



the Latest Edition

Serving public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties of New York State

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New Delivery Service

On August 1, 2008 Upper Hudson Library System entered into a 3-year contract with A. L. Delivery Service (ALDS) of Albany, NY to deliver books throughout the system.

ALDS is a privately-owned corporation doing business in NY State since 1998 and operating out of two locations in the Capital District: a warehouse on Dott Avenue in Albany and offices at the Albany International Airport in Latham. They make over 1,500 deliveries per week with an on-time performance rating of 98.4%

ALDS has provided the System with three drivers and three vans which crisscross the two-county service area. The drivers and their routes are listed below. If you have any questions concerning delivery, please contact Jo-Ann Benedetti at 518-437-9880 x225 or jo-ann@uhls.lib.ny.us.

Mission Statement

The Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) coordinates resources and activities that will improve the services of the public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

Route 1 Carmello Papa	Route 2 Bob Tucceri	Route 3 Ralph Noland
APLM 8:50 AM	APLD 9:00 AM	COLN 8:00 AM
APLY 9:05 AM	BETH 9:27 AM	EGRN 8:30 AM
APLP 9:45 AM	RCSC 9:53 AM	BRUN 8:53 AM
MEND 10:05 AM	WSTR 10:51 AM	POES 9:39AM
WTVT 10:25 AM	RVLL 11:21 AM	STEP 10:35 AM
TROY 10:45 AM	BERN 11:41 AM	BRLN 11:08 AM
TROL 11:00 AM	ALTM 12:02 PM	PTRB 11:32 AM
NGRN 11:25 AM	VOOR 12:30 PM	GRAF 11:56 AM
SNLK 11:45 AM	GUIL 12:51 PM	HOOF 12:35 PM
NASS 12:15 PM		VAFL 1:10 PM
CAST 12:40 PM		SCHG 1:28 PM
RENS 1:10 PM		COHS 1:45 PM
APLH 1:25 PM		TROS 2:00 PM

Upcoming training
Fit For Life.....

The 2008 NYLA
Conference.....

Federal IMLS Representative
visits UHLS.....

AROUND THE STATE

Governor Patterson and NYS Legislature Cut Library Budgets

In a response to Governor Patterson's request for cutting the NYS budget by an additional \$600 million, the legislature agreed to a \$412 million across-the-board cut in funds that have not yet been distributed.

For libraries this means a further reduction of 6% in Library Aid that has not yet been distributed. The exact amount of the reduction has not been determined, and NYLA is working with the Division of Library Development to ascertain an exact figure.

The 2008 NYLA Annual Conference: Connecting, Collaborating, Cooperating

Librarians connect people and information; collaborate across types of libraries to maximize resources; and cooperate with each other to maximize the value of the services they provide their clients. Whatever your library type you will find many fine sessions for your professional growth and development at the 2008 NYLA Conference on November 5 – 8, 2008 in Saratoga Springs, NY.

NYLA's sections, roundtables, committees and affiliates worked diligently to organize and present a wide range of experiences. From highly specialized presentations, to programs that will appeal to everyone, there is no shortage of quality information. Online registration is available at <http://www.nyla.org>.

GRANTS

ALA World Book Award for Info Literacy

World Book and ALA announce the creation of the new World Book/ALA Information Literacy Goal Award, a grant of \$5,000 to a public and school library literacy program. The award is designed to encourage and support innovative and effective information literacy programs in today's school and public libraries.

Information literacy is the set of skills needed to find, retrieve, analyze, and use information, not only for school-age children but now can be considered a lifelong venture as formats of information and methods of access to information rapidly evolve. An eligible literacy program should focus on

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school library users or public library users who are likely to need the most help to obtain access to information, in print or digital form, and to evaluate the quality of the information available to them, especially information they may find outside the school library, school classroom, or public library. The ultimate goal should be to help people of all ages become effective users of information by fostering a better understanding of the research process. The two page application can be accessed online through the ALA website at <http://ala.org/ala/awardsbucket/worldbookaward/worldbookaward.cfm>. The deadline for applications is **December 1, 2008**.

UHLS



Colorful, drought resistant perennials are placed for planting in front of the building.

UHLS Facade Gets A Facelift

At the beginning of August, a local landscaping company was hired to improve the appearance of the front and back facades of the UHLS headquarters in Albany. Decrepit shrubs that had been ruined by years of snowplowing were removed, and colorful, drought resistant perennials were planted in the front. Along the back of the building, ornamental Apple trees and a Bradford pear tree were planted along with colorful bushes.

Changes to the UHLS Board of Trustees

UHLS welcomed a new board member, Yolanda Caldwell, representing the Bethlehem Public Library. LouAnn Lundgren, Board President, made the following Committee assignments:

- Administration Committee – James Reilly, Chair
Cris Blanchard
Timothy Burke
Yolanda Caldwell
Charles Diamond
- Services Committee – Erin Apostol, Chair
Brian Hartson
Mary Muller
Richard Naylor
Lois Prenovost
- Finance Committee – MaryAlice Molgard, Chair
Nikki Caruso
Ronald Ginsburg
Nancy Pieri
Richard Young
- Automated Services Committee – Philip Ritter, Chair
Representatives from the member libraries

Upcoming training: Fit for Life Grant

Upper Hudson Library System was awarded a \$25,000 Fit for Life grant, made possible by the generous support of Metlife Foundation. (see *Latest Edition* Vol. 18, No. 4.) As part of the preparation for increased consumer health reference in the member libraries, Jo-Ann Benedetti will offer five training sessions over the next few months. All workshops will be held at the Albany Public Library. Please mark your calendars:

October 17, 2008: Beyond an Apple a Day: Providing Consumer Health Information in the Public Library

This class will cover the information-seeking behaviors of consumers. It will also address the recommended core reference collection, as well as databases and newsletters/periodicals. It will cover the reference interview, disclaimers, and privacy as well as networking with medical librarians. The class will introduce the students to the Medical Library Association and its local chapters. It will describe ways to market this service in a community. (4 CE credits)



Training sessions will be offered to help with consumer health reference.

November 21, 2008: Prescription for Success: Consumer Health Information on the Web

This introduction to consumer health information will cover the information-seeking behaviors of consumers, the basics of MedlinePlus.gov, DURLINE, ClinicalTrials.gov and other reliable web pages such as those from professional medical associations and advocacy groups. It will cover sites devoted to pharmaceutical information for consumers, drug-interaction databases and herbal information. (3 CE credits)

December 19, 2008: From Snake Oil to Penicillin: Evaluating Consumer Health Information on the Internet

This course will describe why it is important to evaluate websites. Participants will be given criteria on how to evaluate health information on the Internet. (3 CE credits)

January 16, 2009: PubMed for the Rest of Us: Searching Medical Literature for the Nonexpert

This class will cover basic and field searching, the journal browser; the single citation matcher; clipboard, history and other features. It will also cover how to obtain full-text articles. (3 CE credits)

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February 20, 2009: Reference Rx: Case Studies in Consumer Health

This class will ask participants to use the resources they learned about in the previous four classes to answer actual consumer health reference questions and to share their approaches to such questions with others in the class. (3 CE credits)

Completion of three of the four prior classes is required in order to attend the final class.

These classes will award participants continuing education (CE) credits from the Medical Library Association (MLA). Completion of 12 CE credits (4 of which must come from the October 17th class) will qualify librarians to seek Consumer Health Information Specialization (CHIS). For more information about CHIS, go to <http://www.mlanet.org/education/chc/> or call Jo-Ann at 437-9880 x225.

To sign up for these classes, please fill out the signup sheet on page 6 in this newsletter and fax to Jo-Ann at 437-9884.

Coordinated Outreach Advisory Council

The Upper Hudson Library System Board of Trustees approved new members and new terms for the Coordinated Outreach Advisory Council. The terms run from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2011. The members are: Barbara Wyman, Executive Director, Literacy Volunteers of Rensselaer County; Deirdre Greco, Executive Director, Samaritan-Rensselaer Children's Center; Rose Golden, GoldenLane Associates; and Richard Iannello Executive Director, Albany Guardian Society.

The Coordinated Outreach Advisory Council is mandated by New York State Education Law. The group includes members of the target population groups and agencies that work with these groups (the blind, the physically disabled, the aged, the institutionalized, the developmentally or learning disabled, members of ethnic minorities, the unemployed, and the geographically isolated). Council members serve three-year terms.

Fit For Life Grant Workshops



- October 17, 2008**
Beyond an Apple a Day: Providing Consumer Health Information in the Public Library
- November 21, 2008**
Prescription for Success: Consumer Health Information on the Web
- December 19, 2008**
From Snake Oil to Penicillin: Evaluating Consumer Health Information on the Internet
- January 16, 2009**
PubMed for the Rest of Us: Searching Medical Literature for the Nonexpert
- February 20, 2009**
Reference Rx: Case Studies in Consumer Health
Completion of three of the four prior classes required in order to register for this class.

All workshops will be held at Albany Public Library from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. There is no charge for these workshops. Please check the workshops you would like to attend and fax a copy of this sheet to 437-9884.

For additional information contact Jo-Ann Benedetti (518) 437-9880 x225. Space is limited, so please register early.

Name: _____

Library: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

YOUTH SERVICES

Mary Fellows, Manager
518.437.9880 x228
mary@uhls.lib.ny.us

Upcoming training:

Show Me the Money!

Jo-Ann Benedetti and Mary Fellows, UHLS
Monday, September 15th, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Come learn the ins and outs of successful grant writing. During the morning, we will learn about how to find money and how to maximize your chances of success in the grant application process. In the afternoon we will discuss best practices for productive partnerships and hold a “grant lab” where participants work on a real grant application. Please sign up by contacting Mary Fellows at 437-9880 x228 or Jo-Ann Benedetti at x225. Training will be held at UHLS.

Family Literacy and Programming: You Can Do It!

Sue McCleaf-Nespeca, Kid Lit Plus Consulting
Monday, September 29th, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Parents can make a real impact on kids’ adoption of literacy skills - and on how often you see those kids in your library. Come learn about incorporating family literacy components - parental presence and involvement, interactive literacy activities, and parent education - into your programming! The focus will be on history and ecology programs to fulfill the Explore Your Shore grant requirements, but all are welcome! Training will be held at UHLS.

Storytime Skills

Friday, November 14th, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

All thumbs with finger puppets? Flannelboard technique just doesn’t stick? Come develop new storytime techniques, hone your existing skills, or gather fresh ways to use your expertise. Upper Hudson Library System and Mohawk Valley Library System bring the best outside and inside presenters together to demonstrate, teach, coach and facilitate sharing of key storytime skills. A must for anyone with minimal storytime training! Training will be held at William K. Sanford Town Library (Colonie).

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Teen Programs That Work!

Monday, December 8th, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

RoseMary Hannold, Young Adult Services Librarian, editor of *Young Adult Library Services: The Official Journal of the Young Adult Library Services Association*, and the series editor for Neal-Schuman's teens @ the library series.

Come learn about innovative and fun teen programs that work in big or tiny libraries! RoseMary is the author of five books (four of them on teen services), numerous articles and websites, and is a well-traveled presenter. Training will be held at UHLS.

Federal IMLS Representative Visits UHLS

On August 12th, a representative of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) paid a visit to UHLS. Robin Cabot is Senior Program Officer in the state library programs division of the federal agency, and was touring New York libraries and museums. Robin's tour guide was Linda Todd, Library Development Specialist at the New York State Library's Division of Library Development.

They visited UHLS in order to show Robin what a System does and to have us talk with him about our successful LSTA grants over the past few years. Their visit included a tour of our offices, where they saw the hustle and bustle of our new delivery service and heard about other System services.

An interesting note to the conversation was our mention of the 2003-2004 Sky Camp grant, in which we partnered with Mohawk Valley Library System. This grant was a featured project on the IMLS website – an honor due, we learned, to Robin's championing.

Following their visit to UHLS, Robin and Linda traveled to Castleton Public Library, where they saw a busy small library in action and heard about a library's use of Summer Reading Program grant funds.

We were glad to host Robin and Linda, and to advocate for the value of LSTA money in New York State.

MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

Albany Public Library

New Officers Elected for Albany Public Library Board

At its annual meeting in July and in a subsequent meeting, the Albany Public Library Board of Trustees elected officers to lead the Board in what will certainly be an active and exciting year. The sudden and untimely passing of Trustee Jim Gallagher, just days after his election to the office of Board President, required the meeting in order to allow the Board to complete the election process.



Dennis Gaffney

Dennis Gaffney, who was elected to serve as Vice President, will assume the office of President according to the library's by-laws. Mr. Gaffney, who has served on the Board since 2007 and chaired the high profile Design Review Committee for the library, is eager to accept the challenge of the office. "In the spirit of Jim Gallagher, I am looking forward to working hard with the library community to build new libraries that can transform the lives of children, adults and entire neighborhoods throughout our city." Mr. Gaffney said.

William Ryan Jr. was re-elected to the office of Vice President of the Board. As the incumbent Vice-President, Ryan will help the Board maintain continuity and will continue to focus his attention in the area of policy development for the Library.

Ellen Bach was elected to continue her oversight of the Library's finances as Vice-President for Finance. She has served in this role for three years. Throughout her tenure she has played a leadership role in the development and administration of sound and responsible budgets and fiscal policy for the Library. Bach will continue that work, specifically concentrating on the development of a long range financial plan for the organization.

Mary Ellen O'Connor, who served as President of the Board for the last year, will continue to serve the board in the office of Secretary to the Board. Her experience and familiarity with the Board's activities will be valuable additions to the Board's new leadership team.

Among the many projects and initiatives that the Library will be working on during the next year, two of the most important are the creation of a new strategic plan for the Albany Public Library and the completion of the design phase for the \$29.1 million Branch Improvement Plan. The transition to the construction phase will require the coordination of five library construction/renovation projects throughout the city. The new officers, along with the rest of their colleagues, share a deeply felt responsibility to the community and a commitment to provide the best library services possible.

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Garage Bands in the Garage

The Albany Public Library presents the award winning and FREE after-library hours concerts for all ages in Albany Public Library's garage on Elk Street, behind the 161 Washington Avenue building. On Friday, September 19th, from 6:00 – 8:00 PM, the library plays host to Sgt. Dunbar and the Hobo Banned and Swamp Baby. "Sgt. Dunbar's songs are philosophically-minded as conjured up by the Salvation Army band on acid," says Greg Haymes, *Times Union*. The statement, is as eccentric as the music produced by this garage band, you can check them out before the concert on MySpace.

Swamp Baby is an indie-folk quartet comprised of chief singer/songwriter Nick Matulis, local music producer Frank Moscovitz on drums and keyboards, and knotworking members Meg Prokorym and Michael Hotter on lead string instruments. Together they craft a heady mix of indie rock and folk-blues to create something as mysterious and indefinable as life itself. Music fans who witness Swamp Baby's live performances are left entranced and captivated, looking forward to the next time they can enter the land of dark enchantment that Swamp Baby paints in their heart-melting songs and soundscapes. So bring your lawn chairs to the library's garage and enjoy some steamy tunes at the end of a steamy summer.

The Friends of the Albany Public Library Present: Tuesday Programs at the Main Library

September 2nd

Meet the Author: *Capital City on the Hudson* by John J. McEneny. Assemblyman McEneny joins the Friends of the Library and guests for a lively discussion of his book and the history of Albany. The Assemblyman, represents the 104th District, is the Chair of the Assembly Majority Steering Committee, was a Peace Corps volunteer and is a well-known authority on Albany's history.

September 9th

Book Review: *The Much Too Promised Land: America's Elusive Search for Arab-Israeli Peace* by Aaron David Miller. For nearly four decades, American policy-makers have wrestled with the challenge of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Yet the promise of real peace and security in the much-too-promised land remains just that. Based on twenty years of working on Arab-Israeli negotiations, the author explains America's successes and failures, what America can do about them, and why we should care. Reviewer: Bill Shapiro, former attorney with the NYS Government and life-long student of International relations.

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September 16th

Book Review: *Lush Life* by Richard Price. Price's latest tour of down-low urban America is his most acute study so far of the Darwinian adaptations required to survive in our city jungles. His New York City cops have evolved special ears and eyes to detect criminals in their environment. Mention the word "upstate" and they won't think of vacations in the Finger Lakes. Rather, they're already figuring out which prison, state or federal. You're guilty until proven innocent in the Fifth Precinct, where everyone is some kind of sinner and the pressure from higher-ups is intense on detectives to clear messy crimes off the books, whatever the evidence. Reviewer: James Tuffey, APD, Chief of Police.

September 23rd

Book Review: *The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War* by David Halberstam. The author combines his prodigious research with over a hundred interviews to recreate the trench warfare of the Korean War. The result is an epic directed simultaneously to battle buffs and pacifists, history enthusiasts and political moralists. The book evokes the nobility and heroism of our grunts, cinematic scenes with essays about the mindless way the war began, the reckless way it was managed and the fruitless way it ended. Reviewer: Herb Holland, retired teacher, and Army Reserve Officer.

September 30th

Book Review: *The Brain That Changes Itself: Stories of Personal Triumph from the Frontiers of Brain Science* by Norman Doidge, M.D. The author examines a new science called neuroplasticity which is overthrowing the centuries-old notion that the brain is immutable. He introduces us to a woman born with half a brain that rewired itself to work as a whole, blind people who learn to see, learning disorders cured, IQs raised, aging brains rejuvenated and stroke patients learning to speak. Dr. Doidge has written an immensely moving, inspiring book that will permanently alter the way we look at our brains, human nature, and human potential. Reviewer: Richard Evans, retired educator.

Bethlehem Public Library

Bethlehem Wins Best Practices Award

Bethlehem Public Library won the 2008 NYLA/PLS Best Practices award for best use of web technology to promote the library and its services. IT staff member John Love designed an integrated online registration and record keeping system for the 2007 Summer Reading Program. He further refined his original design for this year's SRP. The prize, a plaque and a check for \$1,000, will be awarded at this November's NYLA conference.

Writers And Friends Series Continues With Jeffery Deaver

Our guest author series, Writers and Friends, begins its second season with mystery writer Jeffery Deaver on Saturday, October 18th at 2:00 PM. Mr. Deaver will read and talk about his work, answer questions, and sign books at a reception following the event. Several of his books will be available for purchase. The event is free, but because seating is limited, a ticket is necessary for admission. Tickets will be available to Bethlehem school district residents on Sunday, October 5th. Any remaining tickets will be available to anyone beginning Monday October 6th at 9:00 AM. Mr. Deaver's visit is made possible by the generosity of Friends of Bethlehem Public Library.

Family Playtime Launched

In addition to the library's usual storytime offerings, young children and their parents or caregivers can attend Family Playtime this fall. This new program will meet on Wednesdays, October 15th to December 10th, 10:00 – 10:45 AM. It's a chance for the children and their adults to meet and make new friends. No signup is required.

East Greenbush Community Library

“Keeping Our Memories Alive” Reception

On Wednesday, September 3rd at 2:00 PM, the library will host a Reception and Storytelling Program celebrating the courageous lives of people with Alzheimer's disease. Professional Storyteller Mary Murphy will share stories about getting to know our wonderful neighbors at Hawthorne Ridge. Come see a display featuring original photography highlighting our experience. The event is open to everyone.

Throughout 2008, the East Greenbush Community Library has been working with a group of partners to bring programming to the community regarding Alzheimer's and related diseases. The Library has hosted informational lectures and has been taking engaging programming into the Alzheimer's section of Hawthorne Ridge. Thanks to grant funding, the library is also building a unique and focused collection of books and AV materials on Alzheimer's and related conditions. Our overall project has been entitled “Keeping Our Memories Alive.”

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The Library wishes to thank our project funding partners – The Friends of the East Greenbush Community Library, Wal-Mart Corporation, and The Upper Hudson Library System. We also thank our community partners – Hawthorne Ridge and the Alzheimer’s Association of Northeastern New York. Finally, we wish to thank our project photographers – Kathy Nardacci, Pat Ruth and Evelyn Schultz.

Children’s Community Festival & Book Sale

The Friends of the East Greenbush Library are hosting their Second Annual Children’s Community Festival and Book Sale on Saturday, September 27th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The sale will include children’s books for all ages, AV materials as well as child care materials for parents. This event is for families and we are asking that no book dealers attend. Enjoy an entertaining program, food, raffle prizes, simple crafts and activities throughout the day.

For Teens: Free Practice PSAT & SAT

The Albany Kaplan Center will be hosting a free PSAT and SAT practice test at the library on Saturday, September 6th. This event will be from 12:00 – 4:00 PM for SAT students and 12:00 – 2:30 PM for PSAT students. Students will be able to take full-length exams in a proctored, “test-like” environment and Kaplan will then mail detailed score reports back to the students who attend. Please register with Albany Kaplan Center (Stuyvesant Plaza) at 489-0077, or register on-line at www.kaptest.com.

Guilderland Public Library

An Exciting New Book Discussion Series

The Guilderland Public Library is presenting an innovative book series: “Let’s Talk About It: Jewish Literature,” a scholar-led reading and discussion program for people interested in Jewish literature and culture. This program will center on Jewish Adventures in the Graphic Novel; it runs from September to December.

The graphic novel is an exciting new form of storytelling. Here, five Jewish artists experiment with words and pictures to tell stories of childhood, war, and desire, to conjure up lost worlds, both real and imaginary, and to contemplate history, myth, and the individual psyche.

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The discussions will be led by Edward Schwarzschild, author of *Responsible Men*, a San Francisco Chronicle Best Book of the Year, a BookSense Notable Pick, and a finalist for the Rome Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the Samuel Goldberg and Sons Foundation Prize for Jewish Fiction. His latest book is *The Family Diamond*, a collection of stories about family, love, and loss, set in and around Philadelphia.

The graphic novels to be discussed are:

- September 10th: *A Contract With God: And other Testament Stories* by Will Eisner
- September 24th: *The Complete Maus: A Survivor's Tale* by Art Spiegelman
- October 22nd: *Julius Knipl, Real Estate Photographer: Stories* by Ben Katchor
- November 19th: *The Quitter* by Harvey Pekar
- December 10th: *The Rabbi's Cat* by Joann Sfar

All discussions are held on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM.

Millions of people have gathered at libraries across the country to participate in “Let’s Talk About It” events since the program’s inception in 1982. The Guilderland Public Library is only one of 52 libraries in the country hosting this program this year. Nextbook and The American Library Association sponsor this program.

Registration is required. For more information on this program, please contact Margaret Garrett at the library; she can be reached at 456-2400 x11, or by e-mail at guilmg@uhls.lib.ny.us.

Who’s Buried in Upstate New York? Well, for starters, Wells and Fargo

You’d be amazed to learn who lies at eternal rest right here in Upstate New York! Kate Smith, Susan B. Anthony, John Brown, Rod Serling, John Burroughs, Lucille Ball, Grandma Moses, Ezra Cornell, Emily Post, Frederick Douglass, Andrew Carnegie, B. F. Goodrich, Wells and Fargo, Harriet Tubman, plus murder victims, organized crime leaders, four U.S. presidents, three Saints, one Kentucky Derby winner and (deep breath) the most famous one-legged tap dancer in the world! On Sunday, October 26th, at 2:00 PM.

Cooperstown author Chuck D’Imperio will discuss his book, *Great Graves of Upstate New York: Final Resting Places of 70 True American Legends*. It’s a fact-packed, fun-filled volume on the region’s cemeteries, museums, and historical sites, and a peek into the lives of some distinguished individuals who have shaped American history.

This program is part of the first in the Library’s Exploring New York’s Roots & Rhythms series. More about this series will be published in the next *Latest Edition*.

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Snack Attack: Eat Better; Eat Together

October is National Eat Better; Eat Together month. Join us on Wednesday, October 22nd, at 6:30 PM, to make nutritious snacks with Jessica Allen Hayek from Albany's Honest Weight Food Co-op. In this class parents and tweens (8 to 12 years old) will learn how to prepare healthy snacks and enjoy each other's company. Participants will work together making smoothies, veggie and cheese kabobs, fruit dip, trail mix and healthy soda. After the demonstration, there will be a discussion on the importance of healthy eating, even snacking. Come have fun making healthy snacks and take home recipes to make together! If you or your child has any allergies, please inform us when you register. Registration is limited. To register, call Guilderland Public Library Youth Services at 456-2400 x9.

Petersburgh Public Library

Learning About Therapy Dogs At Petersburgh Library

“On Wednesday, July 9, 2008, at the request of Library Director Sharon Hodges, Aoife and I accompanied Heidi Fuge and her Australian Shepherd, Tymber, to the Petersburgh Public Library for a visit with the children of Petersburgh. This event was advertised as an introduction to therapy dogs – what they are and what they do. There was quite a good turnout. Eight to ten children attended with their mothers. The children played with the dogs, even taking them for walks around the stacks of books inside this charming, small library.



Aoife & Tymber

A few of the children were at first quite timid about approaching the dogs, but their fears were quickly dispelled when they saw how gentle, patient, and loving Aoife and Tymber were.

The librarian, Ms. Hodges, had set up a wonderful display of books about dogs for the children to look at, and we added our own information about therapy dogs and Therapy Dogs International to the table. Aoife also had a bookmark with her picture on it to give to each child, along with a description of the Shetland Sheepdog breed. The children asked many good questions about therapy dogs. It was a delightful afternoon!”

Submitted by Marti Ohmart

Rensselaer Public Library

Summer Reading Program finale

The Rensselaer Public Library would like to congratulate our top ten summer readers for their dedication to reading over the summer. The readers, in order of time read are: Marissa Vigliante, age 12; Emily Kretzschmar, age 10; Kyle Rider, age 12; Kira Weston, Age 8; Andrew Kretzschmar, age 5; Zak Maurer, age 12; Jesse Patterson, age 12; Dylan Sousa, age 8; Christina Bellamy, age 9; and Tyler Edwards, age 12. Our top ten readers received special prizes, and all readers who completed the program received a letter from the mayor, a certificate of achievement and their choice of prize books. Children who were not at the finale can come in to pick up their prizes. We had 60 participants who read 311 hours!

Congratulations to all our readers! The Rensselaer Public Library would like to thank our generous sponsors including Cuginos Pizza, Stewarts, Good Buy Books, Big Lots and Walmart. The library is located on Broadway on the corner of Partition Street. For more information, call 462-1193 or log on to <http://www.ubls.org/Rensselaer>.

Troy Public Library

You Can Do A Graphic Novel: A Workshop For Teens (13-18)

Maybe your interest is a Super Hero, your own life story, or you-know-it's-in there-somewhere-dying to get out. Barbara will teach you how to develop characters, plot stories and offer tips on the creative process. At the end of the series, workshop participants will have created a 6-24 page graphic novel/comic book of their own. "Bring your work!" Barbara says, "And if you don't have any, let's get started!" This workshop will be held Thursdays, October 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th from 6:00-7:30 PM. Space is limited to 15 teenagers. Sign up now by stopping by the library or calling 274-7071.

Voorheesville Public Library

The Legacies of the 1960s and Woodstock

The decade of the 1960s was one of optimism, idealism, cultural change, turmoil, and the coming of age of the Baby Boomers. In August of 1969 young people came from near and far, by VW Beetle, helicopter, bus and thumb, to take part in the largest music festival of all time. We invite you to re-create the journey at the just-opened Bethel Arts Center.

Experience the "Three Days of Peace and Music" in a nine-minute immersive multimedia presentation, explore the festival site through a touch screen interactive, and examine festival artifacts and memorabilia at the Woodstock Museum on Sunday, September 28, 2008. For trip information, visit the website at www.vorheesvillelibrary.org.

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Re-live the Woodstock experience on September 28th.

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Fall Concert

Join us on Sunday, October 26th at 2:00 PM for Skip Parsons' Clarinet Marmalade. Enjoy Dixieland at its best! This event is free and handicapped accessible.

Dog Adoption Clinic

The greyhounds are here and looking for love! Come to our first ever greyhound adoption clinic on Saturday, September 20th from 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM. A number of these sweet and gentle creatures will be hanging around outside the library to meet you. They have been rescued from the dog tracks and need happy homes.

William K. Sanford Town Library

Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature Returns!

Join us this fall as the Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature book discussion series returns. Sponsored by Nextbook (an organization which focuses on Jewish literature, culture, and ideas; see their excellent website at www.nextbook.com) and the American Library Association – with 100 discussion series nationwide – this year's theme is "A Mind of Her Own: Fathers and Daughters in a Changing World." We are fortunate to again have as discussion leader for all five books Joel Berkowitz, Chair of UAlbany's Judaic Studies Department. (Those of you who attended last year's discussion series know how great he was!) Titles and dates:

Monday, September 15th, *Tevye the Dairyman* by Sholem Aleichem

Wednesday, September 24th, *Bread Givers* by Anzia Yezierska

Monday, October 27th, *O My America* by Johanna Kaplan

Monday, November 10th, *American Pastoral* by Philip Roth

Monday, November 24th, *Bee Season* by Myla Goldberg.

All discussions will begin at 7:30 PM in the Stedman Room; books will be provided. To reserve a spot sign up at the Information Desk or call the Information Desk at 810-0314.

Library 'Friends' Group Launched

People sometimes wonder how they can get involved in supporting our library in all that it has to offer. The newly-formed Friends of the William K. Sanford Town Library has been established to help the library continue to provide valuable programs, resources and services to all parts of the Town. Commitments can range from simply paying a membership fee to taking on a leadership role or anything in-between. (For example, the Friends offer a variety of volunteer opportunities, including helping on membership, outreach, fund-raising, hospitality and publicity committees.)

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The Friends group was launched this June when a group of residents began meeting to form a not-for-profit organization to support the library's diverse activities and its continued success as a vital educational and cultural resource. After five meetings, the group is in the process of incorporating and has a interim officers and directors to continue moving through the paperwork and legwork in getting established.

For more information about becoming a member, please contact Library Director Richard Naylor at 458-9274 (naylorr@ubls.lib.ny.us) or Jonathan Walter, interim president of The Friends of the William K. Sanford Town Library (jmwalter@nycap.rr.com). Membership fees are \$10 for individuals, \$15 for families and \$8 for seniors over 60.

Foreign Language Resource Center

Starting this fall, the Library will have a central location for all foreign language learning materials in a section to be called the "Foreign Language Resource Center." In this section you will find foreign language materials in different formats, including books, CDs, cassettes, DVDs, and videocassettes arranged by language. Of course, you'll be able to find materials for studying the most frequently requested languages such as German, French, Spanish, and Italian. But how about Mandarin Chinese? Arabic? While we do have some materials for these languages, it is our goal to not only expand the foreign languages available to our patrons, but to offer a broad range of quality supplementary materials which will serve to enhance the learning experience, and help to make it an enjoyable one.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) coordinates resources and activities that will improve the services of the public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer counties.

The Latest Edition is a bi-monthly newsletter for the public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties. Please send comments, information or changes of address to:

Jo-Ann Benedetti,
Editor
jo-ann@uhls.lib.ny.us

Diane Riganti,
Layout
diane@uhls.lib.ny.us

Heidi Fuge,
Copy Editor
heidi@@uhls.lib.ny.us

Upper Hudson Library System
28 Essex Street
Albany, NY 12206
518-437-9880

www.uhls.org/uhls

September

- 1 **UHLS offices closed**
- 5 Directors Association at UHLS 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- 8 Administration Committee meeting at UHLS 4:00 PM
- 10 Services, Finance, Board meeting at UHLS 3:30- 6:00 PM
- 12 YSAC Meeting at UHLS 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Book review 9:00 - 10:00 AM
Book review and Teen services Discussion Group 12:00 - 1:00 PM
(simultaneous)
- 15 Show Me the Money! Workshop at UHLS 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- 23 Automated Services Committee Meeting at UHLS 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- 24 Database Maintenance Advisory Council at UHLS 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
- 29 Explore Your Shore training: Family Literacy and Programming -
You Can Do It! at UHLS 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

October

- 3 Directors Association at UHLS 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- 6 Administration Committee meeting at UHLS 4:00 PM
- 8 Services, Finance, Board meeting at UHLS 3:30- 6:00 PM
- 12 *Latest Edition* Deadline
- 22 Database Maintenance Advisory Council at UHLS 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
- 24 NYSL Grants Workshop at UHLS 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- 28 Automated Services Committee Meeting at UHLS 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

November

- 7 Directors Association at UHLS 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- 10 Administration Committee meeting at UHLS 4:00 PM
- 12 Services, Finance, Board meeting at UHLS 3:30- 6:00 PM
- 14 Storytime Skills workshop at WK. Sanford (Colonie) 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
- 25 Automated Services Committee Meeting at UHLS 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- 26 Database Maintenance Advisory Council at UHLS 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Board of Trustees

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28 Essex Street, Albany, NY 12206