Public Libraries Have Expanding Role in Lifelong Learning

Your library has done it before. It has adapted and changed to serve the needs of a changing community and changing times. The most notable change in recent years has been the addition of computers, access to the Internet, and wifi. This transformation has kept libraries relevant. Imagine a library today without these things, and you may well wonder if it will survive. A current trend, and one that many libraries can really feel positive about, is the increasing role of libraries as enablers of lifelong learning. Some are calling this the “Era of the Learner.” Learning happens at all stages in life, and formal schooling is usually much less than half of a lifetime.

Lifelong learning also has an important connection with economic development. Some services, programs and resources provided can help people build skills that make them more employable or help them start businesses. These are particularly compelling to community leaders and politicians. Other services, programs and resources are geared toward mental and physical health and well being in general, and community development that promotes those goals for all members of society.

Our libraries’ core values of inclusiveness, community and lifelong learning will continue to be important as we adapt and change. Here’s what libraries in the CEF System and elsewhere in the country can do, and are doing, to respond to the need for lifelong learning:

Programs and Classes:
Libraries provide programs for adults on topics such as computers and technology, environmental issues, chats with elected officials, and art and literature. See what other libraries in our area are doing at [http://www.cefsls.org/calendar.htm](http://www.cefsls.org/calendar.htm). We have computer classes that are funded by Federal grants that will end this fall. What do we want to replace them with? Does your library have a budget for classes and programs, or are there community members and organizations willing to provide them without charge?

Spaces:
Libraries in our area vary considerably in the amounts and type of spaces they have for community gatherings, one on one tutoring sessions, and classes. Some recent renovations, such as projects undertaken in Chateaugay and in Chazy (in progress) have included meeting rooms. Does your library have the kinds of spaces it needs to foster learning in small or large groups? Do you have a projector and screen? Could you envision videoconferencing spaces to allow business or personal meetings, depositions, job interviews, or participation in remote educational events? This is a topic that may need more of a long-term planning approach.

Continued on page 11
**Member Library News**

**News from Clinton County**

**Rouses Point Dodge Memorial Library**

The Rouses Point Dodge Memorial Library ended March by stuffing and counting Easter Eggs in preparation for the 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the library and the Friends of the Library. Students at NCCS High School in Champlain stuffed over 3,000 eggs. More than 150 people attended our very successful Hunt on March 31.

We celebrated National Library Week (which coincided nicely with school vacation) with programs each day. In addition to our regular story time and knit/crochet club, we offered some special activities for all ages. Some of the programs included a presentation for children by library page Kate Woodward. Kate visited Costa Rica for two weeks as a volunteer at an orphanage. She shared her adventures, photos and local traditional with the children. Jolene Wallace and a fellow master gardener from Cornell Cooperative Extension taught children and adults how to make recycled flower pots out of newspaper. We finished out the week of fun in the library with Stampin’ Up demonstrator Nicci Molinski who taught the children how to make Mother’s Day cards. Some of the programs above were made possible by the Decentralization Arts Grant that we received in February. We will also host Movie Night’s for adults throughout the month thanks to this funding.

The Clinton County United Way Day of Caring had volunteers scattered around Rouses Point on April 20. These volunteers raked, shoveled and cleaned the grounds of the library. This was greatly needed after the repairs to our drainage system and roof that were made this past winter.

The TABOB teams have been meeting weekly to read and discuss the quiz titles. It is always fun to hear children discuss books. They have a wonderful point of view. Kate, our library page, has been instrumental to the success of this year’s program. Kate is a certified elementary teacher and has her master’s degree in reading. We are so lucky!

Upcoming events at the Dodge Memorial Library include a movie matinee, story time and an evening Stampin’ Up workshop for adults. In June, we will host another movie matinee, movie night, story time and a children’s Stampin’ Up workshop.

We are currently busy getting ready for the Summer Reading Program which is a sure sign of spring! Time flies! Have a great spring.

--Donna Boumil, Director

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**Dodge Library, West Chazy**

Dodge Library is getting ready for summer. The Board has met and we've made plans to have the best summer possible. This summer we are allowing kids to participate in what exactly they want to do for their Summer Reading Program. They've been given several options and have voted for their choice. It's been fun discussing, planning and Dreaming Big!

We're getting some great books in. Two of note are: *Dehydrated and Delicious: The Complete book on Dehydrated Meats, Fruits, Vegetables, Herbs, Flowers, and Yogurt* by Ron Popeil. We also will have available *A Guide to Canning, Freezing, Curing & Smoking Meat, Fish and Game* by Wilbur F. Eastman. I think we all will be able to extend our gardens and summer catches to well into the winter with a wide variety of flavors and textures. I am looking forward to hearing about new recipes. As always, Dodge has several great titles to pique everyone's interest. Our Young Adult collection is really seeing renewed activity with books on web designing, confirming web research materials and more. We're listening to our patrons and satisfying those needs.

Dodge Library is located at 9 Fiske Rd. in West Chazy. We are open Tuesday and Thursday from 9am till 6pm and Saturday from 9am till noon. (Spoiler Alert: Look for that to change soon). Our phone is 493-6131. Stop by the Dodge. You never know what you'll find, but we guarantee it will be worth your while.

--Linda Dupee, Director
Chad Chase (left) celebrated National Library Week by offering an “E Reader Petting Zoo” at the Schroon Lake Public Library. Board member Ralph Cooke (center), and the Armstrong family examine Exhibit A.

Clinton County Seniorama May 4, 2012

Chazy Public Library

A few years ago Chazy Library received the bequest of Dr. George Clark’s historic stone office building. The library Trustees spent a year renovating after applying for various grants, including a Library Construction Grant (what a boon, and Julie Wever was such a help!). We made the big move to our new building last November on Thanksgiving weekend. Since then I’ve been too busy getting settled to write.

The Trustees did a great job planning the beautiful interior. There is a cozy Reading Room with a fireplace, comfortable armchairs, antique oak table, and two public computers. A lovely stained glass panel (Adirondack scene) separates this room from the circulation area. Beyond the circulation area, we have a reference area, and real book-stacks. On the other side are two more public computers (for teens), a handicapped accessible bathroom, and a colorful Children’s Room with two computers loaded with some children’s programs. Hanging next to the Children’s Room is a quilt, with blocks of children reading books, hand-made and generously donated to the library by Pam Schafer.

The last group of cabinets was recently installed in the Circulation Area (hooray!) The red oak desk, cabinets and drawers were custom-made by Chazy Woodworks. We also received the donation of a new book return box, made by Chazy School student Devin Poitras. It is made of oak and the top is a small replica of the mansard roof which tops our former library. Another student, Alex Sweet, made us a game table, with inlaid blocks for chess or checkers.

The Chazy community has been so generous with donations like this, financial contributions, and volunteer help. They are obviously proud of their new library. Many more are coming in to look, get library cards, and use the facilities. In addition to monthly Saturday Story Times (coordinated by Diane Sabourin), we have a weekly knitting group. We have just begun a Parent Book Enrichment Series, facilitated by child psychologist Kristin McAuliffe, to discuss children’s books and parenting-help books. They meet on the last Thursday of the month.

I thought I would miss our former library, with its unique charm, but it is such a joy to work here with more space, beautiful décor, and many windows bringing in so much light. Now that the cabinets are all installed, I hope to get things put away in an organized way. And maybe remember where everything is. So far I spend a lot of time looking for things.

- Francie Fairchild, Director

- Thanks to George Brendler for photos of the Chazy Public Library Open House
Spring has come and we are busy planning and hosting programs at the library. To celebrate National Poetry Month, we hosted a Poetry Slam on Thursday, April 26. This program featured local poets who shared their work with an appreciative audience. On Thursday, May 3, we held our annual gardening program. Master Gardener Volunteer Bunny Goodwin gave a talk called “Don't Treat Your Soil Like Dirt" which featured lots of good composting tips.

We are having a Treasures on Church Street sale on Saturday, June 9. We are hoping to get donations of good "yard sale" items for this sale.

On Saturday, June 16, Raydene Labatore will lead a class on paper making. She will show how to turn newspapers and old books into new paper. This might be a little messy, but fun.

Our summer reading program which will feature the Dream Big-Read! theme, will start on Thursday, July 12.

-Jackie Viestenz, Director

E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library, Wilmington

It has been pretty calm at the Wilmington Library lately. We are taking advantage of the quiet and doing some much needed weeding. We are also gearing up for the TABOB competition. We have two teams and the kids are really excited to be participating. Practices began on May 1.

We continue to have a pre-school story hour on Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

The Friends of the Library will be holding their Annual Food and More Sale on Saturday, June 9 starting at 10:00 a.m. There will be all kinds of salads, Michigan Sauce, baked goods and a huge book sale.

-Samantha Baer, Director

Sites You'll Like:

http://www.forgottenbookmarks.com/
Everyone knows used bookstores are packed with treasures just waiting to be discovered, but what we don't think about is that sometimes the best items are inside the books. Hang spring cleaning and tool around this site instead!

TABOB Libraries to Face Off on June 30

Teams of middle school readers at TABOB (Take a Bite out of Books) libraries are busy reading and discussing six quiz titles for this year's competition. Teams will square off on Saturday, June 30 at the Champlain Centre Mall in Plattsburgh to answer over seven hundred questions culled from these exciting books:

Gollywopper Games by Jody Feldman; When Zachary Beaver Came to Town by Kimberly Willis Holt; The Nine Lives of Travis Keating by Jill MacLean; The Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark by Ridley Pearson; Enchanted Glass by Diana Wynne Jones; and Dewey the Library Cat by Vicki Myron.

Competition coordinator Jackie Viestenz, director of the Sherman Free Library, Port Henry, explains, “This is the seventh year that the Take a Bite out of Books competition is being held and we feel that we are really hitting our stride with this ‘reading for pleasure activity.” The children and adults who have participated in the past have said they really enjoyed reading the books and participating in the competition. It’s a good way to get kids to read authors they might not pick up otherwise. The competition is for 5th, 6th and 7th graders. Each team consists of four children and one alternate.

Each team member will read all of the quiz titles between March and the June competition date. Participants will receive a team tee shirt, along with the chance to read great books, make friends and perhaps take home the trophy as both Wilmington teams did in 2011. CEFLS has once again provided multiple copies of the competition titles for all contestants with support from the 2012 LSTA Summer Reading Grant. TABOB activities are also generously supported by the Stewarts Holiday Match Campaign, the Plattsburgh Noon Kiwanis Club and the Plattsburgh Morning Rotary Club. We also appreciate our friends at LV Clinton County who provide the buzzers, seasoned judges and timekeepers, plus lots of moral support!

Black Watch Memorial Library, Ticonderoga

Spring is in full bloom at the Black Watch Memorial Library in Ticonderoga. We have had many exciting programs, and we are planning more. This summer we will Dream Big for our children’s summer reading theme, and we are pleased that our own librarian, Beth Nadeau, will once again head-up this program. We will also include a young adult program with a similar vibe; they will Own the Night.

In April, we designated our theme shelf area to Autism Awareness. With materials provided by CEF and our own collection of books and videos, we were able to give our patrons good, eye-opening materials and information on this condition. We also celebrated our many volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 15-21, 2012. Special thanks to all of them who completed 547 hours of service in 2011.

Ongoing programs at our Library this spring focus on healthy living. Every Tuesday night, a group meets at our Library for a weight loss challenge. A fun competition and healthy eating tips are getting this group in shape for summer! The Library is also hosting a six-session support group for individuals living with chronic conditions. The topics included in this program are healthy lifestyle tips, goal setting, relaxation techniques and pain management. It is sponsored by the Eastern Adirondack Health Care Network and the Mental Health Association of Essex County. Also, the monthly free computer training classes have been filled to capacity. Patrons have been hearing about and taking advantage of Chris Lawrence’s great instructional ability. They look forward to his monthly classes, and have learned a lot.

The Friends of the Black Watch Memorial Library have changed their meetings from monthly to quarterly. Along with this change, a program will be added to the beginning of each meeting. The May 3 meeting commenced with a presentation by Christopher Breiseth entitled “Franklin and Eleanor”. The Friends will also be selling discount tickets to the Great Escape for the second year in row. This turned out to be a very successful fundraiser last year. Tickets will be on sale through early June at the Library for $22.50/each.

We are happy to report that we have received a Stewart’s Matching Grant again this year. We were awarded $500 to be used for children. The money has yet to be designated, but we have many ideas! The Friends have also given us a generous donation of $3,000. This money is in compensation for the major budget cuts we endured this year and is to be used at the discretion of the Library. We are grateful for all of the support we receive locally to help support our Library!

-Heather Johns, Director

--- Chad Chase, CEFLS

And Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.— Percy Bysshe Shelley
Encouraging Student Artists

Several years ago LPPL was fortunate to receive a donation from Norma Jean Lamb, a librarian herself, to make room for a small art gallery. The gallery, named for Ms. Lamb’s artist cousin, Guy Brewster Hughes, is dedicated to showing local and regional artists with an emphasis on works by students of all ages. “Student FaceWorking,” an exhibit of work by students from Northwood School and Saranac Lake High School, opened on April 25. Local artist Nip Rogers of Lake Placid, the force behind recent, very successful Social FaceWorking shows at the Lake Placid Center for the Arts and at the Proctor Theater in Schenectady, introduced a slightly different version of the concept to bring students together.

The participants linked to each other through social sites and then created portraits of each other in different media. The portraits, along with other works by the young artists are on now display. Students, friends, families, art teachers and other art fans gathered April 25 for the opening of the show. Many commented on the originality and talent on display. “Not only is this a chance for the students to learn to work with different artists and teachers it’s also an opportunity to learn to mount, hang and market their show. They will get advice from some of the artists that were on display at the LPCA Gallery Social FaceWorking show, an opportunity not often available to high school students in the northern Adirondacks,” said Mr. Rogers. The Saranac Lake High School portion of the show will depart May 8 and the Northwood art will remain until May 16. That show will be followed by a student photography show, sponsored by the Lake Placid Institute. Each year, entries of innovative and artistic photos are submitted from all over the Adirondack Park to be considered. The show will open May 26 with a free reception to which everyone is invited.

World Book Night

We were really excited to be part of the first World Book Night to be held in the United States. As most of you seeing this know, the event was begun last year in England to get free books into the hands of people who might not ordinarily be reading. The idea is also to get readers to pass books on when they are finished. This year, a million free books were distributed in England and half a million in the U.S. LPPL staff gave out 20 paperback copies of Leif Enger’s award-winning, Peace Like a River to surprised and pleased people on Main Street and other locations. The event is sponsored by an alliance of publishers, booksellers, librarians, authors and people who love reading. It was brought to Lake Placid by the Bookstore Plus which took delivery on 20 copies each of several different titles and coordinated the effort. April 23 was chosen for World Book Night because it is the date of Shakespeare’s birth and death as well as Cervantes’ death.

Continued on the next page...

More from Essex County...

Lake Placid Public Library

A Head Start on the Summer Beach Bag

Susanna Carey, director of the AuSable Forks Free Library, just returned from vacation and is brushing the sand off these “best picks” that were in her beach bag.

The Dressmaker by Kate Alcott

This recent release was written by a previously published author who went with a pen-name when this manuscript was bypassed by publishing houses who felt her previous novel had not sold well enough. Patricia O’Brien, under a pseudonym, sold the manuscript in three days. Released this winter, just prior to the 100th Anniversary of the Titanic’s sinking, The Dressmaker is an easily read work of historical fiction that combines drama, romance and adventure. Set mostly in America after the Titanic sinks, the book opens just as the Titanic departs from Europe and follows the tale of Tess, a maid turned seamstress who is taken under the wing of famed designer Lady Duff-Gordon. Tess works hard to realize her dreams of becoming a famed dressmaker under her mistress’ tutelage but must decide for herself if she will live a life hiding behind the truth or facing it. A love triangle ensues between two men Tess met on the Titanic from differing walks of life: a sailor and a wealthy investor who both pursue her. This is a book that flows well from beginning to end while tackling the aftermath of the Titanic.

Mississippi Jack by L.A. Myers

The fifth in the acclaimed Bloody Jack series, this story follows Bloody Jacky Faber who has been branded a pirate by the Royal Navy at the turn of the 19th Century. Although earlier tales with Jacky set the stage for this serial, it is a new favorite for me in this series. The story follows Jacky as she meets, fights and “buys” Mike Fink’s keel boat and heads to New Orleans on the Mississippi River with her beloved significant other in hot pursuit as they both run from the British.

Continued on page 9
Sharing Our Past: New York Heritage Digital Collections

I recently attended the Archival Conference of the Northern New York Library Network and heard more about a wonderful resource that’s available free online to all of us. It’s the New York Heritage Digital Collections, at http://www.newyorkheritage.org. This site is the result of a collaborative project undertaken by a number of the reference, research and resource councils (3R’s) in New York state. We’re fortunate that our 3R’s council (Northern New York Library Network) is very involved in the project, and has added a number of local resources to the site.

There are 200 digital collections included on the site, including many of our local newspapers. There are many different types of organizations represented on the site, offering access to collections ranging in size from a small library’s local postcard collection to digitized yearbooks of colleges and universities.

Organizations can contribute their local collections with help from NNYLN, and all are encouraged to share what they have this way. There are many different types of organizations represented on the site; all offer information and examples of items of historical interest in New York State. This is a really exciting project, one we’re fortunate to have free access to. It’s possible to load videos, oral histories, pictures of objects—just about anything you can think of that you have in your library and want to provide access to.

Our libraries are encouraged to participate in New York Heritage through NNYLN—the Network will provide the necessary tools and training, and there are technology improvement grants to cover costs. I’ll be working with our member libraries this year to identify specific non-print collections, and am looking forward to discovering what special things our libraries have. If your library is interested in having a presence on the Internet through New York Heritage, you’re encouraged to contact NNYLN, at 315-265-1119, or email John Hammond at john@nnyln.org.

-Elizabeth Rogers, CEFLS

Lake Placid news cont.

Ebooks: They’re Going Out, but we can’t see them…

We can tell by CEF data that some of our patrons are jumping on the OverDrive bandwagon. That we have not received any phone calls requesting directions or reporting problems, must be interpreted that readers are having success. Only one spoke with Linda Blair, who runs the front desk. The patron relayed that she was enjoying it and that the fact they are not renewable serves as an impetus to pay attention to the due date. We have been spreading the word that they are available and expect them to grow in popularity as readers and availability increase.

Retirement

Staff at the Lake Placid Public Library wished one of their own well on her retirement at the end of April. Marion Klauck has served at the main desk evenings and Saturdays for the past seven and a half years. The hours she worked will be taken over by existing staff.

--Lisa Forrest, LPPL

A reception for a student art show on April 25, brought in not only the 20 artists themselves, but also friends, family teachers and others interested in seeing the works

Westport Library Association

The Westport Library Poetry Group will meet on Thursday, May 17 and Thursday, June 21 at 5:30 p.m. to read and share poetry. Newcomers are welcome to come and bring their work to share.

The Westport Library Book Club will meet on Tuesday, May 8 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss Middlemarch by George Elliot, and again on Tuesday, June 12 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss Saving Cee Cee Honeycutt by Beth Hoffman. Newcomers are welcome to join this group.

On Wednesday, June 27 at 7:00 p.m. we will host a live Piano Performance by local pianist Dan Linder.

-Dan Van Olpen, Director
More from Essex County

Schroon Lake Public Library

Many patrons have stopped at the library this spring to inquire about the Overdrive launch and they are coming in wanting eReader assistance. We are grateful to Betsy Brooks and Chad Chase from CEFLS for all the Overdrive classes that were offered to staff. Without them we would have been lost and useless to patrons when they needed our help. It has been an exciting time learning about all the new technology, I just hope we can remember all we’ve learned. Our Friends of the Library are planning to purchase Kindles, Nooks and a supply of books for download for our library so that staff and patrons can try out the new technology and see what all the fuss is about. We couldn’t do half of what we do here without our Friends of the Library.

In celebration of National Library Week, we held an open house on Thursday, April 12 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Library board members were on hand to meet and greet patrons. Refreshments were served, and giveaways were featured throughout the day. Patrons had the chance to win one of three National Library Week bags filled with books and other goodies. Especially popular were the Kindle and Nook demonstrations which were held from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. along with an eReader technology petting zoo, compliments of Chad and CEFLS. Later in the month we celebrated Earth Day and Arbor Day by hosting a special story time on Saturday, April 28. Children came to listen to amazing stories about trees and the world around them. Each participant decorated a flower pot and planted seeds that they are now watching grow!

Upcoming programs include a Book Discussion Group which meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. May’s book will be World Made by Hand by James Howard Kunstler. New members are always welcome to attend one of our lively discussions. Children and their parents are invited to join the Down to Earth Garden Club, a new and exciting program at our library. Participants will meet twice a month for a half hour of fun activities, followed by a short walk to the community garden to tend to the library plot. Children will plant, tend and harvest their garden while learning about the natural world around them. Using the gardening experience as well as library books and fun activities, the group will learn about soil composition and the interrelation of plants, animals and humans. The program will begin May 26 and run through the end of September.

Plans for a summer full of great reading and activities are underway. Readers of all ages will explore the night this summer as the library presents “Dream Big READ!” This program is open to people of all ages, preschool through adult, with programs, prize drawings, story hours and more! Registration for the summer reading program begins the last week of June. Some of the great programs on tap include Domino the Great, a magician who will visit us on Thursday, July 12 at 11:00 a.m.; Critters @ Night, an animal program that will be held on Wednesday, July 19 at 1:00 p.m.; Faerie Tales with Lady Slipper on Thursday, August 2 at 1:00 p.m. and High Peaks Juggling, which will be held on Thursday, August 9 at 1:00 p.m. Story and craft times for kids will also be held throughout the summer.

-Vegetables from the library plot.

-Vegetables from the library plot.

Highlights from Across the Lake

Interesting Library News

Vermont is undergoing a shift to Open Source library software. I noticed this recently while “Googling around” for information about the two main public library automation products: Evergreen and Koha. I was surprised to find out that the Vermont State Library has recently decided to move to Evergreen, while another group of libraries has moved to Koha!

A recent announcement in the March 2012 Vermont Department of Libraries newsletter indicates a possible move to a statewide system, a group of 30 libraries called the Green Mountain Library Consortium has already decided on the other leading open source product, Koha. The libraries call their project “Project VOKAL” for Vermont Organization of Koha Automated Libraries, and participants include the public libraries in Stowe, Hinesburg, Williston, and Warren, to name a few.

New York has discussed a statewide integrated library system, but the project reportedly stalled because some library systems have long-term binding contracts with their existing vendors. The CEFLS Migration Committee is actively looking at open source alternatives, and the Vermont experience will be something to watch!

-Betsy Brooks, CEFLS

Sites You’ll Like:

www.readkiddoread.com
Here you’ll find tips, interviews and booklists to hook even the most reluctant reader! Includes a list of the “Most-Un-Put-Downable Books of the Year!”

booktrucking.wordpress.com
We’re changing the focus of the CEFLS blog to a more personal approach and would welcome input, suggestions and entries from afar.

-Jane Bouchard, Director
ACT Offers Matching Help for 2012-2015 Construction Projects!

The Adirondack Community Trust has partnered with the Charles Wood Foundation and the Lake Placid Foundation to once again offer matching grant help to Public Library Construction grant applicants. $95,000 was distributed in the CEFLS region in 2011. The Plattsburgh Public Library, Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay and the Chazy Public Library received construction funding support from this initiative.

Cali Brooks, Executive Director of ACT said, “The success of this program in 2011 inspired two local private foundations to once again challenge libraries to come up with innovative library Construction grant applications that deepen the role public libraries play as economic engines using technology and digital skills development. Successful libraries may receive the 50% or 25% match required by the Construction Grant program.”

All of the information and links necessary to apply for 2012-2015 Public Library Construction funding are now available online at http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/construc/index.html. CEFLS has set Friday, September 7, 2012 as the local deadline by which all applications should be filed in the online application portal.

Potential member library applicants are encouraged to save Thursday, June 7 as the date to attend a webinar offered by DLD from 10:00 a.m. until noon and to contact Julie Wever at CEFLS to discuss your plans.

Susanna Carey’s Book Reviews continued from page 6

Along the way both of them encounter experiences that live up to the best tall tale, and examine American life in the early 1800’s. Although this is technically a young adult series, I recommend it to readers of all ages who enjoy high-stakes adventure and romance with excellent storytelling thrown in.

The Bronzed Horseman by Paullina Simons
The first in a trilogy between star-crossed Russian lovers, Alexander and Tatiana. The first of the series opens in Leningrad, 1941 just as Germany has invaded the Russian border and brought the communist country to war. Family, love, loyalty and war are all major themes at the forefront of this sweeping saga. Although heavy-handed at times, this book will grip you and I am pleased to say that there are two sequels which follow.

--Susanna Carey, AuSable Forks

Paine Memorial Library, Willsboro

Our 2012 Spring and Summer Schedule of Events has been finalized. We are planning a summer’s worth of fun for all ages. Some highlights include:

June 5 - 25  ART SHOW – Group of 5 Artists. Reception on June 8 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

June 15 Pre School Story Hour special trip and picnic lunch starting at 10:00 am

June 26-July 11 Alice Wand Memorial ART SHOW - Reception June 27 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

June 29 & 30 Paperback Book Sale 9:00 AM – 2:00 pm

June 25 Summer Reading Program starts at the Paine Library. Call library for registration information. Program runs for 6 weeks, Mondays through Thursdays

July 1 Raffle tickets go on sale for a Patricia Reynolds painting- proceeds to benefit the library

July 5 Summer Reading Program starts at Noblewood Beach. Program runs for 6 weeks daily

July 12 15th Annual Paine Memorial Golf Scramble in memory of Ellie Campbell held at the Willsboro Golf Course - call to register. 963-8989 Rain date will be July 13

July 20– Aug 7 ART SHOW – Jim Friday – photography. Reception July 18 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

July 28 Willsboro Folk Craft Fair – 28th Annual from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, on Point Road

Aug 8-25 ART SHOW – Eve Ticknor – photography and Happy Marsh – watercolors & Robert Weiss – oil and acrylic. Reception August 8 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Aug 10 Preview Book Sale held at the Library from 5:00 -8:00 pm. Refreshments served

Aug 11 Annual Used Book Sale from 9:00 to 2:00 p.m. by Friends of the Library

All Art Exhibits are on the main floor of the Library and are open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Wednesday evening until 7:00 p.m. Saturday hours are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

--Cheryl Blanchard, Director

Essex County news cont.

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Local Support Grows CEFLS Ebook Collection!

CEFLS was able to purchase 23 ebooks for young readers thanks to a generous donation from the Plattsburgh Kiwanis Noon Club. The club’s Major Emphasis Committee funds projects that serve “prenatal through age six” children and their families. Most of these titles are currently in circulation!

This gift greatly enhances our new collection of Ebooks that are available through Overdrive, and comes at a fortunate time, since at last check, ebooks for young readers are especially popular. Most of the titles purchased are accessible in ePub and Kindle format.

Other funding for ebooks has come from the Northern New York Library Network. Thanks to our “Dabbling in Ebooks” project, we have been able to purchase over 132 ebooks for adults and young readers, along with 14 ereaders of all types which have been used throughout the spring for to give member librarians and CEFLS staff some good practice with the download process.

Elizabeth Rogers at CEFLS has been working to designate “gift titles” such as these in the Overdrive holdings records. As a result, donors may search our online catalog by the name of the person honored with the donation, which is a really neat feature.

Watch for more information about our new Adopt a Book campaign which we hope will generate increased interest in our growing collection of ebooks. And, if you see a Kiwanian, please thank a Kiwanian for this club’s ongoing support of public libraries.

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TRAILBLAZER

More Essex County news...

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

Wells Memorial Library re-opened on Saturday, January 28, and over 100 people joined us to celebrate. Tropical Storm Irene wiped out 40% of our collection and left mud everywhere. We are deeply grateful for the amazing community support which helped us to meet this challenge, and the huge number of devoted volunteers and donors who made it possible to restore the library. Thanks to the CEF Library System, we were able to add over 1,200 donated books to our collection before the library opened.

At 10:30 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month, Julie Robinson Robards presents an engaging music appreciation program for children ages 3-6, with books, motion songs and rhythm instruments. Natalie Woods hosts a Story/Art Program for children ages 5-10 on the third Saturday of the month from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. In April Natalie read Stellaluna by Janell Cannon and origami bat mobiles were made.

During May and June, Upper Jay resident Stephen Longmire will exhibit photographs from his current book Life and Death on the Prairie. An artist reception for Stephen was held on Friday, May 4, from 5:30 to 7:30p.m. Dan Christoffel will exhibit his drawings of Walt Whitman and Mark Twain in July and August.

-Karen Rappaport, Director

Au Sable Forks Free Library

Spring has sprung at the Au Sable Forks Free Library! We are pleased to have a new volunteer leading our pre-school Story Time. Miss Brittany has taken over for Miss Kirsten who left us after her family moved away. We were initially bracing for a hiatus until we could find a replacement volunteer, but fortunately we did have to wait very long as on our last day with Miss Kirsten, Miss Brittany came forward and volunteered to take over. Pictured are Miss Brittany and her daughter Quinn who have been leading our younger patrons (2-5 year olds) with stories followed by a craft each Wednesday morning at 11:00 a.m.

Due to unforeseen conflicts our annual Cabin Fever Book & Bake Sale has been indefinitely postponed. Once we have a date, details will be posted.

--Susanna Carey, Director
More Essex County news

Keene Valley Library Association

We have been busy planning a variety of events for all ages. Here are just a few highlights; please check our web site for our full schedule and complete details.

On Monday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m. Jaime Arredondo will give a lecture on The Mexican Muralist Movement and the American Artists It Influenced. An extremely rich and complex system of art and mythology has existed for centuries in Mexico. It has helped to create the cultural and political character of the Americas as we know it. This cultural heritage has attracted artists from all over the world, most notably Mexican and American, to create works based on this magical and intriguing history. In this program, Mr. Arredondo will explore and analyze the compelling works of key contributors to the Mexican Muralist movement, such as Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siquieros, as well as their influence on American artists including Jackson Pollack and Georgia O'Keefe - and the impact these artists in turn had on their Mexican counterparts.

Our 2012 Summer Lecture Series will be especially outstanding. A First Night Picnic will be held on Monday July 9 at 6:00p.m. Everyone is invited to join us for a picnic on the Library Lawn.

The John P Marble Memorial Lecture will be given on Monday, July 9 at 7:30 p.m. Curt Stager, an ecologist, paleo-climatologist, science journalist and Professor at Paul Smith’s college will talk about his recent book Deep Future: The Next 100,000 Years of Life on Earth which has been rated amongst the best nonfiction books of 2011 by Kirkus Reviews. Elizabeth Kolbert has described Deep Future as “a richly informative and deeply persuasive book—one that will be relevant for generations.”

On Monday, July 16 at 7:30 p.m. Paul Matthews, noted painter in and of the Adirondacks and the subject of a 2011 Retrospective of his art at the Trenton City Museum, will engage in a conversation with Frank Owen, illustrated by selections from Matthews’ work.

On Monday, July 23 at 7:30 p.m. Richard P. (Pete) Suttmeier, Professor Emeritus, University of Oregon and a Keene Valley resident, will talk about topics in, around and about China. Dr. Suttmeier is a political scientist who has written widely on science and technology issues in China, beginning in 1974. He is a member of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, which recently reported to Congress.

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Keene Valley news concluded

On Monday, July 30 at 7:30 p.m. we will host an evening with Patrick Kirmer, artist, educator, set designer, fundraiser and community member. Sometimes known as the “Master of Johns Brook”, Kirmer (as he is also known) will show examples of recent work, talk about his life in the Valley and be the subject of a presentation by Joy McCabe. Questions will be asked. Bring yours.

On Monday, August 6 at 7:30 p.m. we will feature Mark Levy: Teach Freedom! The murders in Mississippi during “Freedom Summer 1964” often overshadow the many initiatives and accomplishments of that historic moment. Levy was coordinator of the Meridian Freedom School and will discuss its innovative curriculum and share photos and stories of unsung local heroines and heroes whose extraordinary acts built the Movement—and still serve as an inspiration today.

Laura Rice, Chief Curator of the Adirondack Museum, will talk about the current exhibition: “Night Vision: The Wildlife Photography of Hobart Vosburg Roberts” on Monday, August 13, at 7:30 p.m. Roberts, born in 1874 in Utica was an early advocate of the conservation movement and an inventive photographer whose work captured birds and animals in their natural habitat.

The Keene Valley Library Association Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, August 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Nathan Farb, noted photographer of the Adirondacks, will present two recent multi-media works to round out our summer series on Monday, August 27. One work, “Eisen,” is a meditation on the experience of family. The second piece is Farb’s in-progress video that looks at Hurricane Irene and the effects of its natural violence on our valley communities and the high backcountry.

Tuesday evening, July 17, promises to be warm and friendly with good cheer in abundance. It is the night of the Library Summer Benefit. This year’s chair, Kathleen Leddy has been working all winter to bring us a wonderful evening event. Lise Strickler and Mark Gallogoly will host the event at The Green House on Mason Young Road; music will be provided by the Bill Stokes Ensemble; and food will be prepared by Holly Healy at Simply Gourmet. We are collecting many silent auction pieces both art items and items of interest. Please do join us for an evening of celebration. For ticket information please contact me at the library.

--Karen Glass, Director

Guest Column:

Judy Harris from the North Country Center for Independence shares some tips that can help all users make technology work for them!

Bridging the Digital Divide: Accessible Computers

The use of technology has been increasing by leaps and bounds for all of us for the past several years. The Internet has brought us into the digital age and now with the advances in the field of digital devices, we all rely on computers, tablets, and smartphones. We tend to take these devices for granted. This is not the case for persons with disabilities, or it hasn’t been up until now. With just a little digging I have come up with some of the more useful and adaptable features of computers, some of the most useful and unique features of tablets, and the convenient features of smartphones and handhelds along with “Apps” for all of these.

Apps are applications which can make each of these devices uniquely functional and frankly, more fun. This article will deal with adapting computers for accessibility, to be followed by articles covering tablets (like the iPad) and handhelds (such as a smartphone, or iPod Touch. After that, we’ll update you with new and useful Apps as they come along.

The first thing to ask is what technology do you own? Is your computer a PC or a Mac? What version is it? (e.g. Windows 7? OSx?) This is important to know when you are deciding on software to download into your computer. What most people don’t know is that computers have accessibility features built into them straight from the factory. This is one of the biggest and well kept secrets of the technology world. Microsoft and Apple have both included various features in their computers, though Apple has become the “leader of the pack”. If you stick with me for a little while, I’ll share some of the best features of the technologies.

To begin with, it is best to become acquainted with the websites of each of the major companies associated with computers, Microsoft for computers running Windows and Apple for the Macintosh operating system.

Mac: www.apple.com/accessibility/

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You Otter Be at the Wild Center!

Watch for information coming soon about our collaborative Library Day Pass program titled “Check out the Wild”. Each CEFLS member library will receive a museum pass and Visitors’ Packet that can be borrowed by patrons with their library card just like they would a book. The day pass admits one family (2 adults and their dependent children) for free to the Wild Center in Tupper Lake. As a neat finishing touch of reciprocity, the Visitors’ Packet will refer visitors back to CEFLS member libraries and invite them to “check out” our great collections for further information.

CEFLS and the Wild Center are working out the details with an anticipated launch date of June 1—just in time for summer excursions! This program is generously provided by the Wild Center with the goal of increasing awareness and use of this terrific local resource.

Check out the Wild Center’s web site at: [http://wildcenter.org/](http://wildcenter.org/)

Make it Rain!

CEF has renewed our subscription to Grantstation. This interactive web site allows grant seekers to identify potential funding sources through access to a searchable database of “thousands of foundation and corporate grant makers that are actively accepting proposals.”

Member public library staff members are welcome to explore this terrific resource that is available by password on a CEF workstation. In return, we will ask you to give us some brief feedback about your grant seeking experience so we can evaluate this tool for renewal in Spring 2013 if funds allow.

For more information or to book a work session and tutorial, please call Julie Wever at 563-5190 x 18. We will search the Grantstation database for you by topic, but we really encourage potential grant seekers to take this new resource for a personal spin.

News from Franklin County

Saranac Lake Public Library Welcomes New Director

Library board president Anne Paulson, the library board members and staff are very pleased to welcome Peter Benson as the Director of the Saranac Lake Free Library. Pete was the academic librarian for the Malone campus library of North Country Community College for the past year and a half.

A Saranac Lake resident since 1977, Peter was originally from suburban New Jersey. He has worked as a caretaker and camp administrator for Camp Eagle Island, a former Girl Scout camp on Upper Saranac Lake. Pete has a bachelor and master’s degree in education, and also has a master’s degree in library and informational sciences from the University of Alabama.

Pete is familiar to our patrons because he worked as the part-time evening librarian at the SLFL while he was pursuing his library master’s degree. In 2010 Pete chaired the Library Mini Golf event at the SLFL.

In an interview for the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Pete said, “This is the most exciting time to be in libraries since the 1880s because everything is changing very quickly. Your library is now a worldwide library. We have a lot of people who are part-time residents, summer residents or individuals who go off to school. It’s very easy for them now to stay very connected with the Saranac Lake Free Library. We can also provide ways for them in the future to be connected in a more dynamic and current way.”

“I’m really excited to be here at the SLFL,” said Pete recently, “and the support I’ve received from the CEF Library System staff has been exceptional. Through both electronic and real live person-to-person contact, I’m quickly coming up to speed and discovering all of the opportunities available to our member libraries.”

When you’re in the area, stop and say “hi” to our new director!

--Pat Wiley, Library Assistant
Goff –Nelson Memorial Public Library, Tupper Lake

Now that spring is finally here we are getting busier in Tupper Lake – no doubt about it! Like most North Country libraries, we are currently in the planning stages for the Summer Reading Program. We look forward to seeing throngs of small folks here at the library and we’re sure they will enjoy the performers we’ve gotten lined up for this year. We look forward to hosting Nan Hoffman again this year on Friday, July 20.

Of course, the most notable event here will be a series of story hours and reading activities during June, July and August sponsored by our local Kiwanis Club. We will be partnering this season with local school personnel to attempt to prevent the “Summer Slide” that so many students fall prey to. This occurs as students give up regular reading for the summer months. Studies indicate a loss of four to five months worth of reading skills for many students. We are excited about this initiative and hope for excellent participation. The chance to win an Ipad will be an incentive to participate!

Finally, our friend, Marty Podskoch will be here on Thursday, July 12 for a talk about his newest book on the North Country’s Civilian Conservation Corps. Marty will have books available for signing and sale at that time. Rounding out our upcoming activities, the Jackman Art Exhibit will take place here during the first week of July and two weeks later Tupper Lake’s Community Art Show is scheduled.

--Linda AuClair, Director

Franklin County news continues...

Wead Library, Malone

The Wead Library said good-bye to two longtime friends and devoted library employees with the April retirement of Irene Greeno in January, and Debbie Trickey.

Irene Greeno worked for the library for 22 years in many capacities. She was a smiling face at the front desk for years, and then handled the ILL department, book and media processing, and just about anything else that needed doing! Debbie Trickey was the library “go to” person, for computer questions, billing, purchasing, building maintenance, personnel, or advice! She spent 24 years at the library, and we all miss her expertise.

Both Irene and Debbie were fixtures at the library, and the staff and the community will miss them.

-Sue Wool, Director

Bridging the Digital Divide cont. from page 12

Each page will acquaint you with the various features of these manufacturers. Microsoft features a video and a guide to special features for accessibility. There is also a newsletter to which you can subscribe and an archive of back issues. I liked this feature and there were some useful tips here. Both of these websites are easy to understand and have clear instructions about using the accessibility features for the operating systems.

I have to confess up front to the fact that I am a devoted Mac enthusiast but I will try to be impartial here. I believe that there are more features to the Apple products. Some of these are: Voiceover, Zoom, White on Black, Mono Audio, and Speech Auto-Text. These are just a few of the features for vision impaired persons. While Apple has created Apps for all of its devices, it is only recently that Apps have been added to the iTunes store for Mac computers. Many Apps are able to b3e used on a variety of devices also, so just because you have an App on your computer it doesn’t mean you can’t have the same one on your phone. You only need to sync devices or download the appropriate app for the device you want to use. But I digress.

There are Apps for Education, Productivity (word processing, notetaking, dictation, etc.) and games (Scrabble, Solitaire, and board games, to name just a few). The Apps for Mac computers come from the iTunes store on the Apple website and the Apps for PC computers come from a variety of different sites and sources.

The main source for all things Apple: www.apple.com/itunes

One source for PC Apps: www.appup.com

At both of these sites you will have to search specifically for Apps for disability though some will be found in other categories. For instance, many Apps that are appropriate for use for children with disabilities can be found under either Education or Games. The best suggestion I can make is to LOOK!

- Concluded on page 15
Bridging the Digital Divide concluded

There are three websites which I have found extremely useful for software recommendations and other websites for persons with disabilities.

www.ebility.com/links/software.php
This website gives information about Freeware (Open Source and free to all), and Shareware (software that one can try for a period of time and then buy-usually at a nominal cost).

This site directs users to pages with specific applications for particular disabilities.

The “big daddy” of these is:
www.equalitytechnology.org/software.htm. There is a virtual wealth of information here. The links and pages are filled with a wide range of information for persons with all types of disabilities. It is a well thought out site and pays attention to detail.

Now that your computer is configured and set up to function to your special needs we hope you will go and use your “new” computer!

-Judy Harris, North Country Center for Independence, Plattsburgh NY

More from Franklin County...

Akwesasne Library

The Akwesasne Library has a new Public Computer Center provided by the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe through a Broadband Initiative grant from the US Department of Commerce. It is one of five Centers in the Akwesasne territory funded by the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The computer center includes twelve new Dell computers and a SMART Board. Library patrons are enjoying the new computers and trained library staff will be able to assist patrons with digital literacy training which includes:

- Computing Basics – hardware, software, and operating systems
- Applications – basic Word, Excel, and generic program functions
- Living Online – Internet and networks, e-mail, web browsers, and the general impact of the Internet on society.

The Public Computer Center is also available to organizations for small group training after regular library hours (Monday – Friday, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.). During the summer months, the Center will be available on from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. To reserve the computer center contact the front desk staff at 518-358-2240. There is no fee to use the computer center, but please schedule at least two weeks in advance.

--Glory Cole, Director

Say Hello to the Database of the Month

In an effort to increase awareness and use of the great FREE databases that are available to all library patrons on the CEFLS web site (www.cefls.org), we are now getting up close and personal with a featured Database of the Month on Facebook and our web site. May’s focus is Encyclopedia Britannica. Here’s the buzz about this terrific resource, lifted wholesale from Chad’s recent Facebook post, in case you missed it:

“May’s selection is the Britannica Public Library Edition. With the printing of Encyclopedia Britannica recently coming to an end, what better way to get up-to-date information on any nearly any subject than the online Public Library Edition? Research tools include a world atlas, Spanish-English Dictionary, timelines, a program that lets users enter the names of two countries for a side by side comparison, and more! Browse current news from The New York Times and BBC News. Keep kids learning with Britannica for Kids! Check out the Britannica Public Library Edition today!”

Chateaugay Memorial Library

At the February Chateaugay Memorial Library Board of Trustees meeting, Kip Young, Noble N.C. plant leader, presented a check to the library in the amount of $6,000. This is a good example of local business helping local business in turn helping the local community, said Ron Davis, retired plant manager of Agri Mark/McCadam. In order to avoid the cost of constructing a communication tower, Noble, Inc. negotiated with AgriMark/McCadam to use the cheese plant’s 175 foot water tower for this purpose. Since Agri Mark is in the diary business, not communication, an agreement was made with Noble Inc. to use their cost avoidance as a yearly donation of $6,000.00 to the local library. We are very pleased that our library benefits so enormously from this collaboration.

--Melissa Erhardt, Director
Silicon Alley Insider  
Chart of the Day

Which Is Better For These Purposes, A Printed Book Or An E-book?

% Of Those Who Have Read Both E-books And Printed Books In The Last 12 Months Who Say That This Format Is Better For These Purposes

- Printed books
- E-books

- Reading with a child: 81% printed books, 9% e-books
- Sharing books with other people: 69% printed books, 25% e-books
- Reading books in bed: 43% printed books, 45% e-books
- Having a wide selection of books to choose from: 53% printed books, 19% e-books
- Reading books while traveling or commuting: 73% printed books, 13% e-books
- Being able to get a book quickly: 83% printed books, 13% e-books

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Reading Habits Survey, November 16–December 21, 2011. N=2,986 respondents age 16 and older. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish and on landline and cells. N for those who have read both printed books and e-books in the past 12 months is 701.