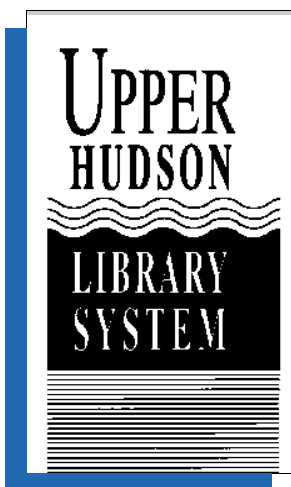


The Latest Edition



The Latest Edition is a regularly published newsletter for the public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

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UHLS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The following is excerpted from the presentation given by Board President Philip Erlich at the Annual Dinner Meeting on June 9, 2004.

"Welcome to our 43rd Annual Dinner meeting. I am pleased to see so many trustees here this evening. We have 150 in attendance and the Bethlehem Public Library tops the list with twelve registrations. Albany and Guilderland with eleven registrations are close seconds. I would like to introduce some of our special guests and then say a few words about our achievements in the past year.

The following UHLS trustees are here tonight: Erin Apostol, Jeffrey Cannell, Charlie Diamond, Rob Ganz, Lou Anne Lundgren, Mary Alice Molgard, Paula Read, James Reilly, Pat Spohr, and Hawley Zwahlen. We also have one of our Trustee Emeriti: David Worden.

We are very honored to have so many of the Albany and Rensselaer County legislators, state assemblymen and local officials with us tonight: from the NYS Assembly, we welcome Sandy Galef; from the Albany County Legislature, we have Gil Ethier, MaryLou Connolly, E. Nancy Wiley, George Infante and Bill Aylward. From the Rensselaer County Legislature, we have Beth Secor and William Dedrick. Our other legislative guests are: William Town, Mayor of Schaghticoke, Paul DeSarbo, Mayor of Altamont, and Ken Runion, Supervisor of the Town of Guilderland. We certainly appreciate all of these people taking the time to join us and learn more about what the libraries in the towns and districts are doing.

Now, on to our achievements. As most of you are aware, the major project in 2003 was the implementation of a new automation system. Using this new system, you can look for books, videos, CDs, newspapers, and magazines, in any, and all, of the libraries. From a single location, whether it is in the library, or from your home or office computer, you can see the materials belonging to the 29 libraries in Albany and Rensselaer counties. When you look for a book, you can often see a picture of it, and even read excerpts, all without removing it from the shelf. In addition, databases available in the system allow you to take a practice test for SATs, Civil

(continued on page 2)

UHLS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

Service or Citizenship; allow you to find trustworthy answers to medical questions; and allow students to search for information for school projects. An automated library system such as this, truly puts information at your finger tips. And information is what libraries are all about.

Libraries are also all about education. As you read through the Annual Report in your folder, I hope that you will be as impressed as I am with the quality of the programs that our libraries offer to the public. And by public, I mean everyone... children, teens, adults, seniors... everyone. And you will see how effective the libraries have been in using the resources in their communities, as well as bringing in other resources and offering very unique and creative programs.

And libraries are people: people in our communities who tell us what they want and need; people who serve in the libraries, either as professional staff members or as volunteers on a Board, or in a Friends Group; or people who offer special expertise for programs. Because they are composed of people, libraries are alive, and growing, and changing. They are benevolent, educational organisms that exist only to serve. And it is a measure of the value of libraries that the majority of the people in this room tonight volunteer their time and energies to keep libraries going. I am proud of what we have all accomplished and will continue to accomplish. Congratulations, and thank you."

TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR AWARDS

At the Annual Meeting, Charles Diamond, Chair of the UHLS Administration Committee, presented the following Trustee of the Year Awards:

Ellen Bach

The Upper Hudson Library System honors **Ellen Bach** for her service to the Albany Public Library. She demonstrated exemplary leadership qualities in her successful campaign for the rechartering of the Library. Through a combination of public meetings, and articles in the Library's newsletter, she advocated so persuasively that the charter vote passed by a wide margin, and the Library's annual financial support nearly doubled. As a result of her experience with this process, she wrote articles and made presentations on rechartering and became involved in professional library activities statewide.

Her dedication to improving library services is acknowledged and commended by the Upper Hudson Library System.

Monica Shupe

The Upper Hudson Library System honors **Monica Shupe** for her service to the Berlin Free Town Library. She initiated creative services and programs that focused on the activity needs of young patrons. She began a Story and Craft Hour for preschoolers, wrote a grant and received financial support for the program. She wrote successful grants to support two years of the Summer Reading Program and oversaw twelve programs. She also arranged special orientation visits to the Library for kindergarten students and ensured that each student was issued a library card.

Her dedication to improving library services is acknowledged and commended by the Upper Hudson Library System.

TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

At the Annual Meeting, two trustees were elected to the UHLS Board of Trustees. **Pat Spohr**, from the Altamont Public Library, was chosen as one of the representatives from small Albany County libraries. She will be serving her first five-year term. **Anne Evans**, from the Nassau Free Library, will be representing small Rensselaer County libraries. She will also be serving her first five-year term.

LIBRARY PROGRAM OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Erin Apostol, Chair of the UHLS Services Committee, presented the following Program Awards at the Annual Meeting:

Cohoes Public Library & Watervliet Public Library

The Upper Hudson Library System is pleased to present this award for the joint program entitled *Reading Together*. The Libraries, working in partnership with local agencies, offered this program to assist under-served families in becoming familiar with, and comfortable in, the library setting. Participating families received library cards and copies of children's books to start a home library. The families took part in classes that taught them how to choose books for babies, toddlers and young children, and how to use books to begin conversations with children.

The Libraries are recognized for their highly successful program which enhanced services to the community, developed community partnerships, and reached a previously unserved constituency.

Deb Canzano, Director of the Cohoes Public Library, and Barbara Schoen, Director of the Watervliet Public Library accepted their joint award.

Petersburgh Public Library

The Upper Hudson Library System is pleased to present this award for the *Geeks from Oz* program. The Library, in partnership with the Petersburgh Youth Commission, worked with children ages 10-15 to create a stage production on a teen-sensitive issue. The children wrote and performed an original play about bullies and bullying.

The children wrote the script in the Library, typed it on the Library's computers, and used the computers to research set design and to make posters to publicize the play. Children who rarely, if ever, went to the Library began to use it on a regular basis.

The Library is recognized for their very creative program, their innovative use of library resources and the way in which the Library helped to make a difference in the community.

Sharon Hodges, Director of the Petersburgh Public Library and Karen Day, Director of the Petersburgh Youth Commission's Summer Recreation Program, accepted their award.

Anyone wishing further information on either of these creative and highly successful programs, should contact the libraries involved.

WORTH NOTING

The Library Public Relations Council has selected the **Guilderland Public Library Teen Web Page** as the winner of the 2004 Division 1 LPeRCy Award. LPeRCy Awards honor outstanding publicity materials produced by libraries of all types and size, entry categories vary from year to year. Barbara Nichols Randall, Director of the Guilderland Public Library, accepted the award at a ceremony during the American Library Association Conference.

Voorheesville teen **Josh O'Brien** has constructed a flagstone patio on the back lawn of the library as part of his Eagle Scout project. The area now sports a wooden fence, a reading bench, and a daffodil bed. **Voorheesville Public Library** will hold a dedication ceremony in July to honor Josh's contribution.

On June 4th, the **Altamont Free Library** reopened following carpet installation and renovations. With the help of architect Dean Whalen, the Library is brighter, with more space for books, computers for public use, more seating and study space. Funding for the carpet and new furniture came from **Senator Neil Breslin** and **Assemblyman McEneny**. Dean Whalen provided the plan for library space, shelving and furniture. Many volunteers helped to box up books, move shelving and furniture and then put books back on shelves, move furniture and set up computers.

PEOPLE

Long-time library assistant **Emily Roberts** retired from the Bethlehem Public Library on June 1st.

D. Hobert is the new Director of the East Greenbush Community Library. She moved to the Capital Region from Oswego County where she was the Director of the Fulton Public Library. In a recent interview with The Latest Edition, she noted that she applied for the East Greenbush position because she was impressed with the library's reputation, its responsiveness to the community and the design of the new building. Her graduate education includes coursework at Oxford University where she studied religion. She also has an MLS from Syracuse University.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

ALBANY MAIN

WILL'S GARAGE: PREVENTATIVE CAR MAINTENANCE: In this hands-on installment, car owners will learn how to keep a car running like new using preventative maintenance techniques. Stop problems before they begin by learning how to change your oil, air filter and tune up your car yourself for less. Save your car and some cash. Will can answer any car questions you have. This program will meet in the main library, 161 Washington Ave. in the large auditorium and move to the garage at the rear of the library, so be

prepared to get your hands dirty! Please call 427-4313 for more information. Saturday, July 17, 2004 at 11:00 AM.

THE ALBANY CENTER GALLERIES at 161 Washington Ave., are open Tuesday through Saturday 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM. *The Recent Art of Robert Moylan* will be on exhibit from June 29 through August 21. An Artist Reception will be held on Thursday, July 8 at 5:30 PM. David Brickman will conduct an interview with the artist at 6:15 PM.

HOWE:

LIBRARY COMPUTER CAMP - The John A. Howe Branch, located at Schuyler and Broad Streets in Albany's South End, has hosted this annual computer camp since 1998. The program is designed to provide an educational and entertaining experience for children in the neighborhood. The program's intention is to help children learn about computers and develop an understanding of how the digital world impacts their lives. Lunch and snacks will be provided. The children will have guest speakers and participate in several enrichment programs. The Camp runs for 2 weeks starting Monday, July 12. For more information about the John A. Howe Summer Computer Camp call 472-9485.

PINE HILLS

ALL ABOUT THE TOEFL - The Pine Hills Library presents a two-session workshop for tutors preparing students for the Test of English as a Foreign Lan-

guage (TOEFL). These sessions are geared to tutors, but advanced level English language learners are welcome to attend. Call 482-7911 register. Judy Trupin, an experienced ESOL instructor, will teach these workshops.

SESSION ONE: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TOEFL - In this session, participants will gain an in-depth understanding of the four sections of the current TOEFL. They will also learn about registration procedures, who needs to take the TOEFL, and how to interpret scores. Upcoming changes to the TOEFL (September 2005) will also be outlined. Thursday, July 15, 9:30 to 11:30 AM.

SESSION TWO: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE TOEFL - Techniques and strategies for improving the students' listening, reading, writing and grammar skills will be discussed. Thursday, July 29, 4:00 to 6:00 PM.

BETHLEHEM



The Common Loon

EVENINGS ON THE GREEN

A summer salad of musical offerings:

- July 7 -Loon "Music of the Adirondacks"
- July 14 - Lustre Kings

"Rockabilly favorites"

- July 21 - Fastlane "Tunes of the '60s and '70s"
- July 28 - Ernie Williams Band "a local legend plays the blues"

Admission is free. Refreshments courtesy of the Friends. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Concerts will be held indoors in the event of rain. Wednesdays in July at 7:30 PM.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Special events begin with a performance by puppeteer Bernd Ogradnik on Thursday, July 8 at 7:00 PM and end on Thursday, August 12 with two performances by "Tales 'n' Tunes," a storytelling/singalong duo. Don't miss craft workshops, yo-yo instruction, a chance to read to a dog, a Tang Museum presentation, and a lesson in star navigation. Registration is during library hours for kids entering grades 1-8. Call 439-9314 for more information.

CHILDREN'S WRITING WORKSHOP

Children entering grade 3 and up can write, illustrate and bind their own books. Participants must commit to four of the five sessions. Adult volunteers welcome. Register in person at the Youth Services desk. Fridays, July 9-August 6, 9:30-11:30 AM.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK GROUP:

Richard Peck's *A Year Down Yonder* is the subject of group conversation. Copies are available at the Youth Services desk. New members welcome. Open to girls entering grade 5 and up with their moms or caregivers.

Call 439-9314 to register. Tuesday, July 27 at 7:00 PM.

BRUNSWICK

ONCE UPON A TIME - Summer Reading program. Book Swap and registration-11:00 AM; Meet Merdwin the Magician-1:00 PM on Saturday, June 26th.

MEDIEVAL FAIRE YARD PARTY - Come to the Faire! Live demonstration of sword fighting by medieval re-enactors. Saturday, July 10 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM.



Sword fighting demos are part of the Once Upon a Time program

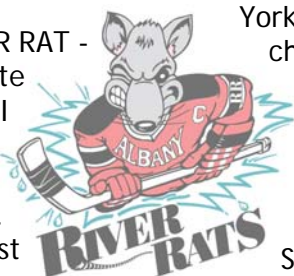
MEET THE AUTHOR - Dave Ross, author of *Book of Hugs* and other picture books, will talk about how books are made. Monday, July 12 at 6:30 PM.

MERDWIN THE MAGICIAN PERFORMS - Magic to make you gasp in astonishment! Saturday, July 17 at 4:00 PM at the Brunswick Family Community Center.

MEXICAN YARD PARTY - Piñatas, yard games, Mexican food and crafts. Make your own piñata! Saturday, July 31 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM.

SHEEP AND WOOL - Live miniature sheep! Cheryl Morell will talk about how clothes were made in the middle ages from the sheep to the sweater. Saturday, August 7 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM.

ROWDY THE RIVER RAT - Everyone's favorite hockey star will come to a storytime and craft hour. Saturday, August 14 at 2:00 PM.



CLOSING CEREMONY - Merdwin the Magician will perform and all of the library's readers will get certificates of achievement and prizes. Refreshments will be served. Monday, August 23 at 7:00 PM at Brunswick Family Community Center.

COHOES:

SUMMER READING PROGRAM - Begins on July 8 and goes through August 26. It will kickoff with the Poppytown Puppets. Other programs include Musician Skip West, Cranberry the Clown, Magician Jim Snack, Steve Charney & Harry, Magic with Pete, and Dean Davis and His Amazing Animals. There will be a special Awards Ceremony on August 26.

ROWDY THE RIVER RAT - Will entertain children at Story Time. Wednesday, July 14.

EAST GREENBUSH

TUESDAY CONCERTS - Will include Mike Milks, Eclectic Songs & Guitar; Female Songwriters You Wanna Hear, and Flamenco & Classical Spanish Dance. The Concerts will be held on July 6, 13 and 20 at 7:00 PM.

READ, WHITE and BLUE! ARTS and CRAFTS FOR YOU! Lee Ricci will read stories about New York. Tracy Zordan will show children how to make simple summer crafts. For children ages 4 and up. Wednesday, July 21 at 11:00 AM.

SILLY SUMMER OLYMPICS - Join us for wild and wacky games. Compete in events such as the drinking straw javelin throw and cotton ball shotput. Run the 20-yard dash with an egg on a spoon. Wednesday, August 4, 2:00 PM.

SUMMER COMPUTER CLASSES - There will be classes offered for all levels: Intro to Computers; Introduction to Internet; Intermediate Word; Introduction to PowerPoint; Introduction to Email; Introduction to Word; Introduction to Excel; Intermediate Excel; Intermediate PowerPoint; Taking Your Computer Apart; Networking Theory; and Networking Hands-On. Class size is limited. Call 477-7476 for class dates and times.

GUILDERLAND

READ, WHITE and BLUE- Wonderful summer programs for children of all ages. Here is a sampling of some of the offerings:

* New York State Trivia Baseball: Batting Practice, July 13 at 2:00 PM; A Game of New York State Literature, July 27 at 2:00 PM.

* Fun Family Flicks: scheduled afternoons and evenings throughout the summer.

* A variety of programs from Master Puppeteer, Berndt Ogrodonick, to the Harlequin Players performing "Undercover Elves," to Yoga with a Partner, and much more. For details about all events check our website: www.guilderlandpublic.info and click on "Read, White, and Blue Summer Reading Program".

TROY

FIRST ANNUAL ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM - Starting June 21st, library patrons may sign up to participate in this program which runs to August 18th. For every three books that a patron reads, his or her name will be put in a drawing. On August 18th, at a reception and book talk, names will be drawn for prizes. Adults and Young Adults (9th grade & up) may participate. All books in the Adult and Young Adult collection are eligible for reading. Audiobooks, videos and magazines are not included.

VALLEY FALLS

YARD SALE - We had a successful village-wide yard sale on June 12th in Valley Falls.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM - Begins June 16th and goes through August 11th. We will kick it off on Saturday June 19th with the Ellen Sinopoli Dance Movement. On July 13th, the Diver Library and the Valley Falls Library will host *The School House Rock* performance at Hoosic Valley Elementary School at 7:30 PM. Farmer Minor and Daisy the Pig will visit the Library on August 10th.



The Ellen Sinopoli Dance Movement will kick off the Summer Reading Program

VOORHEESVILLE

TOGETHER AT TWILIGHT LAWN CONCERTS

- Radically Sheep - Wednesday, July 14 at 7:00 PM.
- Clarinet Marmalade - Wednesday, July 28 at 7:00 PM.
- The Lustre Kings - Wednesday, August 11 at 7:00 PM.

TEEN NIGHTS Books, games, photography, cooking and activities for the older crowd. (Grades 6+) Mondays at 7:00 PM.

VOLUNTEER CLUB-- New this year! Fun stuff for middle schoolers who are helping out with the Summer Reading Club. Every Thursday at 10:00 AM.

THESE GROUPS WILL CONTINUE TO MEET:

- Lifelines Prose Writers Group -- August 2 at 7:00 PM.
- The Every Other Thursday Night Poets -- July 8 & 22, August 12 & 26 at 7:00 PM.
- Nimblefingers Needlework Group -- every Tuesday at 1:00 PM.

CALENDAR

JULY 2004

- 2 Directors Association at UHLS - CANCELED
- 5 UHLS closed for Independence Day
- 12 Administration Committee - CANCELED
- 14 Services Committee - CANCELED
- 14 Finance Committee - CANCELED
- 14 Board of Trustees - CANCELED
- 27 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

AUGUST

- 6 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 9 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 11 Services Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 11 Finance Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 11 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 15 **Deadline for September/October issue of The Latest Edition**
- 24 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Directors Association 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 6 UHLS closed for Labor Day
- 8 Services Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 8 Finance Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 8 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 17 Youth Services Advisory Council 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at UHLS
- 28 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

OCTOBER

- 1 Directors Association Conference at the Quality Inn, Watervliet Ave. Extension, Albany
- 11 Administration Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 13 Services Committee 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 13 Finance Committee 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 13 Board of Trustees 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 15 **Deadline for November/December issue of The Latest Edition**
- 26 Automated Services Committee 9:00 AM at UHLS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT: Philip Erlich (Rensselaer)
VICE-PRESIDENT: Charles Diamond (Watervliet)
TREASURER: Mary Alice Molgard (Berne)
SECRETARY: Jeffrey Cannell (UHLS Directors Association)

Erin Apostol (Albany)	Anne Evans (Nassau)
Robert Ganz (Guilderland)	LouAnne Lundgren (Poestenkill)
Lois Prenovost (Brunswick)	Paula Read (Bethlehem)
James Reilly (Voorheesville)	Pat Spohr (Altamont)
Hawley Zwahlen (William K. Sanford)	

TRUSTEE EMERITI:

Harry Howansky
Katherine Wells
David Worden

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Philip Ritter

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.