President's Message

We hope you all had the merriest of holidays. The Central Adirondacks are certainly in a holiday mood- I’m looking out my (frosted) windows at two feet of snow and bird feeders covered with hungry jays, juncos, goldfinches and purple finches. Their activity makes the below-zero temperatures seem just a bit warmer. This beautiful winter weather (despite the cold, it really is beautiful with the sun on the snowy trees) has also brought welcome activity to our streets and trails.

It’s time once again to thank you for your support over the past year. Our library is a thriving, growing place because of you. This year, as always, brought change, including the dedication of our Reading Garden. Look for more changes this year. None of the great things that happen at the library would be possible without our dedicated director and staff. Thanks to all for making the Old Forge Library such a welcoming place.

Best wishes to everyone in the New Year-hope it meets all of our expectations.

Don Kelly

Elf Benefit Walk

The Annual Elf Benefit walk was held on October 4. Library Elf Snowflake and Jingle Belle and 18 community members walked up to 3 miles to show support for the Library and to raise money for programming. After the walk, they were treated to a Pizza Party. Group prize winners, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, and individual prize winner Katie Kelly were awarded tickets to the Strand Movie Theater for collecting the most pledges. The walk raised $1060 which will be used for the ADK Story and Music Festival held in July.

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. Upcoming meeting dates and titles for the group are: January 16 ~ The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See, February 20 ~ Actual Malice: A True Crime by Breton Peace, March 20 ~ Handmaid’s Tale by Margaret Atwood, April 17 ~ Never Coming Back by Alison McGhee, May 15 ~ Finding True North by Fran Yardley.

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: January 29 ~ A Piece of the World by Christina Baker Kline, February 26 ~ The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley by Hannah Tinti, March 26 ~ Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate, April 30 ~ Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng.

Holly Armondola and Ericka Wilcox enjoyed the library Christmas party along with other parents and their children having fun becoming elves, eating Christmas cookies and drinking cocoa. Supervisor Robert Moore read “The Night before Christmas”, and the movie “Frosty’s Winter Wonderland” was shown, followed by everyone singing Christmas carols. Prizes were given to all who wore their P.J.’s.

Upcoming Programs & Events

Art Exhibits:
Winter Scenes Art Exhibit will be on display at the Library from January 10 through March 10 during Library Hours. This exhibit will feature work with varied art mediums from area artists. The Exhibit Opening Reception will be held on Friday January 12 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Stop by to meet the artists and view their work. Light refreshments will be served. Acoustic music will be provided by guitarist Dan Vellone.

READO Game: January through March, the Library is teaming up other Libraries in the Mid York Library System to offer a bingo-like game, an easy activity that encourages children to read. Children can stop by the Library and pick up a game card that gives them options for how/where to read. Adults are asked to initial the squares that the child has completed and when they finish a row or diagonal they can bring their card to the Library for a prize!

"History of the Woman’s Suffrage Movement": This travelling exhibit from the Dodge Pratt Northam Art and Community Center will be on display during library hours. Stay tuned for the dates!
Kevin Kurtz, teacher and author of science books, autographs copies of his books for several home school students. Earlier in the day he presented three presentations for 150 students and teachers from the Town of Webb Schools, Inlet School, and home schools. The program was funded by the New York State Council on the Arts, the Literature Program.

❄Winter Toddler Story Time: This 6 session program will be held on Fridays from January 19 through February 23 from 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. It is for toddlers, age 1 and 2, and a parent or caregiver and is led by Jackie Englert. Children will listen to stories, enjoy puppets, learn finger plays and have some toy time. Registration is not required for this program.

Winter Story Hour: Pre-school children ages 3, 4, 5+ years are invited to join this six week program on Fridays, January 19 through February 23 from 11 a.m. to noon. Registration is required. The hour of stories and creative play will be led by Library Director Isabella Worthen, Louisette Lecours, Beverly Meeker and Fern Bick. Parents are asked to provide a group snack or drink for one session. Please stop at the library desk or call 369-6008 by Thursday, January 18 by 8:00 p.m. to register your child.

*Poetry & Illustration Instruction and Exhibit: The theme for the 2018 Annual Poetry & Illustration Instruction and Exhibit is “Shaping My Landscape”. It is open to students in K-12 and Adults throughout the Mid-York Library Region. (Oneida, Herkimer, & Madison Counties) and the Town of Inlet. Entries will be accepted from Wednesday Feb 1st until Wednesday, March 1st. This year only one entry will be accepted in the poetry and the illustration contests for each participant. There are four categories: K-4, Grades 5-8, Grades 9-12, and Adult. Please call the library for any specific details. Judges for the Poetry contests are: Paula Alida Roy and Mary Sanders Shartle. Judges for the Illustration contest are: Loretta Lepkowski and Ron Rakowski. The Opening Exhibit Reception, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday, March 13 at 7 PM. Winners and Honorable Mentions in each category will be announced by masters of ceremony Michael Cunningham. Winners will receive $25.00 and a certificate and the Honorable Mentions will receive a certificate. Participants whose Poems and Illustrations win or receive Honorable Mention in their Juried category will have an opportunity to read and/or discuss their work. All entries will remain on display in the library wing through May 26th. The winners work will be a part of a travelling exhibit and will be on display at 3040 Gallery, 5 Corners Café, the Old Forge Hardware, and VIEW.

The Poetry & Illustration Project also includes Poetry and Art Workshops:

Poetry Workshops are scheduled on Saturday, January 20 from 10-Noon Grades K-6 will be instructed by Chris Holt and Grades 7-12 by Alison Albright. From 12:30 to 2:30 Adults will be taught by Star Livingstone.

Art Workshops are scheduled on Saturday, January 27 from 10-Noon Grades K-6 will be instructed by Karen Beck and Grades 7-12 by Bronwen Keefer. From 12:30-2:30 Adults will be taught by Sue Freese.

Online help will be available to help participants before March 1, the juried exhibit deadline, by emailing: oldforge@midyork.org. Participants in the workshops are not required to enter their work and contest entrants are not required to attend the workshops.

The Friends Annual Luncheon: The Friends of the Old Forge Library invite the community to attend the Annual Luncheon. It will be held on Monday, January 22 at 11:45 a.m. at Pickle Boat Grill. $15.00 includes luncheon entrée, dessert, beverage and gratuity. Call the Library or stop in to see the entrée choices and to sign up by Tuesday January 16 at 8 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik donated 29 books from the Library of Congress to the Old Forge Library. Izzie and several board members gave her a tour of the library and garden.

Sweetheart Dessert Contest: The library will be celebrating Valentine’s Day with the annual Sweetheart Dessert Contest on Tuesday, February 13. This year’s contest will have a Mardi Gras theme. There are four categories: Youth Student, Teen Student, Adult and Master. To enter the contest, create your favorite dessert and bring it to the library from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. that day. This year’s judges are Melissa McDonald, Mary Ann Nelson, and Kelly Noonan. A reception will be held at 7:00 p.m. and the contest winners will be announced at 7:40 p.m. The Friends of the Library invite the community to stop in to sample the delicious entries from 7-8 p.m.
Join Bobby and Hazel Dellavia and Barbara and Laurence Murphy on Thursday, March 1st when Billy’s Restaurant will be holding a benefit dinner for the Old Forge Library. This is a wonderful way to support the library while enjoying an evening out with friends. There will be 2 seatings 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Reservations are encouraged and takeouts will be available. Twenty percent of the total receipts will be donated to the Old Forge Library.

♦ Coffeehouse Open Mic Night: On Wednesday February 21 at 7:00 p.m., writers, songwriters, aspiring writers and members of the public are invited to share and read or sing from their own work or to come and enjoy readings by others. Featured Writer and Emcee will be Elizabeth Martina. Elizabeth is the author of The Ragman Murders, a work of fiction based on a true family story. She also writes 2 blogs under the name Debbie Booton McCoy.

If you plan on participating on Open Mic Night, the Library would appreciate your call (315 369-6008) so they may plan accordingly but walk-ins are welcome. These readings are held to inspire writers and create opportunities for regional writers to meet.

♦ Howl Story Slam— True Stories Told Locally: You’re invited to the Library on Friday March 2 at 7pm for this fun event! How does it work? Storytellers (you, your friends and anyone else with a story to tell) put their names in a hat. Names are picked, and one by one, storytellers take the stage and tell us their best story in five minutes on the theme “Leap of faith/Going for it”. Two local judges will score every story to select The Howl Story Slam winners of the night. All stories have to be true and come from personal experience. No notes. You don’t need to be a professional storyteller. Just tell it from the heart! The Howl Story SLAM is brought to you by North Country Public Radio and the Adirondack Center for Writing.

The Fall session of Linking Lives Through Reading program with nine second graders reading “one on one” with nine adult members of the community was held. This program was funded by the Leola Tobin fund with busing provided by the Town of Webb Schools.

Recent Fiction:
David Baldacci, End Game; Jennifer Chiaverini, Enchantress of Numbers; Lee Child, The Midnight Line; Clive Cussler, Typhoon Fury; Louise Erdrich, Future Home of the Living God; Janet Evanovich, Hardcore Twenty-Four; Richard Paul Evans, The Noel Diary; Cristina Garcia, Here in Berlin; WEB Griffen, Death at Nuremberg; Tom Hanks, Uncommon Type; Jane Harper, The Dry; Valerie Hietala, Lake House; Mary Higgings Clark, Every Breath You Take; Min Jin Lee, Pachinko; Alison McGhee, Never Coming Back; Diane Palmer, Wyoming Winter; James Patterson, The People vs. Alex Cross; Anne Perry, A Christmas Return; Nora Roberts, Year One; James Rollins, The Daman Crown; George Saunders, Lincoln in the Bardo; Danielle Steel, Past Perfect.

Recent Non-Fiction:
Michael Benson, “Escape from Dannemora; Alison Britz, Obsessed; Jenna Bush Hages, Sisters First; Dinesh D’Souza, The Big Lie; Henry Louis Gates, African American Folk Tales; Lawrence Gooley, People & Places of the Adirondacks; Laurie Sophie Hantne, Kitchen Lithography; Walter Isaacson, Leonardo Da Vinci; Rachel Jefts, Breaking Free; Matt Jennings, Home Grown Cooking; Scott Kelly, Endurance: A Year in Space; Ariel Levy, The Rules Do Not Apply; Emily Midorikawa, A Secret Sisterhood; Thomas Moore, Ageless Soul; Jay O’Hern, Adirondack Camp Stories; Sally Svenson, Blacks in the Adirondacks.

The Old Forge Library Association

Old Forge Library Association

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Kirsten Down
Vice President
Judy Ehrensheck
Recording Secretary
Jennifer Hartsig
Corresponding Secretary
Mona Lincoln
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Isabella Worthen

**Key Staff**
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**Officers**
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President
Mary Demko
Vice President
Donna Zuckert
Recording Secretary
Sue Russell
Treasurer
Paula Weal
Sally Zimmerman

**Library Hours**
Tuesday through Sunday: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Saturday: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Effective September 5, 2017
through June 23, 2018
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.

Community Meetings at the Library:

The following groups welcome new members!

Cabin Fever Crafters ~ meet on the 3rd Wed of the month at 6 p.m.

The Friends of the Library ~ meet on the First Tuesday of the month at Noon.

Pointed Pine Quilters ~ meet on Tuesdays from 1 - 3 p.m.

Old Forge Camera Club ~ meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees ~ open to the public, the meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Karen Lee places an ornament on the Evergreen Wish List Tree. So far $650.00 has been donated purchasing thirty two books for the library. The library board and staff wish to thank all of our generous patrons and friends who donated to this project.

A special thanks to Sue Murray for making the ornaments commemorating each donation.

Funding Agencies

♦ Co-sponsored with Adirondack Center for Writing

* CNY/Arts, New York State Council on the Arts with support from Governor Andrew Cuomo and the NYS Legislature, and The Friends

! North Country Public Radio

☼ Town of Webb Recreation Program

All library programs are free and open to the public, unless otherwise indicated. For more information & specific needs, call the Library at 315 369-6008.