

Cortland Free Library News

Winter 2008-2009

32 Church St.

Cortland, New York 13045

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www.flls.org/cortlandlib



From the Director - Books, Books, Books!

I am pleased that we are able to once again offer a printed newsletter as well as an electronic one available on our web site (www.flls.org/cortlandlib)

In the five years since becoming director of the Cortland Free Library we have tried to offer books to our patrons in a variety of new ways.

Along with displaying new books (both fiction and non-fiction) on tables near the front door, we also have changing book displays which target specific genres—such as westerns or mysteries, people—such as recently deceased authors, and topics—such as summer vacations and elections. “New” books are reserved exclusively for Cortland Free Library patrons for four months and then can be borrowed by patrons from other libraries.

We hold several used book sales throughout the year and sell books from a bookcase in our lobby and a used book sale room in our basement. Donations of books are much appreciated but we request that folks only donate books that are in good shape. Those that are dirty, torn, moldy or defaced cannot be sold.

We provide books for pleasure and for learning—for all reasons. Enjoy!

Kay Zaharis

Health Information

There are many ways to obtain health information (doctor, pharmacist, books, TV, websites, books, and friends) but some ways are definitely better than others! Starting in February 2009 we will be offering a group training session on accessing reliable health information using our health databases, reference books and the Internet. We will also start to offer one-on-one confidential training in how to access health information online. Pre-registration for training sessions is required. Dates and times will be announced in January.

Health Survey

To help us better serve your health information needs, please fill out a survey that is available in printed form on the new book table or you can link to the survey from www.flls.org/cortlandlib.

New Roof!

A new roof was installed in November. This is the first stage in the Board of Trustee's building plan which will eventually include an elevator and the demolition of the front ramp to make way for a new staircase. The roof was partially funded with money from the New York State Construction Grant Fund which provides for up to 50% of approved costs of acquisition, construction, renovation, or rehabilitation of public libraries.

Youth Services News

In September, we began the school year with a new Afterschool Program every Thursday from 3:30—4:15 pm for K-6 grades. Starting in January, the new time for the Afterschool Program is 3:45-4:30 p.m. Our preschool storytime continues every Thursday morning from 10:30—11:00 am.

Our Youth Book Club meets monthly. Past activities have included making books and carving pumpkins. Our Teen Nights have seen our teens playing games and playing Guitar Hero and Dance Dance Revolution.

Special programs in Youth Services this fall have included skatepark instructors, Lora Hine from CLASSE at Cornell doing light and bubble experiments, Susan Prier from Cornell Cooperative Extension talking about fun and healthy eating, and author Suzanne Bloom, with the support of the Family Reading Partnership, visiting the library to read and sign books.

You will notice many changes in the Youth Services room in the coming months. Materials and collections will be rearranged and displayed differently. Let us know what you think. For information about upcoming programs in Youth Services, look for flyers in the library, the YS page on our website, or our monthly listing of events in the Cortland Standard.

Adult Book Discussion Group

Our adult book discussion group, lead by Assistant Director Jan Dempsey, started in September 2007. We discuss both fiction and non-fiction books and are always open to new attendees. We generally meet the third Wednesday of each month from 6:30—7:30 p.m.

Upcoming book picks:

January 21: "Skeletons at the Feast" - Chris Bohjalian

February 18: "Eat, Pray, Love" - Elizabeth Gilbert

March 18: TBA

Art Gallery Exhibits

Jan. 2009-*Picturing America*

Feb. 2009—Chad Hovey

March 2009—David Beale & John Downey

Picturing America is a collection of prints donated to the library through a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts.

Who's Who @ the Library

Kay Zaharis—Director

Jan Dempsey—Assistant Director

Angela Sorensen—Librarian

Kimberly Hayden—Librarian

Betsy Meldrim—Librarian

Sandi Baden—Youth Services

Aimee Dorward—Tech. Services

Dianne Robinson—Adult Services

Libby Spaulding—Adult Services

Tasha Beers—Adult & YS

Alice Conway—Bookkeeper

Mary Lou Fritz—Office

New computers!

As you may have noticed, in October we added several new computers as part of a Gates Foundation matching grant. We presently have 5 public computers in the adult area and 4 in Youth Services. We also have several laptops available for training.

For more news, events & book reviews go to www.flls.org/cortlandlib and click on our blog "Off the Shelf"