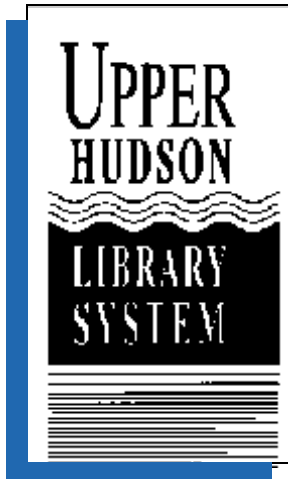


The Latest Edition



[The Latest Edition](#) is a regularly published newsletter for the public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

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PEOPLE, LIBRARIES, STORIES: ANATOMY OF A COLLABORATION

By Mary Fellows, Manager, Youth Services

When libraries spearhead community literacy projects, the results are powerful.

Vision: After I moved to the Capital District two years ago, I was amazed that the rich cultural mix here did not include a storytelling festival. A storytelling festival is a series of public events involving the sharing of stories. Storytellers tell stories for adults, teens, children, and mixed audiences. Folk tales, myths, personal stories, and urban legends are just a few of the types of stories shared.

I began to dream about such a festival in Albany in which UHLS promoted stories, books, and libraries. I envisioned a regional festival with top professional tellers in which all ages connected to the truths found - and understood more easily - in stories. I saw arts experiences in which we all learned again the importance of listening to one another, and of valuing our commonality along with our individuality.

Storytelling and libraries are closely linked, in my view. Stories are connections. Libraries promote storytelling because storytelling helps children learn language, and develops their interest in hearing more stories. Stories also promote learning and interest in library resources.

With stories, literacy, and community at its center, a storytelling festival seemed to me like a natural project for Upper Hudson. When staff at Albany Public Library suggested exploring a collaborative project, the time was ripe for a launch.

Collaboration: My goal from the beginning was to create a community/regional storytelling festival, involving all of Upper Hudson's service area. To accomplish that, participants from key organizations serving the Festival's potential audience were needed. So we put our vision on paper and sent out meeting invitations to people in all of the likely partner organizations we could identify. Included were libraries, schools, storytelling organizations, arts organizations, colleges and universities, the media, a chamber of commerce, and a visitor's bureau.

Our first meeting was productive and energetic. By the end of the second meeting, we had a name, an artistic mission, a schedule, a producer (me),

(continued on page 2)



and an organizational structure of a planning committee and five subcommittees. We were committed!

Integration: W. H. Murray said that the moment one commits oneself, then Providence moves too, and all sorts of things occur to help that would never otherwise have occurred. One way we boosted Providence's effectiveness was by integrating our activities to put more energy towards a main goal.

With the plan for a storytelling festival in 2003 in place, a storytelling grant project for libraries seemed like a natural counterpart. The LSTA project Imagination River Storytelling Camp provides storytelling experiences for middle-school students. Imagination River complements Riverway Storytelling Festival by providing a student teller component at the Festival, excitement among the families of student tellers towards the bigger Festival, and additional media coverage. The Festival provides students with training, opportunities to hear internationally renowned tellers, and a high impact venue for their own performances.

Riverway Storytelling Festival also has a writing counterpart: in a story-writing contest for students in grades 4-8, co-sponsored with the *Times Union*. The contest will be promoted to students through the *TU* education program as well as in the newspaper.

Inviting Partners to the Table: As with any major project, the Festival needed funds and partners who could offer in-kind assistance. Happily, many of the people around the planning table had already established partnerships that helped us. Thanks to their connections, we found strong and generous partners to provide our funding and give us in-kind support. The *Times Union*, WAMC Public Radio, Hudson River Bank & Trust, and Urbach Kahn & Werlin Advisors are all major supporters. Albany Public Library is an invaluable partner. Partnerships with eight other UHLS member libraries help us extend the Festival to smaller communities.

Success in finding partners grew out of three things: relationships of our committee members with potential partners in the region, our committee members' abilities to articulate and sell our vision, and an ability to present ourselves as professional and organized. All were doubly important for an event with no track record.

Publicizing the Project: Partnering with the *Times Union* and WAMC/Northeast Public Radio has strengthened our publicity. Additionally, other media sources have become more interested in our activities when they hear of these powerful partners. We are promoting the Festival to the general public in the Capital Region and in a more focused way to teachers, librarians, storytellers, and students. Teacher-centered publications, newsletters, flyers, and email are some of our distribution methods for these target groups.

Planning for Continuation: From the beginning, the planning team envisioned Riverway Storytelling Festival 2003 as an inaugural event. Even as we fill in the details for this year's event, we are planning for next year by inviting potential funders to the Saturday evening concert, and arranging filming of parts of the event to be made into a promotional video.

Festival Schedule: April 3-5, 2003

Riverway Storytelling Festival begins on Thursday evening, April 3, with free storytelling performances at eight member libraries: Petersburg, Castleton, Troy, Altamont, Stephentown, Rensselaerville, Voorheesville, and RCS (Ravena). These 7:00 PM performances are for mixed audiences.

On Friday, April 4, Festival storytellers present stories in two local high-need schools, one in Albany County and one in Rensselaer County.

On Friday evening, a multi-cultural storytelling concert for school-aged children and their families takes place at the WAMC Performing Arts Studio in Albany with top-notch New York tellers David Anderson Sankofa, Bairbre McCarthy, and Felix Pitre. The concert begins at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children.

Saturday, April 5, includes a full day of storytelling activities. Daytime activities are held at Albany Public Library. For librarians, teachers, storytellers or wannabe storytellers, workshops on storytelling will be available at 9:30 and 10:30 AM, for a cost of \$10 for each workshop.

We are especially proud to present free performances by middle school students from the four area middle schools, Farnsworth Middle School, Knickerbacker Middle School, Maple Hill Middle School and Philip Livingston Magnet Academy, who have been attending Upper

Hudson's Imagination River Storytelling Camp. They will perform at four locations around Albany Public Library at 11:30 AM.

At 1:30 PM on Saturday, free public storytelling performances by Joyce Gillam Brown and Felix Pitre will be offered. At 2:30 PM, internationally renowned storyteller Laura Simms will offer a two-hour master class. The cost for the class is \$20.

On Saturday evening, The Egg is the site for an evening of exquisite storytelling for adults and teens. Storytelling diva Laura Simms is our headliner. The concert, which begins at 8:00 PM, will also feature Adirondack storytellers Jim Bruchac and Fran Yardley. Tickets are \$12.

In initiating Riverway Storytelling Festival, Upper Hudson Library System mobilized partners whose support has spread beyond the Festival. Additional literacy partnerships involving a newspaper column highlighting children's books, a regular radio show featuring folktales told by local tellers, and dialogue about funding future library projects have all grown from connections made in creating the Festival. When libraries create a compelling vision and enlist powerful collaborators, the results can change lives.

Note: For further information on attending Riverway Storytelling Festival, see <http://timesunion.com/communities/riverway/> or contact producer Mary Fellows at 437-9880 ext. 228; mary@uhls.lib.ny.us.

IMAGINATION RIVER CAMP

Food, fun, lots of stories (no campfires) marked Imagination River Storytelling Camp, part of a 2002-2003 LSTA grant. Thirty-three student campers attended the three-day camp, held during school break February 18, 29 and 20. The 6th and 7th graders were chosen from among their classmates to participate in the camp and work more intensively on stories and performance skills. Camps were held at Albany Public Library, Castleton Public Library, Lansingburgh Branch Library, and Farnsworth Middle School (partnering with Altamont Free Library). Channel 13's Elaine Houston attended part of the Albany Public Library camp and interviewed campers and the storyteller for an education segment. Said an Altamont camper, "I wanted to learn to express who I am. This camp has been really good!"

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

epixtech, UHLS' information management system vendor, has relaunched its corporate identity in 2003 and changed its name to

Dynix. The company's new identity reflects its long-standing history as a leader in library automation and symbolizes its ability to combine technologies with library expertise.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FEBRUARY 2003 UHLS BOARD MEETING

- President P. Erlich administered the Oath of Office to new trustees Paula Read (BETH) and George O'Connor (TROY).
- P. Read and G. O'Connor were appointed to the Administration Committee. C. Diamond was appointed Chair of the Administration Committee.
- The Board approved a contract with Urbach, Kahn and Werlin for a financial Review for the year ended December 31, 2002 instead of an audit.
- The Board authorized the Finance Committee to accept what it believes to be the best proposal and rate to refinance the 28 Essex Street mortgage, and sign a commitment letter without further recourse to the Board of Trustees.
- The Board approved the

appointment of Mary Perrin Scott to the Outreach Advisory Council to fill a vacancy.

- The following positions are under consideration by the Nominating Committee: Trustee from a small Rensselaer County Library, Trustee from a medium Rensselaer County Library, Trustee from Troy, Trustee from Bethlehem, Trustee from a medium Albany County Library.

WILLIAM MEREDITH ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD

UHLS presents this award to an individual who has made an extraordinary contribution to the growth or development of public library services in their community. Member library and UHLS trustees and staff are not eligible for this award. Each member library may submit one nomination. A description of the individual being nominated should be submitted on your library's letterhead and be accompanied by supporting materials. The deadline for nominations is Friday, April 4, 2003 at 5:00 PM.

LIBRARY PROGRAM OF THE YEAR AWARD

At the Annual Meeting on June 11, 2003, the UHLS Board will honor outstanding programs conducted by member libraries. Selection is based on programs that have demonstrated creativity and innovation, community partnerships, enhanced services to the community, or reached a previously unserved constituency. Two awards will be given, one for urban/suburban libraries, and one for rural libraries. Libraries may apply in one of the two categories. It is the library's choice under which category to apply. Elements of this choice might include population served, number of community service agencies, per capita activities, and size of budget. A description of the program being nominated should be submitted on your library's letterhead and be accompanied by supporting materials. The deadline for nominations is Friday, **April 4, 2003**.

AUTOMATION TIP OF THE MONTH

By Rawdon Cheng, Manager,
Technology Services

You are back from a vacation or a conference, you have tons of email waiting for you. Very likely, a big chunk of them are from the listservs to which you have subscribed. Why waste time reading through those non-essential messages before you get to the important ones? Luckily, most email client programs come with filtering ability. You can set up rules to move messages to another folder, delete them without opening (great for junk mail) or perform many other actions. You can filter by keywords

in the subject line or the body of the text or by senders. In Outlook, click Tools – Rule Wizard. In Outlook Express, click Tools – Message Rules – Mail. In Netscape, click on Edit – Message Filter.

CHECKING OUT TO NON-UHLS LIBRARIES

If you receive a request for one of your items from a library outside the UHLS system, you can check it out directly to the requesting library. That includes CDLC libraries as well as libraries from out of the region.

To find the barcode of the library in Horizon, go to CKO (Check Out), press F4 (Find Borrower), and choose Borrower Last Name Alphabetical. Most out-of-system libraries have one of the following for a "last name":

Library-for public libraries, such as Schenectady County Public, Cambridge Public;

Library System-for systems, like Southern Adirondack Library, Mid Hudson, or Westchester;

SLS-for school library systems, such as BASS, Questar, or Cattaraugus;

College-for universities and colleges, like St. Rose, Siena, and Albany Medical;

School-for elementary, middle and high schools, as well as private schools, for example, Colonie Central, Berkshire High, Emma Willard;

Hospital-for hospitals and medical centers, such as St. Peters, Albany Memorial, and VA.

HAVE YOUR SAY

The Governor's budget proposes a 15% cut in aid to libraries, the same amount as 1993 funding levels. This cut is nearly twice the

size of the cuts proposed in the general education budget. Visit your legislators on NYLA Legislative Day, March 18, 2003 and let them know that this is not the time to cut back services to the people of New York State. There will be a rally on the Capitol steps at 12:30 PM, to which the media has been invited. Plan to meet at Noon in the NYLA briefing room (Room 6 in the Concourse) and walk together to the Capitol steps. For more information, contact Mary Fellows at 437-9880 x. 228.

Regional News

WIRELESS: IT'S ALL AROUND US!

The Capital District Library Council Continuing Education Committee will present a workshop on wireless applications in the Olin Center, Room 115, at Union College (a wireless classroom) on Monday, March 24, 2003 from 12:30 - 4:00 PM. The fee is \$15.00 (includes break). Registration deadline is March 14, 2003, by mail or courier only. Enclose a check made out to Capital District Library Council and send to CDLC c/o Christine Walker, 28 Essex Street, Albany, NY 12206. For more information, visit <http://www.cdlic.org/cdlic/ceevent.html>.

STATUS OF DIALOG @ CARL

The current statewide contract for Dialog @ CARL - Basic Collection online database offered through the New York State Library's NOVEL Databases program will expire March 31, 2003. After

March 31, 2003, due to a vendor merger, that database will cease to exist and therefore, will no longer be available to the NOVEL databases program from any vendor. Over the next few months, the State Library's internal NOVEL databases committee will be investigating online products that include many or all of the most used Dialog@CARL databases. Selection of a replacement collection of databases for Dialog@CARL is dependent on available funding.

OUTREACH PROGRAM WORKSHOP

Nylink is sponsoring a one-day workshop *Open the Doors and Let Them In!* on Friday, March 21, 2003 from 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM in their downtown Albany office. Carole Anne Germain, from the University at Albany, will facilitate the workshop, focusing on effective outreach library programs and innovative PR ideas. Registration deadline is March 7, 2003. There is a fee for the workshop. Visit <http://www.nylink.suny.edu/door.htm>.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM USING THE INTERNET

This teleconference will be downlinked to the Hudson Valley Community College campus on Thursday, April 3, 2003 from 2:30 - 4:00 PM. The instant availability of vast amounts of information on the Internet has made it easier for students to "cut and paste" their way to a finished essay, and to locate and buy ready-made term papers. This event will show educators how technology can empower them to

detect plagiarism and cheating using Internet-based detection services. The program is free and open to the public.

GROWING GREAT LIBRARIANS

The Youth Services Section of the New York Library Association will hold its 28th Annual Spring Conference on Friday, April 4, 2003 at the Wyndham Wind Watch Hotel, 1717 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, Long Island, from 8:15 AM to 3:30 PM. Barbara Genco, President of the American Library Association's Association for Library Service to Children will be the keynote speaker. Workshop topics include: "The Invisible Web," "Cooking Programs with Children," "Crafts for Summer," "Scrapbooking 101," and "Reading Rants and Great YA Books." For more information, contact Lisa Jacobs, Conference Chair, at 631-728-6241; ljacobs@suffolk.lib.ny.us.

GREAT NEW YORK READALOUD

The annual Great New York ReadAloud will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2003. All types of libraries in the State sponsor ReadAlouds by inviting local celebrities, teachers, administrators, parents and community leaders to read aloud. Libraries are encouraged to plan a ReadAloud around the statewide theme: *Good Books are Good Friends -- Find Them @ Your Library*. If you are unable to hold a ReadAloud on April 9th, select another date in April or May to celebrate reading. ReadAloud posters will be available in three languages: Chinese, English and Spanish, provided as a public

service by SIRS Publishing, Inc. For information on how to organize a ReadAloud, contact Tiffany H. Allen at 486-4863; tallen@mail.nysed.gov.

WALDO UPDATE

The Spring 2003 WALDO Update will be held in the UHLS Meeting Room from 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM on April 9, 2003. Robert Karen, Account Specialist at the Westchester Academic Library Directors Organization (WALDO), will discuss the recent additions to the WALDO portfolio of online databases and services. Carole Myles, Senior Vice President at Classical.com, will present the new e-book reference XreferPlus. To register for the program, contact Chris Walker at cwalker@cdlc.org.

National News

TECHNOLOGIES 2003

According to *Progressive Grocer* (January 1, 2003), these technologies "promise to start going mainstream in 2003":

- Interactive voice technology - using headsets to facilitate communication between departments;
- Scan-based trading - using daily scanner data to manage collection development, acquisitions, and payments, thereby saving labor costs, reducing paperwork, and saving money;
- Reduced space symbology - incorporating additional data elements into barcodes;
- Customer terminals - not just for information, but for customers to complete their own circulation transactions.

CHILDRENS BOOKS AWARD WINNERS

The winner of the 2003 Caldecott Medal, awarded to the illustrator of the most distinguished American picture book for children is Eric Rohmann for My Friend Rabbit. The 2003 Newbery Medal, awarded to the author of the most distinguished American novel for children, was given to Avi for Crispin: The Cross of Lead. The Coretta Scott King Author Award, given to an author of African descent whose inspirational books best promote an appreciation of the American Dream, went to Nikki Grimes for Bronx Masquerade. The Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award, presented to an illustrator of African descent whose inspiring books best promote an understanding of the American Dream, went to E.B. Lewis, illustrator of Talkin' About Bessie by Nikki Grimes. Aidan Chambers, author of Postcards from No Man's Land, won the Michael L. Printz Award for the book that best exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature. James Cross Giblin received the Robert F. Sibert Award for the most distinguished information book for children, for his book The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler.

ISSUES OF CONCERN

LSTA Funding, Copyright, Database Protection legislation, the E-Government Bill. These issues affect every library. Join library staff and advocates in Washington, D.C. on May 12 and 13, 2003 for National Library Legislative Day. The American Library Association has reserved a block of rooms at the

Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill for participants. EVENTS: Sunday, May 11 - pre-conference; Monday, May 12 - all day briefing at the Hyatt; Tuesday, May 13 - Capitol Hill visits. For more information, contact Mary Berman at mberman@wlsmail.org.

AUTHORS @ YOUR LIBRARY

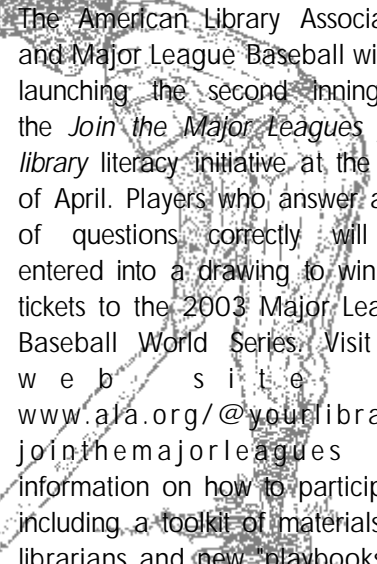
The Authors @ your library website is a resource for connecting libraries with authors and their publicists. Responding to an often-heard concern that publishers do not book authors in libraries as often as librarians and patrons would like, the Association of American Publishers formed a partnership with ALA, Friends of Libraries USA, and *Library Journal* to create a searchable database for both librarians seeking authors and for publicists looking for speaking opportunities for their authors. The website is temporarily accessible at www.ala.org/publicprograms/authors@yourlibrary.

SUBSCRIPTION AGENCY BANKRUPTCY

Subscription agency RoweCom filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy status in January 2003 and concurrently sued its parent company Divine to recover more than \$73.7 million in subscription revenue. The lawsuit alleges that Divine had decided in the spring of 2002 not to support its subsidiary but that it continued to collect payments from thousands of libraries anyway. It also claims Divine "looted" its own agency "in bad faith and with the intent of hindering, delaying or defrauding RoweCom and its creditors." If

your library could be a creditor under the RoweCom action, please contact Julie A. Walker, Executive Director of the American Association of School Librarians, at jwalker@ala.org.

BATTER UP WITH ALA



The American Library Association and Major League Baseball will be launching the second inning of the *Join the Major Leagues your library* literacy initiative at the end of April. Players who answer a set of questions correctly will be entered into a drawing to win two tickets to the 2003 Major League Baseball World Series. Visit the website at www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/jointhemajorleagues for information on how to participate, including a toolkit of materials for librarians and new "playbooks" of baseball trivia questions categorized by age group. Begin planning now to use *Join the Major Leagues* for spring/summer programming, displays, film series, book discussions or other promotions that relate to baseball.

Trustee News

TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

The UHLS Board would like to honor a member library trustee at the UHLS Annual Meeting on June 11, 2003. Each member library may submit one nomination. A description of the individual being nominated should be submitted on your library's letterhead and be accompanied by supporting materials. Please be sure that the letter is sent to the attention of Philip Ritter at UHLS. The deadline

for nominations is Friday, April 4, 2003 at 5:00 PM.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU REALLY, REALLY DISAGREE WITH A BOARD DECISION

Adapted from CompassPoint Nonprofit Services, February 18, 2003

Have you ever been in a situation where the board has made a decision that you think is very, very wrong, and will have severe negative consequences for the library? Or where you think an important decision has been railroaded through?

It's important to remember that reasonable people can disagree on important issues. The following suggestions may give you some food for thought:

- Consider asking the board for an independent, expert evaluation of the situation. Such an evaluation will bring objective information to the decision. At least make sure that your "no" vote is recorded in the minutes or record of the meeting. After the vote, simply say, "Please put my name into the minutes as having voted NO on this motion." When the minutes are issued, check to be sure it has been recorded properly.
- Call the board president and express your concerns. Or write a letter to the board that explains your reasons for voting. Bring this letter to the meeting at which the vote will be taken, and ask to read your letter aloud and have it entered into the official minutes. You may be out-voted, but your reasoning is in the permanent record, and those not at the board meeting will be able to

HR@THE LIBRARY

The information provided in this column is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an endorsement by Upper Hudson Library System.

WHO'S AFRAID OF PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT?

Adapted from Business and Legal Reports *HR e-Lert* 2/17/03

Is it like pulling teeth to get your department heads and supervisors to conduct performance reviews? It's that way in lots of libraries. Managers apparently prefer root canals to the process of evaluating their subordinates. Here are some tips from several authorities on persuading your supervisors to do it and do it right.

- Stress that prompt and thorough reviews are the only appropriate basis for promotions, compensation adjustments, and disciplinary steps.
- Use only job-related criteria to assess performance.
- Use numerical ratings or clearly defined terms; avoid vague or general categories.
- Require that the employee review and sign the evaluation and be permitted to add written comments.
- Establish appeal provisions for employees who are dissatisfied with their evaluations.
- Attach the library's boilerplate language about at-will employment (for example: "Library and employee may terminate the employment relationship at any time for any reason") to every performance evaluation form rather than just to the employee handbook.

understand your point of view.

- Once a decision has been made, don't keep bringing it up again or try to take your case to others. If, however reluctantly, you can live with the decision, make your disagreements clear, but also make clear that you will work with the decision.

libraries or Friends groups. The deadline for nominations is July 19, 2003. If you would like to nominate a person or a Friends group for the award, request an application form from Mary O'Hara, 231 Melbourne Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13224; oharamg@yahoo.com.

Friends News

RECOGNIZE A FRIEND

The Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award was established to honor those individuals or groups whose volunteer efforts have contributed to the growth of

Grants & Funding

LJ LIBRARY OF THE YEAR

Library Journal recognizes the library that most profoundly demonstrates outstanding community service with this annual award. The honoree receives \$10,000 and an *LJ* cover story. The deadline for

nominations is March 15, 2003. For nomination guidelines, go to www.gale.com/libraries.

SHARE THE WEALTH CONTEST

The Library Public Relations Council sponsors the "Share the Wealth" competition, where libraries are invited to select their best public relations pieces produced in 2002 and submit them for consideration. The deadline for submissions is March 17, 2003. No posters or videos can be accepted. Packets of 40-50 items judged "PR Bests" will be distributed to the LPRC membership next summer. A Certificate of Merit will be sent to each library that submits an entry chosen for the "Share the Wealth Packets." Libraries are invited to submit up to two entries in this competition. For entry forms, contact jbertrand@nypl.org.

L. PERCY AWARDS

These awards are given by the Library Public Relations Council for excellence in 7 categories: Annual Report; Library Service Brochure; Program Announcement; Materials/Book List; WWW Page; Special Event/Project; Newsletter/ Calendar, and @your library ALA Campaign. All entries must have been produced in calendar year 2002. The deadline for entries is **March 17, 2003**. For more information, call Susan Ferris at 203-625-6550.

SIXTIES GRANT PROGRAM

National Video Resources (NVR) and the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office will select 25 libraries to host *The Sixties: America's*

Decade of Crisis and Change. This new six-week program features scholar-led lectures, documentary film screenings, and readings and discussions on a period of change and social conflict in American history. *The Sixties* is supported by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Libraries interested can download an application at www.ala.org/publicprograms/sixties/. Applications must be received by March 28, 2003.

TOSHIBA EQUIPMENT GRANTS

The Beaumont Foundation of America (BFA) invites grant applications for \$20K - \$100K from libraries for state-of-the-art Toshiba technology equipment. Eligibility requirements include serving a population that is 50% at, or below, the poverty level or serving a student population that qualifies by 50% for the National School Lunch Project. The deadline is March 31, 2003. For more information, see www.bmtfoundation.com.

IMLS DEADLINE REMINDER

The deadline for National Leadership Grants for Library and Museum Collaborations is April 1, 2003. For information, go to http://www.ims.gov/grants/l-m/l-m_lead.asp.

NEH CONSULTATION GRANTS

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awards up to \$10K to help organizations create new projects in the humanities. Funds can be used to hire outside consultants, travel to learn from

model projects, and develop preliminary plans. The deadline is April 7, 2003. For information, go to www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/public-consult.html.

HUDSON MOHAWK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION - NYLA SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Hudson Mohawk Library Association (HMLA) will provide a financial award for a librarian, student, library trustee or other library personnel to attend the New York Library Association's Annual Conference. The recipient of this award will receive \$250 to help defray conference costs. Applicants must be a member of HMLA, and have shown commitment to libraries. The applicant must be willing to assist in a HMLA activity. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2003. For an application form, contact Barbara Nichols Randall, HMLA Recording Secretary, Guilderland Public Library, 2228 Western Avenue, Guilderland, NY 12084.

NEH CHALLENGE GRANTS

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) offers Challenge Grants to help support humanities programs and resources in nonprofit organizations. Grant money can also be used for preservation initiatives, fundraising or capital projects. Grants range from \$20K-\$500K. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2003. For more information, visit www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/challenge.html.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AWARD

The SIRS and NYLA's Intellectual

Freedom Committee sponsors this award honoring an individual or group who have met and resisted attempts at censorship or have otherwise furthered the cause of intellectual freedom. The winner of will receive a plaque and \$500, plus a library of the winner's choice will receive a gift certificate for any SIRS product. Nomination guidelines and forms can be found at www.nyla.org/ifcnet/index.html. The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2003 to Ellen Rubin, 29 Queen Anne Lane, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.

Worth Noting

The Albany Public Library has selected The Rockwell Group of New York City and Lushington Associates of Hartford, CT to develop a facilities and programming master plan. Leading the project will be Henry Myerberg, principal with Rockwell Group, who has worked on planning and designing libraries throughout the Northeast, and Nolan Lushington, author of The Design and Evaluation of Public Library Buildings and Libraries Designed for Users: A Twenty First Century Guide. The Myerberg/Lushington partnership was selected for its experience in assessing the needs of a community and translating them into a plan for the future. In the coming months, the Library and its planning team will conduct a series of community meetings and focus groups to gather information, opinions and ideas to begin the planning process. For more information, contact Jeff Cannell at 427-4379 or cannellj@uhls.lib.ny.us.

Bethlehem Public Library has added ProQuest Historical Newspapers' digital archive of *The New York Times* to its collection of online resources. The complete backfile (1851-1999) has been fully digitized, resulting in a searchable tool that allows users to view articles in their original context. Viewers can also browse through issues page by page, and display the full-page image in any issue.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EBSCO

*Wednesday, March 12, 2003
9:30-11:30 AM at the
Guilderland Public Library.*

EBSCO's MasterFile Premier periodical collections change constantly. Get an update on the latest additions, and learn more effective search strategies. The Administrative module will also be introduced. Registration deadline: March 7, 2003. Contact: Rachel Baum, 437-9880 x 225; rachel@uhls.lib.ny.us.

People

Bethlehem Public Library trustees appointed Happy Scherer to fill the unexpired term of Melissa Palmer, who resigned in January. Paula Read will take over Palmer's duties as representative to UHLS. Emerson Martin, Jr. has joined the Bethlehem Public Library staff as a full-time custodian.

The Board of Trustees of the Valley Falls Free Library elected the following officers: Julia Nesich, President, and Janet Weber,

Vice-President. New trustees are: Dr. Susan Stover, Leah Purcell, and Dorothy Matheson.

One of the busiest and most visible guys in Voorheesville has been selected to fill the vacancy on the Voorheesville Public Library Board of Trustees left by the resignation of Ellen Bidell. The Board and staff are very happy to welcome Richard (Dick) Ramsey, who has demonstrated his dedication to the library as treasurer of the Library Friends group for the last four years.

Library Programs

ALBANY MAIN:

In honor of Women's History Month, the Albany Public Library will hold the following program series:

- ? WOMEN IN POLICE WORK - With Detective Kimberly McCoy of the Albany Police Department. Tuesday, March 4, 2003 at 12:15 PM in the large auditorium. Free to the public.
- ? WOMEN SCIENTISTS: Balancing Academics and Research, with Lenore Mullin, Associate Professor and Director, Computer Sciences at the University at Albany. Tuesday, March 11, 2003 at 12:15 PM in the large auditorium. Free to the public.
- ? WOMEN AND THE MILITARY - With Rosetta Burke, Brigadier General, Retired, U.S. Army and National Guard. Tuesday, March 18, 2003 at 12:15 PM in the large auditorium. Free to the public.
- ? AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN CLUBS - In the

Albany area, with Carol Praylor, President of the Maria C. Lawton Civic and Cultural Club. Tuesday, March 25, 2003 at 12:15 PM in the large auditorium. Free to the public.

ALBANY INDEPENDENT FILM FORUM - "Alphabet" by Chelsea Spear is a short 8mm film that looks at math and music as alternate languages and forms of communication from the perspective of Emily, a twelve-year-old math genius who plays the French horn. Free to the public. Thursday, March 20 at 7:00 PM.

BERNE:

A LOT OF LAUGHS - What's so funny? Come to this month's Teen Night at the library and find out! Bring your own gags, tell jokes and have a lot of fun. You can pick up some 'punderful' joke

books that could help you be the life of the party. If you're looking for something to tickle your funny bone, you'll find 'A Lot of Laughs' at the Library. Saturday, March 1, 2003 from 7:00 - 8:00 PM.

BETHLEHEM:

JACK KELLE TRIO - Mr. Kelle on drums, Richard Downs on bass and Leo Russo on sax will play heads-up jazz standards. Sponsored by Friends of Bethlehem Public Library. Call 439-9314 to register. Sunday, March 2, 2003 at 2:00 PM.

A REVOLUTIONARY WALK ALONG THE CHAMPLAIN CANAL - Multimedia presentation tracing the British invasion of 1777 from Bethlehem, NY to the Lake Champlain Marina. Presenter Ray Houghton is a retired college professor with over twenty years of teaching experience. Call 439-9314 to register. Thursday, March 20, 2003 at 7:00 PM.

HEAL! HOW THERAPY DOGS DO THEIR JOB - Jake and Rummy bring their person, Iris Bartkowski, to talk about what they do for a living. Demonstrations, training tips and "on-the-job" stories are featured. For grades K and up. Call 439-9314 to register. Saturday, March 22, 2003 at 2:00 PM.

BRUNSWICK:

DR. SEUSS' BACKWARDS BIRTHDAY PARTY - Children ages 3 and up are invited to play games, eat, sing, and read... backwards! at the Brunswick Family Community Center from 1:00 - 2:00 PM. Feel free to dress the part. Call 279-4023 or e-mail to register. Sunday, March 2, 2003.

BRUNCH - With Clifford the Big Red Dog and Liz the Lizard from the Magic School Bus, and sponsored by the Trustees as a fundraiser for the Library. Join the Library's Board of Trustees for a fun-filled morning for the whole family. We will have brunch, do crafts, listen to stories and hang out with Clifford and Liz. Tickets are \$8/person (4 for \$25) and are available at the library. Saturday, March 8, 2003 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the

Brunswick Community Center on Keyes Lane off Route 7.

GUILDERLAND:

GET READY FOR BASEBALL SEASON - Start Baseball Season early with programs and displays at the Library. The Helderberg Room will have a display of Rodger Patrick's baseball theme paintings and the lobby display cases will hold baseball memorabilia. Two baseball films, one a classic musical (March 5 at 2:00 PM) and one a family favorite (March 22 at 2:00 PM) will be shown. The youth services department will help school age children make their own baseball picture frames on Saturday, March 15 at 2:00 PM. On Saturday, March 1 at 11:30 AM, all 4-7 year olds are invited to a baseball- filled hour with prizes, games, and activities. There will even be a visit by the Tri-ValleyCats mascot, Southpaw. Check our web site at www.guilderlandpublic.info or call 456-2400 for more details.



MARCH FILM SERIES - March Musical Movie Matinees will be held in the Helderberg Screening Room on alternating Wednesdays at 2:00 PM. Enjoy these films on the

large screen with our high quality sound system. Our popcorn machine will keep viewers supplied with refreshments. Each Friday night in March a different Disney film will be shown in the Youth Services Storytime Room. Show times will be 6:30PM.

MARCH SECOND SUNDAY CONCERT - Soprano Anne Turner, accompanied by pianist Michael Clement, will present a recital entitled "Music for a While," songs and arias of Purcell, Schubert, Poulenc, and Turina, as well as cabaret songs of Gershwin and others. March 9, 2003 at 2:00 PM.

MENANDS:

FILM SERIES - Beginning on March 4, 2003 at 1:00 PM, the library will present a film series that explores how Hollywood tried to understand the impact of World War II on American society. Before each showing, there will be a brief lecture concerning the film's importance and how it represented a trend in American popular culture. There will be a discussion after each film. March 4- Key Largo; March 11- Apartment for Peggy; March 18- The Search; March 25- Battle Ground.

TROY:

NONTRADITIONAL JOBS FOR WOMEN: CONSTRUCTION - With Carol Henry of Campito Heat and Plumbing & the National Association of Women in

Construc-tion. Monday, March 10, 2003 at 6:00 PM.

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL SERIES: LONDON - With Frederic Cassin. Monday, March 3, 2003 at 6:00 PM.

BOOK SIGNING AND READING - of Gone by Water by author Randall Bentley. Monday, March 31, 2003 at 6:30 PM.

VOORHEESVILLE:

COLLEGE PREPARATION SEMINARS - Certified Educational Planner Sally M. TenEyck will present a working session for juniors and their parents on starting the college process. Steps to take in starting the college search, factors affecting college admissions and testing are some of the topics to be discussed. Call or email the reference desk to sign up. Tuesday, March 11, 2003 and Monday, March 31, 2003 at 7:00 PM.

ON BAGHDAD STREET - Joe Quandt, local poet/actor/activist talks about his recent travels in Iraq. Thursday, March 20, 2003 at 7:00 PM.

MEETING AND CONCERT - Following the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting, there will be a very special performance by singers from Albany Pro Musica presenting songs from a variety of musical arias. Sunday, March 30, 2003 at 1:30 PM.

WILLIAM K. SANFORD:

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET - Library staff will present a basic overview of the Internet and the World Wide Web. See an online demonstration on how to sign up for a free web-based e-mail account. Emphasis will be on browsing and searching the World Wide Web using a Web browser's toolbars, menus, and hypertext links. This program assumes a basic familiarity with the computer mouse and a Windows environment. The class lasts 90 minutes. Reservations are required; call the Information desk at 458-9274. Thursday, March 13, 2003 at 1:00 PM.

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWS -

If you are looking to change or supercharge your career, and feel like you don't know how to get started, discover the power of informational interviews. Learn the keys to an effective informational interview, and strategies for follow-up. Career coach & trainer Anna Watkins, president of the Hudson Mohawk Chapter of the American Society for Training & Development, will present this program. Wednesday, March 19, 2003 at 7:00 PM.

INTERMEDIATE INTERNET: USING SEARCH ENGINES -

Learn about the many search engines on the Internet that allow you to search the entire Internet or just a part of it. This is not an Introduction to the Internet. We ask that you have already spent time online and have a modest understanding of the World Wide Web and the Internet. Reservations are required; call the Information desk at 458-9274. Thursday, March 20, 2003 at 2:00 PM.



Giant Schnauzer

Calendar

MARCH 2003

- 3 READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY
- 4 Tech Valley web content meeting 9:00-11:00 AM at UHLS
- 4 Outreach Advisory Council 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 6 Summer Reading Workshop 9:00-4:00 PM at Schenectady Public Library
- 7 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 10 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 11 Services Committee 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 12 EBSCO Training Session 9:30 AM at GUIL
- 12 Finance Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 12 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 14 Adult Services Advisory Council 9:00 - 11:30 AM at UHLS
- 14 Deadline for submission of State Annual Report
- 14 WORLD BOOK DAY
- 16 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION DAY
- 17 PULISDO 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM at UHLS
- 17 Deadline for the April issue of The Latest Edition
- 18 LIBRARY LOBBY DAY
- 19 UHLS Staff meeting 9:00 - 11:00 AM at UHLS
- 20 Resource Sharing Advisory Council 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 25 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

APRIL 2003 TECHNOLOGY MONTH

- 3 Adult Services Advisory Council 9:30 AM at VOOR
- 4 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 4 Deadline for nominations for Program of the Year, Advocate of the Year, and Trustee of the Year Awards
- 6-12 NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK (Theme: @Your Library)
- 7 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 8 Services Committee 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 9 Finance Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 9 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 9 Library Advocacy Advisory Council 7:00 PM at UHLS
- 11 Youth Services Advisory Council 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM at UHLS
- 15 Deadline for the May issue of The Latest Edition
- 18 Youth Services Advisory Council (Small libraries discussion group 9-10 AM; YSAC meeting 10-12 Noon: Large libraries discussion group 12-1) at UHLS
- 22 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 29 Tech Valley Summit all day at the Albany Marriott

MAY 2003

- 2 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 8 Reaching Out to Older Adults workshop 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 15 Resource Sharing Advisory Council 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 16 Youth Services Advisory Council 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 15 Deadline for the June issue of The Latest Edition
- 22 Interlibrary Loan Field Day 8:30 AM at WSWHE BOCES in Saratoga Springs
- 26 Memorial Day - UHLS offices closed
- 27 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

Board of Trustees

PRESIDENT: Philip Erlich (Rensselaer)
VICE-PRESIDENT: Charles Diamond (Watervliet)
TREASURER: Lynne Strnad (Altamont)
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	Hawley Zwahlen	(William K. Sanford)	

TRUSTEE EMERITI:

Harry Howansky
Katherine Wells
David Worden

MISSION STATEMENT: The Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) coordinates programs and activities to assist and complement the resources and efforts of its twenty-nine member libraries to improve library and information services in the local communities of Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

VISION STATEMENT: Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) and its twenty-nine members will operate as a consortium and be a part of a dynamic statewide and national network, operating in cooperation and collaboration with educational and cultural organizations, community human service agencies and the business community to provide library and information services to the people of the Capital Region of New York State.