

# FLLS NEWS

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SUMMER 2006

## “Sustaining Public Access Computing in Your Library”

Some of you have already signed up for the all-day workshop FLLS is hosting on August 24<sup>th</sup> in TCPL's Borg Warner Room - “Sustaining Public Access Computing in Your Library”. But for those who have yet to register, I thought a little background information on the project, as well as how it can help your library, would encourage you.

First, here is some information from the project coordinators for New York State:

“The Rural Library Sustainability Project is funded through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The project is a collaboration between WebJunction, state libraries, and Rural and Small Library staff. The goal of the project is to support rural and small librarians in developing and implementing community-specific action plans for sustaining public access computing in their libraries.

In answer to the special challenges faced by rural and small libraries in sustaining their public access computers (PAC), the Rural Library Sustainability Project is intended to support small and rural libraries and librarians in implementing community-specific action plans for addressing these challenges.

In order to accomplish these goals, the NYS trainers will conduct workshops for local libraries focused on seven conditions of sustainability, as identified by Gates Foundation research:

Library Connections:

discovering ways to stay connected to others.

Technology Connections:

in-house and outside technical support.

Upgrade and Maintenance:

hardware and software inventory, maintenance, & upgrade.

Staff and Patron Training:

staff training & training resources, patron training.

Funding:

grants, gifts/donations, fundraisers, other sources.

Outreach:

needs assessment, promotion, community partners.

Advocacy:

assembling data on impact, identifying/working with community leaders. (continued on page 2)

### *In Memoriam*

We are sorry to report that Sharon Housworth, Administrative Assistant for FLLS, passed away on June 29, 2006, after a lengthy illness.

Sharon was an exceptional member of our staff; always with a smile and a kind word. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her.



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Each workshop will be tailored to the specific needs of the participating libraries, therefore not all workshops will focus on all seven conditions. Instead, those conditions which participants identify as most important or challenging to them will be the focus of the workshops."

When I spoke with the trainers for our workshop, we discussed what plans some of the libraries, in the workshops they had already done, came up with. An example is that one library wanted to focus on getting grandparents to use the library to e-mail their grandchildren. Starting with this goal and working backwards, they included: updating their restroom facilities, training staff so they could teach how to use e-mail on the Internet, getting updated computers, and making sure they were accessible. So, creating a project, and a plan to implement that project, involves much more than computers, hardware and software.

This workshop is not tied to past Gates Foundation grants; it has a completely separate agenda. The trainers feel it will be a benefit as a planning tool for your library. While it may begin with public access computing, it also works at showing a continuum and touches upon funding, outreach, and advocacy.

After speaking with the trainers, I feel that this workshop would be beneficial to all libraries. **If learning useful information and a great lunch aren't enough incentive, each participant will also be eligible to win the cost of half of their expenses paid to NYLA (November 1-4) in Saratoga Springs.** This includes half of your registration fee, half of your hotel room and \$100 towards meal expenses!

I strongly encourage you to register if you have not already. Member library directors, staff and trustees are welcome to attend.

You can register on-line for this workshop at:

[http://host.evanced.info/nys\\_rls/evanced/eventcalendar.asp](http://host.evanced.info/nys_rls/evanced/eventcalendar.asp)

After you have registered, you will get a confirmation e-mail which contains a link to a pre-workshop questionnaire that you will need to complete.

If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact me: [marisa@flls.org](mailto:marisa@flls.org); 607-273-4074, ext. 26.



Annette Birdsall,  
Youth Services  
Consultant

## Imagine... growing a new generation of readers

Are you committed to developing a love of reading among children from birth to school age? Finger Lakes Library System is sponsoring an early literacy workshop on October 17, 2006 in the Borg Warner Room of Tompkins County Public Library. To sign up, go to <http://earlyliteracy.sals.edu>

Registration is limited to 50 people; after August 1, I will open the registration to our community partners in literacy so sign-up now!



Story times alone aren't enough to prepare young children to become readers. Parents and caregivers need to practice pre-literacy skills at home with their children.

Learn how to present programs that educate and mentor parents and caregivers during *Growing a Reader: It's Never Too Early* workshops presented by Public Library Association Trainer Sue McCleaf Nespeca. During the workshops, you will learn and practice the six pre-literacy skills that, from birth, are critical for a child's reading success and get a continuing education certificate for six contact hours.

When you help parents get the skills they need to help their children come to school prepared to learn to read, you position your library as a valuable community resource.

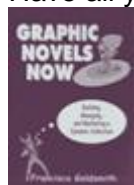
National research shows that parents who learn about pre-literacy skills will practice them with their children. And, regardless of socioeconomic background, their children will have success when they enter school.

These workshops are made possible, in part, by Federal Library Services and Technology Act funds awarded to the New York State Library by the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Southern Adirondack Library System.

Hope to see you there,  
Annette

**Why graphic novels now?** : modern readers, modern libraries -- **What is the right word for a book that looks like this?** : definitions -- **What is good?** : finding reviews and developing collections -  
- **How can I deal with Pigeons from hell?** : maintaining graphic novel collections -- **Can readers find your library's graphic novels?** : classification and descriptive cataloging -- **How does the collection find new readers?** : marketing and promotion -- **How can you put legs on your graphic novels?** : creating programs to get the collection up and walking -- The politics of graphic novels.

Have all your questions on graphic novels in your library answered by Francisca Goldsmith, author of Graphic Novels Now Building, Managing and Marketing a Dynamic Collection, at our September 28, 2006 System Meeting, 9:00am -12N. Participants will receive a copy of her book (one per member library). The workshop is generously funded by the Friends of Tompkins County Public Library. Registration is required; email [annette@flls.org](mailto:annette@flls.org) or phone 607/273-4074 x. 27.



## Shouldn't all children in your community be ready to read when they enter school?



Growing a Reader—It's Never Too Early  
Early Literacy Workshops from your Public Library System  
Registration & Information: <http://earlyliteracy.sals.edu>

### Your library can make a difference.

Learn how to teach parents and caregivers the six pre-literacy skills that, from birth, are critical for a child's reading success.

National research shows that parents who learn about pre-literacy skills will practice them with their children. And, regardless of socioeconomic background, their children will have success when they enter school.

These workshops are made possible, in part, by Federal Library Services and Technology Act funds awarded to the New York State Library by the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Southern Adirondack Library System.

The Finger Lakes Library System sponsored workshop will be October 17, 1006 in the Borg Warner Room of Tompkins County Public Library.  
Register at: <http://earlyliteracy.sals.edu>

# Technology

...is a queer thing. It brings you great gifts with one hand, and it stabs you in the back with the other (C.P. Snow, *New York Times*, 15 March 1971).

**Don't let yourself get stabbed in the back  
by technology!**



The **Rural Library Sustainability Project**, funded by the Gates Foundation, is offering a workshop that allow librarians to develop community-specific action plans to sustain and upgrade their public access computing (PAC).

The workshop for Finger Lakes Library System & Four County Library System member libraries will be on August 24, 2006.

Please see workshop information below.

## **Workshop Information:**

Date: **August 24, 2006**  
Time: **9:30 am-3:30 pm**  
Location: **Borg Warner Room, Tompkins Public Library**  
Contact: **Marisa Iacobucci, [marisa@flls.org](mailto:marisa@flls.org) ,  
ph :607-273-4074, ext. 26**

For more information & to Register :

**Go to** [http://host.evanced.info/nys\\_rls/index.html](http://host.evanced.info/nys_rls/index.html)

## WHY DO WE WEED?

- ⇒ It is a disservice to the public to keep books that contain inaccurate or dated information.
- ⇒ No library is large enough to keep everything, so it is important to keep the best, which means the second best must go to make room for the best of what's newly published.
- ⇒ It makes it easier for people to find what they want. As a wise librarian from Northampton, MA, said in 1901, "An unused book is not even good. The library should be a practical thing to be used, not an ideal to be admired." If you can't find it among the weeds, you will not use it.
- ⇒ The way books look is important. Nobody wants to handle or read a dusty, shabby, faded book, so worn out books need to be removed.
- ⇒ It makes good economic sense. Every item costs its town time and space to store, so what is kept should be the best and the most used.

## HOW DO WE WEED?

Professional staff members go through each section "pulling the weeds." If nobody has borrowed a book for three years or more it is generally removed altogether except for classics.

If it is shabby but still being read, it is being repaired or re-covered, and if it is beyond repair, a newer copy is being ordered. If a book not only looks shabby but contains outdated information, it is being replaced with a more up-to-date edition or a newer title.

*Word by Word, Wethersfield (CT) Public Library, January 2006*



**The arrival of Polaris is boldly announced!**

## Cortland Free Library's 1st day on Polaris!



**The Cortland staff, with Jan's help,  
make the first day go smoothly.**

## MEMBER NEWS:

### Apalachin Reading Center

The Apalachin Library has been in the process of getting a new storage shed. We had an old carriage house on our property which was getting quite dilapidated. This spring it has been taken down and preparations for the new building are being made. Along with our new garden, our property is looking better and better.

We are also in the process of updating our children's room. So far it has had a coat of paint and we've purchased curtains, a rocker and some pictures for the walls. The shelves are being weeded and new books and toys will be purchased. This should be a great improvement -just in time for all our summer visitors.

Besides our summer reading program summer is always the time for our annual book sale. We are always grateful to our community for all their support. We also thank our board who all pitch in and make the book sale a great success.

### Seymour Library District, Auburn

The Children's Room at Seymour Library will be busy in July, beginning with our summer reading kick-off party with Aaron Isaacs and Abner Doubleday on July 6. We're offering Storytime Tuesday mornings and American Girl Club Tuesday afternoons. Crafts are Wednesday mornings. (We found a lot of fun projects in *The Usborne Book of Art Ideas*.) One of our bilingual patrons has offered to lead a "Fun with Spanish" class on Wednesday afternoons. It will use a Storytime format, with stories, songs and activities that incorporate easy Spanish language activities. Our performance series on Thursday mornings will feature magician David Moreland, the juggling duo Airplay and musician Tom Sieling. (We got a lot of good ideas at the performers' showcase this spring!) Our August schedule is still a work-in-progress, but we're hoping to do a Storygami series of programs (another idea from the performers' showcase) and another American Girl Club session.

New to our adult programming is a nonfiction book group. So far we've read *Sand County Almanac*, by Aldo Leopold and *Team of Rivals*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin. *The Tipping Point*, by Malcolm Gladwell is our next selection. Our two fiction book clubs are still going strong!

### Berkshire Library

The Berkshire Free Library has completed a very successful series of computer training classes for the community. The sessions were begun in December and were completed in May, 2006. Many topics, from the Basics for people without computer experience, to more advanced topics, such as Excel, Word and use of the Internet were presented. Students were also taught how to access the Polaris PowerPAC, to order books and materials from home. Once a month, a Saturday class was held. The computer lab was borrowed from FLLS for one of these sessions, for a class in using PowerPoint.

The Instructor was Georgianna Horvath, from LiteracyVolunteers of Broome/Tioga Counties Inc. and was paid for by a grant from the Tioga County Senior Citizens Foundation and the Mildred Faulkner Truman Foundation. Approximately 44 people participated, with some people taking more than one class. More than half of those attending were Senior Citizens. All students were very enthusiastic and reported that they enjoyed themselves.

The Library also held a very successful book and plant sale. We had completed a weeding of the Adult Fiction collection, which led to an abundance of books when combined with donations! Perennial bedding plants were donated by some of the Trustees and these were very popular, as well.

### Lang Memorial Library, Cato

The Lang Memorial Library is happy to welcome Pam Bort as our new Children's Librarian. Before moving to Cato, Pam operated her own daycare facility, was a DJ, a Nanny, and Law Enforcement Specialist with the US Air Force. Now, in her spare time, Pam is busy on her alpaca farm and assisting with community events.

The board has been busy developing a conflict of interest policy and planning a celebration for the library's 80<sup>th</sup> year birthday this fall. Cindy Krause, board secretary, is typing new policy manuals for each of the board members.

Road construction through Cato and Meridian continues to frustrate library users. Instead of listening to tales of blizzards as in the winter, this summer patrons compare stories of "I waited in traffic so long that...." Phone calls asking if the driveway is open well out number the inquiries about library hours. All-in-all, the community members maintain a positive attitude and despite the obstructions, Pam's plans for summertime activities will certainly make a trip to the library worth the effort.

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**Cortland**

The writing of this article occurs in the midst of the Cortland Free Library's automation process while staff and volunteers are working diligently to make sure materials are bar-coded and cataloged, and the staff attends training sessions in anticipation of the moment we "go live." The library will be fully automated by the release of this article in July. Hopefully, it will serve as a reminder that teamwork and cooperation really are the key to successfully meeting even the biggest goal.

In more current news, The Cortland Free Library's hours have changed slightly for the summer months of July and August. Both the Adult and Children Services will have the same hours: Monday and Thursday 9:30 am to 8 pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm and Saturday 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. As usual the library is closed on Sundays.

Book displays for the public continue to change. Over the past few months we have featured Poet Laureates; San Francisco/1906/Earthquakes; May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month; Weddings/ Showers/Etiquette; Zonta Club; Poison; and during Dairy Month, many books on farms, tractors, cows, and plantings. Look for the current book displays in the *Cortland Standard's* weekly "On The Horizon" section.

Children Services is in the middle of Summer Reading Program 2006, and patrons are enjoying the special programs on Wednesdays. Please call the library for the times because the entertainment is scheduled for a different time each week.

We're busier than ever reminding children of the joys of reading and serving the public. This is facilitated by the addition of one PAC terminal in Children Services and 2 PAC terminals in Adult Services. Patrons are also enjoying the three new Internet computers as well.

The staff continues to look ahead to the future as they adapt to the many changes the library is undergoing.

**Southworth Library Association, Dryden**

Ahoy! Look to the flagpole as you sail through Dryden and pity us landlubber librarians for the Jolly Roger flies at our port. The Southworth Library is looking forward to a great summer! Kids will measure, weigh, and count their books to earn their treasure. On Wednesday afternoons we will have crafts for school age children and on Tuesday evenings there will be Family Fun Nights with performers and local

presenters. Summer reading ends with a "Redwall Ruckus" for all those who love the Redwall series or want to celebrate achieving their reading goals for the summer.

The Southworth Library has continued on the path of change. The staff has recently redesigned the children's room and has worked diligently at evaluating the children's collection and doing extra cataloging and processing as needed.

The Southworth Library would like to congratulate our staff member, Katherine Ard, for graduating at the top of her class, and wish her well as she goes on to Cornell University. Mary Wilson has been added to our staff and we look forward to serving the Dryden community with her.

**Phillips Free Library**

The Library has recently changed its hours of operation after conducting a patron survey to determine community preferences. Previously, the library closed for an hour between the afternoon and evening shifts. Now the library is open straight through, and closes an hour earlier. Our new hours are:  
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday 10:00 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
 Friday 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
 Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Collaborating with our local schools has been a priority this year. On April 1, Director Lois Papp participated in a literacy program at the elementary school, showing parents how to use the online catalog to locate materials.

This May, for the first time in nine years, the library had a proposition on the Homer Central School budget for increased funding. The proposition passed, and our funding increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

On June 6, Director Lois Papp joined with the library directors from Cortland, Marathon, and McGraw and the Cortland City School librarians to march in the annual Dairy Parade. It was lots of fun and well attended.

**Interlaken Public Library**

Summer is coming fast. Wendy Barrows is working on a teen program for the summer, using the theme of "Books a Treasure." We plan to have one story time a week for the Pre K and Kindergarten summer-school kids. Mrs. Carroll and her puppets will do the stories.

We have received a donation of DVD's appropriate for children to view.

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Due to wet weather this spring, our book sale will be scheduled sometime in the summer.

Staff have begun weeding to make room for new materials.

**Tompkins County Public Library, Ithaca**

Assistant Director Susan Frey resigned effective June 9. She is moving to a new job in Pennsylvania. We will miss her and hope to find someone as lively and cheerful in her place.

Our summer reading program happens both in the library and at many different sites in Tompkins County. Now we are expanding it to include teens! Teens who read at least two books and report on them are eligible to win a free MP3 player!

We are also gearing up to promote reading with adults through our collaborative community read with Cornell University. 1,500 copies of *The Great Gatsby* will be distributed throughout the county, with *Gatsby* events scheduled for September and October.

The library's Long Range Planning Committee is proposing to rewrite the library's mission statement as well as create a vision statement. An updated Strategic Plan is also underway.

**Lamont Memorial Library, McGraw**

This year marks the Lamont Library's 100<sup>th</sup> year of service to the McGraw Community and surrounding areas. In celebration of this milestone, we are holding a Community Picnic at the McGraw Recreation Park on Clinton Street on July 8, noon – 4 pm. The Lions Club, Firemen, and local churches are working together to offer a complete Chicken Barbecue dinner for a very reasonable price or anyone is welcome to bring their own picnic lunch. All are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and enjoy music provided by local band, "Bounty," which will perform music from the 50's & 60's, Rock and Country. Local Storyteller, Beth MacRae will share a 100 year old story during the band's intermission. Local teens and athletic directors have organized old-time games for the young at heart. For a little extra fun, a dunking booth will be in operation. The Local History Group will have a display in the Community Center adjacent to the park. If you are free, come join us!

In addition to the anniversary picnic, the library's 2006 Summer Reading Program, which runs from July 5 – August 4, includes the following special programs on Friday mornings.

In September, the library will close its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Music Series on Friday, September 29, 7-9 pm at the library with an evening of listening to the Adirondacks... Scott B. Adams of Ovid, NY captures landscapes and snippets of history from the Adirondacks, Finger Lakes, and NY State.

All of our special programs are made possible in part through funds received from NYS Council on the Arts Decentralization Grant Program administered regionally by the cultural Resources Council of Syracuse and Onondaga County.

**Powers Library, Moravia**

Spring cleaning at Powers Library got a big boost when FLLS' Carol Hendrix sent the word that Ithaca College was giving away surplus periodical storage units – with free delivery! We jumped at the chance to upgrade the storage of our historical newspaper collection with these attractive shelving units. We are grateful to local teenager Trevor Davis, of Moravia, who gave up his Friday afternoon to help with the hard work of dismantling the new units and reassembling them in the library's basement. A big 'Thank You' goes also to Gail Wagner of Ithaca College Purchasing Department for coordinating delivery of these beautiful periodical units to Powers Library. Now our historic newspapers are safely and sturdily housed in their "new" cabinets, the color of which also matches our walls! Three cheers for FLLS and IC!

Our Community Room was the scene for literacy in action the month of June, as we hosted three sessions of tutor training for the Literacy Volunteers of Cayuga County who are preparing to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) to local immigrants. This is important work and we are happy to support the ESL instructors by providing a convenient location for them to meet and learn together. The library has also provided space for the proctoring of community college exams, when it is more convenient for local students to take their exams right here in the village. Then, with regular visits by a knitting group, scouts groups, garden club, and local TOPS chapter, we here at Powers Library need a revolving door!

As the school year comes to a close, it has been traditional for local elementary students to make class visits to Powers Library. Neighbors up and down Main Street looking out of their windows have seen group after group of little scholars walking hand-in-hand, in all kinds of weather, happily following Teacher down the sidewalk and around the corner to the public library. This is an especially rewarding time for the librarian, to see the eagerness and thrill in all those young faces as they are introduced to the world of possibilities awaiting them at the library. This is also the time, just before

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Summer Reading begins, to invite the youngsters to sign up for their very own library card!

As we gear up for Summer Reading 2006, it is fun to think that kids across the state are simultaneously "digging" *Books: A Treasure!* in each town, large and small. Pirates, knights, and dragons aren't just for Halloween anymore! May you all have smooth sailing and a hearty good time reading this summer!

**Newfield Library**

Time to turn on the air conditioner, get ready for story time, and dive into summer programs. Library Assistant, Helen Chaffee, will be directing summer reading programs this year at the Newfield Library. She is concentrating on pirates as part of Books: A Treasure. Helen made a great display at the Newfield Elementary School, has a large sign hanging in the library, and more plans to decorate.

We will be having weekly story times for the little ones, and several other special activities for 10-12 year olds. Trustee Jean Gerow has started a book club for that age group. They are calling themselves "The Traveling Bookies" and will explore the cultures, events, and foods from the books they read.

On Saturday, July 15, Beauty and The Beast Story Tellers will be performing at the Newfield Fire Hall thanks to our grant from the Tompkins County Arts Council. Thursday evening July 20 we will be having a scrap booking class for children ages 10 and up.

To wrap things up, our family picnic will be held on Tuesday, August 8 with magician Ron Cain providing the entertainment.

**Tappan Spaulding Memorial Library, Newark Valley**

Our summer reading program will start July 7<sup>th</sup> and run until Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>. We will be following the state theme and having a different treasure each week. Program days will be Fridays from 1-2pm with the children keeping track of how much time they spend reading each day.

We started a major clean-up job in the library a couple of months ago. We have cleaned out and thrown out things that have been around for too many years. I now have lots of shelf space to put things that have been in my way for far too long. I still don't have an office but I can use my desk again! We also had a survey done of the building and local residents are in the process of putting the building on the historical registry. There is a lot of work to be done

on the building to restore it, but thankfully, not as much as people thought.

We still working on the inventory of the books. If anyone has a problem getting a book from us or dates due are not right, please let me know. I now have two assistants who are helping with the project so maybe it will go faster. My Assistants are: Justine Lewis, a senior in high school who will be going to TC3 this fall. She is also going to try out the cleaning job here as our cleaning lady recently moved to Tennessee. Marguerite Flynn is retired from our local Headstart where she was the director. She knows a great deal about primary education and I hope to get her help for future children's programming.

I hope everyone has a great summer and a successful summer reading program.

**Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, Ovid**

This summer the Library is planning a talk by Gary Xavier, local author and lecturer, about his years growing up in Ovid and his work as a technical and mechanical writer and lecturer. Gary is well known around here for his Sunday column in the Finger Lakes Times newspaper. His column is witty and full of memories of Ovid and his many travels on the lecture circuit. We hope to have a good turnout. More details to come when we can set a date and time.

Summer Reading preparation is going strong. We have a beautiful treasure chest made by Tim Eller, husband of Board of Trustee member Sally Eller. The chest is full of jewels and gold coins. Our pirate flags are up and our pirate books are cataloged and out on display. The circulation desk touts a poster of a very surly pirate drawn by our own Duke Gerlach, husband of Board Member Barb Gerlach. Simeon, Sally, and I all have our pirate bandanas and eye patches, and Jackson, our R.E.A.D. Therapy dog has his bandana. We are all ready for our first day, July 5 at South Seneca School, where we hold Summer Reading, in conjunction with Summer Rec. Have a good summer.

**Coburn Free Library, Owego**

The Coburn Free Library in Owego has had a very busy Spring! We've inaugurated a biweekly flash fiction writer's group and a monthly astronomy club, both meeting on Tuesday evenings and both very successful. Our summer reading club will commence on June 26, with prizes secreted in a pirate trunk in keeping with this year's theme. We're also planning a full schedule of children's activities on Wednesday mornings between June 28 and July 26 (with funding graciously provided by the Town of Owego, and lots of

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hard work by our Friends). On the last day of our summer program, children will learn how to make their own pirate trunks, maps, and accessories after Library Director and Pirate Captain Karen Bernardo reads Melinda Long's *How I Became a Pirate*.

And Fall is shaping up to be "eventful" as well! On September 23rd, we'll host a Civil War performance by Eileen Patch, author of *This From George: The Civil War Letters of Sergeant George Magusta Englis*. She will be accompanied by dulcimer player Curt Osgood and fiddler Hope Grietzer, who will perform music from the Civil War era. The next few months promise to be exciting, and we can hardly wait!

### Port Byron Library

Here's a funny thing that happened to us while planning our summer activities. We received a phone call from the Red Cross who offered to put on some free story hours for our patrons. We were thrilled until we found out that they were calling from out-of-state. They thought they'd contacted Port Byron, Illinois! It wasn't until the second call, days later, that they realized their error. Not to be outdone, we then contacted our local Red Cross chapter and indeed, we will have a series of "safe kids" programs free of charge for several Tuesday afternoons this summer. In addition, there will be one very special day for a \$40 babysitting class.

Later, we called up Port Byron, IL on the Net and found a couple of pictures. Unbelievably, they look just like our town here in New York State!

We are working this summer on the application for our Absolute Charter from NY State. A lot of facts and figures have to be gathered; our board president is working behind the-scenes on this!

As we lost our long time staff person, Jennifer Gray, in April, we've hired another person to cover 10 of her hours: Anna Chappell. She was formerly the vice president of the board. Somehow, we've managed to name a new vice president and find a new board member, too. It helps to have community connections!

We're very thankful that our budget passed again this year. We were a little worried because we'd asked for an increase last year, too. Our level of support is still not equal to that of others, but we're a young library and we intend to grow!

We have a small but active Friends of the Library group who have now pulled off another successful campaign. They had a "bakeless bakesale" by mailing out a poem to many of our residents asking for money instead of baked goods. They were able to raise over \$900 and

even had a drawing for a prize, too. Naturally, it was a basket of baking supplies.

We plan to have our regular summer reading program for one week in August because that worked out well last year. Maybe the students will be able to hear their voices on radio again, providing we feature the same guest speakers!

One more thing we're doing this summer: we'll have a book sale at the Cayuga County Fair from July 6th thru the 9th. This is the first time we've tried this venue; we'll let you know if it works!

### Ulysses Philomathic Library, Trumansburg

The library's 2006 Speaker Series: *The Wonderful World of Food Again: Feasts, Fancies and More*, has been very successful. Scheduled for the summer are: July 20, Edward Ormondroyd presents *Malt Does More... Making Beer at Home*; August 17, *The Recipe Guru*, Mary Dawn Wright. All events are held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the library's Melvin Community Room. Come join us!

In May, our Annual Wine & Food Tasting fundraiser was a huge success, due to the efforts of many people. As was the Book Sale, June 8 – June 11.

A fun filled summer @ TRU is planned. On Thursday, June 29, the Merry Mischief Musician's *Piratical Treasures & Trinkets* kicked off the Books: A Treasure! summer reading program. In July and August, families will explore the world through microscopes and magnifiers, create their own treasure maps, listen to dragon adventures and create a dragon, learn what treasures lurk beneath the earth with the Paleontological Research Institution, and learn how scientists use classification to help them organize their studies. Robert Peters, puppeteer, will present the *Just So Stories* on July 12.

### Springport Free Library, Union Springs

The grounds of the library were mulched and flowers were planted. Our volunteers planted a new hybrid sunflower that is supposed to grow 15 feet high. A whole package was planted, and we are waiting to see what happens!

We have just finished a four- week long story hour planned around the National Endowment for the Humanities book grant. We used the grant "On becoming an American" theme for some nice story

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and craft hours.

Several libraries have probably received the Brownstone Foundation book grant. Out of the clear blue, I was approached and asked if we would like to participate and receive 100 children's books. Yes, we would, and we are excited about the new influx of children's books. When I pursued the origins of the grant, I was told a nice old lady, who loved libraries, was doing it. Blessings on her!

We continue to work hard on our handicapped accessibility, building project. Round the clock work crews of staff and teen volunteers are working behind the construction crew to keep the library clean. The cement dust seems to be in everything. It looks as though the entire collection will need to be dusted. (I have not yet told this to my volunteers, until after we buy a few pizzas!) We're also having problems relocating the adult video collection and our printer. Eventually we will get the space issues resolved, and hopefully peace will descend.

Then that peace, which will probably last just a few days, will be filled with the hustle and bustle of the children's summer reading program and several planned fund raisers.

We're looking forward to a warm, sunny summer of reading!

**Waterloo Library**

The Waterloo Library is expecting a busy summer. Work on our 100+ year old slate roof has finally begun. The scaffolding is up and the old slate is scheduled to come off next. By mid-summer, the new slate will be here and will be put on shingle by shingle. Work on our theater, Fatzinger Hall, is also scheduled for the summer. Although we will not be able to hold any events this summer, we are ensuring the future of Fatzinger Hall for later generations to enjoy. We are all very excited about all of the work being done on the library and can not wait to see the finished product!

The Waterloo Library is also excited about our Summer Reading Program. This year we are having some new performers and guests. Our children's librarian has embraced the "Books: A Treasure" theme with such crafts as a paper plate dinosaur and having the kids make their very own treasure chests! The library is also having a special guest from the local animal shelter come and tell us how to properly care for our pets and she will have some help from some of the shelters four legged friends. The library has something very special planned for our closing performance. WOWEE wildlife educators are coming to teach the children about exotic

and endangered critters. This is a hands-on experience for the children. Needless to say, we are eagerly anticipating the start of Summer reading.

I had the pleasure of being invited to Border City Multi-age School's Career Fair. I was able to tell the children about what a librarian does and encourage the children and their families to get library cards. I also told about them about the Summer Reading Program and brought along book marks with the library's hours. It is always a pleasure to work with children and to get them excited about reading and visiting the library.

The Waterloo Library is gearing up for a busy, but FUN summer!

**Waverly Free Library Association**

The Summer Reading program started off with most of the children in one 5<sup>th</sup> grade class signing up while visiting the library in June. The programs are on Wednesday afternoons in July. They begin with a local historian talking about digging up treasures from our past. Next, a local art teacher will help children create a dragon illustration. There will be a Treasure Hunt in the library the following week. To end the program, the children will listen to sea chanteys and hear pirate stories.

The library is also sponsoring a Photo Contest. All photos will be around the theme **TIOGA COUNTY: FOUR SEASONS CELEBRATING THE BEAUTY OF TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK.** All photos must be submitted in September and put on display in the library. There will be a reception on the First Sunday in December to honor the participants.

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*Copies of this newsletter are available in large print for readers who are visually-impaired.*

*Contact our Outreach Department for further information.*

**Finger Lakes Library System home page: <http://www.flls.org/>**

**Mark your calendars for FLLS 48th Annual Meeting,  
October 11 in Tompkins County! More information forthcoming...  
Watch your mail for your invitation.**

### ***FLLS NEWS***

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