



GRANITE STATE LIBRARIANS

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY

April / May / June 2008

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FROM THE DESK OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN...In December, 2007 a press conference was held at the N.H. State Library to announce the Robert and Karin Finlay Foundation offering to libraries, historical societies and museums for the membership challenge. The Foundation will make three awards of \$25,000 to one of each organization based on their ability to increase membership from October 2007 to October 1, 2008. Robert Finlay, Karin Finlay and Dr. Anne Radice, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services were in attendance.

Mr. Finlay announced the program and its goals and gave a brief overview about eligibility. Dr. Radice thanked Mr. and Mrs. Finlay for their very generous contribution to libraries and cultural organizations. The brief press conference was followed by a luncheon where librarians and directors of other cultural organizations were able to ask specific questions of Mr. Finlay and his staff. The State Library has been answering questions and helping the more than 100 libraries that completed the application. Many libraries have come up with interesting and innovative ways to increase membership. One of the goals of the challenge is to establish a way to share information among libraries and to help increase membership.

As public institutions, libraries may find it difficult to think about membership in the same way that other cultural organizations do; many libraries justifiably think of all citizens in their community as members. Others feel that as a public institution there should be no need to increase membership as support is not usually based on the number of card holders. However, Mr. Finlay has, through his generosity, stimulated new ways of looking at library patronage.

What we hope comes from this new interest is increased support on the part of the public for the important work that libraries do. We are very grateful to Mr. Finlay for this challenge.

-Michael York, State Librarian

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK...

by Mary Russell, Director

Center for the Book at the New Hampshire State Library

www.nh.gov/nhsl/bookcenter/index.html

As the winter comes to an end and (hopefully!) spring begins, the focus of the Center for the Book is awards of various kinds. We are involved in three different annual award programs: The Ladybug Picture Book Award; the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award; and the Letters About Literature writing competition. Spring is the one time of year when there is news about all three programs at once.

The nominees for the 2008 Ladybug Picture Book Award have been selected and were announced on our blog (nhbookcenter.blogspot.com) in mid-March. Voting for the 2008 award will be held in November, but the list is announced in the spring so libraries and schools may order the books and plan their storytimes. New Hampshire children from preschool through third grade are eligible to vote for the Ladybug winner. To be a Ladybug voting site, all you have to do is share the books with eligible voters and have an election by the deadline. This year's deadline is the Monday after Thanksgiving, December 1st, 2008. Results should be sent to us by mail or van delivery using the tally sheet that will be posted on our website (www.nh.gov/nhsl/bookcenter/programs/ladybug.html) in June. You will also find a picture ballot (available in June) and an order form for Ladybug "I voted" stickers and spine labels on the site which you may want to use in holding your election.

The Dublin Award committee is currently in the process of reading the shortlist of books that we have compiled over the past year. The committee compiles the list by reading as many works of fiction as possible from the target year for the award we are working on (the nominees we will select this year were published in 2007 and will be nominated for the 2009 award). If one of us finds a novel that we feel is a work of "high literary merit" (the main criteria for the award) we tell the rest of the committee about it. This process typically results in a huge list of books. To whittle the list down to a shorter list, other committee members will read the same book that was recommended and either agree that it merits consideration or make a case for why it should be crossed off the list. This process goes on for most of the year. The Dublin Committee chair, currently N.H. State Library Reference Librarian, Charles Shipman, has the task of wrangling the committee toward a final short list based on the suggestions and discussions that have gone on during the year. Once this short list is settled upon, committee members are expected to read all the books on it so they may discuss the relative merits of the books and vote on them to choose up to three to be nominated. This voting process has to be completed by late April as the nominees are due in Dublin, Ireland in early May. If reading and evaluating novels of "high literary merit" is something you enjoy, please consider joining the committee for next year. The Dublin Committee website (www.nh.gov/nhsl/bookcenter/programs/impac.html) has contact information for joining the committee.

Letters About Literacy (LAL) is a reading and writing promotion program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, presented in partnership with Target Stores and coordinated in New Hampshire by the Center for the Book at the New Hampshire State Library. To enter, young readers wrote a personal letter to an author explaining how his or her work changed their view of the world or themselves. Readers selected authors from any genre - fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic. There were three competition levels in the program: upper elementary, middle school, and secondary. The contest theme encourages young readers to explore their personal response to a book and then express that response in a creative, original way. This year there were 220 letters received from New Hampshire students. Twenty-five semi-finalists were selected at three competition levels (upper elementary, middle school, and high school) by a panel of judges here in New Hampshire who selected the winners. This year's judges were N.H. State Library Youth Services Coordinator, Ann Hoey; author Diane Mayr; attorney Donna Esposito; Susan Jenna, a teacher from Three Rivers School; Kristen Truncellito, an English teacher at Concord High School; and poet Mimi White. Each judge considers the letters at only one competition level and the semi-finalist list is reviewed by each judge ahead of time to make sure they don't know any of the students on the list. Ms. Jenna did not judge the elementary school letters as many of them were written by her students. The winning letters and a list of the 2008 New Hampshire semi-finalists are on the LAL website (www.nh.gov/nhsl/bookcenter/programs/letters.html).

TOWN MEETING ROUND-UP

Canterbury - Elkins Library in Canterbury had an increase in staff hours and wages. In 2007 there were 9 hours a week that had just one staff member working and now all hours are double staffed. The wages increased from \$58,100 to \$68,000 because of the added staff hours and a significant hourly raise. The town also passed empowering legislation. Warrant articles for RSA 202-A:4-c allowing Trustees to accept unanticipated funds; RSA 202-A:4d allowing Trustees to accept gifts of personal property; and RSA 202-A:11 permitting the library to retain all money from income-generating equipment all passed.

*submitted by - Susan LeClair, Director
Elkins Library*

Epping - The Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library in Epping had a warrant article on the ballot to fund a new staff position for the propose of expanding the library's hours to include Mondays. The amount of the article was \$8,000 and it passed by a wide margin. The new hours will begin Monday, March 31st. The complete schedule will now be Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fifty-four open hours total every week.

*submitted by - Amanda Reynolds Cooper, Director
Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library*

Francestown - Held their Town Meeting on March 15th and the George Holmes Bixby Memorial Library was successful in acquiring a positive vote to go ahead with renovations and a town release of \$170,000 set aside in the Capital Reserve Funds. Pending weather and any other unseen forces, we hope to break ground in April.

*submitted by - Carol Brock, Director
George Holmes Bixby Memorial Library*

Grantham - Our budget passed (ca. 5% increase) and we had two warrant articles: one for \$12,000 for replacing the windows in the original (1900) part of the building, and one for \$50,000 as saving towards an addition - now we have to form a building committee.

*submitted by - Dawn Huston, Director
Dunbar Free Library*

Greenland - The Weeks Public Library budget passed - 2007 Town Appropriation: \$188,760; 2008 Town Appropriation: \$207,000. The 9.6% overall increase covers the Assistant Director's salary and benefits for the full year (only budgeted for 10 months in 2007), COLA adjustments for all staff, the increase in the cost of health insurance for the two full-time employees and an increase in the snow removal line.

\$75,000 warrant article passed on March 15th, 2008. To see if the Town of Greenland will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund established by the 2007 Town Meeting for the purpose of funding the future growth of the Weeks Public Library, with the Library Trustees and the Board of Selectmen named as agents to expend from said fund.

*submitted by - Denise Grimse, Director
Weeks Public Library*

Madbury - At the Town Meeting on March 11th, 2008, the town voted in the affirmative on: Article 5: to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the existing Capital Reserve Fund established in Article 9 at the 2002 Town Meeting for a Library Building Fund. They have approved additions to our Capital Reserve Fund every year since the establishment of the fund in 2002. Our library budget passed, allowing a 3% increase in the Library Director's salary (.46) and we also added one hour to the Assistant Librarian's hours of 5 hours a week plus a 50 cent increase on her hourly pay. Also, in our budget, was an increase for our oil heat. I am hoping it will cover it!

*submitted by - Nancy Bergeron, Director
Madbury Library*

Mason - The Warrant Article for \$5,000 to add to the Library Building Capital Reserve Fund passed.

submitted by - The Staff at Mason Public Library

Milton - The following article was successful at our recent town elections - Article 7: To see if the Milton School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand dollars (\$5,000) to purchase library media for the Nute Library. This is a special warrant article appropriation. Note: This is in addition to Article 3, the operating budget. This article passed 641 to 294.

*submitted by - Karen Brown, Director
Nute Library*

New London - Voters in New London approved \$68,000 to be placed in Capital Reserve Fund for the resolution of lingering building maintenance issues at Tracy Memorial Library.

*submitted by - Sandra Licks, Director
Tracy Memorial Library*

Pelham - The Pelham Public Library's budget goal for 2008 was to take the initial steps toward pay equity for the library staff. The hourly rates for the Library's lowest paid part-time library assistants were not even on the town employee's pay matrix chart. The library proposed increases of \$1.00 per hour for the library assistants and 3% cost of living increases for the full-time staff, resulting in a 7% increase in the library's budget request. At the budget presentation, the Budget Committee was provided with backup materials demonstrating the pay inequity (and inadequate staffing levels) with comparable New Hampshire libraries serving similar populations, along with reports of the increasing demand for services. In response, the Budget Committee did not simply deny the requested increase, they recommended an operating budget 5% less than our 2007 budget, returning the Library to its 2004 level of funding.

The Library Trustees requested a meeting with the Budget Committee to ask for reconsideration of their recommendation, but the request was not acknowledged. At the public hearing on the budget, the Library asked to be heard with Friends of the Library and other supporters present. The Committee Chair stated that we had nothing new to present to them, so we should take our case to the Deliberative Session of the Town Meeting. Faced with the prospect of living with this budget for the entire year, on January 1, 2008, the library reduced its hours from 50 to 42 hours per week, and cut salaries by 5%. At the Deliberative Session, the President of the Friends of the Library made a motion to amend the Town Operating Budget warrant article by increasing the Library's operating budget by \$16,000. About a dozen people spoke in support of the motion, several asked the Budget Committee Chariman directly why the cuts were made to the library's budget in view of annual dramatic increases in circulation and attendance. No satisfactory reason was given. The vote was 77 to 5 in favor of the amendment! The victory was sweet, but short lived. At the Ballot Session of Town Meeting, the entire town operating budget was defeated, so we have gone to a default budget. Our 2008 budget is our 2007 budget - which is much better than living with our 2004 budget! The truth is, we still are riding on the momentum of that successful amendment. It was a real boost to the Friends of the Library and all of our supporters to see grass-roots democracy in action. We will build on that momentum. Just wait until next year!

*submitted by - Sue Hoadley, Director
Pelham Public Library*

GMILCS, Inc. ENHANCES CATALOG

by Dianne Hathaway, Chair
GMILCS PR Committee
Goffstown Public Library
(603) 497-2102
www.goffstown.lib.nh.us

GMILCS, Inc., a twelve-member multitype library consortium in southern New Hampshire has recently added some enhancements to its shared online catalog. *LibraryThing for Libraries* and *ChiliFresh* have been successfully integrated with the SirsiDynix Horizon library system, attracting attention from librarians and users alike.

LibraryThing for Libraries works with our system to give you suggestions for more books you might like that are similar to what you searched for. For instance, I searched *Girl with a Pearl Earring* and once I clicked to the full record I could see a list of similar books I might also want to read. Below that is a tag cloud that shows me the keywords, or tags, people have identified for this specific book. The bigger, bolder words mean they are used more often. So I can see for this same book the most common tags are "historical fiction" and "Vermeer." From the tag cloud, you can link to other books in the catalog that share that tag. These tags provide an additional entry point for users to search in addition to Library of Congress Subject Headings. It's important to note these tags are much less specific and can occasionally be misleading.

ChiliFresh is an independent book review engine that provides reviews from readers around the world and gives all of us the ability to review and rate the books we read. For our consortium this is truly a cost-effective way for the public to engage in the catalog and become a community with other readers. At the Goffstown Public Library and others, book discussion groups are working to put reviews on books read and discussed... without giving away the ending, of course! Marilyn Borgendale, the GMILCS System Administrator, works with several other librarians in the consortium to moderate reviews for inappropriate language and other content. Feel free to register and add reviews of your own!

To take a look at these enhancements for yourself and to evaluate them for your own library, link to our shared catalog at www.gmilcs.org. The GMILCS, Inc. consortium serves the libraries of Amherst, Bedford, Derry, Goffstown, Hooksett, Manchester, Merrimack, Milford, Salem, Southern New Hampshire University, New England College, and the New Hampshire Institute of Art. (Our name is pronounced "gee-milks.").

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners announces

*Leaky Pipes and Broken Windows:
Disaster Preparedness for Libraries and Archives
and an introduction to dPlan: an Online Disaster Planning Tool*

Are you having problems determining what information you need for your disaster plan? Have you collected information but cannot seem to put it into a format that works as a cohesive plan? Are you having problems getting started on developing your institutional disaster plan? Have you had problems with frozen pipes or another type of disaster in the recent past?

Developing an emergency preparedness plan is crucial to the survival of an institution's collections in the event of a disaster, as was so clearly demonstrated following Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. All too many institutions are not prepared and do not have a plan. The Leaky Pipes and Broken Windows workshop will introduce participants to a disaster, the theory and practice of developing a disaster preparedness plan, and describe and demonstrate *dPlan: an Online Disaster Planning Tool*. The deadline to register is May 2, 2008.

This workshop will be offered at five locations statewide. Come and learn first-hand what to do *before, during and after* an emergency. Wear your grubbies, bring a bag lunch, and be prepared to participate actively in simulated disaster activities. Workshops run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m (unless otherwise noted). Please note there is a 25 person maximum per workshop. If there is a large enough waiting list, we will schedule another workshop.

*Schedule of 2008 Leaky Pipes and Broken Windows:
Disaster Preparedness for Libraries and Archives
and an introduction to dPlan: an Online Disaster Planning Tool*

Workshop runs from 9 am to 4 pm

Thursday, May 29, 2008

Merrimac Public Library, MA

Please register by Friday, May 2, 2008.

To register, either fax this form to:
Attn: Rachel Devin Fax: 617-725-0140
or email your name, library, and workshop location to: rachel.devin@state.ma.us

For further information, contact:
Gregor Trinkaus-Randall at (617) 725-1860 x 236 or (800) 952-7403 x 236 or
e-mail: gregor.trinkaus-randall@state.ma.us

Name: _____

Title: _____

Library: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Directions needed: Yes No

Comments: _____

NEW HAMPSHIRE BOOK COLUMN

by Dara Magnon, Reference Librarian
NH State Library
Reference & Information Services
(603) 271-3302
www.nh.gov/nhsl

Astarjian, Henry D. **THE STRUGGLE FOR KIRKUK: THE RISE OF HUSSEIN, OIL, AND THE DEATH OF TOLERANCE IN IRAQ.** Praeger Security International, Westport, CT. 2007 \$49.95
ISBN 9780275995898

Astarjian is a physician in Nashua that grew up in Iraq. The book is part memoir of his time as a political prisoner, and part history of an oil rich city in Kurdistan.

Baker, Julie. **THE GREAT WHALESHIP DISASTER OF 1871.** Morgan Reynolds Publishing, Greensboro, N.C. 2007 \$27.95 ISBN 9871599350431

Baker lives in Amherst. Her book tells the story of 32 whaleships that sailed to Alaska and became trapped in ice, stranding 1,200 people with meager supplies.

Baretto, Tim. **SEARCHING FOR JOY.** Beech River Books, Ossipee, N.H. 2007 \$18.00
ISBN 9780979377846

Baretto teaches at UNH, Thompson School of Applied Science. He lives in Dover and is an advocate against child abuse. *Searching for Joy* is the story of 60 year old architect Tom Derringer, who discovers he has cancer and must confront the possibility of his death.

Churchill, Charles. **EARLY SETTLEMENT AND OTHER POEMS.** Beech Riverbooks, Center Ossipee, N.H. 2006 \$24.00 ISBN 9780977651412

Churchill is a retired English teacher from Kingswood Regional High School in Wolfeboro, N.H. He currently resides in Maine. The book is illustrated by Dawn Marion of Center Ossipee.

Curtis, Rebecca. **TWENTY GRAND: AND OTHER TALES OF LOVE AND MONEY.** Harper Perennial, N.Y. 2007 \$13.95 ISBN 9780061173097

Curtis grew up in Gilford, N.H. and writes stories set in New Hampshire. This is her first book. Curtis teaches at Columbia.

Davis, Cindy. **ARE WE THERE YET?** Treble Heart Books, Sierra Vista, AZ. 2007 \$7.00
ISBN 20071932695559

Davis has been a New Hampshire resident since 1989. *Are We There Yet?* is her amusing memoir of raising three children during the 1990s.

DeCarteret, Mark. **(IF THIS IS THE) NEW WORLD.** March Street Press, Greensboro, N.C. 2007 \$9.00
ISBN 159661059X

DeCarteret lives in Stratham. This is his collection of poems.

Demaree, Robert. **FATHERS AND TEACHERS: POEMS 1984-2006.** Beech River Books, Center Ossipee, N.H. 2007 \$12.95 ISBN 978097937781

Demaree is a retired School Administrator who lives half the year in Wolfeboro and half in North Carolina.

Fogel, Alice B. **BE THAT EMPTY: APOLOGIA FOR AIR.** Harbor Mountain Press, Brownsville, VT. 2007 \$14.00 ISBN 9780978600921

Fogel lives in Acworth. This is her third Book of Poems that she describes as a continuation of "...my exploration of the nature of our lives here in Northern New England."

Handford, J. Albert. **IN THE DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT**. Booksurge.com. 2007 \$19.99
ISBN 97814196486

Handford is a retired U.S. Navy, private detective, hypnotherapist and scout leader. He lives in Center Sandwich. *In the Dawn's Early Light* is a fictional story of time travel aboard a Navy ship with mysterious cargo that ends up in 1421 Guam.

Hill, Joe. **HEART SHAPED BOX: A NOVEL**. William Morrow, New York, N.Y. 2007 \$24.95
ISBN 97814196486

Hill is the son of Stephen King and is currently living in New Hampshire. This is the first novel by the award winning short story writer. It is a scary story about a dissipated former rock star that collects macabre. He buys a ghost inhabited suit over the Internet that disrupts his life.

Holmes, Richard. **NUTFIELD RAMBLES: STORIES FROM THE HISTORY OF DERRY, LONDONDERRY, AND WINDHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE**. Portsmouth, N.H. 2007
ISBN 9781931807647

Holmes is a Derry Town Historian. His book consists of "Historical rambles" about Nutfield nuggets like Lafayette's visit to Derry, the beggars of Barrington, and a mass murderer in Londonderry.

King, Ruth Sanborn. **LISTEN TO THE CRICKETS: A MEMOIR ON RURAL LIFE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY**. Lulu.com. 2007 \$17.50
ISBN 978143031161

King is a retired librarian that grew up on the family farm in Loudon. The book is her memoir of a now vanished way of life.

Korfhage, Christine. **WE AREN'T WHO WE ARE: AND THIS WORLD ISN'T EITHER**. Cavenkerry Press, Fort Lee, N.J. 2007 \$16.00 ISBN 9781933880044

This is Korfhage's debut Collection of Poems. They are autobiographical telling of her difficult childhood overseas. The author is also an artisan and a juried member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen.

Kozlow, Robert. **THE WHITE MOUNTAINS: A PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEY**. Huntington Graphics, Burlington, VT. 2007 \$29.95 ISBN 9781886064195

Kozlow is a dentist in Meredith, N.H. His book is a beautiful collection of images from various places in the White Mountains taken in all four seasons.

Lehrer, Jonah. **PROUST WAS A NEUROSCIENTIST**. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, MA. 2007 \$24.00
ISBN 9780618620104

Lehrer is the editor-at-large for *Seed* magazine. He is also a science writer living in the Concord area. His book explores the idea that many scientific break-throughs were the results of artistic insight..

MacDougal, Ruth Doan. **THE HUSBAND BENCH: OR BEV'S BOOK**. Frigate Books. 2007 \$12.21
ISBN 9780966335255

MacDougal is a New Hampshire native and the author of several novels. She has written updates to her father's hiking books. She is a recipient of the New Hampshire Writer's Project Lifetime Achievement Award. She has written several novels, beginning with the Cheerleader of New Hampshire characters as they live their lives. They tell the story of Beverly Colby, former high school beauty, and faltering marriage to Roger Lambert, high school basketball captain.

MacNeil, Maura. **A HISTORY OF WATER**. Finishing Line Press, Georgetown, KY. 2007 \$12.00
ISBN 9781599241807

Maura lives in Henniker and is an Associate Professor at New England College. The book is a collection of poems recanting a summer of her childhood.

MacPherson, Maxwell. **FOREVER YOURS**. AuthorHouse, Bloomington, IN. 2007 \$14.49
ISBN 9781431230

MacPherson lives in central New Hampshire. *Forever Yours* is a follow-up to the author's previous novel *On Love and Animals*. The book explores the wildlife in New Hampshire and other areas throughout the travels with Bess and Alex Samuel.

Milton, Edith. **THE TIGER IN THE ATTIC: MEMORIES OF THE KINDER TRANSPORT AND GROWING UP ENGLISH**. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL. 2005 \$22.50
ISBN 0226529460

Author's unique childhood story. Jewish born in Germany. In 1939, just prior to Hitler's invasion of Poland, she was sent to England in a program that evacuated 10,000 Jewish children. She lived with a foster family for 7 years. Eventually Milton came to the United States and is now living in New Hampshire and California.

Moore, Michele C. & Caroline M. DeCosta. **PREGNANCY AND PARENTING AFTER THIRTY-FIVE: MID LIFE, NEW LIFE**. Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, MD. 2006 \$16.95 ISBN 978080188317

Moore lives in New Hampshire and practices medicine. Her book is a thorough guide to the unique issues involved in pregnancy and childbirth in older women.

Older, Julia. **TAHIRIH UNVEILED**. Turning Point Books, Cincinnati, OH. 2007 \$17.00
ISBN 9781933456591

Older lives in Southern New Hampshire. She is a poet, novelist, and translator. This is a book of her poems about Tahirih of Persea, the 19th century follower of Bab, "central figure in the creation of the Baha'I faith." Tahirih was a poet executed for her religious beliefs.

Ponders, Kim. **THE LAST BLUE MILE**. Harper Collins, N.Y. 2007 \$24.95
ISBN 9780060847067

Ponders was one of the first American women in combat during Desert Storm. Now part of the Air Force Reserve, she lives in New Hampshire. This is her second novel that tells the story of Brook Searcy, a female cadet at the Air Force Academy, enmeshed in a cheating scandal.

Ronstadt, Robert. **THE TUITION TRAVESTY: AND WHAT STUDENTS, PARENTS, ALUMNI, AND DONORS CAN DO ABOUT IT**. www.booksurge.com (self published). 2007 \$23.99
ISBN 9781419674235

Ronstadt is a former vice president of Boston University and a Gilmanton resident. This book is an exposé of the high cost of attending college with strategies for students to make education more affordable.

Rutt, Stephanie. **AN ORDINARY LIFE TRANSFORMED: LESSONS FOR EVERYONE FROM THE BHAGAVAD GITA**. Hobblebush Books, Brookline, N.H. 2006 \$20.00 ISBN 9780976089667

Rutt is the Minister at the Tree of Life Interfaith Fellowship in Milford. This book explains Hindu Philosophy and principles for applying it to our lives.

Spirito, K. **SPIDERLING (LA ROSA CHRONICLES, 5TH BOOK, SEVERAL GENERATIONS OF FAMILY)**. Peter E. Randall Publisher, Portsmouth, N.H. 2006 \$16.95 ISBN 9781931807531

Spirito lives in New Hampshire. *Spiderling* is a thriller set in the White Mountains. It's a story of the world on the verge of destruction. All linking to an ecology camp in the Mountains that is actually a terrorist sleeper cell.

TRAVELING EXHIBIT TO TOUR STATE'S LIBRARIES

by Lynn Graton, Traditional Arts Coordinator
NH State Council on the Arts
NH Department of Cultural Resources
www.nh.gov/folklife; www.nh.gov/nharts

This spring, summer and fall, the N.H. State Council on the Arts will be touring a small traveling exhibit to nine state's libraries and one historical society. The exhibit, *Discovering Heritage Arts in New Hampshire* is based upon the New Hampshire Folklife website's newest activity: "Heritage Arts Build-A-Pictures." These interactive picture puzzles are designed for grades 3 and up and feature original artworks of traditional arts commissioned for New Hampshire illustrators.

The website activities are the exhibit promote a wider appreciation for folk and traditional arts in New Hampshire, broaden the concept of literacy to include language specific to traditional arts, and support New Hampshire artists. The online activities are especially helpful for teachers covering units on New Hampshire history and can be found on the New Hampshire Folklife website at www.nh.gov/folklife.

The exhibit focuses on eight traditional arts forms: ash basket making; sheep sheering & spinning; stone wall building; blacksmithing; fly tying; dog sled making; contra dance & music; and French Canadian soiree. Two versions of the exhibit are being developed, one that is free hanging and one that comes complete with portable display panels.

The ten exhibit venues for the 2008 season represent a broad geographic coverage of our state. More libraries will be invited to host the exhibit for the 2009 season. If your library is interested in learning more, please feel free to contact:

Lynn Martin Graton
Traditional Arts Coordinator
NH State Council on the Arts
2½ Beacon Street
Concord NH 03301

e-mail: lynn.j.graton@dcr.nh.gov
phone: (603) 271-8418

2008 Traditional Arts Exhibit Host Sites are:

Baker Free Library, Bow
Campton Public Library
Conway Public Library
Howe Library, Hanover
Laconia Public Library

Lincoln Public Library
Shedd-Porter Memorial Library, Alstead
Peterborough Town Library
Tracy Memorial Library, New London
Walpole Historical Society, Walpole

WHAT'S NEW AT MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM

by Karyn Isleb, Head of Children's Services
Manchester City Library
624-6550 ext 335
www.manchester.lib.nh.us

Have you been to Manchester City Library's Children's Room to check out all the new programs? We have added afterschool programs for school-aged children, Saturday afternoon programming for families, and monthly activities for our youngest patrons.

For the afterschool programs, we have started two crafts clubs: one for grades K-2, and another for grades 3-5. Some activities include learning how to scrapbook and making duct tape wallets. They have played brain games and celebrated Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Mardi Gras. Krystin, our New Hampshire Art Institute Intern, has started a Camera Club for children that meets once a month to discuss their photos and other projects.

We have added game afternoons for families. Once a month, everyone of all ages is invited to stop by the library on a Saturday afternoon to play their favorite board game. This has been a great intergenerational program. There are several seniors who have been teaching the kids how to play Scrabble. In return, the kids show the seniors how to play Twister. You can hear the laughs and see the smiles on everyone's face. It has been a great time!

For our youngest patrons, ages 1-5 years, we get together on a Monday morning once a month for a very special celebration. On January 2nd, we rang in the New Year as the clock struck noon with wish bags, confetti, and noise makers. The kids learned how to walk like bears, cats, giraffes, monkeys, and butterflies during our February celebration, Walk Like Animals. In March, we spent the morning dancing the Bunny Hop, Hokey Pokey, Chicken Dance, Shaking Our Sillies Out as well as many other fun dances. We will be going on a Dinosaur Dig in April and then in May, we will hold a Mexican Fiesta.

We have also had several guests stop in during our weekly storytimes. In January, Scuba Mickey and Minnie from Disney *Finding Nemo On Ice* stopped by the library when they were in Manchester to say "hi" to the kids. During the baseball season, Slider and a few of the Fisher Cat players have come to read to the kids. During April vacation, Manchester K-9 police officer, Riley, and his handler, Tom, will be stopping by to read and meet the kids during our toddler storytime.

It has been an exciting time in the Manchester City Library's Children's Room. Everyone is invited to stop in and check us out!

YOUNG READERS' ROOM REOPENED AFTER 4½ YEARS

by Vicki Varick, Director
Aaron Cutler Memorial Library, Litchfield
www.cutlerlibrary.blogspot.com

The Aaron Cutler Memorial Library held an open house on March 20th to celebrate the grand reopening of the Florence C. Center Young Readers Room. Helping us celebrate were Mr. Phil the Magician who twisted balloons for kids, Amelia Bedelia (played by patron Debbie Nordyke) who read one of her stories, and Steve Blunt who played guitar and sang with the children. Thanks to an anonymous donor, each child was also able to take home a new book. All in all, 276 residents filed in and out of the library during the 3½ hour event. Patrons, staff and trustees were thrilled with the turn out, the program, and the newly reopened space.

Located on the lower level of Litchfield's public library, the Young Readers Room had been closed for 4½ years following flood damage in August of 2003. What initially looked like a simple job of carpet replacement turned into a much more complicated project when it was soon discovered that the basement floor was really a wooden platform built over concrete. Water had flowed under the entire platform requiring its complete removal. Further, it was later discovered that the concrete floor beneath had been encapsulated for lead paint in the mid-90's, and the encapsulation had been destroyed. All in all, the project required much engineering and two warrant articles: one to correct drainage issues around the building, and one to reconstruct the lower level of the building. The first warrant made its way onto the ballot in 2005 to fix the drainage and was completed in 2006. At the direction of the Board of Selectmen, the second followed a year later in 2006 and was completed at the end of 2007.

During this 4½ years, other provisions were made for our younger patrons. Initially, arrangements were made with Library Director Toni Weller for Litchfield's children to have access to Hills Memorial Library in Hudson for the 2003-2004 school year. Then, when it became evident that the Young Readers' Room would not reopen in 2004, library staff boxed up half of the upper level of the library to make room for a temporary children's collection. This left roughly half of the adult collection and a third of the children's collection in storage, and no space available for popular children's programs such as Story Time, Kid's Club, and Make 'n Takes.

Following the completion of the reconstruction project, other improvements were made to the lower level using trust funds, impact fees, and an insurance settlement. These improvements include a fresh air exchange system, additional lighting and shelving, new window shades, and a replacement circulation desk. The result is a bright cheerful space for the birth through sixth grade crowd and their caregivers to enjoy books, programs, and each other.

NEW HAMPSHIRE FILM OFFICE LAUNCHES HIGH SCHOOL FILM FESTIVAL

by Matthew Newton
Department of Cultural Resources
Film & Television Office
271-2220
film@nh.gov; www.nh.gov/film

High school filmmakers from around the state will showcase their works on the silver screen this May when the New Hampshire Film and Television Office launches the first-of-its-kind, statewide high school short film festival. New Hampshire Technical Institute's (recently renamed to Concord's Community College) Sweeney Hall Auditorium in Concord will set the stage for the inaugural fest on Saturday, May 17, 2008 beginning at noon.

"One of the missions of the film office is to support and promote the efforts of our New Hampshire filmmakers, and student filmmakers are no exception," say Matthew Newton, Film Specialist managing the New Hampshire Film and Television Office. "Student filmmakers is an exciting and essential part of our industry here in the Granite State, and we're thrilled to be able to provide this venue for young talent."

Newton is a graduate of the film studies program at Keene State College in Keene, N.H.

The New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival is the first part of a broader film education initiative from the film office to roll out in the coming year. A web-based resource for students and their teachers will provide filmmaking tips, articles, suggested exercises and other documents that will introduce students to the fundamental and aesthetic principles of motion picture production, foster the educational benefits of cinematic storytelling and help ensure that students efforts in film will be approached creatively and professionally.

"We want to provide a resource that will not only supplement existing high school media arts programs, but hopefully create a springboard for schools that are looking to start them," says Christina Gompert, co-founder of the festival and a teacher at Nute High School in Milton. "It is also important to encourage students to learn the steppingstones of conventional filmmaking while also letting their creative spirit thrive through creative risk-taking. This festival will be a great opportunity for that."

"It's great to be able to add a statewide high school film festival to a growing list of New Hampshire-based festivals where independent film can be seen," says Van McLeod, Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Resources. "This will be a nice companion event along with the New Hampshire Film Festival in Portsmouth and the SNOB (Somewhat North of Boston) Film Festival in Concord. Everywhere you look now there's film."

The festival is open to students currently enrolled in New Hampshire public or private high school (grades 9-12). Submissions will be accepted for festival consideration until April 14, 2008. Films will be selected by a panel of judges to screen at the festival. Five winning films will be packaged onto a DVD, which will include brief interviews with the films' respective directors, and distributed to every community access television station in the state for future broadcast.

Rules and guidelines, film submission forms and other festival information may be found online at www.nhstudentfilm.com.

The New Hampshire Film and Television Office, as part of the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources, works to expand business activity and employment throughout the state by acting as a liaison between the film industry and an established network of government agencies, the state's film industry workforce, and local property owners. The office is responsible for location assistance, public relations, and general production support in an effort to broaden the cultural and economic impact of film and television production in the state. For more information about film and television production in New Hampshire, call (603) 271-2220 or visit www.nh.gov/film.

YOUTUBE *DINER* VIDEO CONTEST A SUCCESS!

by Diane Lynch, Teen Librarian
Laconia Public Library
524-4775 ext 12
www.laconialibrary.org

The YouTube *Diner* Video program, co-sponsored by the Teen Scene of Laconia Public Library and the Laconia Historical and Museum Society, concluded with a screening on Wednesday, February 28th in the library's Laconia Rotary Hall Auditorium. Teens and adults created their own 3-minute video for Martin Sexton's song *Diner*, a song celebrating diners in America. The song was chosen in accord with the Laconia Museum and Historical Society's Diner History exhibit that is ongoing at Laconia Public Library. The attending crowd viewed all six video entries and cast votes for the winners on the spot. As votes were tallied, guests and contestants enjoyed pizza and soda. Grand prize in the teen category was awarded to solo contestant Michael Engelsen. Second prize was awarded to a family project starring Ashley, Gene, and James Carroll and Peyton Plante. Third prize was awarded to brother and sister team David and Korie Toth. Fourth prize was awarded to the dynamic duo of Mariah Lemay and Amelia Romprey. In the adult category, Ralph Carroll and his Friendly's co-workers took home the top honor. The adult grand prize money was generously donated by the winners to support the Laconia Museum and Historical Society's membership drive. Runner-up was another solo artist, Aaron Corbin. Entries may be viewed online at www.laconiahistorical.org. Thanks to all who participated to make this collaboration a success!

AUDIO FEATURING HISTORY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY AVAILABLE FREE FOR DOWNLOADING

N.H. Historical Society
Concord, N.H.
www.nhhistory.org

For all those who would like to learn more about the New Hampshire First-in-the-Nation Primary but for whom finding time to read is a challenge, the New Hampshire Historical Society is releasing *First Stop: The New Hampshire Primary*, its first ever publication in an audio version. This offering reflects a growing tendency, reported in the *Wall Street Journal* in September 2006: "More people, from all walks of life, are downloading and listening to spoken versions of information normally found in print, including books, language courses, magazines and newspapers."

First Stop: The New Hampshire Primary provides new insight into the origins of, as well as long-term trends associated with, New Hampshire's First-in-the-Nation Presidential Primary. Appearing originally as a special issue of *Historical New Hampshire*, the only statewide history journal, *First Stop* was produced by the New Hampshire Historical Society in collaboration with the New Hampshire Political Library. It is dedicated to the late Governor Hugh Gregg, one of the leading advocates for the New Hampshire Primary and founder of the New Hampshire Political Library.

The audio version of *First Stop*, narrated by John Walters and produced by Jody Petersen of Cliff House Audio for the New Hampshire Historical Society, is made possible with generous support from the Hugh Gregg Foundation. Anyone who wishes to listen may download the audio files without charge from the New Hampshire Historical Society's website or purchase the entire publication as a three-CD set from the museum store for \$15.00. For either option please visit www.nhhistory.org.

Together the three articles narrated here provide an overview of New Hampshire's significance in the election of the nation's president. Taken in chronological order, the first article, by Gettysburg College history professor and former *Concord Monitor* journalist Michael Birkner, explores the role of the first nationally significant New Hampshire presidential primary - and of Sherman Adams in particular - in the recruiting of Dwight D.

Eisenhower as the Republican candidate in 1952. Next, Associate Professor of Politics Danta Scala, who has recently moved from Saint Anselm College to the University of New Hampshire, traces the growing influence of reform-minded Democrats of the state's industrial cities. Finally, Peter Haskell Burr, an independent political researcher and analyst, presents informed advice for would-be presidential candidates, based on historical facts and statistics but presented in an entertaining way. Two books on the primary are also reviewed.

First Stop is available as well in printed form from the museum store for \$3.50 (plus \$7.95 postage and handling) and as a .pdf without charge at www.nhhistory.org.

The New Hampshire Historical Society has published the journal *Historical New Hampshire* since 1944. Each issue contains a variety of articles about a past that enriches and informs our lives today, as well as reviews of recent books of state and local interest. *Historical New Hampshire* is a benefit of membership and is sent twice each year to members of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

To become a member or to order back issues, call (603) 856-0625, e-mail store@nhhistory.org, or visit online at www.nhhistory.org.

The New Hampshire Historical Society is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing New Hampshire history.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ROOM TURNS 50

by Cynthia O'Neil, NH Room
Manchester City Library
www.manchester.lib.nh.us

On March 16th, 2008, the New Hampshire Room of the Manchester City Library completed 50 years of service to the citizens within and beyond the boundaries of Manchester. It was on this date in 1958 when Mrs. Barbara Vogel Green opened the doors to the public during the first National Library Week. The event was televised by WBS-TV in Boston to viewers on a black and white screen, a new medium at that time.

One year later, in 1959, 238 reference questions were answered and by 1961, the number rose to 769 questions from visitors, letters and via telephone. In 2007, reference questions answered were 16,071, the largest number received via the Internet, followed by frequent visitors. The former "card catalog" was replaced by an online catalog available worldwide. E-mails requesting information about the collection have been received from Australia, several European countries, and from the Far East. Many questions involve genealogy and the search for lost relatives, others are concerned about events which happened in Manchester and New Hampshire's history. Patrons are fourth-grade students assigned a New Hampshire project, Girl and Boy Scouts, college professors, newspapermen, tourists, and people interested in local history.

The room was moved into larger quarters and rededicated on April 17th, 1996. Renovations were funded by the Priscilla Manning Sullivan, Frank Pierce Carpenter, and Mary Carpenter Manning families.

The New Hampshire Room is a golden treasure containing almost all the New Hampshire town histories ever published, biographies of famous New Hampshire people, newspaper clipping files on major New Hampshire topics, microfilms of vital records and old newspapers of Manchester, and genealogical resources. This reference collection is open during limited hours and to plan a successful experience patrons are advised to call prior to their visit ((603) 624-6550).

Fifty years have passed. Color television, microfilm, computers, new inventions and space exploration have been documented in the New Hampshire Room. We can only imagine what the future will bring during the next 50 years!

NETFLIX AS COMPLEMENTARY ILL WORKS IN SOME SMALL LIBRARIES

Library Hotline / March 11, 2008

Netflix, the popular service that delivers DVD rentals to millions of customers, may prove to be a worthwhile ancillary service for some public libraries. Although Netflix is limited to personal and noncommercial use, some library staffers have interpreted this to define libraries as a personal account.

At Sanbornton Public Library, NH, serving a population under 3,000, Director Cab Vinton considers Netflix as an interlibrary loan (ILL) substitute. His library, written up March 10th in *Newsweek* magazine, has just begun to use the \$16.99 three-discs-at-a-time membership. He contacted Netflix about establishing a legitimate membership. He even offered to discontinue the service if the company requested it; to date, Netflix has not responded. "I think they've got bigger fish to fry," Vinton told *Library Hotline*, also noting that the *Newsweek* article mentioned that some video stores were also Netflix customers. "I don't see it as a negative for them," Vinton said about Netflix having libraries as customers. "We're basically marketing the product for them."

That's certainly the case with Cook Memorial Library (CML), Tamworth, NH. Several library patrons, after using the library's Netflix service, have become customers on their own, CML director Jay Rancourt told *Library Hotline*. CML lends out fewer than ten titles per month, but the service "saves us a lot of money," she said. While usage is usually low, less than five percent of all ILL requests, it's still useful when supplementing a collection with an obscure film or expensive television series. CML also uses Netflix to screen potential library purchases.

Exeter Public Library, RI, director Amy Neilson doesn't consider her Netflix experiment very successful. Patrons haven't been using it much so she'll "probably discontinue it within a month," she told *Library Hotline*. She does consider it a good public relations ploy, as patrons appreciate the effort.



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LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

NEWS FROM

Canterbury - Mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 22nd, at 7:00 p.m. Elkins Library will be hosting the Humanities-To-Go program. Meet Ruth Law, Aviator. On December 2nd, 1916, Ruth Law, the Granite State's first female aviator, flew out of the darkness. Wing tips ablaze with magnesium flares and a neon sign reading "LIBERTY" trailing from her aeroplane, she circled the Statue of Liberty as its floodlights were lit for the first time. Ruth Law was the first woman to fly in New Hampshire, first woman to wear the U.S. Army uniform and first to fly the loop. Come hear Ruth Law tell of her adventures as Barbara Miles presents her Chautauqua performance. This free program is great for adults and school age youngsters.

*submitted by - Susan LeClair, Director
Elkins Library*

Milford - An article went across the country on American Library Direct - a program using Dance Dance Revolution (DDR) where teens could have their fines forgiven if they could beat our DDR expert. See the full article at www.cabinet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20080118/MILFORD01/787025143.

Lucinda Mazza, Library Assistant at the Wadleigh Memorial Library, has been selected from a pool of candidates nationwide to receive the Public Library Association's *Grow Your Own* institutional scholarship this year for the 10,000-25,000 population and \$1,500 to be spent on attending a future PLA symposium, conference, or continuing education course. Only 8 awards were given nationwide. The *Grow Your Own* initiative was designed to assist public library staff members in pursuing their Master's degree in library and information science. The Public Library Association "recognizes that the institution is strategically positioned to best identify those employees with a commitment to librarianship, public libraries and the institution/community." (www.pla.org/ala/pla/plaawards/growyourown.cfm). Cindy has spent 20+ years in the technology field and came to library work when her company downsized. She worked a number of part-time library jobs and took a few library courses before she made her way to the Wadleigh Library. Whereas her technological background makes her a huge asset to any library, it is her dedication and passion for libraries that makes her a natural for this field. She is always enthusiastic, helpful, and willing to do what it takes to get the job done. She is a natural leader with a proven track record of management skills; furthermore, she is truly an ambassador for this Library and an example for her peers. We are extraordinarily lucky to have her as part of our team.

*submitted by - Michelle Sampson, Director
Wadleigh Memorial Library*

Newington - On Thursday, February 29th, the Langdon Library in Newington drew about 50 people for a screening of a 1949 movie! The film is called *Lost Boundaries*; as it deals with racial issues, it was showed in honor of Black History Month. The producer, Academy-Award winner Louis de Rochemont, was a local filmmaker, and the filming was done on location here on the Seacoast. Here's the link to the story for more info. www.seacoastonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080225/NEWS/802250322/-1/PUBLICRECORDS05.

*submitted by - D Scott Campbell, Director
Langdon Library*

Troy - Craig Brandon the author of *Monadnock, More than a Mountain* will be at the Gay-Kimball Library in Troy on Wednesday, April 16th at 7:00 p.m. He'll discuss *Monadnock's* hidden caves, the long struggle to protect the mountain from developers and the famous writers, painters, and musicians who were inspired by it for nearly 200 years. The presentation will also feature a slide show and discussion based on Brandon's 10 years of research. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers as well. For more information call 242-7743 or check out our website at www.troylibrary.us.

*submitted by - Catherine Callegari, Director
Gay-Kimball Library*

State of New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources

State of New Hampshire
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Monday-Friday
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-- Editorial Policy --

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