

THE TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY Review

ISSUE
SUMMER 2008

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Paul Hicok

Some big changes are in the works for the Troy Public Library this year. First is the elevator project which involves the installation of an elevator (finally) in the Main Library building. This will be a big help to patrons, making the second floor reading room, meeting room and computer lab completely accessible to everyone and a big boost for the staff who must get books and other library materials from the basement work areas to the main floor. Thanks to a library construction grant from New York State we will be able to begin construction this year. The project, however, could still use your help. The grant from the state includes just under one-half the total cost of the project. I am currently working with the architectural firm of Lacey-Convertino on the design phase of the project and we hope to be able to begin construction this fall.

Also this fall will mark an important milestone in the history of our library. Legislation has been written to convert the library from an association library to a Special District Public Library. The Association Library model is an older form of library organization which forms a library in the community which can be used by the public, but does not create a truly public library

which is fully accountable to the people it serves. The Special District Public Library proposal which we are planning to have on the November 2008 ballot creates a fully public library with a board of trustees and an annual budget voted on by the residents of Troy.



And lastly, we will soon be receiving grant funds from the Gates Foundation to be used to upgrade our public access computer equipment. Library computers are an important part of the information services we offer and they are heavily used by residents. Most of our machines

are now five, six and some even seven years old which, as you know, is quite old for computer equipment. We are grateful to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for this new initiative which will allow us to replace most of our public access computers within the next few months.

Late Breaking News...

The library has received a grant from the city of Troy's **Community Development Block Grant Program** in the amount of \$10,000. The grant, which is part of the library's Neighborhood Library Improvement Initiative will allow us to purchase additional books and other library materials this year.



FROM ONE FRIEND TO ANOTHER

Greetings to all in this welcome season when everything is finally promising to burst into a rainbow of colors - especially in our own **Marybeth's Garden!** It's always a special time at the library when Friends' Board volunteers fill the green flower pots that decorate the courtyard wall and the deck boxes come to life with gorgeous blooms. The ramp is marked by arrangements signaling a welcome to everyone. In order to present the prettiest annuals, Nina Durr of **Flower World** has once again kept her eyes open to spot some new choices for us!

Even though we will not offer catered lunches in the courtyard this year (due to the anticipated installation of the elevator), we do extend a welcome for you to relax at our courtyard patio. Whether you opt to eat your own brown bag lunch, or just take a few minutes to read a bit of your literary find, please feel at home in our comfortable garden setting.

Since we last greeted you in this TPL "Review", your Friends' memberships, the sale of our signature

items, and the great BookCellar bargains have underwritten special items, programs, and projects. In spite of TPL's ever-challenged budget, your generosity has allowed us to supply the paint and brushes for RPI student volunteers to complete a community service project at our Lansingburgh Branch. Soon our Sycaway Branch will have a brand new sign directing patrons to this longstanding neighborhood branch. At the Main Library, we were happy to provide funding for a YPS puppet workshop, a watercolor workshop, and a Nintendo Wii game system.

Thanks to you our valued Friends for all the support that you have shown us over the years. As we move ahead to becoming a fully public library and the re-chartering process proceeds through the city, county, and state components necessary to present a Special District referendum on the November 2008 ballot, we will continue to encourage and count on your help. As always, I look forward to seeing you at the library very soon. Have a great summer!

- Jane Spain Ducatt
President, Friends of TPL

take 5

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Stop in to see our latest Fiction and Non-fiction titles. Here are just a few of the books we have ordered:

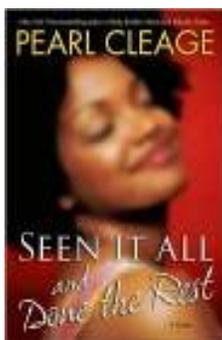
1. *The Garden of Last Days* by Andre Dubus III

5. *Lavinia* by Ursula K. LeGuin

2. *The Eaves of Heaven: A Life in Three Wars* by Andrew X. Pham

3. *Change Up: An Oral History of 8 Key Events that Shaped Modern Baseball* by Larry Burke and Peter Thomas Fornatale

4. *Seen It All and Done the Rest* by Pearl Cleage



READER SERVICES

All programs are free, but registration is required. Please call 274-7071 for programs at the Main Library or 235-5310 for the Lansingburgh Branch.

Stump the Librarian!

Wednesday, August 13th, 6:30 pm (in the Courtyard) Not only do librarians pride themselves on being able to find what you're looking for, they also pride themselves on knowing a little about a lot of things. We invite you to put us to the test at our very first trivia contest.

Refreshments will be served. Come on. We dare you!



Lansingburgh Branch News:

The Lansingburgh Branch Library received a much needed face-lift in April and May. The student tutors from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, under the direction of Cynthia Smith, graciously painted the front hallway to the library and the upstairs program room. Over a dozen RPI students/tutors, a few tutees and staff volunteers helped to paint these areas. One volunteer, who had tutored in previous years, but has graduated, actually made the trip here from Boston just to help us out. The Friends of the Library generously donated the paint and supplies necessary to complete this project. Thank you to all involved! Please stop into the branch library and see what a wonderful job they did for all of us.

In May we also received a few visitors. Mrs. Danahy's and Mrs. Graber's second grade classes from Turnpike Elementary School, who are busy learning about their community, stopped in to explore the library's role in this area. Their main concern when they left was "if everything is free, how does the library make any money?" I'm sure we'll be seeing a lot more of them, now that they realize what a bargain we are and all the resources we have to share!

Continuing programs at Lansingburgh: Knitting group last Wednesday of the month and book discussion every second Monday of the month

Adult Summer Reading Program: Jun. 23 - Aug. 15

To promote reading during the summer months the Troy Public Library will hold its annual Adult Summer Reading Program. It's simple: the more books you read the more chances you have to win prizes. This year's ASRP begins Monday, June 23rd. As always, entry forms will be available at the Main Library and the Lansing-

burgh and Sycaway branches. In order to enter, you need to read four books, fiction or non-fiction, record them on the entry form and submit the entry form to one of our branches. Enter as many times as you like. A random drawing will take place on the last day of the program, Friday, August 15th. Prizes include movie passes and gift certificates to restaurants and stores located in our very own Troy neighborhoods. We look forward to your participation!

Shorts Out Loud!

We are pleased to present our 4th Annual Shorts Out Loud events on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm from mid-July to mid-August. Shorts Out Loud is 10 minutes of acoustic music followed by a short story read out loud. As usual, we've assembled some of the most talented people in our community to provide music and stories in our beautiful courtyard. Refreshments will be served!

July 17 - Maurizio and guest (guitar), Pleasant DeSpain (reader)

July 24 - Trevor Oakley (cello), Stanley Hadsell (reader)

July 31 - Musician - TBA, Sid Fleischer (reader)

August 7 - Julie Duggan (fiddle), Jyna Scheeren (reader)

August 14 - Musician - TBA, Marni Gillard (reader)

Computer Classes

Starting again in June - please call 518.274.7071 for a schedule and to register.

Foundation News

Going on vacation this summer, or planning some long days by the pool or lake and need a good read? The TPL Foundation is kicking off a summer fundraiser for the month of June: offering a cotton beach tote and the novel *Leslie* for only \$30. *Leslie* is a new-release novel not readily available anywhere else in the area.



Written by University at Albany professor Richard Matturro, the novel's heroine is a Troy Public Librarian who takes leave from her job to drive solo across the country, forging an old-fashioned quest (modeled in part on Homer's *Odyssey*) for a lost love from her teenage job at an amusement park, despite warnings of impending disappointment. Marvelous sleuthing and surprise coincidences await Leslie and the reader. The tote and novel are available for purchase beginning June 9 at either the Troy Public Library or through the Foundation's office. You can reach the Foundation at 273-9417 or libraryfoundation@gmail.com. Supplies are limited, so get yours early!

Join us for a book signing and cocktail reception with Leslie author Richard Matturro on Monday, June 23rd at 6pm at the Troy Public Library. Copies of the book will be available for sale that night.

- Cary Ann Lombardo

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

All programs are free, but registration is required. Please call 274-7071 for programs at the Main Library or 235-5310 for programs at the Lansingburgh Branch. For more information, visit our website: www.theTroyLibrary.org

What's New?

Summer fun begins in July with musical duo *Almost Awake* and Scotia Glenville Children's Museum at the Main Branch, and Sylvia and the Magic Trunk at Lansingburgh. We have LOTS of programs including watercolor painting, sculpture, making ice cream and much much more! This year we will have summer Family Storytime on



Winners received an awards certificate along with a gift card to Borders Bookstore. Posters are on display at our three branches. We had entries from all over the Capital District as well as New Jersey! Thank you to Nina and Rosey Pattison for their continuing and ever popular Reading with Rosey program on Thursday afternoons. Thank you to Watervliet Price Chopper for generously donating food and other items for our programs. It is great to be part of such a caring community!

Young People's Programs...

July 1 - Musical guest *Almost Awake*,

Tues. at 3 pm, Main Library, all ages
July 2 - *Oceans Alive - Traveling Museum*, Wed. at 10:30 am, Main Library, ages 3+

July 2 - *Sylvia and the Magic Trunk*, Wed. at 6pm, Lansingburgh, ages 3+

July 9 - *Tang Museum Buggy Dioramas* Wed. at 10:30 am, Main Library, ages 5+

July 9 - *Tang Museum Sculpting with Color* Wed. at 1:30 pm, Lansingburgh, ages 5+

July 16 - *Grafton Lake Presenters* Wed. at 2 pm, Lansingburgh, ages 6+

July 17 - *Hip Dips* Thurs. at 2pm, Main Library, ages 7-11. Create tasty treats!

July 23 - *What's the Scoop? Ice cream!* Wed. at 3:30 pm, Lansingburgh, ages 6 -12

July 24 - *The Puppet People*, Thurs. at 2pm, Main Library, ages 3+ followed by

***Make Your Own Puppet Workshop*,** ages 6 -11

July 30 - *Grafton Lake Presenter*, Wed., 10:30 am, Main Library, ages 5+

July 30 - *Middle Eastern Mezze*, Wed. at 2 pm, Lansingburgh, ages 7-11

August 5, *High Peaks Juggling*, Tues. at 6 pm, Main Library, all ages

August 6 - *Bats, Bugs, and Beyond*, Wed. at 2pm, Lansingburgh, ages 6-12

August 12 - *End of Summer Reading Bash!* Tues. at 2pm at Main fun, prizes, refreshments

August 13 - *Watercolor Workshop* Wed. at 2pm, Lansingburgh, ages 7+

Continuing programs: *Rosey the Reading Dog, Wii Games, Anime and more!*

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you can use your library card to access practice tests for many popular exams, including the GED, the SAT and Civil Service Tests? And that you can do it all from the comfort and privacy of your own home?

The Testing & Education Reference Center is a database provided by the Upper Hudson Library System. In addition to full-length practice tests, it offers test preparation books that you can read online. There are also features that allow you to search for information on colleges, graduate schools and vocational programs.

Just start at our website (www.TheTroyLibrary.org), choose "Research" from the list on the right, then select "Alphabetical." Scroll down until you see Testing & Education Reference Center. You'll need to enter your library card number, and then you can go to "Test Preparation" to choose from dozens of practice examinations.

Storytime at Sycaway!

Join us for Storytime at Sycaway! Thursdays at 2:00 pm July 10-August 21, 2008



Thursdays at the Sycaway Branch from July through mid-August. Thank you to the Friends of the Troy Public Library for supporting so many of our programs and other needs. Thank you to Margaret and Nancy Roberts for funding our Be Kind to Animals Poster Contest.





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**FRIENDS OF THE
TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

100 SECOND STREET,
TROY, NEW YORK 12180

HOURS AND LOCATIONS

Main Library

100 Second Street
Phone: 518.274.7071
Monday - Thursday (10:00am - 8:00pm)
Friday (9:00am- 5:00pm)
*Saturday (9:00am - 5:00pm; *1:00pm summer)

Lansingburgh Branch

114th Street & 4th Avenue
Phone: 518.235.5310
Monday and Wednesday (1:00pm - 7:00pm)
Friday (10:00am - 4:00pm)
*Saturday (10:00am - 4:00pm; *1:00pm summer)

Sycaway Branch (School 18)

Hoosick Street & Lee Avenue
Phone: 518.274.1822
Tuesday - Wednesday (2:00pm - 6:00pm)
Thursday (12:00pm - 4:00pm)

JOIN US...BE A FRIEND!

Be a Friend of the Troy Public Library. Since 1972, the Friends of Troy Public Library have been making a difference. Won't you join us?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Membership Levels:

- \$10 Senior/Student
- \$25 Individual
- \$35 Family
- \$50 Supporting
- \$100 Best Friend

Send your completed form and check to:

Friends of The Troy Public Library
100 Second Street
Troy, NY 12180