

FLLS NEWS

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Spring 2008

From the Executive Director, Karen Creenan...

LANSING COMMUNITY LIBRARY RECEIVES CHARTER

Its official!

Congratulations to Lansing. At their March 19th meeting the Board of Regents granted a charter to the Lansing Reading Center, officially making them a legal library recognized by New York State. In a second successful referendum held in December 2007, voters of the Lansing School District authorized the establishment of the new library, agreed to provide the necessary tax support for library operations, and elected trustees. By their action, the Regents recognized the desire of the people of Lansing to have a community library and their willingness to fund it.



There is still some work to be done but the newly energized library trustees are busy developing library policies, planning to hire a director, discussing the process for adding their holdings to the Polaris database, and ensuring that the library meets all the standards required by commissioner's Regulations.

We hope all of you will join us in welcoming the Lansing Library to the Finger Lakes Library System family.

Planning a library construction project this year? See related article on page 4.



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Department News:



Adult Services, Marisa Iacobucci

It's been quite a while since I've written in this spot, but 2008 has shaped up to be a year full of exciting continuing education opportunities, so I feel the need to tell you all about it!

First up is the workshop "Getting It Write: Professional Writing Workshop" presented by Robert Nelson on Thursday, April 24th. I won't go into detail here – see the box to the right. It received a big thumbs-up from Libbie Messina (CATO).

FLLS applied for another LSTA invitational grant: "Awesome Customer Service! Beyond a Smile & a Date Due Slip" – a series of workshops on customer service techniques and innovations, two of which will be happening this year:

On May 22nd, Ted Baumhauer will present "Coaching for Performance" in a full day workshop. I took this continuing education class at the NYLA conference and had a blast...while learning at the same time! I highly recommend that anyone who has supervisory duties in the library attend this workshop; this includes supervising staff or volunteers.

Karen Hyman, the director of the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative, will be visiting October 30, 2008, for a half day morning workshop on "Re-inventing the Customer-Centered Library." As the director of SJRLC, she develops services for 600 member libraries and finds that her chief inspiration is her role as a library user which "clears the vision wonderfully."

In June, Jerry Nichols, Director of the Palmer Institute for Public Library Organization and Management, will come to teach two half day workshops on the legal responsibilities of the library, June 25th & 26. He gave an all day workshop on this topic in 2005, and is back for a return, and requested, visit for a more in-depth workshop. This workshop is ideal for both library directors and trustees.

That's just a sampling of what's being offered this year. There are also many Polaris, and other, trainings from Jan, a one-day limited-seat Basic Publisher class, as well as Advanced Publisher. Plus we're hoping to put together a mini-workshop on how to repair your VHS tapes to those who are interested. It just goes on and on!

More information will be arriving in delivery on all of these workshops – keep a lookout and I hope to see you there! These are all wonderful opportunities—don't pass them up!

"Getting It Write - A Professional Writing Workshop"

with Professor Robert Nelson

Getting It Write is a staff development event that aims to assist librarians in the fine art of professional writing. Originally offered as a part of the 2007 NYLA annual meeting, this event is part workshop part presentation.

Professor Nelson will offer hints and tips on navigating the often confusing world of professional writing. From selecting the proper tone in emails to prefacing reports to the board of trustees to drafting articles for publication, Professor Nelson will offer advice on how to make the best writing decisions based on the situation. Formal versus informal writing will be discussed as well as how not to respond to an email from your supervisor. Using a common sense and humorous approach to writing, Professor Nelson will address some of the most common mistakes made in professional writing.

In addition to presenting examples, attendees will have an opportunity to submit writing samples for analysis and discussion. There will be ample time for questions and each attendee will receive a complementary "Write Tools for the Write Job" package.

This workshop is appropriate for library staff and trustees.

If you are interested in attending,
please contact **Marisa Iacobucci by e-mail**
(marisa@flls.org)

no later than **April 18th**.



Mika

July 1992— December 2007

In Loving Memory of a sweet, zen dog.

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DEATH TO BUREAUCRACY

For all its destructive power, and in spite of all the people who claim to abhor it, bureaucracy almost never gets the kind of fight back it deserves.

So why do people put up with it? Probably because bureaucracy just seems like too big a monster for any one individual to slay. And we'd agree, unless that individual happens to be the leader. After all, it is leaders who set the tone for their organizations through the values they choose and the behaviors they demonstrate. And ultimately, it is leaders, and leaders alone, who have the power to set a bureaucracy eradication process in motion.

Not to make that sound easy. Declaring war on bureaucracy is not unlike declaring war on, say, cancer or drugs. You know going in that total victory is impossible and that the battle will be never-ending. To compound matters, an anti-bureaucracy campaign can really shock a company. Sure, bureaucracy is most everyone's sworn enemy, but it's still the enemy within. The minute leaders announce they're on its trail and no prisoners, people can get defensive. They can really quake.

Let them. It's the only way they'll believe you're serious. Now, kick bureaucracy: At every chance, poke fun at anyone who tries to install process for process's sake; rib people who get all puffy about their positions or titles. Make a scene when anyone says something hollow or phony to avoid contention. We're not saying be cruel. We're saying be relentless and outrageous. Make it so unpleasant for people to act rigid or formal that they physically recoil at just the thought of uttering: "That's just the way it's always been done"

And while you're at it, make people uncomfortable □ very uncomfortable □ about scheduling formal presentations, especially if they involve slides in a darkened room. That practice is a total bureaucracy enabler. It makes idea-transfer so one-way and ceremonial! What you want instead is an organization where ideas flow freely up, down, and sideways, along halls, in elevators. A business where an idea's value has nothing to do with the stripes on the shoulder of the person behind it and everything to do with their insight and creativity. So as you poke fun at bureaucrats for their more obvious transgressions, make sure you're also building an organization where people who demonstrate an impassioned, boundaryless approach to ideas are both celebrated and rewarded. Love the people who hate presentations.

Business Week, December 24, 2007

flls.lib.overdrive.com

Have an **MP3 player** or a home **computer** & love to read? Want to **listen** to a book while on the go?

Visit **flls.lib.overdrive.com** or your local library website and click on the **downloadable media** link.



It's easy, fast and portable!

You will need a valid library card from your local library in Cayuga, Cortland, Seneca, Tioga or Tompkins Counties to download.



Finger Lakes Library System

CHARTER ACTIONS APPROVED - February 2008

Cortland Free Library (Cortland County): amended to increase the service area to include the city of Cortland and the towns of Cortlandville and Virgil; to designate the Commissioner of Education as the representative of the corporation upon whom process in any action or proceeding against it may be served; and to add the IRS dissolution language necessary for tax exempt status under section 501 (c)(3).

Congratulations to Cortland on having their charter amendment request approved!!!

Library Construction for 2008 Workshop— Seneca Falls Library

Division of Library Development (DLD) is conducting a workshop devoted to the construction grants for 2008-2009. The workshop will be on

May 2 from 10:30am—1:00pm.

Grace Kelly, Consultant from DLD, will be going over the grants line-by-line and will answer any questions attendees may have.

This workshop is a must for any library that is planning to apply for construction money this year!

These grants seem to have a few changes every year and this is a great way to be trained in the sometimes-complicated steps in completing the application.

Please contact Carol Hendrix at System Headquarters, extension 21 or by email chendrix@flls.org ASAP if you would like to attend. Registration is limited.



Libraries and Museums are Most Trusted Sources of Information

Interconnections, the IMLS National Study on the Use of Libraries, Museums and the Internet (February 2008) produced by The Institute of Museum & Library Services in conjunction with the University of North Carolina reported that a survey of over 1,700 adults indicated that "libraries and museums are trusted far more than other sources of information including government, commercial and private individual websites." It also concluded that the explosion of internet use is not replacing visits to libraries and museums; while online access to library websites have increased significantly, 91% of remote users report also visiting the library.

Celebrate *National Poetry Month* in April

www.poets.org was created in 1996 by the Academy of American Poets. Find thousands of poems as well as poet biographies, interviews, essays and poetry recordings. This website, designated by New York Public Library as one of the Best of Reference in 2006, can be searched by poet's last name, poem title, or poem's first line. If you are looking for a poem to mark a special event browse the **Poems by Occasion** link. Those interested in local poets can go to the **National Poetry Map** to find poets and events in a specific state. April 17 has been designated as the 1st **Poem in Your Pocket Day**; take this opportunity to share a favorite poem with loved ones, friends, and colleagues.

Friends Book Sale

509 Esty Street, Ithaca

Spring Book Sale:

April 26-28

May 3-5

May 10-13

First day of sale: 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

*All remaining days except last day:
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM*

Last Day: 12:00pm-8:00pm

**PLEASE... bring your own
boxes or bags
to carry your purchases!**

More information @ www.booksale.org

May is Older Americans Month

From the Administration on Aging website:
<http://www.aoa.gov/press/oam/oam.asp>
“Working Together for Strong, Healthy, and Supportive Communities”

The United States is nearing the start of a tremendous demographic shift. Beginning in 2011, the first of 78 million baby boomers (people born between 1946 and 1964) will start transitioning into retirement...

...one out of every nine baby boomers will live to be at least age 90.

Older adults support our society by providing millions of hours of volunteer, community, and civic service...

...by sharing and transferring knowledge of cultures, values, and life experiences among generations

...older citizens of today and tomorrow promise to be among the most active and engaged older adult populations in our Nation's history.

An expanding older adult population also spotlights our responsibility to ensure the well-being of our older citizens.

...to address older adults' unique health and long-term care challenges...

May is Older Americans Month, a great time to bring attention to the issues that affect older adults...

Working together, our communities can improve older adults' overall quality of life by helping them:

- ◆ Make behavioral changes in their lifestyles that can reduce risk of disease, disability, and injury.
- ◆ Obtain the tools they need to make informed decisions about, and gain better access to, existing health and long-term care options in their communities.
- ◆ Have more options to avoid placement in nursing homes and remain at home as long as possible.

Americans of all ages and backgrounds can celebrate Older Americans Month.

Contact your local Agency on Aging and volunteer for activities in your area, promote community, state and national efforts to serve older adults, and find ways to

enrich the lives of the older adults who touch your life.

By working together we can improve the health and well being of our Nation's older adults and pave the way for future generations.

On a personal note:

I will be leaving the Finger Lakes Library System as of April 25, 2008, for a new position as Library Services Manager/Assistant Director of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library in Christiansburg, Virginia. The family move will be end of June when the school year here has ended.

I have enjoyed working alongside all of you in our efforts to reach out to people all over our five-county library region. In thirteen and a half years, I have seen great changes and forward motion in our library services to our communities, due to the efforts of so many dedicated library staff and trustees. I wish you all continued successes and the best of health for many years to come.

---Melanie Hemingway

WINNERS AND NO LOSERS

Running a library campaign during a municipal election isn't learned in library school. It is a lesson learned on a street named "hardball politics" and can be extremely painful and personal.

Library campaigns are physically and emotionally draining. It's nothing like running a library and, of course, each of the local folks who work on their campaigns does so on their own time, making their normal day job even more challenging. I've run two library campaigns, both in Oakland, CA. The first campaign was lost by a slim margin, but I learned a lot from that defeat. I learned that library campaigns require experienced (paid) counsel and an army of volunteers. Endorsements may look good in the campaign literature, but they may not get out the votes. Time and energy should not be wasted on convincing people who do not agree with your campaign. They're best spent getting every pro-library voter to vote on election day. Losing meant learning how to read the tea leaves regarding voter turnout in each precinct, and making a conscious effort to do the post-election analysis. The analysis (along with counsel and key volunteers) made my second campaign a success.

Martin Gomez in *LILC Exchange*, December 2007

Member News:

Apalachin Reading Center

The Apalachin Reading Center has had an active and busy winter. Our usual programs and book discussion groups are going on as usual. We have had some interest in starting a monthly program that we call "Craft Together" where everyone brings in crafts that they are working on to show. We have started knitting hats and mittens together to donate to a local elementary school. Some in the group who are good at knitting are teaching others. Now that we have afternoon hours we may have some new afternoon programs.

During the spring we will have a program on lawn care without chemicals and we will be having several local authors in to discuss their books.

Our board is actively working on obtaining a charter. It takes a lot of work and planning. We hope to have news to share in the coming months.

Once in a while when we have a nice warmer day we do some work on our summer reading program. Nice weather is right around the corner- we hope!

Seymour Public Library District, Auburn

Seymour Library did a lot of spring cleaning and conducted its first book sale in many years on March 17 and 18. March also brought our first-ever celebration of Teen Tech Week, when we offered Guitar Hero, Dance Dance Revolution and Wii to our 12- to 18-year-old patrons.

In April the library hosted storyteller Ellen Mnich in a program for adults. Ellen, who is well-known for her "Aunt Helen's Closet" children's program, also offers programs geared toward adults that feature some treasured antique clothing from her collection.

The library also participated in our annual TV Turnoff Week observance, this year offering after-school activities such as Guitar Hero, bingo, cup stacking and 3-D puzzles. Our National Library Week celebration featured a library tour. Finally, congratulations go out to two of our staff members. Mary Lovell has chosen to expand her library career and has been accepted at the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University. Director Sheila Anderson is now Sheila Mikkelson; she and Rolf Mikkelson were married April 6 in New Jersey. Sheila's e-mail is now smikkelson@seymourlibrary.org



Aurora Free Library

The first few months of 2008 have been full of events and changes at the library. The library board said "goodbye" to five trustees including three officers. The positions held by Tracy Leffingwell, Pat Bianconi, Julie Kabelac, Marnie Fessenden, and Dr. Terri Miller

were filled by Brian Dorfman, Elizabeth Rejman, Robin Driskel, Julie Jarvis, and Susan Sloan. We thank them all for their service to the library.

Our Family Arts Series sponsored by NYSCA and Mandel Therapy Group has begun. Irish performer, Deirdre McCarthy, came in January and the Syracuse Opera Ensemble visited in March.

Some Wells College Drama students have partnered with the library to put on four programs this spring. An evening of improv and a magic night have been held thus far and we look forward to a performance of The Ugly Duckling and a Murder Mystery Fundraiser in the coming months.

Lang Memorial Library, Cato

In effort to highlight the library's economic value in our community, the Lang Memorial Library will celebrate National Library Week by partnering with local businesses. A local restaurant and bakery have agreed to give customers who present their library card a discount on selected purchases. Posters, using the "Join the Circle of Knowledge" theme will be used to promote the event.

Teen programs at the library have seen a jump in participation thanks to the *Dance Dance Revolution* and *Guitar Hero* video games. While waiting for his or her turn at the controls, teens have enjoyed socializing with library staff and browsing the collection.



The library board has been accepting bids and reviewing plans for a new library sign. We hope to have the new sign installed in the front yard by July. Staff and volunteers also plan to decorate the drop box and spruce up the gardens just in time to attract swarms of reading bugs for this summer's reading program.

Kellogg Free Library, Cincinnatus

This Spring the Kellogg Free Library is participating in "The Big Read" in conjunction with SUNY Cortland and the other Cortland County libraries. The book chosen this year is "Fahrenheit 451." A group of students from the college will come for a teen program on March 29th from 11am-1pm and make books with the teens. A "make books instead of burning them" theme.

Also this Spring we are participating in the Greater Ithaca Art Trail. We will showcase local artists work, which will change from time to time. In addition, the library will host a talk on the "Loomis Gang," by Charlotte Snyder, at a date yet to be determined. Our Spring is busy as we look forward to Summer!

Southworth Library Association, Dryden

It has been a busy time for us, in spite of the uncooperative weather at the Southworth Library. We

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have been able to add to our collections and expand our programming. We have started our inventory of our adult non-fiction collection with the help of a local college student.

Our juvenile collection has seen a wonderful update, through generous donations from the LIBRI foundation and the Southworth Volunteers. Various grants and other support will enable us to further update our children's nonfiction collection and add a collection of read-along books with CD's to complement our current collection which is primarily cassettes. Shelving is currently under construction to help us accommodate these additions and spruce up our children's area. We also look forward to a metamorphosis to our Teen Space as we make plans to update it with carpeting, furniture and decorations in part through a generous donation from Cargill Deicing Technology. We started our Teen Advisory Group and had our first meeting with area teens this month to get their input. We hope, with their help, to grow in our teen services with collection development, a TeenSpace and more teen-oriented programs.

We also added wireless Internet access to our facility which has been a wonderful update for our more techno-savvy patrons and visitors.



This quarter at our library, Horton Heard a Who and Mr. Magorium had a Wonder Emporium with special Regal Cinema programs, Miniature Rooms and boxes were constructed in our Christmas crafts programs, Old-Time music resounded and the Tompkins County SPCA and furry friends made monthly visits to our preschool Story times. The Dryden Youth Opportunity Fund is sponsoring our teens with our Shakin' Up Shakespeare program, a lively examination of "As You Like It" which will culminate in a visit to the Cornell Theater presentation on April 26.

Our traveling Books program visited about 65 kids at 7 daycare centers and homes every month and shared bags of books for them to enjoy. Our volunteers also brought 70 items to the Willowbrook Senior Center for shut-ins who cannot get to our facility.

Our Adult Book Club continued to meet every month for lively discussions about literature and life. Recent titles included Anderson Cooper, *Letters From the Edge*; Stephen Bach's expose' of Leni Riefenstahl, *Leni: the life and work of Leni Riefenstahl* during which we watched the DVD of *Triumph of the Will* from 1939; and *Water for Elephants*, by Sarah Gruen.

We look forward to returning to Narnia with a special presentation in coordination with Regal, Teen Library 'takeovers' and gearing up for summer reading programs and family events.

Interlaken Public Library

Our building project is a go! Things are finally falling into place. Happy spring to one and all. Our Pre

K classes are going well now winter is over (we hope). We are doing spring type stories this month. Next month will be BUGS; as I'm using the summer reading theme.

We have a new book shelf built by an Amish friend of mine. It is very nice and now the children's section will be more friendly as the books won't be so jammed in. Better for the books, too!

We will be making place mats as I have been cutting pictures of bugs from magazines for the placemats the children will make. I was sorry to miss the summer program at FLLS but was laid up from my back. That program is always my favorite. It is getting better slowly.

Tompkins County Public Library, Ithaca

TCPL patrons are enjoying the new downloadable books; we have added money to our budget so we can expand the selection for everyone in the FLLS area.

As we move into this new format, it is time to say good-bye to our VHS collection. No new titles have been added to this collection since 2005; new releases are not available on VHS and our circulation of DVDS has eclipsed the VHS format. Many of our items have circulated in excess of 400 times! So we are facing the inevitable and beginning to remove this format from our shelves. We expect to complete this transition by the end of 2008. Users who still want this format will be encouraged to find their favorites at the Friends of the Library Booksale, where they can also find vinyl records and music cassettes.

In February the library celebrated Black History Month with a panel discussion featuring African-American community and business leaders. The discussion, *A Generational Approach to the African American Experience*, featured a lively and inspirational dialogue. The audience stayed on long after the event was scheduled to end, continuing the discussion.

Cornell University President David Skorton and his wife Dr. Robin Davison shared their favorite books with us on Sunday March 9. It was a wonderful event and you can watch this event by going to <http://www.cornell.edu/video>.

The Library Board of Trustees adopted a Board Accountability Statement at its March meeting. The purpose of the document is to define the core principles of the board's responsibilities; to secure a wider and deeper commitment of the Board to broadly shared principles and policies, and to guide the annual review of board responsibilities.

Spring programs include *Math is not the Enemy*; *How to Help the Children in Your Life Learn Math*; *Favorite Folk Tales From Around the World* with storyteller Melanie Zimmer, *Teens Write Workshop*; *Mother/Daughter Book discussion groups* and e-bay workshops. The *Kids Discover the Trail* project

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concluded for the 2007-2008 school year with almost all kindergarten classes in the Ithaca City School District visiting the library, receiving a new kid-friendly card and their own copy of the Lion in the Library, made possible by a grant from the Friends of the Library. These visits are followed by a family event to encourage children to return and begin using their new library cards.

The library will continue to be open on Sundays through May 18 and then again starting on September 7 due to the generosity of donors, especially Arthur Kuckes and Martha Wright; and a legislative grant from Senator George Winner.

Lamont Memorial Free Library, McGraw

The Lamont Library is pleased to welcome Tammy Sickmon as our new Children’s Story Time Coordinator. Tammy joined our team in November 2007 and brings such enthusiasm and talent to her story times that our Friday morning group has grown from 15 to 25 little ones. Although preschoolers were the target audience for this story time, we have found that we have babies – 5 years old participating in the weekly event. Most parents choose to stay with their children as they too enjoy the theme related stories, songs, fingerplays, puppets, and crafts.

The library will be adding three pilot programs this year as a result of a generous gift in memory of Myrl Rose Crocker Howe, McGraw Elementary School Teacher 1957-1973:

- * In April, “Books and Babies,” a weekly Saturday morning program for working parents and babies (birth – 2 years old) will be held. Using books, music, rhythm instruments, and age appropriate toys, Tammy will show parents how to stimulate and enhance their babies’ development while enjoying one-on-one time together. This will also be a special time to share information with other adults and build friendships.



- * In May, a monthly evening “StarBright StoryNight Program,” will begin for families and their children. Although the stories will be geared towards preschoolers, the program is designed for families of all ages.



- * This summer, Tammy will present a puppet series for elementary age (6-12 years) students giving kids an opportunity to learn how to make and use puppets.



We heartily agree with Dr. Seuss...“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go.” – Dr. Seuss, “I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!”

Peck Memorial Library, Marathon

Peck Memorial Library is preparing for the Maple Festival to be held April 5 & 6th. We will have a vendor that will be out in front on the left hand side of our building selling elephant ears and beverages. On the right side we will have one of the stain glass windows of our building that has been recently restored on display for the community to view. Inside the building we will have our semi-annual booksale and a jewelry vendor. On Sunday, April 6th Peck Memorial Library will be hosting at the Marathon Central School Auditorium "Bush Mango" at 1:00 PM. This drum and dance group comes to us from Rochester, NY and they have been honored with awards for their artistry and their organizational excellence. In 2006 the Arts and Cultural Council of Greater Rochester named them “Organization of the Year.” This event is made possible with Funds from New York State Council on the Arts and the Cultural Resources Council.

We are also in the process of having our handicap ramp built. Last fall we tore down an old fire escape on the left side of the building and this spring the ramp is being built. To do this we have had to readjust how patrons will enter our building. For the duration of the construction we will have them use the old fire escape with a temporary deck that is being built. Clara and I are planning on delivering and picking up books for patrons who will be unable to make it into the library because at the same time there will be major road construction out in front of our building and parking will be temporarily gone.

Also this year we will be starting our library expansion project. We are hoping to start the project while keeping the library open. It will be interesting to see if we are really able to do that.

For the summer reading program we have Vanessa Johnson: storyteller, Pat Donahue: clown, Paul Speight: Turtle Dreams and the closing program will be Aunt Helen's Closet coming to delight our patrons. These programs are also made possible with funds from New York State Council on the Arts and the Cultural Resources Council.

Powers Library, Moravia

Powers Library in Moravia is pleased to announce changes to our hours. We are now able to open our doors every SAT throughout the year from the hours of 10-1, except holidays. Additionally, in order to be in better sync with the FLLS deliveries, we will be open WEDs from 2-8pm, and closed THURS. We anticipate the changes to our hours will result in better service to our local patrons as well as the patrons throughout the FLLS delivery system.

We are also pleased to announce that our chief volunteer, Mrs. Nancy Snedeker, of Sempronius, has been chosen as one of the recipients of this year’s Girl Scouts of America

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Women of Distinction Award. Nancy will be honored along with other awardees at a luncheon in April at the Springside Inn in Auburn. Congratulations, Nancy!

In the stacks we have added a section for Graphic Novels, recognizing this new genre as a distinct format in the library. These popular illustrated books now cover all subjects from classic fiction titles such as Moby Dick and The Time Machine, to biography, history, mythology, and science. We even have a few hardbound classic comics, including Superman, Spiderman, and Archie. The packaging may change, but the story remains the same. Go Graphic!

Tappan-Spaulling Memorial Library, Newark Valley

Spring is here and many things are happening at the library. First, BIG-BIG-BIG NEWS, we are getting \$133,690 from a state construction grant. This money will be used to start the addition to the library to make the building handicap accessible, more space for computers, a meeting room and a tutoring room.



Second I went to Lobby Day for Libraries at the state capitol on March 11th. I was able to talk to many of our state representatives and thank them for their support and asked for continued support. The governor's proposed budget, cut \$5 million dollars of support to Libraries. The state senators and legislators both said they would fight to get it put back in the budget. It was a very educational trip for me and showed me a little of how things are done in our capital. I plan to go again and if anyone is interested in going with us we would be glad to have you along. I think the more they hear what we are doing with the money now and what we plan for the future the more they see why we need it.

Last but not least we are celebrating our 100th Anniversary this year. Yes, your public Library has been here serving the community for 100 years. We will be putting together a display for the celebration. We did receive an old photo of inside the building during construction. It is the only one we know about that was taken during construction. We are asking the community for any photos they might have stashed away and stories to tell about the library. We are inviting politicians to come as well so this will be another reinforcement of what we are doing to serve the people of the community and our plans for the addition.

Ford Memorial Library, Ovid

The Edith B. Ford Memorial Library is pleased to have been selected for a 2007 Lois Lenski Covey Foundation grant for \$1,000. We will use this award to replace the many outdated books to get new titles for our children's and young adult collections.

Our small, rural Library has also been

conducting a capital campaign to bring our unique library, built in 1961, up to date with ADA compliance, more PAC technology, renovation of a lower level for public use, addition of a parking lot, and roof renovations. We have nearly reached our campaign goal of \$300,000. An exciting part of our campaign is our **Library Tributes to History** project: a collection of plaques honoring remarkable citizens in the history of the communities of Ovid and Romulus.

Hazard Library, Poplar Ridge

Ah Spring!!! Winter has been long, but we had a real treat in February. Doug Rougeux visited Poplar Ridge with his **Bubblemania**. This program was scheduled for our families during the Winter School Break. This is the most popular program we have had. It is thoroughly enjoyed by "children" of all ages!

Our Annual Meeting is April 21, 2008. At this time we will say "Thank you for your trustee service!" to Larry Buffam and Cindy Krause. Two new trustees will be elected to join the Board at this meeting. In addition we will be reporting to the community on the library's accomplishments in 2007. A representative from the architectural firm of Holmes, King, Kallquist and Associates will discuss the future of the Hazard Library expansion.

Port Byron Library

The Port Byron Library is continuing to grow; here's a copy of the poem from our local Shopping Guide:

We got a very good deal.
 In fact, it was almost a steal!
 Our collection is on "new" shelves.
 Arranged by a family of elves!
 For hours during night & day,
 They "remedied" the public display.
 So come in and see that it's cheery.
 Our Port Byron Library is never dreary!

We are also looking forward to summer when we'll be raffling off a beautiful quilt made by our library quilt club. It's entitled "Vintage Memories" and is even quilted on both sides! The drawing will take place on August 2nd during our bicentennial town celebration.

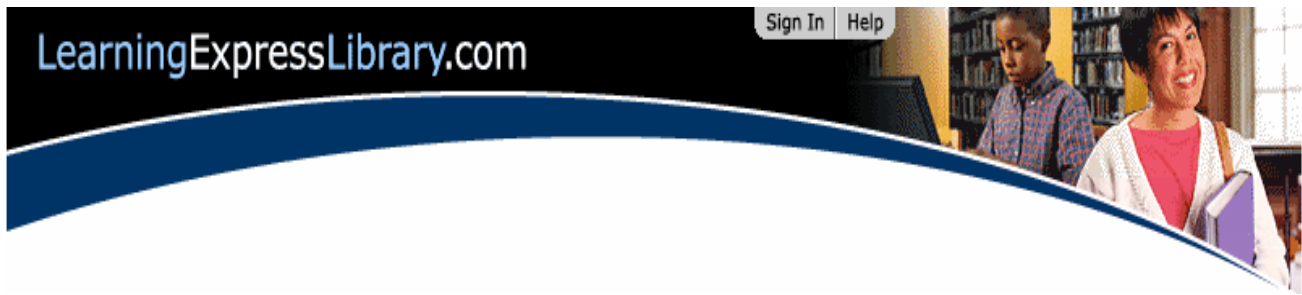
Springport Free Library, Union Springs

The Springport Free Library is moving along on the continuing basement renovation. We're excited about the space that is opening up, and looking forward to borrowing the FLLS gaming programs. We'll get that new floor space hopping!

Plans have begun for the children's summer reading program. Our prizes have arrived and they are great. The board is working hard to get an exciting lineup of programs.

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Practice Tests & Instruction - 24/7



Need to study for that Clerical Worker Civil Service test? Maybe you're thinking of taking the Advanced Placement American History Test or want to work on your grammar skills. Is your child feeling anxious about an upcoming 4th grade Assessment test? Have you ever needed a Firefighter Exam Book and found that all the copies were checked out?

Now using **Learning Express Library**, you can access the Clerical Worker, AP American History and many other tests online, immediately, all the time from any computer with an internet connection and your public library card.

Learning Express Library, available to all patrons in the Finger Lakes library System area, is designed to help people succeed on the test they must pass to gain citizenship, improve their testing skills or to further their education or career. There are online test preparation materials for the ACT, ASVAB, Civil Service, Cosmetology, EMS, Firefighter, GED, GMAT, GRE, Law Enforcement, Nursing, Paramedic, Real Estate, SAT and U.S. Citizenship exams, to name a few. The practice tests are real previews of actual tests to help you gain confidence and familiarity with the information you need to know. Many of the academic and civil service tests are timed so that you learn to pace yourself. If you do not finish a test, your answers are saved in **My Account** and you will have 30 days to complete the test. Once you



submit your answers, you will get instant scoring with explanations of correct and incorrect answers and an analysis of your results. If you need more help, you can click on the "**Learn More**" button to find other test preparation resources.

In addition to practice tests, **Learning Express Library** has skills improvement instruction for elementary aged students to college and beyond. Patrons of all ages can improve math, grammar, reading comprehension, and writing. New immigrants can practice their English skills, review for the citizenship test and learn basic math and grammar. Job seekers can learn how to create a resume and cover letter and prepare for a job interview.

A full library of E-books complement the practice tests and offer academic, military, and career tools, some of which are in Spanish. There are parent guides to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 8th grade as well as electronic books to help the home-schooling parent.

You can access **Learning Express Library** from any computer by using your local library card. Go to www.flis.org → **Electronic Databases** → **Testing & Instruction** → **Learning Express Library**. Click the **New User** button and enter your library card number as your username and create a password; next time log on as a **Returning User**

It's all available anytime and anywhere as long as you have a valid library card!



Summer Reading Program

Access to good books is the key to keeping readers reading and creating new readers this summer! Visit our website www.flls.org/youth for all things summer reading to help you **Catch the Reading Bug** and find transforming stories for your teens **Metamorphosis** into lifelong library fans. Look for our booklists crawling with intriguing titles, easy craft suggestions featured at our kick-off meeting, a quick guide to the manual and some web highlights. The New York State Summer Reading website at <http://www.summerreadingnys.org/> is your next stop for buggy facts, fun, promos, games, and more from New York State and libraries around the country. You can also visit the collaborative site for product information, next year's theme, and member information at <http://www.csipreads.org/>

Summer Reading Calendar

If you want to know about all the great summer reading happenings in the entire Finger Lakes Library System check our new Summer Reading Events Calendar which will be active from June to September: <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=FLLS>

To have your event listed, please email annette@flls.org or snorton@flls.org with your summer programs. We'll see you there with a good book...

TumbleBooks and Summer Reading

If you have a large group for storytime consider using a Tumblebooks story that you project onto a screen for the ultimate big book experience. Choose to turn the sound off and you can read the story to your listeners so everyone can see the pictures all the time. You can access the site from our literature databases or the youth services page.



Got Game?

contact annette@flls.org to schedule the lab, and invite your community to play @ your library!



Danette Davis, and Alison Sloan, AUB give Guitar Hero a try!



Fran Howe, CAN; Linda Beins, FLLS; Diane Pamel, DRY; and Stephanie Maslin, WAV having fun with Dance, Dance Revolution!

Julie Widger, MCGR, aiming for a strike with the Wii bowling game! Kay Zaharas and Angela Sorensen, CORT, waiting for their turn.



Rockers Eric and Rex look like pros with Guitar Hero!



Annette, FLLS; Sally Otis, POP; and Angela Sorensen, CORT and Karen Vann, TRU have fun with Dance Dance Revolution!



Karen Vann, TRU having fun with Wii bowling.

(continued from page 9— Member News)

The library has been offering Monday night computer gaming and pizza for our young adult patrons. They really look forward to meeting their friends at the library and have infused the library with a sense of their vitality.



Everyone is looking forward to spring and all the spring hustle and bustle. The library staff hid special green and gold St. Patrick Day tokens around the library lawn. It was cold, but a good time was had by all searching for the tokens. Cocoa and cookies were served after the token search. The children have been drawing and painting Easter eggs to decorate the library with. The junior grange had a special program for their members at the library. Volunteers read farming stories to the children. They also cooked up hotdogs with all the trimmings. The library staff especially likes this program, as the Grange is very generous about sharing their hot dogs!

We had a lot of wind and ice damage to the lilacs and older trees on the property. So we are also looking forward to purchasing and planting some new trees. Perhaps we can plan a library program around Arbor Day.

Waterloo Library

Plans are in motion at the Waterloo Library as we gear up for Summer Reading 2009; "Catch the Reading Bug @ Your Library." The Children's Librarian and I have been pouring over websites and brainstorming ideas about prizes for the children. We are also in the preliminary stages of choosing performers. We are heading in the direction of something animal themed! The children who attend our Summer Reading program especially love the programs that involve animals.

Our two other children's programs that we offer throughout the school year are doing very well. The number of children attending keeps growing and we couldn't be more pleased. The children love listening to stories and doing a craft that they can bring home. Last week, they read about lambs and then made their very own fluffy lamb! The children also received a special Easter treat from the Waterloo Library last week.

The Waterloo Library and the Main Street Elementary School in Waterloo have teamed up for Reading Across America Day. The children at the school wanted the funds raised from their reading efforts to go to the library. They appropriately named their project "Reading to Repair". All of the proceeds raised will go to the Waterloo Library and Historical Society's Capital Campaign. We couldn't be more proud of the children who read to help out the library. A big thank you to all involved in this very worthwhile project!

Our building improvements are still going on. We have completed our roof, wrought iron fence and have painted all of the outside trim work. Now we are moving on to the thirty plus stained glass windows. Through the years, these windows have been battered by the elements and have fallen in to great disrepair. Some pieces of glass have even fallen out of the windows. Our next project is to have these windows repaired. This project will most likely take a couple of years to complete, but we are eager to see it started.

Every year, the Waterloo Library tries to do something special for National Library Week. In April, during National Library Week, we invite people to come to the library to sign up for a library card, if they do not have one, and to receive a special gift for just stopping in. Everyone who comes in receives a color changing pencil. They are heat sensitive and change colors from the heat of your hand. These are a huge hit with the children. The patrons love them and it is a thrill to give them out as a thank you to the community for their support.

We hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful spring season.

Weedsport Free Library

The Friends of the Weedsport Free Library invite all of you baseball and history buffs to get on the bus to Baltimore and Washington on Aug. 22 and 23, 2008. You will see the Yankees play the Orioles on Friday night, Aug. 22. The bus will leave Weedsport High School at 7:30 AM. Upon arrival at Baltimore Inner Harbor, you'll be able to shop and explore until game time at 7:05 PM. After the baseball game, the group will travel to the hotel for the night. After breakfast at the hotel on Sat. morning, the bus will depart for Washington; the first stop will be a photo opportunity outside the White House. From 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM you'll visit the Smithsonian Museum of your choice. You'll receive a voucher for lunch at the Reagan International Trade Center. A guided tour of the monuments will wrap up the sightseeing in Washington (1:30-4:30 PM). The bus will then depart for Weedsport and arrive about 11:00-11:30 PM. The trip is very affordable, ranging from \$185.00-\$215.00 per person depending upon number per room. A deposit of \$100.00 is due by Mon., April 28th, balance due by July 11th. Price includes bus transportation, 1 night hotel, 1 breakfast, 1 lunch, baseball ticket, and driver gratuity. A donation of \$10/ticket benefits the Friends of the Library. For more information, call Cheryl Austin at the library, 315-834-6222.



A trip to Lancaster to shop and see the "Miracle of Christmas" at *Sight & Sound* Theatre is scheduled for the weekend of Nov. 22nd and 23rd, 2008. Save that thought! Arrangements made by First Choice Educational Tours, Inc. Hope to see you on the bus!

OSCAR WINNERS ON DVD!



We have Oscar winning films already in our collection and more on the way! Here are a sampling of titles:

CURRENTLY IN THE COLLECTION:

LA VIE EN ROSE:

Rated PG13

Academy Awards: Best Actress and Makeup
Golden Globe: Best Actress Musical/Comedy

Born into poverty, she survived using the only gift she had - her voice. Edith Piaf's tragic life was a constant battle to sing and survive, to live and love, with no regrets.

RATATOUILLE

Rated G

Academy Award: Best Animated Film
Golden Globe: Best Animated Film

A rat named Remy dreams of becoming a great chef despite the obvious problem of being a rat in a rodent-phobic profession. Fate places Remy in Paris, beneath the restaurant of his culinary hero, where he has an unlikely partnership with a kitchen worker.

WHAT'S ON ORDER:

SWEENEY TODD

Rated R

Academy Award: Best Art Direction
Golden Globe: Best Picture

A man is unjustly sent to prison and uses his barber shop to get his revenge, with the help of his neighbor, who makes diabolical meat pies. Based on the award-winning musical.

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN

Rated R

Academy Awards: Best Picture, Director, Screenplay, Supporting Actor, Golden Globe Awards: Best Supporting Actor, Best Screenplay

When a man stumbles on a bloody crime scene, a pickup truck loaded with heroin, and two million dollars in irresistible cash, his decision to take the money sets off an unstoppable chain reaction of violence.

Library Lending Machine Debuts in CA Train Station

A new model for delivering books to readers in underserved areas is about to debut in Contra Costa County, CA. The first Library a Go Go machine in the nation will be installed next month in a Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) location, before the fare gate. The free book lending machine, stocked and maintained by the Contra Costa County Library (CCCL), Pleasant Hill, is the first of four stand-alone dispensing units to be located in urban areas around the county. All are part of a model program funded by the California State Library, Bay Area Library Consortium, and Baker & Taylor. (Yolo County Library, Woodland, CA, soon will install a unit in a rural environment.)

The Library a Go Go units come from the Swedish company Distec (www.distec.se/eng.htm). CCCL found out about them through a former staffer who, while on vacation, noticed them in a Stockholm library. Further study by CCCL revealed that the Distec model was the only machine designed to work with library systems. Totally operational with an integrated library system (ILS) product, CCCL deputy county librarian Cathy Sanford told *Library Hotline* it connects to a library network, authenticates library cards, and records real-time transactions.

Depending on the type of book stocked in the machine, each freestanding unit, which measures approximately 8'6.5"h x 4'9.5"w x 39.5"d, can hold anywhere from 270 to 400 books. They cost approximately \$100,000 each. In order to retrieve a book, patrons will use a touch screen similar to a bank ATM to choose from a list of genres, said Sanford. Once a library card is authenticated, a robotic arm delivers the book, which is encased in a hard plastic cover. Books can be returned to the same machine and are instantly available to another patron; a receipt is delivered in both types of transactions. Librarians initially will be on hand to help users.

CCCL will stock the BART location with adult and YA fiction and nonfiction titles. In the next installation, located in a shopping center, children's materials will be added. Two more machines will be installed in 2010: one in a "transit village," which includes residential and retail units, and in another location to be determined.

Hotline, February 25, 2008

"Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could; some blunders and absurdities have crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; you shall begin it serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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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/>

FLLS NEWS

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