Survey Says…

To best tailor CEFLS resources and decisions to fit the needs of member libraries and their patrons, we surveyed member library staff early this year. The survey was designed to further develop CEFLS Service Priorities and Plan of Service for 2016 and beyond, and we’ve learned a great deal from the results.

Cooperative Collections

63% of libraries (19) surveyed reported that their patron’s needs for nonfiction are addressed fairly well by the collections available through the system, with 33% (10) saying that their needs are fulfilled completely. Sixty two percent (18) reported they participate in the Cooperative Collection Development (CCD) plan coordinated by CEFLS, more patrons are being served with nonfiction materials while remaining economically feasible for participating libraries. 24% (7) of libraries are not participating and 14% (4) of libraries would like more information, indicating that there are more opportunities for us to expand the reach of such a service.

Turnaround Time

Van delivery and ILL provided by CEFLS continue to be two of the most valued System services, with 70% of libraries (21) reporting that they are very satisfied with the speed of transport of materials. Overall approval of the ILL process is high, with 83% of library respondents (25) being very satisfied and 13% (4) being mostly satisfied. Our three personable “front men” go the extra mile to make this service such a success.

Digital Details

Ebooks and other digital content were a large focus of this year’s survey. With 76% (22) of the libraries stating that downloadable audiobooks are a viable option for their patrons and only 3 libraries allocating $25-$100 in funding toward e-audiobooks and 2 putting in $1,001-$2,500, there is significant reason to investigate further. Fourteen percent (4) of libraries state patrons are completely satisfied with the collection of fiction ebooks on OverDrive, while 34% (10) told us that their patrons “wants” are fulfilled fairly well.

Interlibrary Loan Satisfaction

Fans of the Van!

Continued on page 2...
Chazy Public Library, Chazy

The Quilting Group which meets weekly in our Community Room is growing in numbers. Several Girl Scout Troops also hold meetings here. We often have students here for tutoring sessions. Our school principal has expressed appreciation for being able to use this space in our library, as there is less distraction than in a school setting. (When it gets warmer, they get to use the Gazebo.)

We are all enjoying this lovely spring weather and love to watch our gardens bloom. Every year the Trustees do a little more landscaping, and we look forward to some outdoor programs.

Some patrons have expressed to me how much they appreciate the CEFLS interlibrary loan services. I certainly appreciate the CEFLS staff services. They seem to do just as much (or more) with fewer staff members!

- Francie Fairchild, Chazy Public Library

How well adult rotating collections complement library’s collection: 28/30 responded

Supplementing Stock

84% (24) of libraries note that their adult rotating collections provided by CEFLS complement their own collections mostly or very well, with 4% (1) stating that their patrons are neither satisfied or dissatisfied. Three libraries do not receive adult collections. Similarly, 72% (21) of libraries are mostly satisfied or very satisfied by audiobook rotating collections, with 14% (4) neither satisfied or dissatisfied, and four not receiving them. 68% (20) of libraries are mostly or very satisfied with DVD rotating collections, with 7% (2) reporting being neither satisfied or dissatisfied, and 7 not receiving such collections. 62% (18) of libraries state they are mostly or very satisfied with juvenile rotating collections, with 10% (3) being neither satisfied or dissatisfied, only 3% (1) being somewhat dissatisfied, and 24% (7) of libraries do not receive collections.

Helping Hand

A whopping 93% (26) of libraries reported they consulted CEFLS staff for assistance with annual reports and another 89% (25) stated they received support for Horizon or general technology. 50% (14) of libraries also noted they were helped by CEFLS with their construction grants, 36% (10) also contacted us about trustee issues and another 36% (10) for youth services and Summer Reading Program assistance.
Mooers Free Library Looks Forward

The future looks bright at the Mooers Free Library. Last December a new board was appointed, and on June 1, Tracey Ducharme began her tenure as the new Library Director. Tracey resides just a few miles from the library, and brings lots of ideas and energy in addition to her lifelong love of libraries. Tracey will continue book club and writers club meetings begun by interim director, Edie Morelock. She hopes to develop programs with Mooers Elementary School, continue the Summer Reading Program, and introduce a regular “Children’s Reading Group” among other possibilities.

We express a hearty thank you to Edie Morelock who has filled in since January 3 as interim Library Director. She did so much to stabilize a difficult transition period, and worked so well with library volunteers, the library board, and the town board. She hopes to continue volunteering with the library, and has expressed interest in re-establishing a Friends of the Library group in the near future.

Construction of the new library is steadily moving forward. Funding for the completion of the interior has been approved in concept, and the contract has been awarded. The library will take up a majority of the building’s space with a community center sharing the rest of the space. The Town of Mooers owns the old library as well as the new one, and is hoping to sell the “old” building, and use the money to complete the septic, water, and other exterior concerns of the new library. We thank Jim Bennett for offering very helpful advice in planning the new facility. The Clinton Essex Franklin Library System has provided invaluable ongoing assistance with all aspects of our transition and construction efforts. Thank you CEFLS from all the residents of Mooers. Our goal is to be in the new building by September to mark our 99th Anniversary.

- Art Menard, Treasurer Board of Trustees

Dannemora Free Library

Dannemora Free Library is enjoying some exciting times. We are concluding our 2015 Public Library Construction Grant project and BIG things are happening. The ground has thawed and the electrical work is being done for our new sign in front of the Dannemora Community Center. Soon everyone will have the benefit of current events posted on the electronic display board. Our new maker space will be completed with a built in desk and cupboards to hold supplies. A donation from the Saranac Central School Library Club has helped fill those cupboards and students who need to complete a project for school may come use these supplies that they may not have at home.

We have started a Graphics Club to encourage our youth to learn new technology and have fun while they learn. Thanks to the DozerFest Folks, we have a 3D printer that can be used with our new workstation computer. We can now take an idea from concept to actuality.

Programs for children are in full swing as we segue into summer. We have completed the “Momot Project” and our children's room looks amazing. A huge “thank you” goes to David and Elaine Momot for their donation. Saranac Nursery School is planning a field trip to the library in May. Let the crafting and stories begin! We are looking forward to Summer Reading “Science in Motion” this year, building on the statewide theme “On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!” Our Stewarts Holiday Match Grant is making some special summer reading activities possible.

- Eileen Cody, Director

New tutorials are now available on our website for many of our online resources! Do you have patrons who want to learn how to use Flipster, OverDrive, Rocket Languages, LearningExpress Library, or even Facebook?

While visiting www.cefls.org, simply click “Tutorials” to the right of the page and an interactive guide will aide you every step of the way. Screenshots and videos will help introduce the features and materials already available from CEFLS.

The new library building awaits finishing touches – and a Fall 2016 “move in.” - Edie Morelock photo
More from Clinton County...
Dodge Library, West Chazy

Dodge Library has been very blessed with a number of grants that really help our operations. We’ve received 60 children’s books from the Libri Foundation, 100 children’s books with a Brownstone grant, and $2500 from the Adirondack Foundation to be used in the children’s room.

We’re gearing up for our second annual Children’s Writing Contest. Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade in the tri-county area will compete with their own stories. We will publish one book in each category of K-1st grade, 2nd-3rd grade, and 4th-5th grade. One book will go to the child, one to their home town library and we will keep one for our shelves. We are excited to receive and read the entries.

Our website is up and running at www.dodgelibrary.org. If you can’t stop by to visit us in person, check it out!
- Linda Dupee, Director.

Why I TABOB

“What am I doing?” This is what I ask myself every year as I look at the stack of books that I know I need to read and for which I need to write a bunch of questions. I am the type of person who can’t just do basic questions, I am the gung ho, all in, 20 pages of questions, type. My husband will ask me if I am crazy, and I will tell him a little EVERY YEAR. I still do it. EVERY YEAR. Why?

It pays off. Every minute I spend prepping for TABOB leads to me prepping a TABOB kid. Every minute that I spend with a TABOB kid is me building a lifelong reader. Although I am a tad bit obsessive (ok, a lot) about the quantity/quality of my questions, the sessions are never so and I give them the questions to take home to review.

The competitions are something special to behold. Some of the kids are so fast on the buzzer, and the knowledge that they retain is amazing. Passers-by stop and are dumbfounded by how great they are. They pretty much always congratulate each other on a game well-played. I see smiling kids, win or lose. This is when I know that every second that I have spent stressing over this competition is worth it.

- Samantha Baer, Director, Wilmington EM Cooper Memorial Library/TABOB Coach and Coordinator
From Essex County

Schroon Lake Public Library

The architects are working on finalizing our construction plans and we hope to break ground sometime this spring. The addition will give us 2,500 square feet of additional space which will house a new children’ area, a glass-enclosed quiet room with computers, our own meeting room, a new circulation area, and an office. The old space will be renovated to house all the adult stacks and will feature comfortable seating.

Programs for all ages have been underway this spring. Our Spring Storytime took on a science based theme. Miss Betsi engaged children with stories, songs, and crafts about the world around us. The five week program incorporated basic math skills such as measuring, counting, patterns, and change over time. The program ran through May 5.

Area writers joined poets Michael Czarnecki and Alan Casline at a “Spring Poetry & Prose workshop” on Thursday, June 2. We got our creative juices flowing as we looked at ways to create and develop poems and prose, answer questions about writing, and examine different styles.

Our Friends’ Bookstore opened for the season on Memorial Day weekend. The bookstore will be open every Wednesday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. through August.

The Friend’s always popular House & Garden Tour is scheduled for Sunday, July 31 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. This is a chance to get an inside peek at six of Schroon’s unique homes and gardens. A lecture at the Schroon Lake Boathouse will follow the tour. This annual event is a patron favorite!

- Jane Bouchard, Director

Keene Public Library

The Keene Public Library had a very productive season. Our trustees are very active and their work has been invaluable to our small library. Through the fundraising efforts of the trustees and library director, we were able to purchase many additions to our library without burdening the taxpayers of Keene.

Tops on our list to be thankful for are some new seat cushions. Besides being comfortable and attractive, they have helped keep the bum warm on cold winter days. Patrons can now work at our computers without the glare and heat of the sun streaming through our large picture window as we have a new state of the art shade. We will soon add a new printer, copier and fax machine thanks to a very generous grant from Senator Betty Little and the Bullet Aid Fund. We also have a new magazine display shelf which is functional, attractive and keeps our magazines orderly.

We are fortunate to receive monetary donations from the Ironman volunteers in the library vicinity. This has been a real help to our fundraising efforts. Our Trustees are looking forward to joining the volunteers for the July 2016 race.

We are starting to get set for summer. Planning for our summer fundraiser is underway as is preparation for our summer reading program. We look forward to the many children who participate. It’s always fun for both children and adults.

Here’s to a warm and wonderful summer with many hours of reading enjoyment for all. Our library is well stocked with many new books, and what we don’t have we are glad to obtain through the terrific interlibrary loan system.

- Genny Quinn, President, Board of Trustees and Marcy LeClair, Director

Architect’s drawing of our new space
More from Essex County...

Paine Memorial Library, Willsboro

As libraries change and plan for the future, there is a need to re-envision space. Besides housing books, and other items, libraries are now community centers, with lots of opportunities for activities. To explore changes to our existing space, we are currently working with Butler Rowland and Mayes, an Architectural Firm from Ballston Spa that has experience working with libraries of all sizes.

Meanwhile, we have a variety of programs for all ages on offer. Upcoming and ongoing events include:

- **Monday Tech Time** 9:00 a.m. to noon weekly by appointment
- **Meditation** on Mondays from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.
- **Banjo Lessons**, Wednesdays
- **Beginner** lessons are given at 3:00 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday
- **Advanced Beginner** are given at 5:00 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday
- **Intermediate** lessons are given at 4:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday
- **Book Group** meets the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
- **Jam Band** meets the first three Thursdays of the month at 6:30 p.m.
- **Jam Band** performs at Champlain Valley Senior Housing on the third Friday every month
- **Story Hour** meets weekly on Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- **Story Hour for Infant and Toddlers** meets on the first and third Saturday of each month
- **Needle Arts Group** starts Tuesday April 12, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and will be a weekly event.

Our 34th Annual Willsboro Folkcraft Fair: A Celebration of Things Done Well by Hand will be held on Saturday, July 30. An amazing variety of crafts by some of the area’s most talented artisans will be on sale, rain or shine.

Stop by the Paine Library and take advantage of our array of opportunities.

- Cheryl Blanchard, Director

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Our **Flipster** digital magazine service is available to anyone who has a library card. Encourage your patrons to visit [www.cefls.org/flipster2.htm](http://www.cefls.org/flipster2.htm), for a surprisingly complete collection of 40 online magazines, and past issues are also available to view and print. They’re also free to stream to a browser, download on a computer or to an app. Reports from the field indicate that that it’s easy to read articles and view pictures, almost like actual print version.

To date, **Creative Knitting** has been the most popular title with 168 views. **HGTV Magazine** has enjoyed 162 uses, **Consumer Reports’ Buying Guide** weighs in at 153, and **Cooking Light, Prevention, and Quilter’s World** all have 141 views. Our collection also includes six titles that support the common core curriculum for juvenile and young adult readers.

We have brochures and bookmarks that highlight everything **Flipster** has to offer, so check them out at [www.cefls.org/marketing.htm](http://www.cefls.org/marketing.htm). Or, contact David Fuller at CEFLS to request a custom printed set.

**Furry Friends to Lend**

**Puppets and Stuffed Characters** are available to borrow from CEFLS to support summer reading and story hour programs. Contact Karen Batchelder at (518) 563-5190 ext. 20 or [kbatchelder@cefls.org](mailto:kbatchelder@cefls.org) to pick from a wide variety of characters including a Fox, Grasshopper, Rabbit, Snail, Turtle, and more. We also have kits featuring puppets and characters bundled with books and interactive materials.
More from Essex County...

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

'The Storytellers' were here on Saturday, March 5, for an all-day event in celebration of Women's History Month. In historical costume, they portrayed Abigail Adams, First Lady and constitutional advocate; Belva Lockwood, presidential candidate; Inez Milholland, suffragette; Mrs. Reuben (Polly) Sanford, wife of Wilmington's preeminent 19th century businessman and politician; Esther, a girl of 19th century Wilmington; and Samantha Allen, literary persona of Marietta Holley. Patrons greatly appreciated this informative and enjoyable event.

Recent art exhibits included Audrey Godlewski's 'Expressions in Art,' and renaissance man Joe Kahn with 'Been There, Sketched That.' Magnificent quilts by Dawn Klotzko, owner of Cabin Creek Stitchery, were on display through April.

Grant funding from Stewart's Shops and the Lake Placid Education Foundation helped with programming and technology costs this past year, for which we are very grateful. Sales of Sid Ward's Cutting Boards (all profits donated by Sid) and plants (nurtured by local green thumb Ellen Metcalf) continue to benefit the library. Our annual holiday sale broke all previous records, thanks to the creative and dedicated volunteers who made it possible. We also held a successful February Book and Bake Sale, with the help of hard-working volunteers and many contributing bakers.

On Saturday, July 16, the library will participate in the AuSable River Valley Studio Tour. Featured artists will include Heidi Gero, Audrey Godlewski and Patty Tender: “3 Artists, Friends, Backgrounds, Styles, Personal Journeys, and Interpretations, a diverse collection of oil paintings.”

- Karen Rappaport, Director

Small Libraries/Library Assistants Training Program Lands in September

The New York Library System offers a three week “high level” course for those already working or newly hired in libraries, and those interested in working in public and academic libraries. Our local sessions will be held on Tuesdays, September 13, 20 and 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

At the end of the course, participants will receive a certificate of completion. The course focuses on reference services, public services and technical services. “Hot Topics” such as censorship, privacy, rights of access and social media will also be discussed.

The cost of this three part course is $215 for NYLA members and $255 for non-NYLA members. CEFLS has received a generous grant from the Northern New York Library Network to help offset the cost of attendance – stay tuned for more information about our local sessions. For complete course details visit the NYLA web site at www.nyla.org.
Keene Valley Library

I try to limit multitasking in my personal style, but for our library, it is a way of life. We are in the midst of a major construction project, but library programs are going full sail ahead. And of course we are fund raising for the capital project and for general operation expenses and still keeping the library open as usual. It is the Adirondack way.

Our summer lecture series has been filled and will begin in early July. The lecture series is over 50 years old. Topics traditionally include Adirondack environment, history, music, art, and often a travelogue and maybe even a performance. The six-week Monday series now includes Wednesday and Sunday events as well.

**Summer Lecture Series:**


July 17 from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM: **An Israeli harpist looks at the Middle East:** World renowned harpist Sunita Staneslow has experienced war, uneasy peace and the deeply rooted and complicated dynamic between Jews and Arabs since moving to Israel 16 years ago. Sunita will share stories and photos of her family’s interesting life in Israel, interwoven with several selections on the harp from both the Jewish and Arab traditions.

July 18 at 7:00 PM: **Ariel Quartet:** Library Lecture and Chamber Music Unite. In a new venture, East Branch Friends of the Art will join the Keene Valley library in presenting an evening of lecture and music on Monday, July 18. At 7:00 p.m. the Library will present a lecture around the theme of the chamber music that will be performed by the Ariel Quartet at 8:00 p.m. at the Keene Valley Congregational Church.

July 25 at 7:30 PM: **Pete Nelson The Great Surveyor: The Untold Story of Charles Brodhead**

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**Keene Valley Lecture series cont.**

August 1 at 7:30 PM: Sharpe Swan **High Peaks Logging** with the Santa Clara Lumber Company

August 8 at 7:30 PM: Sarah Coffin of the Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum **Knives, Forks and Spoons**

August 10 at 7:30 PM: Jamie Morris **Enigma of Evolution**

August 15 at 7:30 PM: **Bear Natural History and Conflict Prevention**

**Children’s programs:**

Tuesday, July 26 10:00 AM **Toddlers Tie Dye** and 5:00 to 7:00 PM **Tie-dye drop in.**

Tuesday, August 2 **Ready, Set, Drum!** 6:00 PM. Maximum participation is 12 so register early.

Tuesday, August 9 **No-sew Pillow-making** 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 16 **Game Night.**

The first phase of our three-year construction project began April 3 and is almost complete. We stabilized and insulated the foundation of our 100+ year old building as well as completely redid the children’s room and the local history room, adding in-floor heating and reconfiguring walls and shelving. In the basement added four egress windows so the rooms can be remodeled in phase 2. An energy efficient heating system has been added. The project was daunting at times, but the result is worth it.

The second annual Keene Valley Library Fun Run/Walk was held on Sunday, June 12. This beautiful 5K run or walk begins at the library and wends its way around our scenic town. We are happy to welcome all ages and speeds with breakfast and a commemorative mug. Many thanks to our many generous sponsors!

We will hold our **Summer Library Benefit 2016** on Tuesday, July 19 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Keene Valley Country Club. Events include a silent and Live Auction with Gokey's Auction, music by ADK Jazz and delicious food provided by Simply Gourmet. The cost is $40 per person/ $70 per couple and $50 at the door.

Our Capital Campaign Launch Party will be held on Sunday, August 14. This event will be both and festive with games, stilt walkers, face painting and much more. Celebrate the Library with us!

- Karen Glass, Director
Belden Noble Memorial Library, Essex

On March 5, Don Papson, founder and past president of the North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association presented An Unlikely Underground Railroad Alliance: How New England-bred Sydney Howard Gay and free man Louis Napoleon helped hundreds of fugitive slaves in New York City. The event was well received and included local connections to Underground Railroad.

On April 8, Betsy Brooks and David Fuller from the CEFLS demonstrated how to download free audiobooks, ebooks, and magazines to tablets, smartphone, and ereaders. Our technology centered offerings were following on Saturday, May 7, as Apple-certified consultant and local "MacMan" Ken Hughes presented iPhones, iPads, and iCloud Program. This workshop was designed to help attendees master these devices.

On Thursday, June 9 we held a Poetry Night during which we encouraged participants to “read your own, read one of your favorites written by someone else, or just listen.” Attendance, like the verse, was free and refreshments were provided. This event was co-sponsored by our library and the Adirondack Art Association.

- Tom Mangano, Director

Elizabethtown Library Association

Our library will host “Garden Chats” on Wednesdays during the summer months. Master Gardener Carla Hendrix will be here to answer horticulture questions on Wednesdays between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. starting June 8. Carla will also be giving a presentation on Saturday, June 25, at 2:00 pm. She will show how to locate gardening information on the internet and how to incorporate useful strategies and resources to achieve success in the garden. Call Elizabethtown Library, 8256 River St., at 873-2670 for more information.

We will hold our Annual Book Sale on Friday, August 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The sale will continue on Saturday, August 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The sale will be held at the UCC Hall on Court Street. We’re sure to have something for everyone. Call 873-2670 for information.

- Lora Langston, Director
More from Essex County...
E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library, Wilmington

Things have been pretty quiet at the library. We use this peaceful time to catch up on fun things like weeding.

On Saturday, April 16 we co-sponsored a fundraising event with the AVCS Drama Club at the JEMS Theatre in Jay. The students performed a variety of songs from their favorite musicals.

Our library team took home the trophy in this year’s TABOB competition. The event took place on Saturday, May 21 at the Champlain Centre Mall. All teams worked very hard to prepare for this competition which features over 300 questions from five books.

The Friends of the Library hosted their Annual Food, Books, and More Sale on Saturday, June 11. The sale, books, and lots of bake sale goodies along with Michigan sauce and salads.

- Samantha Baer, Director

Exercise Your Mind—READ!

Summer reading—it’s not just for kids anymore! We will be reaching out this summer with tips and resources for adults, and we may even be able to put together a GoToMeeting based online book discussion group!

We have a limited number of CSLP Adult promotional materials available. Please contact David Fuller (dfuller@cefls.org) or Julie Wever (jwever@cefls.org) to claim yours, share ideas, or to indicate your interest in hearing about “further developments” as we roll this out!

Au Sable Forks Free Library Gets a Make Over!

The receipt of a $100,580.00 Public Library Construction grant has put a sleek new face on our library—inside and out. New siding and weather-tight classic Douglas fir doors contribute to the exterior upgrades. A backyard stone patio invites patrons to enjoy a serene Adirondack environment. Inside the library sunlight streams through our replaced front bay windows while new ceiling tiles and low-e lighting brightens the interior rooms.

Our favorite addition is the sliding glass door installed in our Adirondack Room. It provides a visual space expansion that physically opens onto the new patio. A ramp offers handicap access and a cedar fence keeps the area private while offering a nostalgic sense of The Secret Garden magic. This area is enhanced by the Au Sable Valley Garden Club’s seasonal plantings, Adirondack Chairs and a picnic table that all welcome patrons to relax with a book, magazine and/or use their electronic devices in this natural environment.

We hope that you visit this summer and enjoy our “new” face.

- Alison Follos, Director

Construction 2016

Construction grants are distributed to libraries and library systems each fiscal year from a capital fund appropriation in the State Budget. In 2015, the capital fund was set at $14 million. In 2016, funding has been increased to $19 million!

Libraries intending to apply for funding under the FY 2016-2019 program must contact Julie Wever at CEFLS (jwever@cefls.org) to schedule a site visit and discuss your plans.

Information about this program can be found at: http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/construc/14m/index.html
More from Essex County...

Lake Placid Public Library

Keeping Kids Busy

Probably the most significant changes over these past months have been happening in the children and juvenile rooms. A whirlwind named Karen Armstrong has joined the staff part-time bringing an array of programs. Karen formerly taught at the Guilderland middle school and has long been involved in children’s library activities.

“Be Sure to Be Here on Time, for a Day of Rhythm and Rhyme!” was the invitation to April’s SaturPlay day on April 16. The once-a-month program includes all kinds of activities, the most exciting being in December when a professional acting company presented Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol to a rapt audience. Students in grades three to five are taking part in Karen’s Friday-After-School series that has included a hands-on architectural project and solving the mysteries of magic tricks. The “Institute for Inquisitive Inventors” was the Friday program in March.

Free Math Tutoring

Free tutoring in math for students in grades six through 12 is an exciting new development here. Library Director Bambi Pedu saw the need. “There are kids out there who can really benefit from qualified tutors, but it is expensive,” she said recently. “We are really grateful to the Lake Placid Education Foundation for funding the program.” The number of students is beginning to rise each Saturday morning as exams approach and more parents become aware of the unusual cost-free opportunity.

Board Projects

Our board of trustees was recently increased from five to seven members. Peter Lynch, the one board veteran, is now president. Others are: Vice President Keela Rogers, John DiGiacomo, Nancy Shurtleff, Martha Bullock and Jennifer Briggs. The seventh member, Barbara Erickson, recently decided to resign from her seat due to other commitments. The group is currently putting together a five-year plan to address deferred and ongoing maintenance issues and technology upgrades.

Lake Placid news cont.

The board recently established a procedure for anyone wishing to donate stock. The LPPL can now accept gifts of stock through our partnership with Adirondack Foundation. Anyone wishing to learn more about the advantages of such a donation may do so by contacting the Adirondack Foundation at beth@adkfoundation.org or by phone at 518-523-9904

Barbara Kelly Skating Mementos

A selection of memorabilia belonging to Lake Placid native Barbara Kelly and her days of skating are now displayed in our art gallery showcase and elsewhere in the library. Check them out if you have the chance.

Summer Reading

The staff of the children’s room is gearing up for their second summer program, which will begin with a scavenger hunt for local athletes. We have a really interesting exhibit in our upstairs display case about the late Earl Sponable. The highlight is the Academy Award Oscar which he won for his contributions to the technical side of the film industry.

- Lisa Forrest, LPPL

Rocket Language is the new interactive online language learning system available at www.cefls.org/database_language.htm!

This comprehensive website allows patrons to learn conversational language at their own pace. The DRM-free program allows patrons to fully utilize Rocket Language learning by downloading it for easy access on all MP3 compatible devices.
Betsy Whitefield Tutoring Room Dedication

The Betsy Whitefield Tutoring Room was dedicated on October 19, 2015, with family, friends, board of trustee members and staff attending. Special guests were Elizabeth Patterson and Erica Beggs, Betsy’s daughters, and Emma Patterson, Betsy’s granddaughter. Mary Brown, former Director of CEFLS, attended.

Betsy served as SLFL Director from September 1987 to February 2012. She saw the library through a major construction project that included the addition of the Elinor B. Preis Children’s Room, reinterpretation of the Dickert Wildlife Collection, installation of the elevator, improvements to the Adirondack Research Room, and renovation of the Thomas B. Cantwell Community Room. She also led the library into the technology age with the introduction of the computer circulation system and public access to computers.

The board was able to completely renovate the former AV/Storage Room to be used for tutoring, mentoring and small group discussion with the donations made in Betsy’s memory, along with a New York State Construction Grant. The renovation included removing obsolete counters, adding new walls that include weather sealing, LED energy efficient lights, and a functional, attractive counter.

The large crowd at the dedication was welcomed by Library Director Peter Benson. Board President Ann Paulson explained the extensive project and the many uses for the room. Diane Peterson, former Board President, celebrated Betsy’s accomplishments as Library Director.

Adult and Children’s Programs—The SLFL continues to offer a number of programs for children and adults. This includes Story Time Thursday morning during the school year and a Summer Reading Program for preschool through fourth grade in July. Adult programs are the Library Luncheon Series running from November to April, Fiction Book Group, Science Book Group, Films from the Fifties, and Race: The Power of Illusion Study Group. An Adult Coloring Group is giving participants a chance to relax and socialize in a low-stress environment while creating an object of beauty.

Did You Know?

CEFLS has 15 Mother Goose Big Idea Kits that cover a variety of subjects such as counting, exploring weather, maps and directions, and measurement. Each kit has books, audiobooks, and interactive elements focusing on the particular theme to engage and educate young learners which makes them fantastic resources for summer reading activities.

The kits are available through Horizon. Contact Karen Batchelder at (518) 563-5190 ext. 20 or kbatchelder@cefls.org for more information.

Links We Like

www.ala.org/ascla/aslaprotools/accessibilitytipsheets

The “Library Accessibility – What You Need to Know” toolkit series of fifteen tip sheets was developed by the Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) to help librarians in all types of libraries understand and manage access issues. These issues include but are not limited to: patrons who have cognitive, mental, or emotional illnesses; patrons with learning and/or developmental disabilities; patrons with service animals, patrons needing assistive technologies, and patrons with physical disabilities.

Each tip sheet addresses a specific concern and was updated in 2010. We’ve added these links to the Outreach page of our website and encourage you to check them out at www.cefls.org.
ALCA Announces 2016 QUAD-COUNTY GRANT AWARDS

Award to CEFLS Supports Summer Reading Imagination Development

The Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts (ALCA) in Blue Mountain Lake recently announced the recipients of the 2016 Quad-County Decentralization Grant Awards. The CEF Library System’s Developing Imagination through Storytelling with Stan Ransom is among thirty four other community arts projects and five teaching artist projects to be supported this year. The recipients represent artists and cultural organizations in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, and Hamilton Counties.

Decentralization is a regrant program intended to help promote the arts throughout New York State. Decentralization Grants are made possible through the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Imagination Through Storytelling will support summer reading activities in public libraries throughout the system. We will be booking library programs soon. The project is also supported by a gift from the Plattsburgh Rotary’s Small Gifts Committee which will fund programs at JCEO sites.

Libraries in Clinton and Essex counties interested in hosting a free summer reading program by Stan Ransom the Reading Man area asked to contact Julie Wever at CEFLS (jwever@cefls.org) to schedule the late June or July date that works best for you.

Applications for the 2017 round of funding will be available in Fall 2016 while “how to” workshops will be held at various locations throughout the summer. These grants are a terrific way to support connections between local artists and libraries. For more information on this grant funding opportunity, call Kathy Recchia at 518-708-3606 or check the ALCA website at: www.adirondackarts.org

Emergency Preparedness Kiosks Hit the Road

Public libraries in Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties will host an interactive learning presentation designed to inform residents about the importance of disaster preparedness, courtesy of a grant obtained by the CEF Library System. The presentation includes videos, games for kids, quizzes and various web tools, all of which will give patrons easy access to reliable emergency preparedness resources.

The presentation covers general disaster topics such as fire, snow and ice, flooding and chemicals, as well as up to date and authoritative information on popular local activities including hiking, camping, hunting, boating, ice fishing and snowmobiling. Grant funding from the National Library of Medicine allowed the CEF Library System to purchase tablets and display stands loaded with vital and accessible information for all users.

One iPad and two Surface Pro tablets will be displayed for approximately two weeks at each library and reading center in the System area. The Schroon Lake Library, and the Black Watch Library, Ticonderoga are currently hosting interactive display kiosks. The Hammond Library, Crown Point and the Westport Library Association are next in line to receive a display. Other dates are currently pending. Library users of all ages can interact with the displays from late May through November 8, 2026. Resources will also be available on the System web site at www.cefls.org.

CEFLS is planning to apply for another grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Middle Atlantic Region to continue the emergency preparedness project. We hope to partner with local agencies in the three counties to provide a series of workshops on emergency preparedness topics. It would be very helpful if member libraries could share any concerns related to the topic of emergency preparedness so that they can be addressed through the training sessions. Topics of interest expressed so far include: library security, defusing angry patrons, cybersecurity, and situations involving patrons with special needs. Please send your ideas to Anja Bouchard (abouchard@cefls.org).

This project has been funded in whole or in part with Federal funds from the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services under Contract No. HH-N-276-2011-00003-C with the University of Pittsburgh, Health Sciences Library System.
Central Library News from the Plattsburgh Public Library

Exciting things are happening in Plattsburgh. We have a new Youth Services Librarian, Ben Carman who is helping us to realize our plan for a Maker Program. Ben has brought great enthusiasm and creativity to the Children’s Room. Ben earned his MLIS at Rutgers (2014); M.S.Ed. at Binghamton University (2010), and B.A. in Literature/Writing at SUNY Potsdam, NY, (2008).

Our new Lego wall is up, hydroponic seedlings are sprouting, craft and coloring supplies are at the ready and the story hour area is being transformed into an Adirondack mountain exploration! Reading tents are being assembled and mountain vistas are being painted on the walls. Our Little Bits and Arduino kits are finally being used as well as more traditional activities like wooden table games.

Our construction projects are complete. We modernized our elevator, replaced the concrete front entrance including a snowmelt system in the steps and landing, updated our staff workroom, repointed bricks and added a community meeting room on the main floor which we have named the Smart Room. Thanks to Lake Placid Education Foundation and Charles R. Wood Foundation matching grants we purchased a smart projector, laptop, conference phone, secondary projector and mobile devices for the room, all of which are available to the public. We plan to use E-rate funding increase our wireless access throughout the building to accommodate the increasing number of mobile devices being used in the library each day. If you haven’t visited in awhile, please stop by and say hello. I would love to give you a tour!

- Anne de la Chappelle, Director

Did You Know?

Database Usage at a Glance

Out of the 59 different databases available through www.cefls.org/databaseaz.htm, we had to wonder which ones are used more prominently around the system. Thanks to the responses from the member libraries to 2015’s annual survey, we have a clearer view of just that.

By far, the most accessed database is New York State Newspapers (provided by NOVEL NY) with over 42% of libraries reporting it was used by either staff or patrons. LearningExpress Library (provided by CEFLS Libraries and NOVEL NY) and New York Historical Newspapers (provided by Northern New York Library Network) tied for second place with 32%. In third place, NoveList Plus (provided by CEFLS Libraries), Popular Magazines (provided by NOVEL NY), and Driving-Tests.org (a free resource) tied with 26%.

We would be happy to provide materials to help promote these resources. Please contact David Fuller at CEFLS to discuss a “promotional scheme” that might work best for you.

2015 By the Numbers

- 1.6 K items were checked out system wide
- 1,667 ebooks were checked out
- 690 fans follow the CEFLS Facebook page
- $748,425 estimated dollars saved by libraries thanks to interlibrary loan
- CSLP young readers read and logged 6,917 books and 4,914 attended programs around the system

Hot, Hot, Hot

According to Kim Fletcher

Most requested titles this spring are:
The 15th Affair - James Patterson
The Apartment - Danielle Steel
The Second Life of Nick Mason - Steve Hamilton
Everybody's Fool - Richard Russo
The Weekenders - Mary Kay Andrews
Seniors Lunch and Learn: 
A la cart Services are on the Menu!

While attending the Clinton County Senior Celebration in May, CEFLS “booth minders” were approached by Debbie Alexander, the Congregate Meals Director of Clinton County Senior Services, to see if we at the System would be interested in presenting at their Lunch & Learn Program. These 30 minute programs are taking place at senior nutrition sites throughout Clinton County. The program was created to expose the attendees to businesses, services and opportunities that they might not know about.

David Fuller and Karen Batchelder from CEF’s Outreach Department, have responded by conducting Lunch and Learn presentations this June. They are enjoying meeting the people as well as promoting the resources that are available through their local library and CEFLS. On June 8, they met seniors at the Dannemora Community Center. A program for another rural group at St. Edmund’s Hall in Ellenburg followed on June 9.

Upcoming June Lunch and Learn visits include June 15 at Lakeview Towers, Plattsburgh, and St. Patrick’s Hall, Rouses Point on Thursday, June 16. On June 21, Karen and David will step around the corner to the Clinton County Senior Center. On Thursday, June 23, they will be at the Community Church Fellowship Center in Peru.

Member libraries located in any of the communities on our visit list are welcome to forward information about their local services to share with the senior audiences we are reaching out to. Please contact Karen Batchelder (kbatchelder@cefls.org) or David Fuller (dfuller@cefls.org) if you would like us to distribute your materials.

CEFLS will continue to promote system and member public library services at various community events this summer. A current schedule as of press time is elsewhere in this issue. If you would like us to create and distribute some promotional materials for your library just let us know. Or better yet, bring a glue stick and plan to join us!

More from Franklin County...

Waverly Reading Center

The Waverly Reading Center in St. Regis Falls is participating in the On Your Mark, Get Set...Read! Summer Reading Program. This is our third year of summer reading fun, and we are in luck! The Town of Waverly has erected a covered pavilion at the town beach so we are holding our programs there.

Books at the Beach hopes to reach local families and campers who come to stay at the popular St. Regis Falls Campsite. Programs will be offered at the beach on Saturday, July 2, 23, and August 8 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Several programs with a summer reading theme will also be presented at Chris's Daycare in Dickinson Center, one of our "sister" towns. In keeping with the theme of active body, active mind, we will have some games, relay races and other activities suitable for all ages. There will be crafts and snack of course! In cooperation with the St. Regis Falls Central School “Little Saints Readers” we will offer A Bag o Books for "soon to be readers" to take home for parents to read to, or with their youngsters.

If you are looking for a nice place to spend the day or the weekend, come to "the Falls". Swim at our free beach, visit the local museum curated by our local historians’ group, picnic at one of our many scenic day use areas along the river - and have some fun with us at one of our “out and about” programs.

- Christine Egeland, Director
TRAILBLAZER

More from Franklin County...
Goff-Nelson Memorial Library, Tupper Lake

On Monday, May 16, Bob Freeman gave an overview of the Open Meetings Law (OML) and Freedom of Information Laws (FOIL): Everything You Wanted to Know About the Open Meetings and Freedom of Information Laws... But Were Afraid to Ask. Robert Freeman, Executive Director of the NYS Committee on Open Government provided an overview of OML and FOIL with emphasis on issues pertaining to boards of trustees. Bob is always as entertaining as he is educational, and encourages audience questions. Bob has been with the Committee on Open Government since its creation in 1974.

Area families are invited to come in for Story Time for Pre-K children at 10:00 a.m. every Tuesday. Join us as we read some age-appropriate books, do a craft, and maybe build a tower or sing a song!

Those interested in becoming a better writer are invited to join our Writers’ Group on the second Wednesday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The Goff-Nelson Memorial Library has a new display in the children’s room, thanks to the “Erin Farkas Dewyea Fund.” Erin’s family wanted to do something in our library for our community, so we made up a display of variations of “The Three Little Pigs” fairytale. The display includes about two dozen books, and Folkmanis® hand puppets of the three pigs and the big bad wolf. We’ve been reading the fairytales during Pre-K Story Time, and it’s fun to watch the kids’ faces as they head into the children’s room and see the new display and the hand puppets.

The “Erin Farkas Dewyea Fund” was created with individual donations, and the hard work of her friends and people who knew her. It is the goal that the fund is perpetual, and should continue forever.

- Peg Mauer, Director

How America Reads Aloud to Its Children

Read Aloud 15 MINUTES National Campaign is in its fourth year of spreading the word about the importance of reading aloud every day to children from birth through 3rd grade by sharing their messages with parents and caregivers of young children. In January, YouGov was commissioned to do a nationwide survey on how America reads aloud to its children. Some key findings are:

- Parents know reading aloud is important for brain development, but most do not read aloud every day
- Just 46% of parents say their child is read books aloud at home every day and only 34% say their child is read books aloud at home daily for 15 minutes.
- Over half of parents say their child uses a television (65%) or a tablet (54%) at home on their own or with an adult
- Four in ten parents say it’s easier to find video games than books for their child, and half feel books for children their child’s age are too expensive.
- Six in 10 (62%) parents have received the advice to read aloud to their children 15 minutes every day starting from birth, yet only 8% actually do.
- Parents report that not having enough time in the day and their child not sitting still are the biggest barriers to their children being read books aloud.

Technology poses barriers to parents reading aloud to their children. Dr. John Hutton, Campaign Spokes Doctor believes that “during the span between birth and age 8, there are unique and fleeting opportunities for parents to foster language and social-emotional connections, expand knowledge, imagination and a sense of being loved, and stimulate brain networks that make reading and learning possible. Consistent reading aloud with a caring grownup provides a simple, ideal way to do this – and despite educational claims, electronic devices can’t fill this role.”

The results of the survey are a clear call to action. As educators and literacy proponents, help spread the word to the parents and caregivers that you encounter about the importance of reading aloud every day especially from birth through 3rd grade. To view the full survey report go to www.readaloud.org/surveyreport.html

- Karen Batchelder, CEFLS

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- Karen Batchelder, CEFLS
Where the Rubber Meets the Road

CEFLS drivers transport tons of materials around the North Country (about 61.13 tons per year if we go by the average). Typically, among the 30 member libraries, about 2,055 adult rotating materials get transported each month, racking up to about 13,290 per year. DVDs? About 437 rotating items get sent out each month, meaning 5,244 per year. Depending on the time of year, children’s rotating collections can be between 1,955 and 1,985 per month, leading to around 11,790 items each year.

And don’t forget about assisted living facilities, correctional facilities, senior housing, and nursing homes. That equates to another 5,070 items rotating each year. Altogether, about 35,394 items get rotated each year. Rotating collections travel to a location and back to CEFLS, but requests visit CEFLS before heading to the intended location, meaning they take even more trips. So, really, the items in our system take about 220,592 rides each year.

- David Fuller, CEFLS

Senator Little Supports Local Libraries in 2016

Hot off the press! We have just learned that Senator Elizabeth (Betty) Little will provide all local libraries with a $2,500 “Bullet Aid” grant again this year. We will send more details as soon as we receive an official statement from Senator Little’s office. Meanwhile, please thank Senator Little for her continued support of libraries.
The 3 P’s of Interlibrary Loan:

Philosophy, Practicality and Patron Satisfaction

Philosophy
For avid readers, interlibrary loan (or ILL) is one of the most loved services public libraries provide. As libraries, our borrowing for patrons supports really basic values of our society, such as individuality, self-development, and sharing of knowledge and culture.

Practicality
There’s also a wonderful efficiency to the way we provide this service. We share resources so that all libraries don’t need to buy everything, and we use the most cost effective delivery system possible which allows the smallest of libraries to participate. CEFLS’s online catalog and delivery van are the means of filling the vast majority of requests for public libraries in our region.

Postage is expensive, so it’s a positive reflection on our collections that collectively we are able to fill 97% of all requests within our van delivery area. A whopping total of 37,451 books, videos and audio CDs were transported by the CEFLS van to expectant patrons in 2015. A book of average weight costs $3.22 to mail these days, so mailing these both ways could cost over $240,000!

If something is not available in our 3-county area, libraries are able to access collections across northern New York, or even further afield. CEFLS requests hard to find non-fiction items for many of our member libraries through a national network.

A little over 10% of the interlibrary loan traffic in our system goes to fill requests for people in correctional facilities. CEFLS receives funds from New York State to purchase McNaughton Plan books to serve them, and those books are also available to public library patrons throughout the area. CEFLS’s McNaughton lease collection is constantly in use to fill patron requests and is a huge boon to the rotating collections we provide. You will see a large number of books with the green McNaughton processing on the spine in your adult collections!

Patron Satisfaction
At any given time, there are over 1,000 requests for books and other materials. CEFLS and all of the libraries in our system check the requests daily to achieve an average turnaround time of about a week, and sometimes only a day! Our latest user survey showed a high level of satisfaction with the turnaround time for requested items. CEFLS alone processes more than 4900 requests a year from our member libraries. At least 98% of the time we are able to provide the patron with the material being requested.

- Betsy Brooks, CEFLS

Libraries Receiving the Most ILL From CEFLS

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<tr>
<th>Plattsburgh</th>
<th>Saranac Lake, Schroon Lake</th>
<th>Keene Valley, Lake Placid, Malone, Peru, Rouses Point, Ticonderoga, Willsboro</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Over 1600</td>
<td>401 - 600</td>
<td>201 - 400</td>
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Great eBooks to Check Out
Available now at cefls.overdrive.com!
Book Discussion Sets Available for Loan

Suzanne Orlando, Librarian at Adirondack Correctional Facility in Ray Brook, has generously offered to share several book discussion sets with public library colleagues. There are 10 thought provoking series available for loan and “deliverable on the CEFLS van. Most include 15 copies of four or five adult titles that take a look at important topics that are perfect to chew over the summer.

For example, **Wasting Away: Contemporary Writing on Environmental Crises** features *White Noise* by Don DeLillo, *Water Wars: Privatization, Pollution and Profit*, and *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler.


At press time, we are figuring out how to best “land” the complete list. If you are interested in further information, please contact Julie Wever or David Fuller at CEFLS. We’ll connect you with some though provoking discussion fodder.

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**Library Discovery Pass Program - Updated for 2018**

“Extra” passes may be purchased immediately

For the past several years, CEFLS and the Wild Center in Tupper Lake have collaborated on the **Discovery Pass Program**. This pilot project has allowed hundreds of families around the region to explore an amazing local resource at a sharply discounted admission price. The purpose of the Discovery Pass program is to make The Wild Center more accessible for economically disadvantaged populations. After discussions with libraries, the Discovery Pass program has been updated to better address that goal.

Existing passes for libraries in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System will be extended through **December 31, 2017**. Those cards will then expire and the libraries that wish to offer passes to their patrons will be requested to purchase new cards.

Beginning January 1, 2018, **Discovery Passes** will cost $90 per pass, with a limit of three passes per library. The pass will provide discounted admission price of $10 per adult for up to two adults, with free admission for their dependent children through age 17.

CEFLS member libraries may each purchase one additional pass immediately for $90 at this this page on the Wild Center’s web site: [www.wildcenter.org/belong](http://www.wildcenter.org/belong). If you have questions or would like to purchase the pass by phone, call Tim Holmes at (518) 359-7800 x 107 or email Tim at [tholmes@wildcenter.org](mailto:tholmes@wildcenter.org).

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**Want More Info? And who doesn’t?**

During our hiatus from the print **Trailblazer** newsletter, we rolled out an experimental email newsletter optimistically called **The Pathfinder**. Our goal with this “e-digest” is share news and information in a timely manner, and to cut down on and focus the number of emails sent by CEFLS to member libraries. Our Annual Member Library Survey indicated a preference for both formats and we are happy to oblige.

In between quarterly Trailblazer issues, we plan to include summer reading updates, upcoming workshop information, new funding opportunities, additional resources for patrons, and more in **The Pathfinder**. If you’re not already on the mailing list, there’s a sign up form available on [www.cefls.org](http://www.cefls.org) along with past issues to browse.

As always, we want to hear your suggestions and comments about useful content and format. Email David Fuller at [dfuller@cefls.org](mailto:dfuller@cefls.org).
Northern Adirondack Library Association Blooms Again

There has been enthusiasm for the reestablishment of NALA as an organization representing all types of libraries in our area, including public, academic, school system and special libraries. Advocacy and networking are just some of the advantages of membership in the group. Membership is open to all librarians, library staff and friends of libraries. We look for new members to help us make this once very active organization alive again. Meetings are a great chance to share in good conversation, meet new colleagues and reconnect with old one!

While many of us cannot attend state and national library conferences, we can have a vibrant local/regional library organization to meet our needs and fulfill some of the needs that the larger organizations do on a greater scale.

NALA has been a positive force for our libraries in the past, presenting programs of local and regional authors, trips to historic/cultural sites of interest, scholarships to library education students and promotion of library awareness programs. We hope to continue this legacy of library awareness and promotion of libraries to our communities.

For more information on upcoming meetings or to be added to the NALA mailing list, please contact Glenda Rowe at rowe@northnet.org.

- Glenda Smith Rowe

Some Great Gardening Books and Resources

Gardening books come in all shapes and sizes, and the advice they give can either be a good fit for our region or not. I've had fun reading some books about how to grow all of your own food in a quarter acre (in California!) and how to attract hedgehogs to your garden (in England!) but the best gardening resources are down to earth and local. They also offer scientifically based advice from experienced growers, rather than unproven home remedies.

Our most well-known local gardening expert is Amy Ivy, who works for the Clinton County Cornell Extension Office. She hasn't written any books, but her podcasts (available at http://goo.gl/FmMBiq) offer very timely advice specific to our region.

Another fairly local expert is Vermont's Charlie Nardozzi, who has a number of books available in our libraries, including New England Month by Month Gardening, Foodscaping, and New England getting started garden guide: grow the best flowers, shrubs, trees, vines & groundcovers.

Our digital magazines available through Flipster include Fine Gardening, a gorgeous and very high quality magazine that always has plant recommendations specific to the Northeast.

One of my favorite websites is waytogarden.com. Margaret Roach, a former Martha Stewart editor, is the creator, and she has an extensive garden in northern Massachusetts. If you like her Facebook page or sign up for her email newsletter, you'll get updates on her podcasts and events. We also have several of her books in the catalog.

A recent classic which comes highly recommended by Cornell Cooperative Extension is How plants work: The Science Behind the Amazing Things Plants Do., by Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott. We have this as an ebook in our Overdrive collection.

- Betsy Brooks, CEFLS (Master Gardener!)

Popular eBooks this Spring

- The Bitter Taste of Victory - Lara Feigel
- Exposure - Helen Dunsmore
- Love Song of Little Bear - Margaret Wise Brown
- Chasing the North Star - Robert Morgan
- Chirp: To the Peak - J. Torres
**Grant Round Up**

**Grant Station**

It's always a good idea to set aside some time to do the research, especially for larger grants. CEFLS maintains a subscription to the **Grantstation database** which helps grantseekers look for opportunities using keywords, geographic terms and other refinements. For more information, contact Julie Wever at jwever@cefls.org

The **Charles R. Wood Foundation** accepts grant applications from IRS approved 501(c)3 organizations whose projects or programs assist children, healthcare or the arts in the Lake George Region and surrounding areas, including libraries in Clinton, Essex, and Franklin counties. Eligible applicants are invited to visit the Foundation website at [www.charleswoodfoundation.com](http://www.charleswoodfoundation.com) to submit an online application by September 1, 2016 for consideration at the fall meeting.

Grant guru **Kara Page** is available for onsite consultant sessions throughout the summer courtesy of the System’s Lake Placid Education Grant. For more information, contact Julie at CEFLS (jwever@cefls.org).

- Julie Wever, CEFLS

**2015-16 Public Library Construction Grant Award Announcements**

We’ve been happy to help the following libraries get some extra cash to allow them to fix up their facilities:

- Belden-Noble Memorial Library $60,179
- Chateaugay Memorial Library $47,867
- Elizabethtown Library Association $17,316
- Goff-Nelson Memorial Library $45,035
- Keene Valley Library Association $98,842
- Keeseville Free Library $18,956
- Plattsburgh Public Library $30,317

**Total** $318,512

These awards are supported by a $14,000,000 capital fund appropriation in the New York State Budget for construction and renovation of public libraries and public library systems. The 2016 State Budget will allocate $19,000,000 for next year’s construction projects.

Questions about construction grants? Contact Julie at CEFLS at jwever@cefls.org or (518) 563-5190 ext. 18.

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**RLRT Says Rural Libraries Are The Best!**

NYLA’s Rural Libraries Round Table is now publishing a weekly newsletter, The Best!, which features the best opportunities, news, and tips for rural libraries in New York, along with interactive polls and competitions. Rural libraries across the state are doing amazing things, and having a forum to share those things is helping to build a community and fight against isolation. Recent issues included features about a rural library that has managed to host big name authors, a library that helps girl scouts get badges through its coding and robotics program, and another that figured out a way to include a maker program without much space or money.

But the RLRT is much more than a newsletter. The group is the voice of rural libraries, finding commonality through dialogue, and making policy recommendations to NYLA council. RLRT president Margo Gustina adds, “The **Rural Libraries Round Table (RLRT)** is a group of library people who work in and/or advocate for rural libraries. We talk through an email list and by phone, sharing ideas and challenges. We have a dynamite newsletter. We have fun meet ups. Sometimes it feels so good to be able to hang out with someone who gets it without you explaining, who knows why you haven't gotten around to the window display or planning your programs a year in advance, and they won't judge you for it. We just try to break through the isolation we all feel sometimes.”

RLRT is looking for new members to join and encourages rural library lovers to consider adding RLRT to their NYLA membership. A members-only meetup will be held on May 23 in Hammondsport. It’s possible to attend this meeting virtually. To learn more and register for the meetup, visit the RLRT page on the NYLA website at [www.nyla.org](http://www.nyla.org).

The Best! is free and open to anyone who loves rural libraries. Go to [www.nyla.org](http://www.nyla.org) and click the “Sections” tab, look for “Round Tables” and select RLRT to view past issues and subscribe. Give it a try!

- shared with us by Eli Guinnee, Executive Director, Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System
Friday, June 10th was the day we held our second annual Literary Luncheon. The attendees were treated to a three-course meal in the Adirondack Room in Plattsburgh, NY and listened to the knowledgeable, personable, and quite amusing Niki Kourofsky as she talked about her work on the book *Adirondack Outlaws: Bad Boys and Lawless Ladies*. We are very thankful for her and for all who were able to join us as we gathered in celebration of all the work that takes place within each library and for each member of our community. We are looking forward to next year’s event and hope you will be able to attend.