President’s Message

I just got back from a walk around town. Once again, I’m surprised by the changes spring brings. Seems like we’ve been waiting forever for the winter to end, but all of a sudden the sun is warm, everything is green and town is busy. Spring’s changes are also a theme at the library. Our benches are out, the reading garden is open, and the library is preparing for another busy season of programs, presentations and art openings.

But the biggest change is one that’s hard for all of us to accept-Izzie’s retirement. For forty-two years, she has been the compass that guided the library-from what started as a small facility, open for limited hours, to the spacious, welcoming place it is today. She was the driving force behind every improvement, from the construction of the wing to the beautiful new children’s room. But it’s not just these physical improvements that came about due to her leadership. The library is an important community educational and cultural center due to her advocacy and her efforts to attract a diverse array of programs. We’ll miss her, and we wish her and Albert the best in retirement.

We welcome our new Library Director, Linda Weal. Linda is a long-time resident of the community and has been a volunteer and avid library supporter for years. We’ll be in good hands.

And lastly, we’ve had a welcome change to our budget. I would be remiss if I didn’t also thank the voters of the Town of Webb School District for their support of the recent library budget propositions. This significant increase in funding will allow us to continue and expand our activities over the next few years. We greatly appreciate the community’s support. Look forward to great things at the library.

Don Kelly

Book Groups

New members are always welcome to join the Book Groups. Copies of the books to be discussed can be reserved by calling the Library at 315 369-6008.

Morning Book Group: meets the third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. They do not meet during the summer but will reconvene in the Fall.

Evening Book Group: meets the last Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Library. The meeting dates and book titles for this group are: June 25 ~ Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult, July 30 ~ Never Coming Back by Alison McGhee, August 27 ~ The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See. New members are always welcome.

Art Exhibits

^Watercolor Landscapes by Bob Willman: will be on display at the Library from July 3 – July 27 during Library Hours. The Exhibit’s Opening Reception will be held on Friday, July 6 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Stop by to meet the Willman and view his work. Light refreshments will be served. Acoustic music will be provided by guitarist Dan Vellone. Bob is well known for capturing the seasonal changes of the Mohawk Valley in Central NY, and the nearby Adirondack Mountains. He also enjoys painting along the coast of Maine. Bob currently maintains an art studio in is 19th century farmhouse in Little Falls, NY.

^Here and There and This and That: A solo exhibit by Artist Gordon Bashant will be on display July 31 – September 1 during Library hours. The Exhibit’s Opening Reception will be held on Friday, August 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Bashant is a resident of San Diego and a summer resident of Old Forge, after retiring from a surgical practice in Utica NY. He works primarily in transparent watercolor but also does some work in acrylics and mixed media. His style is expressionistic but based on realism.

Events, Programs, Series and Workshops

(Unless otherwise noted Programs are free and open to the public.)

^Meet Me at the Library Gazebo at 5 for Live Music: Enjoy live music in the Gazebo from 5–6:00 p.m. on the 3rd Friday of the month! Stop by before heading out to dinner at your favorite local restaurant. On Friday, June 15, the Jim and Bonnie Tracy Duo will perform. They have been playing music together since 1979 and enjoy performing traditional music, old time country, piedmont blues and folk revival music from the 1960’s. Nick Piccininni will be on
The Pointed Pine Quilters meet weekly at the Library and make quilts for local nonprofit organizations to use as fund raisers.

hand July 21 to entertain you. Nick will sing original songs while accompanying himself on the acoustic guitar, and it’s very possible he might also do some pickin’ on the banjo during his performance with an acoustic variety of bluegrass, original compositions, gospel, and pop tunes. On August 17, local musician Dan Vellone will perform a mix of Americana and Old Time String Music. Bring a blanket or folding chair. In the case of inclement weather, performances will be moved inside.

Adirondack Mysteries Vol 3: On Tuesday, June 26 at 7:30 p.m., 4 of the 12 authors of this edition of the Adirondack Mysteries Series will read their short stories and answer questions about writing. Author and Editor Dennis Webster will read local author John Briant’s story, Santa Clara, his last before he died. John was widely respected for his Adirondack Detective series and the book is dedicated to him.

$Friends of the Library Annual Summer Raffle: Raffle items will be on display and raffle tickets available starting July 2. The drawings will take place on August 12 during the Library Bash. Yes, the Bash is back! (You do not need to be present to win.) Come and check out all the creative and unique items to be raffled.

Songs and Stories from Dublin: Come and enjoy a wonderful evening of stories and song by Tom O’Carroll on Tuesday, July 3 at 7:30 p.m. Tom is a Dublin born folklorist, folk-singer and instrumentalist who brings a wealth of stories, humor, wit and history to his performances.

Summer Reading Program: “Libraries Rock” is the theme for this year’s Summer Reading Program. Don’t miss this timely way to encourage your child to continue reading throughout the summer! On each of the following Thursdays (July 5 – Aug. 2) from noon to 1:00 p.m., there will be a variety of activities for children pre-K and up. (K and younger must be accompanied by an adult). Call the Library to register your child! Last day to register is July 12.

Rock the Library Magic Show: In conjunction with the Summer Reading Program kick-off, on July 5 from noon - 1 p.m., Magician Debbie O’Carroll joins Musician Tom O’Carroll in this fun and funny interactive magic show that highlights the art of music. Tom’s lively songs and tunes on the guitar, banjo, tin whistle, mandolin, Irish drum and African thumb piano will delight youngsters. Debbie’s enchanting magic illusions will involve all with some storybook characters from these magical and musical lands. Open to the public.

*Summer Writers Workshops: This year’s Adult and Young Adult Workshops will be held on 5 Wednesdays, from July 11 through August 8. The Young Adults will meet from 4–5:30 p.m. and Adults from 6:30–8:30 p.m. The director of both workshops will be Mary Sanders Shartle. Enrollment is limited. Please call the Library to register for either workshop.

†Adirondack Stories: Bill Smith returns to the Library on Tuesday, July 10 at 7:30 p.m. The popular storyteller and balladeer delights audiences everywhere. Prepare to laugh your head off at Bill’s tall tales, step back in time with his descriptions of country life in the old days, and get nostalgic when he sings. You won’t want to miss this event!

*Finding True North: A History of One Small Corner of the Adirondacks: On Tuesday, July 17 at 7:30 p.m., author and storyteller Fran Yardley will give a presentation on this emotionally moving book, which combines memoir and Adirondack history. For nearly five decades, Fran has acted as a steward for Bartlett Carry, her family’s property and its buildings, renovating, sewing and stitching together a life that reflects her love of the Adirondacks.

How to Write, Publish and Market Your Own Book Writing Seminar ~ Join Nancy Pulling Best and Gary Van Riper on Friday, July 20 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Nancy is a self-employed graphic designer and the author of four books. She owns a small publishing company. Gary is an award-winning journalist, photo-journalist and children's book author. He has self-published 18 children books with his son. Pre-registration is appreciated by calling the Library but walk-ins are welcome.

Authors’ Fair: From 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 20, area authors will sell and sign their books under a tent on the Library lawn. There will be more than 20 authors on hand including: Nancy Best, Bruce Bonfield, Jan Brynliesen (Winnie McClary), Pieter Gaskin, Sheila K. Harris, Letty Haynes, Katharyn Howd Machan, Jeanne Selander Miller, Irene Morrison, Daniel Moyihan, Eileen Parsons, Edward M. (Bovey) Pittman Jr., Peter Pringle, Cheryl A. Pula, Darrin Renner, Linda Smolarek, Kathleen E. Suits-Smith, Irene Uttendorfsky, Gary, Justin, Carol Van Riper, Dennis Webster, Jeanne Whyte, and Elizabeth Zerbst.

Lowville Village Band: will entertain you on Saturday, July 21 from 5 – 6:30 p.m. under the tent on the Library lawn. Please bring a blanket or chair. Started in 1826, it is one of the longest running community bands. Musicians ranging from ages 15 – 80+ will play music ranging from pop songs, jazz classics, Broadway favorites, patriotic tunes and classic standards.

Adirondack Storytelling and Music Festival: Traditional Stories & Music under the tent on the Library Lawn. This year’s Festival will be held on Sunday, July 22 from 12–2 p.m. Bring a blanket or a folding chair. Award-winning musician, storyteller and author Joe Bruchac will be your host. You will be entertained by Joe, Bill Smith, and the Mountain Quick Step Music and Dance Group of Sara Milonovich, Greg Anderson and Trish Miller.
The Fulton Chain: A New History: On Tuesday, July 24 at 7:30 p.m., author and historian Charles Herr will give a presentation highlighting his book "The Fulton Chain: Early Settlement, Steamboats, Railroads and Hotels". The book is the first general history of the Fulton Chain in almost seventy years. Books will be available for purchase and author signing after the program.

Meet Amelia Earhart: On Tuesday, August 1 at 7:30 p.m., Actor Eleanor Stearns will bring history alive with her portrayal of Amelia Earhart, American aviation pioneer and author. Earhart was the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932. Stearns, in character, will tell about Earhart's childhood, the development of her interest in flying, and her flights before her career ended mysteriously during a round-the-world flight.

Exploring Cambodia and Vietnam ~ Ancient Civilizations to Modern Struggle: Tuesday, August 7 at 7:30 p.m., local Photographer Diane Bowes will give a slide show presentation and discussion on her travels to these Southeast Asia countries who share a border and a turbulent history.

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Library Hours
Tue.-Fri. 11:00am through 8:00pm
Sat 11:00 am through 3:00 pm
through June 23, 2018

Summer Library Hours
Tue.-Fri. 11:00am through 9:00pm
Sat 11:00 am through 3:00 pm
Effective June 26, 2018 through September 1, 2018

Coffeehouse Open Mic Night: On Wednesday, August 15 at 7:30 p.m., writers, songwriters, aspiring writers and members of the public are invited to share and sing from their own work or to come and enjoy readings by others. Featured Writer and Emcee will be Mary Sanders Shartle. If you plan on participating on Open Mic Night please call the Library at 315 369-6008 ahead of time so they may plan accordingly, but walk-ins are also welcome. These readings are held to inspire writers and create opportunities for regional writers to meet.

Annual Library Book Sale: This popular event will be held from Thursday, August 23 to Saturday, August 25 during library hours. Suggested donations are: Hardcovers ~ $1.00 each (6 for $5) and Paperbacks ~ .50 each (5 for $2) Saturday ~ Bag Day ($3).

Durant Family Saga Trilogy: Tuesday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m., Author Sheila Myers will talk about the journey that led her to write an Adirondack Historical Fiction Series. She began researching and writing about the Durant family after staying in the cabin where William West Durant supposedly kept his mistress Minnie in the Adirondack wilderness. Sheila has traveled to numerous museums, libraries, and places where the Durant family lived and vacationed to research the family saga.
Town of Webb School Librarian, Jolene Finn, and 6th graders toured the library and participated in a scavenger hunt which was a fun way to learn how to find information and library materials.

Atkinson Family Band: Join us on Tuesday, August 28 at 7:30 p.m. for an acoustic genre of Americana, Bluegrass and Folk Music with a refreshing sound. The Atkinsons, rooted in the foothills of the Adirondacks, will perform a number of original songs which tell the stories of their lives in these mountains.

Funding Agencies

% Friends of the Library Adirondack Series
* New York State Council on the Arts: The Literature Program with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.
† New York State Council on the Arts: the Presenting Program with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.
♦ Adirondack Center for Writing.
# The Town of Webb Recreation Program.
^ In Partnership with First Friday Art Walk.

Don’t forget—you can check our website, www.oldforgelibrary.org for a list of library programs or stop by the library for a printed copy.

Please help us reduce printing and mailing costs! Send an e-mail to oldforge@midyork.org or call 315 369-6008 so we can send you the Bookmark and other Library news electronically.