FROM THE DESK OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN.....In June, the first group of New Hampshire libraries began their migration to a nhaisLOCAL automation system. nhaisLOCAL is a program established by the State Library in response to the need for good integrated library systems at a reasonable price. nhaisLOCAL uses open source automation software called KOHA, which was developed in New Zealand in 2000.

With the assistance of a service provider, ByWater Solutions, the State Library's NHAIS Services Section helped the public libraries in Colebrook, Danville, Litchfield, Lyndeborough, Tuftonboro and Warner to move to an open source ILS. Over three days in June at the Hooksett Public Library, thirty people from this first group of libraries trained on the new system and developed their policies for the nhaisLOCAL KOHA system. The libraries went live with the new ILS in July. The group has embraced the new system, and although there have been some fits and starts during the transition, I have heard that the libraries are glad they made the move to a more robust system that has by its nature the ability to meet the needs of their libraries. Currently, about 15 libraries in New Hampshire have chosen open source software for their most recent ILS acquisition. Although the majority of systems in place in New Hampshire public libraries are in fact proprietary and work well for those libraries, the goal of the nhaisLOCAL project is to provide another avenue for libraries that may not want to use proprietary software or are just interested in the open source concept. Another group of libraries is ready to start the process in September; this group will go live after the first of the year.

One of the key factors for success with any ILS project is to have a bibliographic database that is complete, accurate and adheres to rigid standards, i.e. full MARC records. The State Library's NHU-PAC is an excellent example of such a database, which is why we urged all librarians to use records from NHU-PAC when developing a catalog for their library. As we learned more than 30 years ago when we were automating the original
New Hampshire union catalog, the database will become your most important asset. This is because, although you will change platforms many times, your database will remain essentially the same - with additions, of course. If your database is built based on standards, you will be able to move to a new platform any time you need to without difficulty and the full functionality of your software will provide your patrons the best possible access to your collections.

As we move to improve the ILS experience for all New Hampshire libraries, we hope to create a community of users who will be able to help one another through this transition and work to enhance the system.

- Michael York, State Librarian

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**SIX-WORD MEMOIR CONTEST**

by Carol Luers Eyman
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Outreach & Community Services Coordinator
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The Nashua Public Library held a six-word memoir contest this spring. Participants had about a month to write their memoirs and enter them on a google form posted on the library's website. Each entry was then printed on a small sheet of paper and hung on a display in the library.

A panel of volunteer judges (a writer, a college literature instructor, and a high school English teacher) judged the entries on clarity, originality, cleverness, and style, and the winners were announced at the beginning of one of the library's evening programs during National Library Week.

First prize was a $50 gift certificate to Downtown Nashua eateries. Four runners-up were recognized at the announcement with certificates. Each winner had the chance to read their memoir to the audience.

The winner was Al Trasatti for "Ears hairy. Head not so much." At the event, Trasatti told the audience that he had crafted over 20 six-word memoirs before submitting eight of them. Among the others he read were "Wisdom comes with age. Missed me." and "Old enough to chat without keyboard."

The contest was competitive, with 138 entries. Runners up were:

- Martin Novick: "Life was awesome. Toyota for sale."
- Amy Brasil: "Didn't hold my dreams tight enough."
- Elaine Carmona: "Art or money? A love study."
MATERIALS NEEDED: Boxes, empty water bottles, rice, color printer, raffle tickets, Angry Birds and Prizes!

COST: $5.00 - depends on what you have for prizes and if anyone is crafty enough to make the birds.

PROGRAM PREP: If you're crafty you can make the birds yourself, if not you'll have to either buy some angry birds paraphernalia or find some items to tape pictures of the birds to. One bird was crocheted, one was designed out of sewn felt and the last bird made use of a previous teen program and was constructed out of duct tape. The different materials were so that there would be different weights, but you could have them all be the same material. The stuffing on the inside was also varied and made use of rice, paper, bouncy balls and craft stuffing.

Next you'll need to tape your boxes closed. I prefer having lots of different sizes, but any sizes should work. You can also cover them with paper, if you want to reuse macaroni and cheese boxes, cereal boxes or other found box items.

Print out photos of the different Angry Bird pigs.

Take the empty water bottles and fill them with various levels of rice. Heavy bottles should be worth more points. You'll want to print out a scoring sheet too.

Set up your prizes in various points categories.

PROGRAM PROCEDURE: You'll want to set up the boxes in different structures and then place the pig water bottles in various places on and in the structures. Tape a line to the floor for the teens to throw from, to keep it fair. The goal is to get as many points as possible. I give them one ticket for each point and then let them cash their tickets in whenever they've accumulated enough. You can have the teens add up their own points, or you can add them after each turn. Also, it can either be you are setting up the structure each time or make it interactive and have the teens help!

SUGGESTIONS FOR MARKETING THIS PROGRAM: Have the birds out at the circulation desk. Set up the boxes and pigs a day early for an enticing 3D visual.

This is great for all ages and group sizes. So feel free to make it a tween/teen group. You could even have young than that.
NEW BOOKS FROM PLAINFIELD AND CORNISH AUTHORS

by Donna Gilbreth, Supervisor
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Reference & Information Services
NH State Library, Concord
(603) 271-2060 · www.nh.gov/nhsl

Titles recommended by Nancy Norwalk, Director
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Philip Read Memorial Library, Plainfield
(603) 675-6866 · www.plainfieldnhlibrary.org

The beautiful Connecticut River Valley towns of Plainfield and Cornish, former home to members of the Cornish Art Colony, continue to nurture modern day authors and other artists.

Plainfield and Cornish, small towns along the Connecticut River with views west to Mount Ascutney in Vermont, have long attracted artists and wealthy residents, both summer and permanent. The Cornish Art Colony began with the move of noted sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens to Cornish in 1885 and continued through the early 1900s with other notable artists spending time in the area. Well known members of the colony included Maxfield Parrish (artist) Louis E. Shipman (playwright), Charles Platt (architect), Kenyon Cox (artist), and Winston Churchill (American author). President Woodrow Wilson briefly had the summer White House in the area at Harlakenden House (1913-1915), and actress Ethel Barrymore also summered here for several years.

In later years, authors made their homes in the Cornish and Plainfield area, including the reclusive J.D. Salinger and novelist Louise Erdrich.

Still today, authors living in Plainfield and Cornish continue to write. The following are their works published in 2013.

Davidson, Helen Taylor and Richard Davidson.  *Prelude, a novel and The 1854 diary of Adeline Elizabeth Hoe*.  Peter E. Randall Publisher, 2013

Helen and Richard Davidson live in Plainfield. They edited the diary of Helen's grandmother, who was a 17-year-old living in a privileged New York City family in 1854. Her father, inventor of a lithographic rotary press, was part of the city's publishing scene and involved in the abolitionist movement. The novel expands upon the diary, telling Adeline's story in the context of the years leading up to the start of the Civil War.


Ms. Gilbert-Smith, now living in California, is an expert on the artist Maxfield Parrish. She has discovered and published letters written by the older artist to a young woman between 1936 and 1941. Parrish came to Plainfield in the late 1800s, setting up his home and studio “The Oaks”. He lived there until his death in 1966. His illustrations and paintings were extremely popular in the early 1900s.

Homeyer, Henry.  *Wobar and the Quest for the Magic Calumet*.  Bunker Hill Publishing, 2012.  Homeyer of Cornish Flat has written a children's book (illustrated by Vermont artist Joshua Yunger) about the adventures of Wobar, a boy born with a mustache and the ability to speak with animals. Homeyer has also written several gardening books and a newspaper column. He is a former teacher, Peace Corps volunteer and peace activist.


Lunderville is a Plainfield native who tells the story of growing up in this historic town in the mid-20th century.

Journalist Serebrov lives in Plainfield and has published her first novel, inspired by a chance meeting with a native of Namibia several years ago. She learned of the nation's dark past and the revolt against German colonial rule in the early 1900s which led to mass genocide of the country's native population. The resulting historical novel tells the story of a Herero Tribe girl name Jahohora who survives the deaths of her family and people at the hands of the German government.

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**A BIG THANK YOU TO NEW HAMPshire LIBRARIeS**

by Julie Steenson

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Whipple Free Library, New Boston

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Earlier this spring, in my dual role as Inter-Library Loan Coordinator at the Whipple Free Library (WFL) in New Boston and volunteer for the NH Department of Corrections, I sent out an e-mail to New Hampshire's public libraries asking for help in serving a most underserved population - the women at the Shea Farm Transitional Housing Unit of Concord, NH.

Shea Farm is the transitional housing for women after they leave the Goffstown facility and start their reintegration into society. Shea Farm is in Concord but very remote, and the women generally walk long distances to get to their jobs or any public transportation. They have very limited library services and no access to downloadable books. New Boston's own small Playaway audiobook collection had low circulation, which gave me the idea that maybe New Hampshire libraries would be willing to donate Playaways for these women so they could listen to audiobooks on their walks and jogs. WFL Director, Sarah Chapman, gave full support to my project.

The responses to the e-mail request were inspiring. Even libraries that didn't have Playaways expressed a desire to help. Thirty Playaways were donated, including many recent titles. Christine Cook, Unit Manager for Shea Farm, asked me to share these words with New Hampshire's public libraries, "The Playaways are a wonderful donation and the women at Shea Farm really appreciate listening to all the great books. Thank you so much for your generosity and thinking about the women at Shea Farm."

A special thank you to the following libraries for their generous Playaway donations: Abbie Greenleaf Library, Franconia; Barrington Public Library; Chesley Memorial Library, Northwood; East Kingston Public Library; Silsby Free Public Library, Charlestown; and Whipple Free Library, New Boston.

*Julie Steenson is Inter-Library Loan Coordinator at the Whipple Free Library in New Boston, volunteer for the New Hampshire Department of Corrections, and a full-time Master's of Library & Information Science student at Simmons College.*
NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BOOK COLUMN  
by Linda Jayes, Supervisor  
linda.jayes@dcr.nh.gov  
Technical Services Section  
NH State Library  
(603) 271-2429 • www.nh.gov/nhsl

Poetry.


Poems by Barbara Bald.

Bald, Barbara. RUNNING ON EMPTY. 2012 ISBN: 978-0-9789354-6-7 
Poems by Barbara Bald.

Detective story.

Story of the author's intersection with northern loons.

The author's third novel for young readers (ages 10-16) is an account of the Portsmouth rebellion.


History of skiing at Cranmore Mountain and the Cranmore Mountain Resort.

Poems by Laura Davies Foley.


Heald, Bruce D.  **OLD COUNTRY STORES OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.** The History Press, 2013.  $19.99  
History of country stores and country life in New Hampshire.  Includes black and white photographs.

ISBN: 978-1-59673108-3  
Fantasy adventure story.

Judge, Lita.  **RED HAT.** Athenauum Books for Young Readers, 2013.  $16.99  
ISBN: 978-1-4424-4232-0  
"In this almost wordless picture book, a troupe of baby forest animals borrow a child's hat, until all that is left is a long piece of red string."

Karner, Tracy Lee.  **TOWARD DAYLIGHT; BECOMING A WRITER DESPITE EVERYTHING.** Rose Hall Media Company, 2012.  $17.95  
ISBN: 978-0-9655922-1-5  
A New England memoir and travel guide.

ISBN: 978-1-4555-0723-8  
Author's reflections on midlife.

ISBN: 978-1-61720-434-0  
Adventure story by the author of Play the Game.

$19.95  
ISBN: 978-1-882295-96-8

"The story of an unlikely friendship, Mr. Flux paints a picture of the joy that can be found in changes big and small."  Children's book illustrated by Peterborough resident Matte Stephens.

ISBN: 978-1-58465-986-0  
A comprehensive guide with maps and photographs.

Biography of New Hampshire Senator Blair, in particular, his efforts to improve the nation's public education system.

ISBN: 978-0-87233-156-3  
True story of now an unwanted cockatoo achieved international fame.  Written for trades three through eight.

Nadeau, Andrew.  **HISTORY OF THE FRANKLIN, NH FIRE DEPARTMENT IN PICTURES, 1853-2011.**  Published 2012.  
ISBN: 978-1-300-49542-0  
Pictorial companion to the author's *History of the Franklin, NH Fire Department, 1830-2010."

Petlick, Charles Arnold.  **A GENEALOGY OF THE WHITE FAMILY OF NEW CASTLE, NH.**  2013

The author is a retired journalist and photographer who worked for the Monadnock Ledger and the Monadnock Leger-Transcript.


"A collaborative publication and exhibit companion by the Monadnock Historical Societies Forum."


Stories of "intriguing people and events through history that have shaped the Granite State."


From the title page: "Joyful, easy training and wellness for a happy, healthy and confident dog. Reduce stress and create positive changes in your life, too."


Solomon is the owner of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats.


Book about two non-hikers who decide to climb the sixty-seven highest mountains in New England. Color photographs.


New Hampshire native St. Onge is a World and U.S. champion in the sport of barefoot water skiing.


Newly collected historical writings by nineteenth century women in the town of Warner.

**200 YEARS SOLID AS GRANITE: THE BICENTENNIAL OF A SPECIAL TOWN: ROXBURY, NH.** By the Roxbury Bicentennial Committee, 2012. $5.00


First novel by New Hampshire lawyer and judge.

Vogel, Charles O. **ON THE ROAD TO JACKSON: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE WHITE MOUNTAINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.** Published on the occasion of an exhibition presented at The Museum of White Mountain Art at Jackson from October 12th, 2012 through January 6th, 2013.
On June 6, 2013, President Obama unveiled a bold, new initiative called ConnectED to connect 99 percent of America’s students to the Internet through high-speed broadband and high-speed wireless within 5 years, calling on the FCC to modernize and leverage its existing E-Rate program to meet that goal. The President also directed the federal government to make better use of existing funds to get Internet connectivity and educational technology into classrooms, and into the hands of teachers trained on its advantages. And he called on businesses, states, districts, schools and communities to support this vision. This ambitious initiative does not require Congressional action.

"We are living in a digital age, and to help our students get ahead, we must make sure they have access to cutting-edge technology," said President Obama. "So today, I'm issuing a new challenge for America - one that families, businesses, school districts and the federal government can rally around together - to connect virtually every student in America's classrooms to high-speed broadband internet within five years, and equip them with the tools to make the most of it.”

Millions of students lack high-speed broadband access today and fewer than 20 percent of educators say their schools' Internet connection meets their teaching needs. ConnectED will bring high-speed Internet within their reach, with a particular benefit for rural communities that have lagged behind in connectivity.

ConnectED better invests existing federal funds to ensure that every educator in America receives support and training in using education technology tools to improve student learning. For more details on the ConnectED initiative, go to www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/connected_fact_sheet.pdf.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RETIRING LIBRARIANS and NEW LIBRARY PERSONNEL

RETIRING
Janet Angus - Merrimack Public Library
Mary Ellen Bellmer - United Free Library
LuAnn Blair - Plaistow Public Library
Susan Conrad - Oscar Foss Memorial Library
Ellen (Hardsog, Knowlton) Janerico - Merrimack Public Library
Joan Knight - Jaffrey Public Library
Cheryl Lynch - Derry Public Library
Susan Massin - Fitzwilliam Town Library
Lucinda Miller - Gilman Library, Alton

NEW
Sharon Archambault, Director - Oscar Foss Memorial Library, Center Barnstead
Diane Arrato Garvish - Chester Public Library
Mary Danko - Abbott Library, Sunapee
Emily Donnelly, Director - Jaffrey Public Library
Sloane Jarell - Madison Library
John Locke - Meredith Public Library
Tom McCorkhill, Director - Twin Mountain Public Library
Kathleen Pearson, Director - Unity Free Library
Meredith Piotrow - Jackson Public Library
David Smolen, Director - Conway Public Library
Kate Thomas, Director - Fitzwilliam Town Library
Rebecca Troy-Horton, Reference - NH State Library
Kathryn "Katy" Wuerker - Lebanon Public Library
The 2013 title for the Nashua Public Library's eleventh annual Nashua Reads: One City, One Book program is *The Widower's Tale* by Julia Glass.

With support from the Friends of the Nashua Public Library and the Ella Anderson Trust, Julia Glass will come to Nashua to speak and answer questions about the book. The event will be held at the Nashua Public Library on October 25. Tickets are available at the Nashua Public Library and at www.mktix.com/npl.

**ABOUT THE BOOK:** Seventy-year-old Percy Darling is settling happily into retirement: reading novels, watching old movies, and swimming naked in his pond. But his routines are disrupted when he is persuaded to let a locally beloved preschool take over his barn. As Percy sees his rural refuge overrun by children, parents, and teachers, he must re-examine the solitary life he has made in the three decades since the sudden death of his wife.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Julia Glass's first novel, *Three Junes*, won the National Book Award and led Richard Russo, author of *Empire Falls* (the very first Nashua Reads book) to say, "Julia Glass's talent just sends chills up my spine; her novel, *Three Junes*, is a marvel."


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**iPADS FOR KIDS**

The Nashua Public Library recently installed four iPads in the Children's Room. Kids ages 2-11 can select from dozens of apps, like Doodle Truck, Toca Tea Party, Hair Salon, and Kitchen; Bugs and Buttons; and Don't Let the Pigeon Run This App.

After four days, Children's Librarian Kathy Bolton said she had yet to get a request for help from the children using the iPads. "It's amazing," she noted, "within minutes of their being installed, kids were swiping and tapping at the screens. Using these machines comes so naturally to them."

The iPads are not connected to the Internet, so parents need not worry about their children being exposed to inappropriate material. "We looked at other standalone early literacy computers for the Children's Room," Library Director Jen Hinderer said, "but we were able to purchase four iPads, including apps, for what just one of the other systems would have cost." Funding for the project came from overdue fines.
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SURVEY RESULTS
from OCLC/WebJunction, April 2012

The Global Libraries Initiative of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is exploring a variety of strategies to accelerate change in US public libraries. To guide this work, the team solicited information and ideas from a wide range of stakeholders in the library field using an online survey. Brief highlights from the survey follow.

To understand needs, opportunities and roles for libraries in the future, five plus years from today, an online survey was distributed to as broad and diverse a library constituency as possible via library support organizations as well as to more than ten well-respected bloggers. The survey generated over 4,200 responses between October 2012 and January 2013. Results from the initial 3,195 responses were used to develop the "Summary of Stakeholder Survey Results" in December 2012.

Via the survey, the Global Libraries Initiative gained high-level insight into three questions. Below is a summary of the most frequently provided responses to the survey questions.

· What is the role of the future library when information will be primarily accessible via a device?
  · "Navigating and curating information" was most frequently mentioned; and;
  · "Trained librarians" was cited as most important.

· What are key attributes of future library?
  · "Trained librarians" and "Visionary, effective leadership" were rank ordered as two most important attributes.

· How might support and funding from the Global Libraries Initiative most effectively help libraries develop these attributes?
  · "Collaborative efforts between/among libraries to test innovative new services and share results with field" and "Training and skills development for library workers" were both most frequently mentioned and ranked highest in response to this question.

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Tips for Building an Ebook Collection for Children & Youth

The Digital Content Task Force of ALSC has released a list of tips for the development of an ebook collection for children and youth. The tips are: 1) start with favorites; 2) add in series; 3) buy for all ages; 4) don't forget about homework titles; 5) be careful with nonfiction; and 5) purchase frequently to keep your library listings fresh.

The Friends of the Rye Public Library held an all-day Tech Fair at the library on Saturday, May 25, 2013. Our goal was to increase public awareness of the many on-line resources the library provides its patrons. The Friends divided up the many logistical tasks in coordination with Andy Richmond, Library Director, and the library staff to ensure a successful day. Library staff conducted training sessions attended by each Friends volunteer in advance of the Fair. All the featured databases such as: Downloadable books, audio books, downloadable music (Freegal) Streaming movies (IndieFlix), Mango Languages, Genealogy were covered at the sessions. We became "experts" much to our own surprise. Critical to the success of the day were the three high school students who helped us out with the more complicated applications. There were invaluable, and provided a merger of the generations as part of our event.

Amanda Puglisi of Studio A in Rye donated our great Tech Fair logo, and flyers were printed and bulk-mailed to all local residences. Banners and a color coded map were designed to highlight the various events set up all around the library. The Fair concept was similar to a trade show demonstration floor, with display tables for each featured database. Printed information and promotional handouts and projected computer monitors allowed our experts to conduct demos. Several local libraries and our public school system kindly cooperated to help us assemble sufficient numbers of LCD projectors and screens. On the lower level, x-box gaming demos were offered for youngsters of all ages. A variety of snacks and sandwiches, prepared by the Friends, proved a popular feature of the day.

To encourage visits to each table, each patron was given a bookmark with a list of all the presentations. A fully checked-off bookmark could be entered in a drawing for a door prize. Many of the over 300 attendees were informed of their prize winnings at the close of the Fair.

As an outgrowth of the Fair, the Library continues through 2013 with a monthly focus database feature. Each month we offer a deeper look into one of the Fair databases, with additional promotional and printed materials, staff-created tutorials, and even a coordinated staff T-shirt day to further spur discussion and usage of the databases. Our statistical analysis before and since the Fair and continued promotion proves the concept to be proving a great success!
SARAH JOSEPHA HALE AWARD ANNOUNCED
by Andrea Thorpe, Director
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The Trustees of the Richards Free Library and the Judges of the Sarah Josepha Hale award are pleased to announce that novelist, Richard Russo, is the 2013 Hale Award Medalist. He will accept the award on October 5, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. at the Newport Opera House.

A novelist, short story writer, screenwriter, and teacher, Richard Russo earned a Bachelor’s degree, a Master’s in fine arts, and a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. He is the author of *Mohawk*, *The Risk Pool*, *Nobody’s Fool, Straight Man, Empire Falls, The Whore’s Child and Other Stories, Bridge of Signs, That Old Cape Magic*, and *Interventions*. His memoir *Elsewhere* was published in 2012.

Wes McNair, of the Sarah Hale Award Board of Judges, stated that Russo "deals with the small-town life that is so important to New England identity and culture. The Pulitzer Prize Russo won for his Maine novel, *Empire Falls*, shows that his work has both quality and an appeal extending well beyond the place he writes about. Among contemporary New England novelists, he is by any assessment a significant figure."

Retired from Colby College in Waterville, Maine, Russo lives with his wife in Camden, Maine.

For over 50 years, the Sarah Josepha Hale Award has been given by the trustees of the Richards Free Library in recognition of a distinguished body of written work in the field of literature and letters. The award honors Sarah Josepha Hale, author, poet and essayist, who as editor of *Godey's Lady's Magazine* shaped the opinion of 19th century American women. The list of Hale Award winners includes the finest writers of our times from Robert Frost in 1956 to Jill Lepore in 2012.

For more information about the Hale award please contact Andrea Thorpe, Director of the Richards Free Library at (603) 863-3430 or rfl@newport.lib.nh.us.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY TALKING BOOK MAGAZINES GOES DIGITAL
by Marilyn Stevenson, Supervisor
marilyn.stevenson@dcr.nh.gov
NH State Library
Talking Book Program
(603) 271-1498 · www.nh.gov/nhsl/talking_books/index.html

We're one of the first! In February, 2013, patrons of the New Hampshire State Library's Talking Book Program began receiving their magazines in a digital format. As the Library of Congress/National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) continues to convert the cassette analog collection to a digital format, magazines are next up in this development. NLS will begin the magazine conversion process with a few libraries, then add others as time and resources allow. The New Hampshire Regional Library was selected as one of the first in the nationwide network of libraries for persons with disabilities to be a part of this progression. For more information, or to receive an application for talking book library services, please contact the NH State Library Talking Books library at 271-3429 or (toll-free) 1-800-491-4200.
A FOND FAREWELL
by Ellen K. (Hardsog, Knowlton) Janerico
Merrimack Public Library
(603) 424-5021 · www.merrimack.lib.nh.us

In an e-mail dated June 18, 2013 ~ "Dear Colleagues: This e-mail is to let all of you know that I will be retiring from the Merrimack Public Library at the end of next week. This ends my almost 36 years as a NH librarian, which began in 1977 when the late and beloved Ann Geisel hired me to be cataloger at the Peterborough Town Library. My sons were 2 and 4 years old when we moved up from Massachusetts. In November, I will welcome my first great-grandchild. My, how time flies when you're having fun!

"Like Cindy's (Gilman Library, Alton) comment last week, I can't say enough good things about all of you and the support you so generously share. Thank you for the many times you've made your brains available for picking. I'm impressed with the caliber of the library leadership in even the smallest NH communities. I especially appreciate the technical expertise you bring to the table. I may be an old dog, but I've learned a lot of new tricks from you. But now it's time to start a new chapter.

"In a totally unexpected twist of fate just a year after my second husband passed away in 2010, I met a wonderful man and fellow square dancer from Harrison, ME, and I married him 2 months ago. So I will be crossing just a few miles over the border next month to live in western Maine. Who could have imagined? And who can guess how I might reinvent myself there? Library volunteer? Library trustee? Hmmm. Who knows? Thank you all for your friendship and encouragement over the years! I will miss you.

"On to the next adventure!"

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LIBRARIAN RETIRES AFTER 14 YEARS
by Lara Croft
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Plaistow Public Library
(603) 382-6011 · www.plaistowlibrary.com

LuAnn Blair, affectionately known as "Mrs. Lu" joined the library's staff in 1998, and since then has served as circulation librarian, children's librarian, head of youth services and assistant director. Mrs. Lu has coordinated over ten Summer Reading Programs and organized countless children's events, including Baby Lap Sit Reading Times, Toddler Times, Crafternoons, and Young Authors events. The Children's and Young Adult collections in the library owe their quality, variety and relevance to her careful and loving selection. She has served the library in multiple ways by publicizing its goings-on, visiting the local schools, writing press releases to the local papers, updating and maintaining the website, and running the popular Lunch Bunch Book Club, as well as collaborating with the NH Humanities Council and others to bring informative speakers to the library. Her years here have left a legacy of passionate commitment to service.

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OSCAR FOSS MEMORIAL LIBRARY DIRECTOR RETIRES

by Susan Conrad, Director
Oscar Foss Memorial Library, Center Barnstead
(603) 269-3900 · http://barnstead.org/Library/ormltext.html

"Hello all in Libraryland - Many of you already know this fact, but for those who don't...my last day at the Oscar Foss Memorial Library in Center Barnstead is May 31st. I have been here just shy of 29 years! I leave with mixed feelings...elated at the prospect of NOT dealing with the daily problems, elated at not working evenings, etc. However, there is always a flip side. I will so very much miss all of our wonderful patrons. Yes, I will still see them occasionally but not on the daily basis that I do now. And OF COURSE, I will miss all of you in the library field. Over the years so many of you have been my allies, my friends, my helpful peers. If I needed it, you delivered. If I wanted it, you delivered. If I didn't know, you delivered. What a GREAT profession. We met at meetings, we talked on-line, we exchanged ideas, aspirations, sorrows and much, much more. Yes, we are all underpaid and overworked...but the love of my Town and working with all of the wonderful librarians out there made the job a pleasure many times over. I am not having any open houses/parties/get-togethers, etc. regarding leaving - just who I am. Thus I wanted to send you all of a quick note, more than anything to say THANK YOU to all of you for making these 29 years work with great job and pleasure...thanks!"

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NEW YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN AT MEREDITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

by Erin Apostolos, Director
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Welcome to our new Youth Services Librarian, John Locke. John grew up right here in Meredith, and spent almost every Saturday at the Meredith Library from the time he could read until he graduated from Inter-Lakes High School in 2002. Since then, John has been working and studying all over New England, and he is very happy to finally be home again. In 2009, John received a degree in English Literature from UNH, and has done extensive work towards a Masters degree in Secondary Education, including student teaching at a special needs summer program at Oyster River Middle School in Durham, N.H.

John has been working in libraries for many years, holding positions in both public and academic institutions, and gaining experience in a wide variety of library services, including circulation, media collection, and youth services. Most recently, John was the Teen Services Assistant at the Amesbury Public Library (MA), where he spent his mornings hosting storytimes for toddlers, and his afternoons running after school programs and supervising that library's popular teen lounge. John is excited to be able to return to his hometown, and looks forward to guiding the evolving teen/tween scene here at the MPL.

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LEBANON PUBLIC LIBRARY HIRES KATHRYN "KATY" WUERKER

by Sean Fleming, Director
sean.fleming@lebcity.com
Lebanon Public Library
(603) 448-2459 · http://leblibrary.com

Hailing from Nottingham, NH, Katy has recently joined us at the Lebanon Libraries as our new Library Assistant. A graduate of Simmons College, Katy enjoys now being a part of the whole Lebanon community, especially working alongside the saff and kids in the children's department.
SUTTON LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES HIRE NEW DIRECTOR
by Shannon Storm, Trustee
suttontrustees@yahoo.com
Sutton Free Library
(603) 927-4927 · www.sutton-nh.gov/Public_Documents/SuttonNH_Library/index

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Heidi Thoma has accepted the permanent position as Library Director of the Sutton Free Library. Heidi served since November 2012 as Sutton's Temporary Library Director. During that time, Heidi was instrumental in establishing many new programs and services at the Library, including interlibrary loan, downloadable books, and Sutton's first preschool story hour.

Heidi brings a wealth of library and computer experience from her work at the Providence Athenaeum and at DIGITAS, Boston. Heidi earned her MLIS at the University of Rhode Island and completed an independent study at Brown University Library Center for Digital Initiatives. A resident of Sutton, Heidi has strong ties to the community and looks forward to serving the variety of people and organizations of the town with library programs and resources. Heidi's collection development and digital projects experience are especially valuable as Sutton's collections are prepared for eventual automation.

The Trustees are thrilled that Heidi has accepted the position as Library Director and look forward to many successful programs in the months ahead. Please stop by the library to offer your congratulations to Heidi when you're in the area - we welcome your visit!

IN MEMORY
by Mary Cronin, Director
librarian@madison.lib.nh.us
Madison Library
(603) 367-8545 · http://madison.lib.nh.us

Madison Library's Assistant / ILL / Circulation librarian Leonora Southwice passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on April 1, 2013. Leonora loved working at the library, excelled at readers' advisory, and even though it was a part-time position, she called it her "dream job."

Madison's new Assistant Librarian is Sloane Jarell. Sloane has been Madison's substitute staff person for over a year, and was ready to work on a more permanent basis. Sloane is working on a Master's degree in Accounting at SNHU, and is a member of the Madison School Board.
BISHOP BRADY ANIMATION CREW WINS IN TORONTO
by Matthew Newton
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NH Department of Cultural Resources
Film Service Office
(603) 271-2220 · film@nh.gov

The Toronto International Student Animation Festival announced on Monday that an animation crew of four students from Bishop Brady High School won First Prize for their 3D animated public service announcement (PSA), “New Hampshire Food Bank.”

This international competition, boasts judges from post-secondary animation programs and the animation industry itself, including professionals from Pixar, Blue Sky, Apple Canada, ToonBox, and other companies. The festival is split into post-secondary, high school, and elementary school divisions and features categories such as 2D, 3D, stop-motion, and PSA. Winning entries in the 2012 post-secondary division came from the Czech Republic, England, Norway, Canada, the U.S., and Singapore. In the high school division, the team from New Hampshire was the only non-Canadian team to win.

Bishop Brady students Meaghan Tosi, Natalie Raper, Christine Brennan, and Emily Rauseo formed their animation crew in the fall of 2010 when Tosi, Raper and Brennan were high school sophomores and Rauseo was a freshman. Since that time, other students have joined the crew and participated in various projects.

The animation crew is affiliated with Bishop Brady FIRST Robotics Team 1517 and, for three years, competed in a 3D computer animation competition through the FIRST program, sponsored by the software company Autodesk. The students approached animation as a “varsity-level” commitment, broke projects up into “seasons”, and devoted approximately fifty to sixty hours of work to each thirty-second animation. Typically, the students produced two pieces per academic year. In 2012, another of the animation crew’s projects, a piece with a message about education, advanced to become a finalist in the FIRST World Championship in St. Louis.

The Toronto International Student Animation Festival is one of the events outside of FIRST in which the Concord-based animation crew competed. The winning entry in Toronto was the third project the animation crew produced. The thirty-second animation was created in conjunction with the NH Food Bank and is intended to raise awareness that the organization serves the hungry statewide. The animated food bank PSA was previously honored with the Best Public Service Announcement Award at the NH High School Short Film Festival, a program of the State of New Hampshire Film & Television Office.

Last month, three of the founding members of the Bishop Brady Robotics Team Animation Crew were graduated from high school. Two of those students plan to continue their work in animation. Tosi and Brennan have both won merit-based financial awards for their art and animation. In the fall of 2013, both will attend college in California, majoring in animation.

The winning project is currently featured on the awards page of the Toronto festival website at www.studentanimationfestival.com/past-shows/2012-2/psa-winners-high-school-2012.
TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Administrative Offices ........................................ 271-2392
Circulation .......................................................... 271-2616
Electronic & Government
  Information Resources .............................................. 271-2143
Family Resources Connection ............................... 1-800-298-4321
Fax (Administration & Fiscal) ............................... 271-6826
Fax (Reference Office) ................................................. 271-2205
Fiscal Offices ............................................................. 271-2400
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NHAIS Services .......................................................... 271-2141
Reference Desk .......................................................... 271-2144
Talking Books ............................................................ 1-800-491-4200

HOURS
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

-- Editorial Policy --

Granite State Libraries is published up to six times a year under the authority of RSA 201-A:9, by the N.H. State Library. The purpose of Granite State Libraries is to provide news in brief for public, school, academic and special libraries in New Hampshire. Opinions expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the editor or the State Library. Contributions and editorial correspondence should be sent to: Darlene Reinhard, N.H. State Library, GSL, 20 Park Street, Concord, N.H. 03301-6314, or e-mail darlene.reinhard@dcr.nh.gov.

Subscriptions are free and when subscribers change their addresses they should notify Darlene Reinhard at the State Library. This publication and previous issues of Granite State Libraries can be found on the N.H. State Library's website at http://nh.gov/nhsl/gsl/.

This publication is made possible in part by funds provided under the Library Services & Technology Act.