Keep Yourself Healthy This Flu Season

On October 29, 2009, Governor David Patterson announced that New York State is in a State of Emergency regarding the H1N1 Swine Flu, due to the rising number of deaths related to the illness. This executive order allows more health care professionals to administer the vaccine with brief training. A total of over 75 deaths in the state can be attributed to the H1N1 Virus.

Recently, many schools have also seen an increase in the number of students, facility and staff that have reported being sick, and some local schools have closed. In the face of continuing lack of access to the flu vaccine, many are wondering how they can stay healthy and help others to do the same. Links to some great information can be found on the CEF web site (www.cefls.org).

Meanwhile, everyone is urged to practice these basic “safe socialization” tips:

✓ Wash your hands frequently with soap & water – or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer when water is not available (Germ-X is one brand)

✓ Disinfect hard surfaces (Lysol Disinfecting Spray or other brand). The virus can live on the surface for eight hours!

✓ Do not share personal items such as drinks, food or unwashed utensils.

✓ Cover your cough and sneezes. Use a tissue, your elbow or your sleeve instead of your hand.

✓ If you are sick – STAY HOME AND AWAY FROM OTHERS when you have influenza-like illnesses symptoms. Stay home for at least 24 hours after you are free of fever, WITHOUT fever reducing medications.


-Kate Williams, Administrative Assistant
Member Library News

From Clinton County

Dodge Memorial Library, Rouses Point

The Rouses Point Dodge Memorial Library has undergone some remodeling. The children's room has been moved to the main area of the library which allows children more space to look for books. This arrangement also gives parents the ability to look for their own reading materials and feel comfortable about where their children are. The former children's area has been converted to a multi-purpose room which has been used during October to house a "Historic Views" display organized by Village Historian Donna Racine, Gloria Ashline and myself. The display commemorates National Archive Month. In the near future, the multi-purpose room will house art displays from local artists and schools.

Beginning in September, the Dodge Memorial Library started providing outreach programs to the local Universal Pre-K classes and daycare providers in Rouses Point and Champlain. Outreach Programs are extended to nine classes and groups in Rouses Point and three classes in Champlain. Alison Mandeville, director of the Champlain Memorial Library, and I have collaborated to provide these services to the three UPK classes in Champlain. Alison has been able to provide a great deal of resources and ideas and I provide the time. This has been a great asset since Alison has the Mother Goose kits and I have the training and knowledge to use the materials. Alison and I have also worked together to issue library cards to the local third graders who visited the Dodge Memorial Library on October 21. Champlain does not have an elementary school, therefore some of the students that attend Rouses Point Elementary live in Champlain. Between the two libraries we issued 23 new cards.

Upcoming events for November include meeting with local artists to bring art to the library), a Stampin' Up workshop for children, monthly Music Appreciation Club with Adrian Carr and Kate Messner on November 25, a monthly Book Club meeting and story time. Events planned for December to date include story time, a monthly Book Club, monthly Music Appreciation Club with Adrian Carr and Colleen Hickey with Lake Champlain Basin. The library will be closed for the holidays on December 24 and 25.

-Donna Boumil, Director
LV Loves Libraries!

Literacy Volunteers of Essex – Franklin Counties and Literacy Volunteers of Clinton County have received funding from Assemblywoman Janet Duprey to serve adult new learners in Mrs. Duprey’s district through community libraries. This collaborative project will put local libraries firmly in the literacy limelight and will provide some great materials. In October, CEF Outreach Coordinator Julie Wever and LV affiliate directors visited several area libraries to introduce the program; we hope to visit all libraries in Mrs. Duprey’s district before snow flies.

Norma Menard, Director of Literacy Volunteers of Clinton County and VISTA Volunteer Art Menard share a book on the steps of the Peru Free Library during a recent visit.

Clinton County continued...

Chazy Public Library

Adrian Carr played a benefit concert for the library on the afternoon of Sunday, November 15. Mr. Carr performed songs from his new album, “Finding Charlotte.” An appreciative crowd attended this virtuoso performance, which also featured an opening act by the After Five Brass.

Recently Dr. George Clark willed his medical office property to the Chazy Public Library to be used as a new library building. The library trustees must decide whether to accept this gift once the will is probated. This property would provide us a fine opportunity to improve our library service. It offers much needed space and handicapped access. The building would continue our central village location and historical tradition. There would be outdoor space for children’s activities and some adult social functions. A meeting room for community functions could be created in the unfinished lower level. Interior renovation would open the main floor for library stacks, computer stations, reading and research areas, maybe room for community project displays (and a work room for the librarian, which might unclutter her messy desk).

Of course, we would need grants and matching funds for renovation, and maintenance costs would increase. We would have to maintain both facilities during the transition phase. This gives us much food for thought. We have been soliciting from our community ideas on how best to capitalize on this opportunity and suggestions about the future use of our present building. We are interested in hearing from people who might be able to make monetary or other contributions such as materials, expertise, and volunteer help in the proposed renovation. So far the response has been mostly positive, and we have received some very helpful comments.

Wish us luck in this exciting endeavor.

-Frances Fairchild, Director
News from Essex County

Schroon Lake Public Library

The library offered a two-part basic computer skills class for seniors on Thursday, October 22. The morning class was for the absolute beginner. Students learned how to turn on a computer on and off, use a mouse and keyboard, and open a program. In the afternoon class, students with mouse and keyboard skills learned about the internet and e-mail. This series was made possible thanks to CEF’s LSTA “E-Seniors” project.

You are invited to stop by the library Tuesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. to check out our “Side-By-Side” literacy-based preschool program. Children ages 2-4 are welcome with their parent or caregiver as they hear stories, engage in play, make crafts, and more!

Soggy weather greeted those who ventured out to our first House and Garden Tour. Six superb gardens were the highlight of the event, which was a great success in spite of heavy rain. This event raised over $800 for the library.

Over 100 people enjoyed the Friend’s Wine and Cheese Tasting in August. An evening of great friends, wine and food was had by all, and over $1,300 was raised to benefit the library.

The Friends’ Wine and Cheese fundraiser was a sold out event!

The Schroon Lake Lion’s Club has donated $1,200 to the library to be used to purchase large print books and books on CD for our sight impaired readers. We have been able to move a few things around to make room for our new additions.

Friends of the Library Bench Raffle winner Lorraine Poole of Paradox Lake displays her prize. Tess Daley had donated a 13 inch wide by 36 inch long, solid oak bench for the Friends. The “Main Street - Schroon Lake” theme was stunning.

- Jane Bouchard, Director

SALS Hosts YA Literature Workshop

The Southern Adirondack Library System will host a workshop by Kathleen Odean on Monday, December 7. A car pool leave CEF headquarters before dawn that morning to make the trek to Saratoga Springs to hear about Young Adult literature from this nationally recognized expert and popular speaker. The workshop begins at 8:15 a.m. and will run through lunch into the early afternoon.

In this lively one-day workshop for school and public librarians, Kathleen Odean will introduce the best recently published books for children in grades six through twelve. She will share practical strategies and tips for promoting and evaluating the best books for teens. There will be opportunities to share ideas and favorite teen titles with each other. We are invited to spend an enjoyable day steeped in young adult literature, the most exciting area of book publishing today.

The workshop fee for non SALS members is $35.00. For registration information and all other details, please contact Jennifer Ferriss at the Southern Adirondack Library System (jferriss@sals.edu). As we go to press, there are two seats left in the Equinox. If you would like to claim them (the seats are not heated, but we’ll stop for coffee!), please contact Julie at CEF ASAP.

December is Safe Toy & Gift Month

Did you know that in any given year, about 3 million toys and games are sold – and 65% of them are purchased for holiday gift giving. Tis the season to be proactive about safe gift giving, especially when toys and children are involved. The Safe Kids USA web site (www.usa.safekids.org) features lots of tips and information that will help with safe shopping.

For more information, check out www.safekids.org and www.cpsc.gov for the latest toy recalls.
Fun and Games @ Your Library

Jane Bouchard from the Schroon Lake Library sent the following report about National Gaming Day @ Your Library. This event was held on Saturday, November 14. Complete information can be found at: http://www.ilovelibraries.org/gaming/.

I think Schroon Lake was the only CEF library that participated last year and we will be participating again this year. We had about 15 people come last year and they were a mix of children and adults. Last year Hasbro donated the game Pictionary to all libraries that participated. This year I think there are three or four games that are going to be donated to the first 1,000 libraries that sign up. Many of the public libraries that participate have Wii consoles and games and somehow through a computer competition against other libraries across the country. I'm not that into it, I just offer board games. The staff and I brought in board games we had at home and we told patrons that they could bring their favorite games if they wanted to. Twister, Scrabble, Apples to Apples and Monopoly were the "hands down" favorite games.

The Fun @ Your Library can continue throughout the month and is dull weather wise. November 22-28 is National Game & Puzzle Week. This is a great time for libraries to use the ALA "Kids! @ your library" campaign tool kit resources that are available on-line. There are free, printer-friendly games and puzzles, with library themes, to share with young patrons at the library and during school visits. Challenge kids with crossword puzzles, hidden picture puzzles, word searches, "mad libs" and more. All are free to download and print from the Kids' Campaign Web site: www.ala.org/kids and click on the "Tool Kit" link.

Participants settled in for friendly competition at the Schroon Lake Library's National Game Day 2008 event.

Essex County continued...

Goff-Nelson Memorial Library, Tupper Lake

This season has been a busy one at the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library. We thought the Labor Day would mark a slowdown in library activities, but it was apparently not to be. We've been involved in a major construction project that includes, but is not limited to, boiler replacement, a new roof, and ADA compliant access to the front of our wonderful library. Of course, the usual hiccups have occurred during this time, but the marvelous staff here has been able to keep things in stride! As Eileen Clar can attest, the noise level was sometimes more than we expected. Eileen was kind enough to conduct a class on basic computing for seniors here last week and she did a wonderful job of transforming a group of anxious seniors into fearless web surfers in spite of the construction taking place. Many class participants have since visited the library and with minimal assistance have begun emailing both Eileen and distant family members. Thank you, Eileen!

Even as the construction dust settles, plans for our long anticipated book release party is under way. The Goff-Nelson Memorial Library is excited to be spearheading re-publication of the definitive book on Tupper Lake history, Mostly Spruce and Hemlock. The book was originally penned in the 1970's by local historian and newspaper editor, Louis Simmons and is the "go to" source for our town's history. The new edition is a paperback priced at $24.95 plus shipping and handling, and contains an index created by another local historian, Carol Poole. We are tentatively planning the book release celebration at the library on Thursday, November 19. Books will be available at the library and other retail outlets.

Our final hurdle for the year appears to be the completion of our automation project. The ladies of the library have done a smashing job of bar coding everything here that's not moving (and some of the patrons who are!) and it seems that shortly the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library will "go live." Our projected date for that event is mid-December and we look forward to that day with a mixture of anticipation and anxiety! Will it work? Will it go smoothly? Stay tuned!

-Linda Auclair, Director
Essex news continued...

Sherman Free Library, Port Henry

Fourteen children participated in "Be A Reading Champ". The children earned prizes for the books that they read. We were very pleased that children read a total of 258 books. Emily Harmon was the top reader and received a $25 gift certificate to Dollar General. Alethea Goralczyk was our second place reader and Lilly Williams was the third place reader. Sue Nephew presented their prizes. Ten children and their parents participated in "Be Creative @ Your Library" during July and August. They especially enjoyed magician Ron Cain's Magical Museum. Children who attended all of the sessions received a book...

In July, afternoon tea at the library was enjoyed by sixteen people. Proceeds from the Tea went toward matching the funds for the new computers.

On Friday, November 6 staff from Decker Flats nursery presented a workshop on making a holiday centerpiece. Participants made a floral design in a small pumpkin and were thrilled with the results.

We received and installed two new computers thanks to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant. This brings our total to seven public access computers. At times they are all busy!

-Jackie Viestenz, Director

LSTA Puts Seniors in the Driver's Seat!

Seniors in libraries throughout the CEF area are engrossed in instructor Eileen Clar's workshops on Internet Basics. These workshops are made possible by Federal LSTA funds for our project called, appropriately enough, E-Seniors in the Drivers' Seat.

Tracey LaBarge has announced her November 28 retirement from CEFLS after 25 years of service. During her time at the System, Tracey was active not only in the Technical Services Department, but in local, regional and statewide committees as well. Congratulations, Tracey!

Carole Osborne has resigned her position as Director of the AuSable Forks. She will be replaced immediately by Susannah Carey. Welcome Susannah! Carole has indicated that she will remain involved in the Library's TABOB (Take a Bite out of Books) team as she pursues new endeavors. Best of luck, Carole!

Nancy Morelli has replaced Patti Perez as director of the Lake Placid Public Library. Welcome, Nancy!

Continuously updated flu information is available on the CEFLS web site at www.cefls.org. Check it out and stay proactive about your health and that of others!
More from Essex County...

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

On October 14, Eileen Clar taught Computer Basics to five enthusiastic students, thanks to CEF’s E-Senior grant. Comments about the program included: “This has been very worthwhile” and even, “This was easier than I expected.” Eileen will be back to teach another three-hour class on Internet and Email Basics. We appreciate this valuable service provided by CEF to our patrons.

Our September and October art exhibit by Dan Christoffel was titled “An Artist and Lincoln.” This striking exhibit of paintings, drawings and prints in various media represented over thirty years of interest “in using the image of Lincoln as a vehicle of expression.”

Jeri Wright will exhibit photography in November and December. The library hosted an artist reception for Jeri on Sunday, November 8.

We are very grateful for a $500 grant from The Glenn and Carol Pearsall Foundation for the purchase of large print books. Our 2009 Annual Fund Drive is currently underway, and our annual sale of Christmas and holiday items will begin on Saturday, November 28 and will continue through Thursday, December 24. Donations of books continue to support the library. Dog Hikes in the Adirondacks: 20 Trails to Enjoy with Your Best Friend is a popular recent addition to our collection.

Our floors were refinised in September and they are beautiful! Crews from Moriah Shock Incarceration Facility did heavy lifting and many others volunteered before and after to get the library back in order. In August, a Moriah Shock crew made short work of staining the river-side exterior of the library. Thanks also to volunteers who assisted with that project.

A Writers’ Collective meets in the library at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Our local Quilters Gathering meets monthly, and we host occasional meetings of the AuSable River Association.

-Karen Rappaport, Director

Photographs by Jeri Wright will be on Exhibit during November and December
More from Essex County...

Westport Library Association

The Westport Library Association is continuing its program called Voices of Westport. On Saturday, October 3, the library hosted a book talk by Sean McMeekin, author of History's Greatest Heist. This book takes a fascinating look at how the Russian Revolution was financed with stolen icons, art and gold and how it was done. McMeekin is currently affiliated with Yale University and Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey. About twenty people attended the lively discussion and a number of people bought copies of his book.

The library is also hosting a series of music programs which will be held on selected evenings at 7:00 p.m. On October 22, the highly acclaimed Jazz Trio, “Spring on Jupiter” kicked off the series with a program of jazz standards and Latin tunes. This talented trio consists of Bill Stokes on guitar and vocal, Karen Rappaport (director of the Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay), bass, and Hans Himelein on saxophone. On Tuesday, November 10, “Duets for Oboe and Clarinet” was played by Janice Kyle and Janine Scherline. On December 17, Rose Chanler will be playing pieces on a keyboard, as well as accompanying Holiday Songs and Carols, to be sung by some Westport Central School students and community members along with the audience. These programs promise to be exciting evenings of fine music at the library, and several other programs are in the planning stages.

The Westport Library, which was built in 1888, is a beautiful place to listen to music. There’ll be a fire in the fireplace and refreshments. These programs are free and open to the public, and made possible, in part, by a CAP Grant from the Arts Council for the Northern Adirondacks.

-Ellen Few Anderson, Board Member, Westport Library Assoc.

No vember

“No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees, No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds, - November!”

By Thomas Hood

Fun with Photos Online

Did you know that you can make your own free mini READ posters for use on your website? There’s a quick and easy online tool that uses a photo you have stored on your computer along with a choice of backgrounds to create one. This would be a fun way to have patrons express their support of the library and reading:

http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/publishing/graphics/READ_Mini_Posters.cfm

The following links are for two photo sharing websites I recommend for making a library photo album:
http://www.flickr.com/
http://picasa.google.com/

Be sure to get permission from people whose pictures you want to post. A short article about how to do this can be found here:

and a sample form can be found here:

Here’s a site that lets you do some quick editing of your pictures. I like the fact that you don’t need to register in any way to use this site, and it has an attractive and easy to use format:
http://www.picnik.com/

There are some special effects available on the site, including some holiday and seasonal ones.

When we recently tried out our new Digital Photography Basics class in Keene Valley, we explored the basics of how to use a digital camera, transfer and edit photos, and share them with Flickr. If you’re interested in trying this or teaching it to your own patrons, we’ve posted the curriculum at the CEFLS website at http://www.cefls.org/ eseniors_4.htm. We plan to do some more of these classes in the Spring.

-Betsy Brooks, Automation Librarian, CEFLS
Christmas Books Round Up

The holiday season has provided many popular and prolific authors with additional scope in which to crank out a title. Check out the seasonal sampling of adult fiction books that we found during a quick browse through the Horizon database. All are owned by CEFLS or member libraries and are of recent vintage.

*The Christmas Sweater* by Glenn Becker  
*Mrs. Jeffries and the Feast of St. Stephen* by Emily Brightwell  
*Santa Clawed* by Rita Mae Brown  
*A Virgin River Christmas* by Robyn Carr  
*Dashing Through the Snow* by Mary Higgins Clark  
*Eve's Christmas* by Janet Dailey  
*Somebody's Santa* by Annie Jones  
*Santa's Angels* by Janet Kaderli  
*A Dog Named Christmas* by Gregory Kincaid  
*Tis the Season* by Lorna Kandvik  
*Small Town Christmas* by Debbie Macomber

Some delectable new non-fiction books are on order. Some titles that we'll be passing around here at CEFLS include:

*Cookie Craft Christmas: Dozens of Decorating Ideas for a Sweet Holiday* by Valerie Peterson  
*A Greener Christmas* by Sheherazade Goldsmith  
*Country Living Merry & Bright: 301 Festive Ideas for Celebrating Christmas*  
*Merry Christmas From... 150 Christmas Cards You Wish You'd Received* by Karen Roberts

Do you have favorite “hot holiday picks” for adults or children that celebrates the holiday season? If so, please post them to the forum at the [ceflibraries.org] website. To do this, you need to be a library staff member and log in to [ceflibraries.org]. Then, look on the right side for the New Forum Topics, click on Christmas Books, and add a comment!

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Essex County news continues....

E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library

Things in Wilmington have quieted some as the kids have gone back to school and the summer residents are making their way south. We had fun with our garden this summer, and the kids worked hard weeding, watering, and harvesting. Our paper marbling class was the biggest hit of all the programs. Our friend Jan will be coming back in December so the kids can marble their own wrapping paper.

Annie is using a paintbrush to splatter additional paint onto the surface. Jan is instructing and Jacob and Payson look on, awaiting their turn.

December will be full of library activities. On Saturday, December 12, the Friends of the Library will host their Annual Cookies by the Pound sale. This is an excellent fundraiser for the Friends who do so much for our library. We are currently selling raffle tickets for some great prizes that were donated by local businesses. Some of the prizes include a beautiful quilted table topper, gift certificates to local restaurants, tickets to High Falls Gorge, and Santa’s Workshop, and admission tickets to the Hollywood Theater with free snacks! Tickets are on sale at the library. The drawing will be held during the cookie sale and winners need not be present to win.

On Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. we will hold a bedtime story hour with friends from Santa’s Workshop. Come in your jammies and listen to a story with some of Santa’s helpers!

- Samantha Baer, Director

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Peru Library Goes Green!

Thanks to a combination of Public Library Construction funds and a grant from NYSERDA (the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) the Peru Free Library is running lean and GREEN! The library’s green initiatives have recently been featured in local print and television media. Library Director Becky Pace says that her new solar panels are now providing the library’s electricity. It is especially cool to note that her computers are actually powered by the sun!

NYSERDA and public library construction funds can be a winning combination for your library. For further details on NYSERDA incentives (and energy audit services), visit the NYSERDA website at [www.nyserda.org](http://www.nyserda.org). Be sure to stop by the Peru Library on a sunny winter day to see the panels in action, examine the meter, and get further details from Becky.
More news from Essex County...

Wadhamns Free Library

We’re settling into Fall at the Wadhamns Free Library. Our summer friends have headed south and west, and now we’re directing the leaf peepers: “Lake Placid that way” or “Essex Ferry that way - don’t worry, you’ll find it.”

The Library has a beautiful new garden thanks to the hard work of our Trustees and volunteers, and a bench to sit on and watch the waterfall. We also have a new crop of little ones for story hour on Thursday mornings, and there’s just about nothing more fun than that.

We participated in the fun and informative “Wadhamns Then and Now” tour this summer. Organized by the Wadhamns Church and the Boquet River Association and part of the Quadricentennial festivities, the two day event included talks by local historians on various facets of the area’s past, music with a historical flavor at the Library by well-known duo Staber and Chasnoff, and tours of local sites, including a display of historic photographs at the Church, Dogwood Bakery, Courtney Fair’s furniture shop, the hydroelectric plant; and the cemetery.

Thanks to all our volunteer workers, bakers, and Dogwood Bakery, we raised funds while having fun at the 21st annual Field, Forest and Stream Day in Elizabethtown.

Our Wednesdays in Wadhamns lecture series got off to a standing-room-only start with David Reuther’s talk, “Everything I Know About Publishing I Learned From My Authors.” On November 18, Mary Brown explained “What’s a Nice Librarian Like Me Doing Pumping Aviation Fuel in Antarctica?” On December 2, writer and farmer Kristin Kimball will tell us about farming, and her book, The Dirty Life. On December 16, C.G. Stephens will tell us about the Northwaters Wilderness Program and “Paddling to James Bay.” On January 13, we’ll get a look “Inside Painting” with Ted Cornell who will talk about what it’s like to paint pictures and why he does it.

-Liz Rapalee, Director

Book Hound: On the Scent of Good New Books

I’m always looking for leads I can use in my collection development—what’s being published, what’s good, and what patrons might want. I’ve found some sites that have been helpful in developing CEF’s book collection. Some of these are for-profit sites (.com) and some are not-for-profit (.org). Keep in mind the differences between the types of sites, and remember that .coms often have features geared to promoting their own commercial interests.

On the Scent cont.

http://www.libraryjournal.com
There is plenty of free information on this site, and you don’t need to subscribe to the journal to get to it. Included is the classic LJ list of “Most borrowed books in U.S. libraries.” The site also features addresses for free newsletters from Library Journal, School Library Journal and Publisher’s Weekly. These all offer information about books, authors, and bestseller lists.

http://www.stopyourkillingme.com
Here’s a great site for mystery lovers. A long list of categories will surely help patrons discover new titles. Pets, historical periods, cozy mysteries, real people mysteries, mysteries about holidays—there are more categories here than you can imagine. Also included are bestseller lists, lists of new books, and reviews.

http://www.bookforum.com
The online version of Bookforum includes free access to much of what’s included in print. Plenty of reviews are given, though the reviewers’ affiliations aren’t included. This site is great for helping us become aware of books we might not run across in other places.

http://www.lioninc.org
This site is especially useful as a readers’ advisory tool. “If you like...then you might enjoy” is a great help when patrons look for new authors who are similar to their favorites. A range of authors is included here, from J.K. Rowling to James Patterson to Nora Roberts. There’s enough here to please just about everyone.

http://www.librarybooklists.org
Here’s a site your reading groups will find useful. It gives lots of resources on how to form a group, how to choose books for your group, booklists by interests, along with a good list of sites offering leads for just about anything a book group needs.

http://www.pbclibrary.org
This website for the Palm Beach County Library offers a list of “nonfiction that reads like fiction.” This is really helpful to reading groups or for librarians leading patrons to some more entertaining non-fiction.

http://www.redroom.com
There’s plenty of information about authors to be found on this creative and informative site. General information, biographies, booklists, videos, the means to “connect” with an author are all useful features.

- Elizabeth Rogers (tracking down the good books at CEF)
Franklin County News

Akwesasne Library

The Akwesasne Library is enjoying playing host to the St. Regis Mohawk School’s “Beginning with Books” program for the 2009–10 school year. Last year the entire school was displaced due to flooding, mold and asbestos problems and moved the program to the library in the spring. There was such a positive response from the parents and children that the principal requested using our site again this year.

The Beginning with Books Program is a literacy hour designed for preschool-aged children and their parents and/or caregivers. During the literacy hour children and parents listen to and discuss a story, sing songs and work on a craft activity together. All parents and/or caregivers with pre-school aged children (birth–4 years old) are invited and encouraged to come and join the fun. Snacks are provided and all children receive a free book for their home library. The program is held every Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. when school is in session.

This summer the front of the Library had some repair work done and new cement stairs installed. The new steps are much safer and guide patrons and visitors directly to the front entrance on the right. The old stairs and railing were removed along with overgrown vegetation. With winter fast approaching we will wait until spring to complete new landscaping.

- Glory Cole, Director

Saranac Lake Free Library

Our very popular Library Lunch Series kicked off at noon on Thursday, November 5, as Mary Brown, retired Clinton Essex Franklin Library System Director, presented “Beakers and Seekers: Behind the Scenes in Antarctica.” Mary described her five month stay in Antarctica working for Raytheon Polar Services. During that time she and two other people ran a small airport in a field camp in a remote area of Antarctica called Simple Dome. Mary answered questions such as what kind of gear is required for such a trip, what’s it like to sleep in tents at 14 degrees below zero, and how many books you can read in five months.

On Thursday, November 19, Don and Nadine McLaughlin presented a program entitled “Goat Packing—Our Passport to the Backcountry.”

The Lunch Series programs, originally called the Brown Bag Lunch Programs, were started in 1985 by then Board Member Jeanne De Mattos. The programs are coordinated by volunteer Caper Tissot. They are presented every other Thursday and continue through the end of April. Everyone is invited to bring a lunch and enjoy beverages and desserts provided by the library’s Refreshments Committee.

The SLFL Board of Trustees recently approved additional evening hours. The library will be open both Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. On Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday hours will be from 10:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. The Adirondack Research Room has extended Tuesday hours and will be open Tuesday evening until 7:00 p.m.

-- Pat Wiley, Library Assistant

Former CEF Director Mary Brown took lunchers behind the scenes in Antarctica on November 5.
Franklin County continued...

Wead Library, Malone

Periodically a patron, usually a student, is heard to say that an instructor wants a source other than the Internet used. Unfortunately the terminology is misleading. Through various library databases (NOVEL, Wilsonweb and Ebsco, for instance), one can utilize about 12,000 periodicals and serials, as well as many ebooks. These are all respected, authoritative sources but they are delivered through the Internet. Since anyone can post anything on the Internet, anyone is wise to examine the source, but to automatically eliminate the Internet can be simply a way of killing the messenger – and missing a perfectly valid message. It was an easy task recently to use the “Newsbank Inforweb” database to locate a requested obituary published in a Florida community recently. The patron was looking for a write-up of an incident which occurred a half century ago but had no established date other than “springtime.” Since the local newspaper which covered the era is neither indexed nor digitized, that patron needed another haystack to look in for her needle.

Three public access computers have recently been upgraded with funds from the Gates Foundation. These units now have 2.5 gigahertz of memory and 1 gigabyte of RAM. All of the public access computers as well as the wi-fi service gain access to the Internet via Time-Warner’s road-runner broadband.

In recent years the formats for library materials have proliferated like rabbits. From the viewpoint of maintaining user interest, that’s fine. However, the types of formats available present several challenges for both librarians and users. Both must know the format desired; it must be available for loan from some source and there should be recognition that some agencies may have policies for whatever reason restricting an item’s use through inter-library loan. Academic libraries are particularly aware of factors like cost, rarity, ease of obtaining replacement copies, possibility of damage and what have you.

During September 5,574 items circulated. The daily average circulation was 223. In September 2008 the figure was 231. There were 184wi-fi users. Four hundred reference questions were recorded. Two hundred twenty-nine audio-visual items were lent last month. The library supplied its patrons with 141 photocopies from books, 62 microfilm print-outs and 1,432 copies of items from the Internet. Susan Wool, our Children’s Librarian, visited FamiliesRUS three times and interacted with twenty individuals.

-extracted from Director David Minnich’s October 19, 2009 report

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Bookmobile Movers and Shakers

These Top Ten “most wanted” books are swirling out the door of the bookmobile:

1. Larsson, Steig - The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo
2. Patterson, James - Alex Cross’s Trial
3. Kennedy, Ted - Last Lion
4. Johansen, Iris - Storm Cycle
5. Stockett, Kathryn - The Help
6. Grisham, John - The Associate
7. Kellerman, Johnathan - True Detective
8. Robards, Karen - Pursuit
9. Cook, Robin - Intervention
10. Archer, Jeffrey - Paths of Glory

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Check this Out!

Here's a fun activity for kids that has the added benefit of promoting reading. Kids can make bookmarks with the National Geographic Kids “Bookmark Factory,” available online at:

http://www.nationalgeographic.com/bookmarkfactory/

Kids can choose graphics and text, then print the result to cut out and use. The sound effects are fun, so be sure and have the volume on!
Did You Know?

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System is governed by a 15 member board, with five members from each county. Each board member is appointed by their County Legislature or Board of Supervisors to serve a five year term. The current Trustees for CEFLS are:

**Clinton County:**
Dr. Nancy Church, Chazy—Secretary
Mr. Chris de Grandpré, Rouses Point—Treasurer
Ms. Cerise Oberman, Morrisonville
Mr. Dean Steria, Plattsburgh
Vacant

**Essex County:**
Dr. Barbara Stowe, Lake Placid—Vice President
Mr. Kip Thompson, Elizabethtown
Ms. Frances Fishie, Schroon Lake
Ms. Jan Eakins, Essex
Ms. Nancy Cooper, Port Henry

**Franklin County:**
Mr. Lynn Dufort, Whippleville—Member at Large
Mr. Neil Surprenant, Paul Smiths
Mr. Richard Kibben, Saranac Lake—President
Ms. Lisa Minnich, Vermontville
Mr. Edward Scharmer, Saranac Lake

The Board of Trustees meets regularly on the 4th Monday from January through November, except in May when they meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Most meetings are held at CEFLS located at 33 Oak Street in Plattsburgh. For the most up to date meeting dates and locations, please log onto http://www.cefls.org/aboutsystem.htm#Board or call (518) 563-5190, ext 10.

More from Franklin County...

**Chateaugay Memorial Library**

At the Chateaugay Memorial Library we are celebrating our first year anniversary in our new building. As we reflect back on our first year, we realize how much hope, work, and planning went into this project. It goes without saying that without the encouragement and generosity of Burke, Chrumbusco and Chateaugay residents that it might not have happened.

The library is very busy; stop by and you will see a beehive of activity. Use of the meeting room is starting to catch on and we know that as we grow many more community events will take place there. We can boast that we have more than 175 new patrons which is evident in the amount of books and periodicals that are in circulation. The new computer area is always busy. We are pleased to provide for the need of this service in our community.

We are also housing the Town and Village Historical Society. The Historians provide residents with historical data and information. Currently on exhibit at the library is a display that looks at the Chateaugay Chasm. There are many old photographs, some local stories and historical articles for patrons to view about this wonderful natural monument.

Programs and activities for all ages are on tap for November. Our bi-annual book sale was held on Saturday, November 7. Many people just love to go to the book sales and, true to trend, stocked up for our north country winter. On Monday, November 9 and Tuesday, November 10, the CEFL Library System hosted a free course on basic computer and Internet skills for senior citizens. We are pleased to host some popular local area storytellers, thanks to a grant from the North Country Cultural Center for the Arts. On Friday, November 20 at 6:30 p.m., Caroline O’Connor will entertain us with stories through song. On Saturday, December 5 at 6:00 p.m., Dave Padden will share stories of his local Native American Heritage. Both programs are sure to be fun and interesting for all ages.

The library board and staff would like to thank everyone for their continued support and we look forward to serving our community’s needs in the future.

-Melissa Erhardt, Director