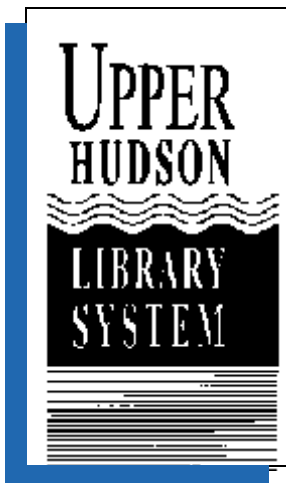


The Latest Edition



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

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June 2004 Vol. 14 No. 6

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RIVERWAY FESTIVAL A HUGE SUCCESS

The second annual Riverway Storytelling Festival was an even bigger success than the first! The Festival brought people from throughout New York's Capital Region together to share and enjoy the artistic tradition of storytelling during 23 events. This year's Festival added performances at the NYS Museum and Hudson Valley Community College, added a workshop for teachers and librarians at the Guilderland Public Library, and expanded its offerings at Albany Public Library. The popularity of the Festival offerings, the increased number of performances and the much improved weather over the 2003 Festival resulted in a 60% increase in attendance this year for total attendance of 950! Most popular were the family storytelling concerts and the juried showcase of regional tellers. The eight UHLS library weeknight concerts also attracted enthusiastic audiences, notably 82 story lovers in Westerlo on April 26! For a more complete summary, see timesunion.com/communities/riverway/. Analysis of our experience and planning for the 2005 Festival is underway. Input or feedback from member library staff is actively sought. Send comments to Mary Fellows at mary@uhls.lib.ny.us or call Mary at 537-9880 ext. 228.

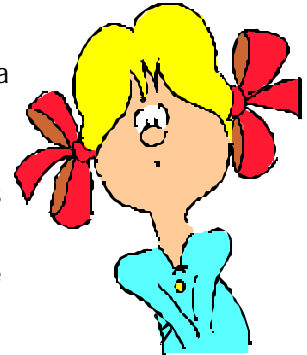
READ, WHITE and BLUE

Summer Reading Program will kick off in most member libraries this month in vibrant color. This year's theme, "New York Is Read, White & Blue," emphasizes New York State's colorful treasures. Apples, water and snow are just a few of the program themes kids may find at their libraries. The main objective of the 2004 New York State Summer Reading Program is to encourage children to read books they enjoy during the summer months. While the emphasis during the school year is on direct reading instruction, studies show that reading as a leisure activity is one of the most powerful tools to increase reading comprehension, speed and vocabulary.



Significant learning losses occur over the summer if children don't read, especially among children from lower income families. Unstructured reading for pleasure of materials that children select themselves is extremely effective in promoting literacy, even when compared to direct reading instruction. Library Summer Reading programs play a critical part in keeping kids and teens motivated to read through fun activities and rewards for effort. Whether you are a staff member or a patron, summer crowds of kids and parents can be overwhelming. Please remember that today's Summer Reading Program kids are tomorrow's

library supporters. We ensure the existence of libraries every time we are patient and welcoming towards that bunch of talkative nine-year-olds or the supercilious teenager. If it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a library community to make the child a reader.



NOVEL UPDATE

The New York State Library has updated its contract with EBSCO; the NOVEL database collection now includes the EBSCO **General Science Collection**. This database provides information on all aspects of the scientific world and offers full-text coverage for more than 60 of the most popular science publications, including *Archaeology*, *Astronomy*, *Discover*, *National Wildlife*, *New Scientist*, *Popular Science*, *Science News*, *Scientific American*, and many others. Subject areas covered include the observation, description, identification, and experimental investigation of phenomena and the application of science to industrial or commercial objectives. The database also includes *Great Scientific Achievements of the Twentieth Century*, a multi-volume encyclopedia from Salem Press.

ADULT SERVICES PUBLICATION

The Reference and Adult Services Section (RASS) of the New York Library Association has announced the publication of *The Adult Programmer's Handbook*. The *Handbook* sells for \$10 (plus applicable sales tax and \$2.21 for shipping and handling). Order forms are available at www.nyla.org. Click on Gift & Book Shop and then NYLA Publications Order Form. Adult programming is an integral part of library services. Programs impart information to adults by sharing the resources of presenters, facilitators, professionals and other experts. *The Adult Programmer's Handbook* covers the entire programming process, from developing a policy to obtaining program ideas, to publicity and evaluation. It includes sample ideas, forms, checklists and more. Co-editors **Rachel Baum** and Renee Kotler put together an easy-to-use publication packed with practical information for libraries of all sizes. For further information, contact Jennifer Lenio, RASS Publications Chair, at (585) 784-5345 or jlenio@libraryweb.org.

GRANTS AND FUNDING NEWS

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

The Reference and Adult Services Section (RASS) of the New York Library Association has announced a new award that recognizes library workers who give outstanding service to their users. The RASS Outstanding Public Service Award will provide one RASS member with full conference registration plus \$200 toward expenses at the annual NYLA conference. The award may be given to a librarian or support staff member in the reference or adult services area. For complete details and nomination form, see www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=857.

HIV/AIDS RESOURCES GRANT

The National Library of Medicine is soliciting grants from community-based organizations and libraries to design and conduct projects that will improve access to HIV/AIDS related health information for patients, their caregivers, and communities. This solicitation is specifically addressed to minority communities to provide opportunities to acquire resources and expertise that may not now be available. The NLM is particularly interested in

proposals from Public Libraries. Proposals are due no later than **2:00 PM on June 18, 2004**. For more information, go to www.sis.nlm.nih.gov/HIVhivaidrsrfq04079cyc.html

NYLA CONFERENCE GRANTS

The New Members Roundtable (NMRT) of the New York Library Association (NYLA) offers two awards with cash assistance for attending the NYLA Annual Conference. Descriptions of the awards, and links to the application forms follow. The deadline for submitting both awards is **July 31, 2004**. Winners will be announced on August 13, 2004.

- **Office Dynamics Inc./NMRT Professional Development Award** gives \$250 to one new member of the New York Library Association (NYLA), to help defray the cost of attending the NYLA Annual Conference. More information can be found at: www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=227. Email applications to emlasda@yahoo.com.
- **Janway/NMRT Excellence Award** gives \$250 to one new member of the New York Library Association (NYLA), to help defray the cost of attending the NYLA

Annual Conference. This award is designed to recognize a NYLA New Member who has demonstrated involvement and leadership in one or more of the following areas:

- Innovative programs or services which improve library services in New York State.
- Exceptional use of state, local and/or national library resources, including special grants.
- Significant contribution toward betterment of library and community relations.
- Leadership and activity in local, state and/or national library organizations.

Nominees must be members of NYLA/NMRT, have an MLS degree and have been in professional library work for ten years or less. More information can be found at: www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=542. Email applications to emlasda@yahoo.com. For more information about these awards, contact: Elaine Lasda at 518-431-7638.

EMPIRE FRIENDS DANIEL W. CASEY LIBRARY ADVOCACY AWARD

Each year the NYLA Empire Friends Roundtable honors a volunteer member of the library community, or a group, whose efforts have contributed to the growth of libraries or Friends organizations. Please list your reasons for nominating this person/group. Be as specific as possible, i.e., years of service, positions held, accomplishments, successful fundraisers or campaigns. Relevant supporting materials, press releases, and promotional materials may be included. Be sure to include the name, address and tele-phone number of the nominee and the sponsor. To submit a nomination please provide the information requested and mail by **July 17, 2004** to: Mary O'Hara/ 231 Melbourne Ave./ Syracuse, NY 13224.

TEACHER AND CITIZEN RECOGNITION AWARD

August 2, 2004 is the deadline for submitting nominations for the *Louis E. Yavner Teacher and Citizen Recognition Awards*, given annually by the Board of Regents to a teacher and a

citizen who have made outstanding contributions to education about the Holocaust and other violations of human rights. The awards are given in honor of the late Regent Emeritus Louis E. Yavner. Nomination forms and more information about this award can be found at www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/ssnews.html.

PEOPLE

Cherry Neil, Head of the Youth Services Department, will celebrate 20 years at the Guilderland Public Library in 2004. Congratulations!



Cherry Neil and friends enjoy a comfortable addition to the Storyhour room - the "Ladybug chair," donated in February 2004 as a gift from the family of Lenora V. Odom.

Laura Jarvis joined the Bethlehem Public Library staff in April as a full time Youth Services librarian. Laura will focus on services for elementary school students and will

also select the youth services media collection. She has four years experience working with children in libraries, including storytelling experience.

Clare Merrill Field and **Michelle Roberts** were hired as part time librarians, at the Bethlehem Public Library, in April. Michelle joins the Youth Services staff and Clare rejoins the Adult Services staff.

Ann McGinty retired in April after many years of service at Bethlehem Public Library. The Library staff will miss her and wishes her well.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

ALBANY MAIN

ART ON LARK: An exciting street festival of the creative arts. Saturday, June 5 from 12:00 to 5:00 PM.

INDEPENDENT FILM FORUM: The Albany Independent Film Forum will present a repeating 45-minute program of shorts by local filmmakers. The program will feature RPI graduate Josh Alkoff's *Realvision* (10 min), The Masucci Brothers' *The Last Round* (21 min), additional shorts by Jeff Burns, Heather

Blossom Brown, and Jordan Greenhalgh, as well as a preview of Kevin Craig West's forthcoming feature *Get a Grip*. June 5 from 12:30 to 4:00 PM.

ART AND ANTIQUES EVALUATION DAY: Several experts will be on hand to give verbal appraisals to art, antiques, book, military items, glass, etc. There will be a \$5.00 donation for each item appraised. All donations given will go towards the support of the Library's gallery. June 10 from 12:00 to 7:00 PM.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: A slide program and discussion by the sculptor, Phil Young. The Albany Public Library and Albany Center Galleries co-produced this free presentation. It is co-sponsored by Artists and Audiences Exchange, a New York Foundation on the Arts. June 17 at 7:00 PM.

WILL'S GARAGE: In this hands-on installment, car owners will learn the procedure of changing a flat tire. Attendees will meet in the auditorium at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, June 15 and move to the garage at the rear of the library.

DELAWARE

PLANT CLINIC: Don't know what to do with your droopy houseplant? Need help with garden ideas? Master Gardener Mary Ellenbogen will answer all questions. Thursday, June 10 & 24 at 10:00 AM.

NEW SCOTLAND

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: *Greatest Generation* by Tom Brokaw. New members welcome. Monday, June 21 at 10:00 AM.

PINE HILLS

CONNECTING WITH AMERICA: Discussion Group for recent immigrants. Discuss life in America and further your understanding of American Culture. Fridays, June 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 4:30 PM.

PLANT CLINIC:- Don't know what to do with your droopy houseplant? Need help with garden ideas? Master Gardener Mary Ellenbogen will answer all your questions. Tuesday, June 8 & 22 at 10:00 AM.

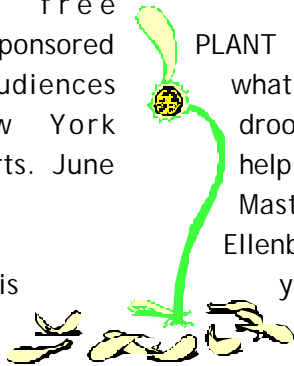
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Poetry -- bring some favorite poems to discuss. New members welcome. Wednesday, June 30 at 6:00 PM.

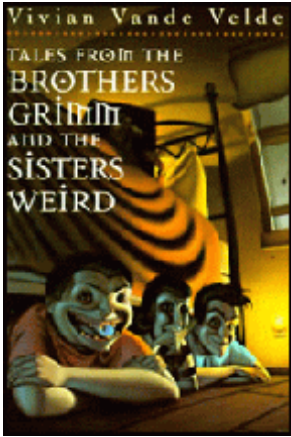
BETHLEHEM

TEDDY BEARS' 21ST: The bears have passed the 20-year mark and are planning for Teddy Bears' Picnic Number 21. Songs and stories, puppetry and picnic are all happening on the Green--or indoors if it rains. Bring a blanket, a bear, and cookies to share. Call 439-9314 to register. (ages 2-6) Thursday, June 3 at 11:00 AM.

CHILDREN'S WRITING WORKSHOP: Registration begins June 7 for this workshop, in which children in grade 3 and up write, illustrate and bind their own books. Registration is ongoing until July 8. The workshop will be held on five consecutive Friday mornings beginning July 9. Participants must commit to 4 out of the 5 sessions. Adult volunteers are most welcome.

FRIENDS PROGRAM: The second annual Friends "Bring Your Own Picnic" will be held on the Green to the tune of Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Moshers. Town Hall is the rain location. For more information about Friends of Bethlehem Public Library, call Linda Miller, 475-0737. Thursday, June 10 beginning at 6:15 PM.



GUILDERLAND**MAGIC, SPELLS AND DRAGONS:**

Vivian Vande Velde, an award-winning fantasy book author, will share her world of magic spells, dragons, and alternative realities during a talk

and book signing. She is the recipient of the Edgar Award and her recent novel is an American Library Association 2004 Best Book for Young Adults. This Talk is part of a Guilderland Public Library/ Guilderland Central School collaborative program. It is made possible by a Parent and Child Library Services grant from the New York State Library, with additional funding from the Friends of the Guilderland Public Library. Saturday, June 5 at 2:00 PM.

MOVEMENT AND DANCE WITH HARRY POTTER: Have you ever danced with a talkative shadow or jumped inside a moving painting? This interactive arts education program presented by the Ellen Sinopoli Dance Company, explores the world of Harry Potter through movement. Artists introduce children to modern dance with

activities and games related to the popular series. Registration required. Friday, June 25 at 2:00 PM.

VALLEY FALLS:

VILLAGE WIDE SALE: Sponsored by the Library. June 12 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM: The Program will kick off with the Ellen Sinopoli Movement workshop inspired by the Harry Potter books. We are looking forward to fun summer reading at the library!

VOORHEESVILLE:

BOOK DISCUSSION: *Monsoon Diary: A Memoir with Recipes* by Shoba Narayan. Come early for our annual potluck supper! Our most popular meeting of the year. Call for information. 765-2791. Wednesday, June 2 at 6:30 PM.

LIFELINES PROSE WRITERS GROUP: All are welcome, bring a short writing sample to share. No signup required. Monday, June 7 at 7:00 PM.

THE EVERY OTHER THURSDAY NIGHT POETS: The group meets to discuss each other's work. All are welcome, bring a poem to share. No signup required. Thursday, June 10 and 24 at 7:00 PM.

JOBS**USER SERVICES****TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANT**

The University at Albany Library is seeking a User Services Technology Assistant to install, and maintain operating systems, and software on all public workstations in the Interactive Media Center and to assist in the development of the library's website. Minimum qualifications: Bachelors degree in Computer Science, Information Systems, or related field; experience with selection, troubleshooting, and evaluation of peripheral devices; demonstrated proficiency in relational database programming on SQL Server; web development using Microsoft Visual Studio or other tools; website design; XHTML; ASP; Visual Basic and script languages including JavaScript. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Minimum of \$ 30,000 per year. Submit applications via email to: azrl@uamail.albany.edu (Anna Z. Radkowski-Lee, Library Personnel Officer) The deadline for applications is **June 21, 2004**. Please include the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three references.

CALENDAR

JUNE 2004

- 4 Directors Association meeting 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 9 UHLS Board of Trustees meeting 5:30 PM at Albany Country Club
- 9 UHLS Annual Dinner meeting 5:30 PM at Albany Country Club
- 16 UHLS Staff meeting 9:00 - 11:00 AM
- 22 Automated Services Committee (ASC) 9:00 AM at UHLS - CANCELED

JULY

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

AUGUST

- 6 Directors Association meeting 9:00 AM at UHLS
- 9 Administration Committee meeting 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 11 Services Committee meeting 3:30 PM at UHLS
- 11 Finance Committee meeting 4:00 PM at UHLS
- 11 UHLS Board of Trustees meeting 4:30 PM at UHLS
- 24 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)	Robert Ganz (Guilderland)
LouAnne Lundgren (Poestenkill)	George O'Connor (Troy)
Lois Prenovost (Brunswick)	Paula Read (Bethlehem)
James Reilly (Voorheesville)	Mary Ellen Schroder (Valley Falls)
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.