scene, one Thurgood Marshall. The facts in this case defy imagination: the county sheriff presided over the cold-blooded murders of two of the defendants, and went on to prevail with guilty verdicts at two trumped up trials. King—who is from Niskayuna, New York—has written a gripping story. His book won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Non-fiction. Movie rights have been purchased.

In the Young Adult Fiction category, I really recommend Keeping the Castle by Patrice Kindl. This is the book for everyone seeking a breath of fresh air in YA fiction. Too much of the current YA market is dark: whether presenting us with dystopian worlds or dysfunctional families, the themes can be pretty depressing. Kindl provides the gift of fun in this frothy but well-written story of an impoverished English family living in a crumbling old castle; without an infusion of cash, the family is doomed. 17 year old Althea, the daughter, has no choice but to make a move on the best available local bachelor, Lord Boring, who is priggish and utterly self-centered. This cheerful Austen parody is a delight to read, and a very pleasant diversion from prevailing YA titles.

----- Ann Sayers

I really enjoyed The Monuments Men: Allied Heros Nazi Thieves by Robert Edsel. It’s a story about finding art stolen by the Nazis after WW2. The movie (starring George Clooney) comes out in early 2014.— Judy Harris
More treats from our bags…

So many books, not enough time! At the present time I am reading two books. I just finished *The Elegant Gathering of White Snows* by Kris Radish. This story tells an incomparable tale of friendship and love, loss and liberation. It’s lighthearted and inspirational. In the Juvenile Fiction category, I’m reading *The House of Secrets*. This book was recommended by the TABOB Book Selection Committee. I just started *The Longest Ride* by Nicholas Sparks.

– Donna Boumil, Rouses Point

*Snuff: A Novel of Discworld* by Terry Pratchett. Pratchett does an amazing job of creating a living world for his books. The humor and adventure in the Discworld series is outstanding. Anyone who likes fantasy literature and parodies should read these novels. I recommend starting with either *Guards! Guards!* or *Going Postal.*

– Caleb Moshier, PPL

*Tamarack County* by William Kent Krueger

In this Cork O’Connor mystery, the down to earth protagonist involves himself in his detective work but his family bids for his attention as well. The interaction is always interesting. In this book, Cork is unraveling two incidents that trace back to a 20-year-old miscarriage of justice. The wife of the judge is missing, a dog is killed and his son and girl friend are forced off the road into a ice covered lake. This is a good story told with humor and wisdom.

– Karen Glass, Keene Valley

I also recommend *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki. Setting. This book is set in Japan after a tsunami and nuclear reactor breakdown and an island off west coast of British Columbia. A young Japanese girl explores her history as she experiences bullying and contemplates suicide. She decides to write her grandmother’s story first. Her grandmother was a Buddhist nun and an anarchist. This “diary” arrives as flotsam on the island off the west coast and is read by a young author. The stories go back and forth, revealing more and more of the lives of the two women. I couldn’t put it down and at the same time there is depth with themes of Buddhism, a eastern view of suicide, Japan’s role in WWII, and of course our place in time.

– Karen Glass, Keene Valley

I recently read *Schroder*, by Amity Gaige. It’s of local interest because a good part of the book takes place along Lake Champlain. The book is the story of a father who is desperate to be with his daughter, faced with impending divorce. Eric Schroder becomes Eric Kennedy in an effort to fit in at a New Hampshire summer camp—a deception that sets the tone for his life. It’s a good read, well written and moving.

– Elizabeth Rogers, CEF

“…after the leaves have fallen when she felt it was almost indecent to intrude on the woods...for their glory terrestrial had departed and their glory celestial of spirit and purity and whiteness had not yet come upon them.”

— L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Windy Poplars*
More from Essex County

Westport Library Association

With the kids back in school we know it won’t be long before the newest group of Westport Central School first graders make their way into the library to get their library cards. This year some of our best behaved library patrons entered single file on a Tuesday in September. They received their cards and were each able to select a book to check out. Exactly two weeks later, on the first of October, the students promptly returned all of their library books (well, almost all). This year, upon their return, they were treated to a special guest, local children’s book illustrator Steven Kellogg. They each received a copy of the book *The Baby BeeBee Bird*, donated by library patron Martha White. Mr. Kellogg personalized each of the books and wowed the kids with his drawing and storytelling.

In August the library held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. This year the Library Board members provided a variety of homemade quiche that was quite delicious and a big hit. It’s always amazing to see all of the community members who give their time and skills to the library together in one place.

Plans are in the works for the ever-popular Holiday Party and Silent Auction in mid-November. As always there will be plenty of food and spirits, a crackling fire, and an interesting variety of items to bid on. A raffle item, still to be determined at the time of this writing, will also be given away. New this year will be the addition of live music (also TBA). Join us if you can. It promises to be an enjoyable evening.

-Dan Van Olpen, Westport Library Director

**Cooperation is the Name of the Game**

With lots of help from others, our Interlibrary Loan staff processed 10,993 requests from libraries within CEFLS in 2012. Wow! That kept us busy. We’re very proud of the interlibrary loan work we do, and especially proud of our 95% fill rate for these requests—that means we filled 10,470 requests! Nearly 8,000 of the items used to fill these requests were found here in the CEFLS building.

What do these numbers reveal (aside from the Herculean effort our staff puts into satisfying the needs of our libraries’ patrons)? I’m pleased that we can use our collection so well, and that patrons want what we have. Our collection management and selection processes seem to be effective in meeting our local needs. This is also supported by the results of the 2012 Annual Member Library Survey where 86% of respondents (25) indicated that that needs of adult patrons are met most of the time by non-fiction library collections in the system. Ten percent of respondents (1) reported that their adult patrons’ needs on non-fiction books are met by library collections within the system all of the time. It is interesting to note that these numbers are identical to 2011. Comments included, “I think that as a whole system we have a great collection that meets the majority of patrons’ needs.”

How can we improve things? We have a system wide Cooperative Collection Development Plan for non-fiction, including both adult and juvenile collections. Libraries have determined their collections’ strengths and have agreed to further develop these subject areas. Here at CEFLS we are committed to developing a comprehensive Professional Collection, and are focusing our funding on adding resources to the system wide collection of materials on gardening, agriculture, home economics, homebuilding and the broad subject of technology. In the juvenile area, we are concentrating on science, current issues and biographies.

Some member libraries have made similar commitments to the system wide collection, which results in a comprehensive non-fiction collection. We welcome additional participants to the CCD Plan at any time—we have many of the Dewey ranges covered, but there are areas in need of additional attention. If you’re interested in adding your library to the list of participants, please let me know.

Our CCD goal is to offer our patrons quality materials on a wide variety of subjects, or in CCD-speak “provide access to items beyond the on-site collections of member libraries…guiding development of current, active and economically feasible collections within the system wide community.” Ideally an analysis of all system resources would show the widest possible coverage of all Dewey ranges through a joint effort of all of our member libraries.

--Elizabeth Rogers, CEFLS
Essex County continues...

Belden Noble Memorial Library, Essex

We held two programs featuring local authors. On Monday, October 7, Thurston Clarke discussed his latest book, JFK’s Last Hundred Days: The Transformation of a Man and the Emergence of a Great President at the Essex Community Church. Mr. Clarke focused much of his talk on Kennedy’s attempt to establish détente with the Soviet Union during the summer and fall of 1963. The event was co-sponsored by our library and the Paine Memorial Library. In August, we hosted a talk and book signing by Sara J. Henry, whose novels, Learning to Swim and A Cold and Lonely Place, are set in the North Country.

In July, Jim and Colleen Van Hoven presented another in their series of travel programs to benefit the library. This time, they described their recent trip to Iceland, sharing facts and stories about this fascinating nation just below the Arctic Circle. In August Jeff Bridge took his audience to the Southern Hemisphere, sharing his experiences as an exchange student in New Zealand.

We were awarded a $2,000 grant from the Essex Community Fund at the Adirondack Community Trust to continue our Façade of the Library Improvement Project (FLIP), which is intended to improve accessibility, energy efficiency, and the appearance of the front of the library. During the second phase of the project, the front entrance will be made barrier-free, a bicycle rack and bench will be added, the first-floor trim will be repainted, and overgrown plantings will be removed.

We were also awarded a grant of $300 from the Honeybee Community Foundation to support our efforts to revitalize the children’s collection. We used the grant to purchase 50 picture books and chapter books, including many classics either missing from our collection or recently withdrawn because of condition.

Tom Mangano, Director

Links We Like:
http://www.healthlawhelper.org/?EXTKEY=Y39healthlawhelper

As of January 1, 2014, everyone is required to have health insurance. Health Law Helper, from Consumer Reports, helps people make informed decisions about health insurance in order to comply with the new health care law. One tester reported, “the site is quite good and was very easy to navigate. I was able to compare Empire (my plan) with several other providers for NY quickly across 15 categories (all rankings based on consumer feedback)".

(Thanks to CEFLS Trustee Kip Thompson for passing this our way).

Hot Topic From the Trenches:
Shared on the CEFLS Listserv –

Q: I have run into a dilemma a few times in the past month related to use of our public computers and the level of assistance that library staff provides. How do your libraries handle patrons who are not computer literate and ask library staff to perform transactions on the computer for them involving either confidential/personal information or credit/debit cards? How much assistance do you provide? Do you have a policy?

A: This is a tough one. I have helped patrons who are not computer literate, but I try to stick to our motto of, "providing access to information". I have helped a patron set up an email account, but I tell them to come up with the username/password, enter it, and write it on a piece of paper for them to refer to later. I have not entered other personal and confidential information that you mentioned, and would really try to steer clear of that situation. We just don’t have the staff or time to help every person who is computer illiterate.

A: I have run into a lot of the same issues. It is very difficult to provide assistance when the majority of us are a "one person" library. In the past I have helped set up email accounts (requiring the patron to input their own personal data), helped with job applications, resumes, cover letters, basic computer issues. Again, I require that they enter their own personal information. There are many times when I am just too busy to assist patrons with in depth computer questions or tasks. I tell them I cannot help at that time and they are pretty understanding.

A: I had someone request assistance with filling out a job application. My concern is the Affordable Act Care, which pulls up personal information. A policy needs to be in place and I’m working on revamping all of my policies. As I’m a staff of one, I’m not going to be sharing or using that information for personal gain. But, for libraries that have more than one staff member, it would be wise to have some personnel policy in place to assure that staff members don’t misuse personal information. In redoing the policies, I plan to include one for me.

--Compiled by Betsy Brooks, CEFLS
Central Library News from Plattsburgh Public Library

It is great to be a part of the CEF system again! I started here at PPL in May, after five years in academic libraries. One thing that never changes is the outstanding public service that our libraries provide to our patrons and the great support that CEF provides to member libraries.

Over the summer we kept busy moving staff offices, weeding our reference collection, and working on programming and grant writing. We had a very successful summer reading program and have hosted several movie nights and author talks.

A great new service we are providing is the Ask Us 24/7 Chat reference which is available to anyone from our webpage. In exchange for our staffing commitment of three hours per week, we can offer unlimited, 24 hour access to this free, online reference service. Give it a try!

Thanks to the generous assistance of Empire Web Pages, we are getting ready to roll out a new website. If you would like to take a look and give us your feedback, the address is http://plattsburghlibrary.empirewebsites.net/

In July, Joe Swinyer spent a day with us surveying the Cole Historic Collection, as part of the Documentary Heritage Program advisory assistance services. We will be implementing his recommendations as we move the collection to a new, larger space on the second floor of the library.

We were recently awarded a NNYLN Technology Service Improvement Grant to make improvements to our Community Technology Center which began as a BTOP location. We will be updating the lighting, and adding a teaching podium and whiteboard to the room, in order to improve the teaching capabilities of the space. We are grateful to NNYLN for supporting this important community asset.

- Anne de la Chapelle, Library Director

Paine Memorial Library, Willsboro

The Paine Memorial Free Library just finished the last of five Art Shows for the season. Amy and Fred Kinkerbocker, a Mother and Son team, showed their photography from September 9 to 18. This spectacular exhibit featured local wildlife and landscapes. Our next Art and Craft sale will our Holiday Sale running from December 9 through December 23. Between 10 and 12 vendors traditionally participate in this event.

We held a joint venture with Belden Noble Library on Monday, October 7 at the Essex Community Church. Local Author Thurston Clark discussed his recent book JFK’S Last Hundred Days; The Transformation of a Man and the Emergence of a Great President.

On September 6, we started a new session of Story Hour for three year old children. This program runs for the entire school year. It meets at 9:30 on Friday mornings and follows the school calendar. The children work on social skills, counting, colors, numbers, nursery rhymes, music and of course we always make time for reading stories.

On Wednesday, October 16, Laurie Davis from Cornell Cooperative Extension presented a program on conducting an Energy Audit. With fuel oil constantly on the rise, this was a popular session!

Our music programming is still going strong. We hold banjo lessons every Sunday morning from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Then we are open for a jam session for the remainder of the morning. On the first and third Thursday of every month we hold evening jam sessions from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. All level musicians are welcome. We also invite people to come and listen and to sing along. This library Jam band performed at the 31st Annual Willsboro Folk Craft Fair which is one of our summer library fund raisers.

One of the biggest happenings this summer was the completion of our new copper roof. You could see the beautiful glow from many spots around town. It’s reassuring to know our roof will be well protected for the next 100 years. Just think where libraries will be at that point in time!

-Cheryl Blanchard, Director
**BARD Mobile App is Now Available!**

People who are blind, visually impaired or have a physical disability may now download audio and braille books to their iPhone, iPad or iPod touch, if they are registered with the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) in the Library of Congress.

The Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) Mobile app is now available through the Apple App Store. The app, which is free, allows readers to download audio and Braille books from their NLS BARD accounts. Access to BARD is provided through local cooperating NLS network libraries. BARD contains nearly 50,000 books, magazines and music scores in audio and Braille formats, with new selections added daily. BARD Mobile will operate on an iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch with iOS 4.3 or later.

For more information, please contact the New York State Talking Book and Braille Library. (TBBL) serves the 55 upstate New York counties. TBBL may be reached by calling (1-800-342-3688) or via email at tbbl@mail.nysed.gov. More information about the app is also available on the TBBL site BARD page at http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/tbbl/bard/.

Version 1.0 is now available at Apple’s online app store: https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bard-mobile/id705229586?ls=1&mt=8

The Userguide is also available online: https://nlsbard.loc.gov/apidocs/BARDMobile.userguide.iOS.current.html

To create your free BARD account, see the application instructions on https://nlsbard.loc.gov/

As a sublending agency of the New York State Talking Book and Braille Library (TBBL) CFEFLS provides potential users with the basic information about this free service and required registration forms. Contact Karen Batchelder at Batchelder@cefls.org for information and referrals.

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**Wilmington E.M. Cooper Library**

**New Sign**

Several years ago our library sign had an unfortunate encounter with a snow plow. This event led to much confusion as to our location and our actual purpose. We have had people come in and say “hey, I didn’t know we had a library in town, or this is a library?” We have remedied the situation and have a lovely new sign on our building, crafted by resident Trace Button. Our new sign is made from cedar which was donated by Haselton Lumber. Other materials were donated by Dean and Malissa Antonucci. Trace had assistance constructing the sign from his wife Shari. We are very appreciative and love our new sign.

**Festival of the Colors Event**

Every year the Library participates in Wilmington’s Annual Festival of the Color’s Event. This is a community wide event that showcases local businesses and vendors. This year the Friends of the Library were approached by Sid Ward, who offered to donate the proceeds of his legendary cutting boards to their organization. Sid is notorious for his generosity and often donates his cutting board earnings to various organizations and charities. The Friends feel very blessed to have benefitted from his kindness.

**Friends Cookie Sale/iPad Mini Raffle**

The Annual Friends Cookie Sale will take place on December 14, 2013. This is one of the Friends of the Library’s main fundraisers. The members of the community look forward to it as there are many different varieties of delicious baked goodies. The Library is raffling off a 32G iPad mini. The winner will be drawn on the day of the Cookie sale.

**TABOB Party**

On Saturday September 7, the Headless Monks (minus one monk) got together and celebrated their TABOB win. The boys were very pleased to have cake and hang out. They did very well this year and we are very proud of them!

-Samantha Baer, Director
**More from Essex County**

**Sherman Free Library, Port Henry**

Summer 2013 has been a season of change for the Sherman Free Library. In May, Gail Baker started as the new Library Assistant and in June, Andrea Anesi became the new Library Director. Former director, Jackie Viestenz retired in July and we hear that she enjoys having the time to travel, garden, read, and volunteer in the community.

Gail and Andrea have been rearranging in the library to feature New Arrivals, the Adirondack Collection, and Local Author books for sale on separate bookcases. So far, the feedback from our patrons is positive.

The Summer Reading Program was a bit scaled back this year, however we did have 23 children sign up. Weekly presentations included the TaraDiddle storytelling duo, magician Ron Cain, a nature program with Lake Champlain Land Trust, and a poetry program presented by Gail Baker. Each child received a book to take home at the end of the program and we held a drawing for a $50 Amazon gift card which was won by Levi Kolodzey.

We held two book sales during the summer along with a raffle at Labor Day. Now we are in the midst of our Annual Fund Drive and doing well so far.

Andrea Anesi, Jackie Viestenz, and board president Staley Rich are currently working on starting a new Friends of the Library group. An initial meeting of interested individuals is scheduled to be held on October 24. There was a group at one time, but it has not been active for many years. Like most libraries, we need all the help we can get, particularly with events and fundraising!

This Fall the library will be a location for assistance with STAR online re-registration. This free help service is offered through the Town of Moriah and the Moriah Chamber of Commerce.

--- Andrea Anesi, Library Director

**Keene Valley Library Association**

Our historic library building is getting a face lift, Thanks to a Public Library Construction Grant, The Charles R. Wood Foundation and the Lake Placid Education Foundation. Work includes replacing shingles, painting and staining the outside, adding heaters and dehumidifiers in the lower levels, adding 20 new outlets, and repairing the chimney, the ramp and the flower boxes. A new desk is being installed in the archives to accommodate new technology. If you are leaf peeping, come in this fall and see all the new upgrades.

On Monday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. from September 23 until further notice, we are hosting a weekly book discussion series. Adyashanti’s latest book, *The Way of Liberation* is the featured title.

In collaboration with the Keene Congregational Church, we are presenting A Community Read. The featured title is *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown. This is an incredible story, told with energy and grace. Copies can be requested at the library or ordered from the church at a discount. Discussions will begin in late October.

--- Karen Glass, Director

**Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay**

There is always something happening at Wells Memorial Library in Upper Jay as we offer plenty of programs for all ages. Music Appreciation for ages three to six with Julie Robinson Robards continues on the first Saturday of the month.

We participated in a second round of the Creative Aging in New York State Libraries Lifetimes Arts grant as a follow up to last year’s drawing classes for participants age “55 and better”. Instructor Grace Potthast taught plein air watercolor classes to a group of 13 students. The art reception to celebrate their work was well attended. The group so enjoyed the classes that they are continuing to meet.

The current art exhibit, which will run through October, features Skyscapes paintings by Peru Library Director Becky Pace.

--- Marie-Anne Azar Ward, President, Board of Trustees
It was a full and exciting summer at the library! The restoration on the front ramp is complete, and the new landscaping has brightened up the entrance.

Throughout the summer we really “dug into” reading with lots of fun activities. We participated in the “Dig Into Reading” program with a Wednesday morning program for kids age three to ten, and a Thursday evening story hour with Nicole Andre for kids age three to five. To kick off the program, we featured a puppet making workshop, followed by a puppet show with the EKRUB players from Burke, New York. Our next program was all about dinosaurs: the children hatched dinosaur eggs, identified tracks, and uncovered dinosaur bones. Another program featured gardens and worms, and the kids had a terrific time picking up and examining night crawlers. The program ended with Catfish Charlie’s Hot Diggity Dog Show, complete with songs, puppets, and magic.

Mary McDonald hosted a popular “Read to Me Under a Tree” program at the Malone Rec Park on Tuesday afternoons. The kids listened to stories, followed by a craft or activity. There were bubbles, scavenger hunts, frog songs, sun prints, and oceans in bottles! In August, we hosted a program for teens called “Veggie Tales.” The group learned all about what it means to be a vegetarian or vegan, and they tried out different recipes and dishes.

For adults, we held a folk music concert by Nan Hoffman, a thermography imaging seminar by Christine LeBeouf, and a beginner computer class. The book club met twice during the summer.

Community residents enjoyed a chance to have their “tech” questions answered on Tuesday, September 10 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the library. Computer skills teacher Eileen Cody was available to help individuals with their electronic questions. Participants brought in whatever device they wanted help with (ipad, laptop, Kindle, Nook) and Eileen worked her magic!

Continued on page 13

The Affordable Care Act & Public Libraries

An Opportunity to Show Our Value!

I think by now most people are aware of the Affordable Care Act (also known as Obamacare), but many people are just beginning to realize that they need to be personally informed and possibly take action. This is an excellent time for public libraries to show their value by assisting in appropriate ways. Below is a rundown of good ways to help, compiled from webinars and meetings we’ve attended.

First, you should know what is not expected of libraries. Library employees are not expected to be experts on the health reform law or health insurance in general. They are also not expected or encouraged to help people with enrollment, or to help people make decisions on health care, since that would involve learning personal and private information. The in-person assistors called “navigators” have been extensively trained and are better equipped to offer this kind of help. However, there is much that we can do to help our communities. Three basic roles for libraries:

- Direct consumers to state-specific resources and local in-person assistance. You can find all of this information on either the New York Exchange website: http://healthbenefitexchange.ny.gov/ or on our locally created CEFLS Libguide: http://cefls.libguides.com/healthinsurance
- Display posters and make available flyers that will be coming soon in the mail from New York State to every library.
- Help people with limited technology skills to create an email address, if needed, and find the website for the exchange.

If you want to do more:

- Offer to host enrollment sessions at the library if you have a suitable space. Trained in-person assistors may be willing to come to the library to meet with patrons individually. Find the local agencies offering help at http://cefls.libguides.com/healthinsurance in the right-hand column.

Continued on next page
More from Wead Library...

On Wednesday, September 11, we hosted a book signing by local author Muriel Debuque on the main floor of the library from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Her first book was *The Estate in the Woods*, and her new one is entitled *The Impossible Texan*. The first, a thriller set in northern New York, involved a family, ghosts, and an old estate. *The Impossible Texan* is a continuation of the story, and follows the main character, Sara, into her future life. Mrs. Debuque, who writes as “Luci,” discussed her books, and signed copies.

With summer quickly disappearing, our thoughts are turning ahead to fall activities. The library is back on its winter schedule. The doors are open from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.

Fall story hours started the week of October 1. Tuesday evenings with Mrs. Andre began on October 1 at 6:30 p.m. for kids three to five years old. Wednesday mornings with Mrs. McDonald began on October 2 at 11:00 a.m. for kids three to five years old. Thursday mornings with Mrs. McDonald began on October 3 at 11:00 a.m. for kids three and under. All programs are free, but registration is required.

The library is pleased to offer a free “Family Movie Night” on Friday nights, beginning with “Shrek!” on September 20, and “Finding Nemo” on September 27. All of the movies will begin at 6:00 p.m., and you may bring your own snack. Movies will be shown on the 3rd floor of the library. Anyone can come!

Kathleen Recchia, from North Country Cultural Center for the Arts offered a free grant writing seminar on Saturday, September 21 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. This opportunity was geared to help anyone interested in getting an arts-related grant.

--Susan Wool, Director

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**Sum Summer Fun!**

CSLP is partnering with [Bedtime Math](http://www.bedtimemath.org), the nonprofit spearheading a nationwide movement to help kids love math. Beginning with the 2014 summer reading program, CSLP will offer Bedtime Math’s Summer of Numbers, a companion to the “Fizz, Boom, Read” summer reading program.

Kids can log onto [www.bedtimemath.org](http://www.bedtimemath.org) or download its app for iPhone or Android to get zany daily math riddles - all for free. Kids and parents can track their progress using Bedtime Math’s constellation map and shiny star stickers, which will be available thru the CSLP website. Ordering information will be available beginning December 1, 2013 at [www.cslpreads.org](http://www.cslpreads.org). It’s your big chance to make math fun for kids, so don’t miss out!

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**CEFLS Fast Fact:**

*Did you know?* An average of 1,300 items (more than 325 a day) plus collections are delivered each “off season” (non-summer) week to libraries, correctional facilities and senior residence facilities on the CEFLS van?
Saranac Lake Free Library

Fall Adult and Children’s Programs are in full swing at the Saranac Lake Free Library.

Bridging Cultures Book Group -- The SLFL has been awarded a grant for “Let’s Talk About It: Muslim Journeys,” a national program of the Bridging Cultures Bookshelf Project, supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, conducted in cooperation with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. The SLFL is one of 10 institutions in New York State and one of 125 libraries and state humanities councils nationwide to receive the grant. Monique Weston, Professor Emeritus from the University of Maryland, is leading the discussion, while staff member Judy Oehler is coordinating the series. The twenty group members will explore five books, meeting once a month at 2:00 p.m. on Mondays between September and February, with each participant being lent the books.

Fiction and Science Book Groups -- The library will also be offering a Fiction Book Group, meeting the second Tuesday of the month, along with a Science Book Group, meeting the third Tuesday each month, both at 2:00 p.m.

Library Lunch Series -- Our very popular noon Library Lunch Series will resume on Thursday, November 7, with Dr. Edward Hixson presenting the kickoff program, “Three Expeditions to Mount Everest.” On November 21, Amy Catania will talk about “Cure In the North Country: Latin American Patients in Saranac Lake.” Everyone is invited to come every other Thursday to the Thomas B. Cantwell Community Room. Attendees bring their lunch and enjoy homemade desserts and beverages provided by the library’s Refreshments Committee. The programs will run through April.

Children’s Story Time -- Children’s programs will include the 10:30 a.m. Thursday morning Story Time and a once-a-month Tuesday evening program at 5:30 p.m. The Story Time Halloween party will be held on October 31 at 10:30 a.m.

-- Pat Wiley, Library Assistant

Mr. Arthur (Artie) Siccardi, a summer resident, wanted to do something in memory of his son Artie who passed away last summer. Mr. Siccardi me and asked me to select some Adirondack titles – especially books about Adirondack wildflowers and gardening. Artie loved the Adirondacks, gardening, food, and the theatre. Artie spent part of every summer at Tupper Lake since he was 10, and he was never happier than sitting on his deck reading a book, working on his tan, contemplating planting his flowers, and enjoying the magnificent sunsets. Mr. Siccardi also asked me to have a bookshelf created to house these titles. I contacted Ron Fenlong, of Russell, NY, and asked him to design and build the bookshelf.

In the photo above, Mr. Siccardi (second from left), inspects the bookshelf, along with Library Board President Paul Chartier and Librarian Peg Mauer. Many thanks to Mr. Siccardi for his generous support of our library!

As a part of this year's Tupper Lake's Annual Art Show, the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library held a silent auction for the retired card catalog. Two people are very happy to have these beautiful maple pieces of furniture in their homes, and the library raised about $800!

-Peg Mauer, Librarian
**TABOB (Take A Bite Out of Books) 2013 Round Up**

The 8th Annual TABOB Challenge took place on June 29 at the Champlain Centre Mall in Plattsburgh. Children in grades 5-7 participated in this day long “Jeopardy-style” competition. These children were responsible for reading six books in approximately five months and to be prepared to answer questions about the books. This year 12 teams comprised of over 50 children took part in this event. The winner of the competition was Wilmington with the Saranac Lake Book Runners taking 2nd place.

This program could not take place without the help of the many volunteers and months of planning: coaches, assistant coaches, literacy volunteers, CEFLS, Kathie and Tom LaBombard, Mike Kulik, Judy Harris, Chad Chase, Mary Bleau, Sarah (from Schroon Lake) and Sharon Brandhold. Hopefully I have not missed anyone. Also, many thanks to Loreman’s (trophies), Literacy Volunteers (buzzers), Entertainment Unlimited (sound system) and Champlain Center Mall.

Mall gift cards were awarded to the first and second place teams. Each participant also received an additional book and a coupon to Auntie Annie’s Pretzels. Children also received a set of the “competition” books to add to their personal library.

The TABOB Book Selection Committee met in September to begin the process of selecting five fiction and one non-fiction books for the 2014 Competition. If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Sharon Brandhold at Plattsburgh Public Library.

The TABOB 2014 Competition is scheduled for June 28, 2014 at Champlain Center Mall in Plattsburgh. For more information about how to participate, please send me an email. Volunteers are always needed on the day of the competition. If you or anyone you know is interested in helping out the day of the competition, please call Donna at 297-6242 or email: rpdl1907@gmail.com

-Donna J. Boumil, TABOB Chair

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**Franklin County news continued**

**Lake Placid Public Library**

With the waning of the most beautiful Indian summer anyone can remember, and after bidding adieu to many seasonal residents and students, we are slowing down a bit. We are welcoming back some our regular users who, in a sort of reverse form of hibernation, retreat each summer from the gridlock trials and parking roulette of Main Street. Still, we have been quite busy of late with leaf peepers who drop in to use a computer, look us over or to take a book, toy or game break with children and grandchildren.

**Partings**

Each spring, we welcome students of many nationalities who come to the library to use the computer room and for the free tutoring in English offered by the Literacy Volunteers from Essex and Franklin Counties, who have a satellite office here. It is impossible for us not to become close to some of them and parting in the fall can be hard for pupils, tutors and library staff. Some of our new friends stay in touch. A small group of staff and literacy volunteers gathered around a computer screen recently to say hello to our Turkish friend Askan and to be introduced via Skype to his large extended family.

**Welcome to a New Trustee**

One of the LV tutors has joined our board of trustees. Kathy Miner of Lake Placid is a retired principal of St. Agnes School and a former teacher of grades three through six. She replaces Camilla Palumbo, who much to our regret, needed the time to take care of family obligations. A district manager of NBT Bank, she brought excellent insight and skills to our board and will be missed.

**An Overview of the Arts**

Another sign of fall is the welcome return of the Lake Placid Institute Book Club. It has been headed since its inception six years ago by Barbara Erickson, who joined the LPPL board three years ago. Meeting Monday evenings on the last Monday of each month except summer, members read and discuss books pertaining to arts and letters ranging from a biography of Frank Lloyd Wright to this October’s selection, a fictional offering of the last days of Edgar Allan Poe.

More on page 16
League of Women Voters Posts 2013 Information for Voters

The League of Women Voters of the Plattsburgh Area has provided libraries in Clinton and Essex Counties with multiple copies of their Voters Guide 2013. The guide includes Part I “Facts for Voters” and Part II which addresses the pros and cons of the six State ballot amendments.

We’ve also recently linked www.VOTE411.org on the CEFLS web page. This highly informative site covers the following topics in a nonpartisan, accessible way:

- Absentee ballot information
- Ballot measure information (where applicable)
- Early voting options (where applicable)
- Election dates
- Factual data on candidates in federal, state and local races
- General information such as how to watch debates with a critical eye
- ID requirements, voter qualifications and registration deadlines
- Polling place information

Additional local information may also be found on these recommended sites:

www.clintoncountygov.com/Departments/boardofelections/BOEhoempage.html
www.co.essex.ny.us/elect.asp

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understand major Public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Tech Talk

You may have heard of the “cryptolocker” virus, which is one of the worst for a long time. It encrypts a user’s documents and asks for ransom to restore them, and there are no good fixes for it as yet. “CryptoLocker” attacks typically come in three ways:

1) Via an email attachment. For example, you receive an email from a shipping company you do business with. Attached to the email is a .zip file. Opening the attachment launches a virus that finds and encrypts all files you have access to — including those located on any attached drives or mapped network drives.

2) You browse a malicious website that exploits vulnerabilities in an out-of-date version of Java.

3) Most recently, you’re tricked into downloading a malicious video driver or codec file.” (from the article referenced below).

Your best protection is to have backups of your files on a CD, DVD, flash drive, etc., and as always to not click on attachments in email and keep your browser and java updated. Here’s a good article with other actions you can take if you have the time and inclination:

http://windowssecrets.com/top-story/cryptolocker-a-particularly-pernicious-virus/

-Betsy Brooks, CEFLS

More from Lake Placid Library

The Gallery

The Guy Brewster Hughes Gallery has seen a busy summer, with the most recent show being a successful offering of watercolors by Jacqueline Altman. She drew in more than 80 viewers on a recent Sunday, when we would normally be closed. The occasion was a three-day “Artist at Work” tour, which invited the public to various venues to watch and listen to artists of all types explain and demonstrate their work.

Where many of us saw an empty display case, staffer Kate Curry saw opportunity. We welcome people to use our facility to display collectibles and hobbies, but occasionally the case goes empty between exhibits. During a recent lull, the range of stuffed bird life that has been around the building for many years caught Kate’s eye. The result was a charming show of books and birds.

-Lisa Forrest, LPPL
A Look at the Wadhams Free Library

The story of the Wadhams Free Library began back in 1895 when Miss Mary Alice Payne, daughter of local entrepreneur D.F. Payne, founded the Wadhams Mills Reading Room. It was located in the center of town in one of many small frame buildings that no longer exist. In 1915 the name was changed to the Wadhams Free Library, as “Wadhams Mills” became just “Wadhams.” In 1960 the Board of Trustees, after considering needed repairs to the building, decided to build a new library. With donated land, design, funds, and labor, the new library opened in 1962 at its present location at the west side of the Wadhams Falls. The Library received its permanent charter from the State of New York in 1967. From 1996 through 2000, with much help from the community, we enlarged and re-roofed the Library, adding extra room, automatic heat, and windows that overlook the Falls. We’re enjoying our spacious 600 square feet and our beautiful views. Over the years the Library has served as an important community center and has been kept alive and lively throughout the efforts of many dedicated volunteers.

This summer’s big excitement has been the rebuilding of the Route 22 bridge over the Boquet River. Wadhams suddenly became a 3-traffic-light town. It’s been inconvenient at times for vehicles and pedestrians, but we’ve had a front row seat to what it takes to take a bridge down - all the way down, deep into bedrock - and build it back up. It’s complicated our comings and goings a bit, but the crew from Luck Brothers - thank you, guys - has been great and has made sure we could navigate the ever-shifting traffic pattern and carry on. The new bridge looks great and is almost done.

We’ve enjoyed a new round of Wednesday evening lectures this fall, including historian Shirley LaForest’s talk about what was happening on the home front in 1812, a fascinating and beautifully photographed trip with Michelle and Lenny Zelkowitz to the North Island of New Zealand, and an informative question and answer session with Heidi Palmer of the Essex County Office for the Aging about Medicare and the Affordable Care Act. Soon we’ll hear from young archaeologist Jeremy Rossi about his collection of Neolithic tools. Topics we hope to hear about coming up include lighthouses, Slovenia, and goat cheese. And we’re gearing up for our autumn brunch fundraiser hosted by Dogwood Bread Company.

We’re happily working to serve our community and follow the motto we adopted when we started our renovation project in 1996: “This will be fun.”

--Liz Rapalee, Director
Or current resident

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