



<http://www.skowhegan.lib.me.us>

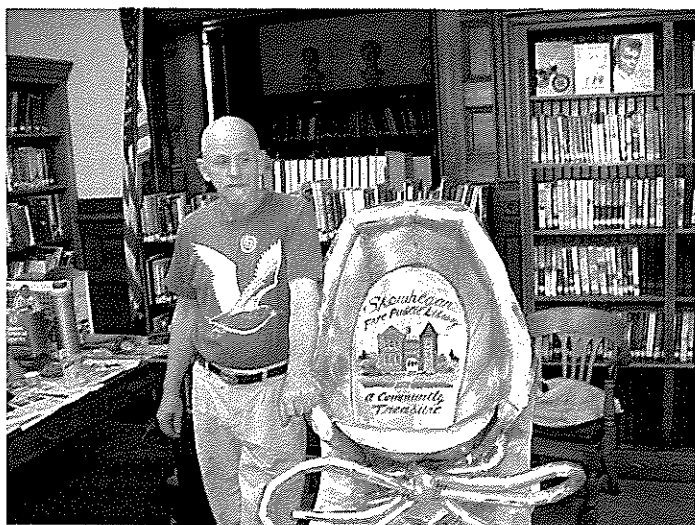
The Library Lookout

AUGUST 2009

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

The Big Shoe is getting a whole new look! Well-known artist, Milton Christianson, designed a unique mural just for the Big Shoe, which includes a river driver, the Skowhegan Falls, the library and other historic icons from our community. During the week of July 20th Milton was at the library and people could watch this one-of-a-kind community art project unfold. The Shoe was sponsored by grants from the Maine Community Foundation, Somerset Heart Health, and the Skowhegan Recreation Department.



The Shoe will be the focal point of the upcoming **Art and Heritage Festival and Somerset County Bicentennial Celebration on August 15th from 9 am to 2 pm.** The end of Elm Street in front of the library will be closed to traffic and festivities will include:

- Special open house with a shoe industry exhibit at History House
- Children can create fairy gardens outside on the History House lawn
- Garden tours on Elm Street - \$10 Sponsored by the Bloomfield Garden Club
- The Big Shoe will be on display at the library
- Games and activities for kids on the library lawn
- Pictures of family farming at Farmers' Market
- Antique bike display by Boards and Bikes
- Music at the Farmers' Market and at the library
- Move More Kids healthy activities promotion by Somerset Heart Health
- Plein Air artists' outdoor day sponsored by Main Street Skowhegan
- Artists displaying and selling their artwork in the Miles Carpenter Parking Lot
- Somerset County commemorative coins for sale
- Somerset County Photo essay in the library
- Margaret Chase Smith Library display at the public library
- Yard sale in the SSB parking lot off Pleasant Street sponsored by the 3 Women's Clubs
- Hot dogs and beverages will be on sale by the Library Renovation Committee members
- It is rumored that Abner Coburn himself may attend!

Don't miss this special Community Art and Heritage Festival and County Celebration. There is still plenty of room for artists to display their work. Please call the library if you would like information about any of the activities above or to reserve a free space. 474-9072.

We would like to thank everyone for their patience while the Inter-library loan service is not available. We hope to be able to order books by Sept. 1st.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Katherine LeBlanc

Happy Summer! Now that the rain has stopped the children's room has slowed down a bit. June was a VERY busy month for us, and we were pleased to see that the sign up for the summer reading program has gone exceptionally well. Sixty-four readers have signed up this year to read. Each reader received a FREE Portland Sea Dogs ticket. This was something that had not happened for the last few years, but we are grateful that the Sea Dogs decided to restart this program. The kids were very excited.

Gifford Ice Cream has generously donated ice cream coupons again this year. As in years past this seems to be one of the favorite prizes the kids chose.

It rained on our first program scheduled this summer, but not to worry, there are four more events scheduled for the children during the next several weeks.

We received \$400.00 from the Maine Nutrition Network again this year. There are snacks available for the kids during story hour and yummy recipes to take home and try. August 15 will bring the scavenger hunt at the Farmers' Market with a prize being a piece of fruit from Cayford Orchards.

Two new quilts have been created with help from lots of children and Kathy Hughes and Corrilla Hastings. These quilts are on display upstairs in the Children's Room and are part of the Community Art Project 2009

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Library Renovation Committee is very happy to welcome Pat Dickey as our Capital Campaign Chairwoman. With Pat's energy, expertise and leadership we can be assured that the future of the library, our "community treasure", is in good hands. THANK YOU, PAT!

Twenty people have signed up to make solicitation visits this summer, and both pledge sheets and donations are being received at the library. If you have not been contacted by one of our solicitors and would

like to have someone call to discuss renovation goals, please let Pat or Melissa know.

Meanwhile, the Renovation Committee continues to work on fundraising projects and events. Donations from returnable bottles and cans at C & M Redemption Center has already resulted in just under \$200 for the library. Raffle tickets (with proceeds slated for the library) for the beautiful Victorian quilt by the Somerset Samplers are selling very well at a variety of shows and fairs this summer.

Some of the fundraisers planned for the future include: Hot Dogs and beverages for sale on August 15, Library night at the Heritage House on October 2, "Evening With the Stars American Style" on November 14, and a gigantic auction and evening of fun a year from now on September 10, 2010. For this last happening we have already received promise of ten hours of genealogy research, an antique hand-hooked rug, and a teak garden bench. Be thinking what you can donate to this event - a handcrafted item? Your time and talents in any field? A monthly homemade pie or batch of cookies? A weekend vacation at your cottage? A theme party or celebration? Instruction or tutoring? Share your talents and at the same time benefit Project 2010!

BECOME A FRIEND OF YOUR LIBRARY

The Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library, a not for profit group dedicated to supporting and improving the library for all members of the community, invite you to join us. Dues are \$10 for Individuals, \$8 for Seniors and Students, and \$15 for Families.

.....
Please complete this form and mail to: Skowhegan Free Public Library, 9 Elm Street, Skowhegan, Maine 04976

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____
Tel. # _____
E-Mail Address _____

Please check the activities you are willing to help with.

- Refreshments for library activities.
- Making phone calls.
- Helping with fundraising activities

BOOK REVIEW

By Katherine LeBlanc

I recently purchased a book on the recommendation from a young lady that I have known for many, many years. I saw the disappointment in her face when she found out we did not own it, so when my next order rolled around, *The Girl Who Threw Butterflies* by Mick Cochrane was at the top of the list. My first introduction to this book came when I read the back page. "The knuckle ball wasn't just a pitch. It was an attitude toward life; it was a way of being in the world. It was a philosophy. You don't aim a butterfly, her father used to say. You release it."

For me, finding the time to read is not easy, but the back page drew me in right away. I am the type of person who has no idea what a knuckle ball is, I usually ask my ten year old complicated questions like this, but after reading the back cover and the quote about butterflies, I was hooked. I loved this book. I could not put it down. Come to think about it, I am not sure if I fed the children last night. Truth be told, I have no interest in baseball at all. I know, I know how un-American, but I loved this book. As the cliché goes, it is for young and old alike. The title refers to baseball, but the true story revolves around a young lady who is still reeling from the death of her father six months earlier. Her strained relationship with her mother since his death has left her feeling like an alien in her own home, until one day she finds the baseball mitt that she used with her father in the back yard. From there the idea of joining the all boys baseball team at her school was hatched. Along with the support from her best friend, she embarks on not only becoming the first girl on the baseball team, but coming to grips with the death of her father and the changes that have taken place in her life.

This is a great story. Boys and girls can identify with the characters that are so artistically portrayed by the author. A quick read for adults, but worth every word.

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

Adler, Elizabeth/ *There's Something about St. Tropez*
Box, C.J./ *Below Zero*
Brown, Dale/ *Rogue Forces*
Burke, James Lee/ *Rain Gods*
Coulter, Catherine/ *Knockout*
Cussler, Clive/ *Medusa*
Deaver, Jeffery/ *Roadside Crosses*
Evanovich, Janet/ *Finger Lickin' Fifteen*
Frank, Dorothea Benton/ *Return to Sullivan's Island*
Gardner, Lisa/ *The Neighbor*
Gross, Andrew/ *Don't Look Twice*
Howard, Linda/ *Burn*
Ignatius, David/ *The Increment*
Iles, Greg/ *The Devil's Punchbowl*
Koontz, Dean/ *Relentless*
Lescroart, John/ *A Plague of Secrets*
Lindsey, Johanna/ *A Rogue of My Own*
Lustbader, Eric/ *The Bourne Deception*
Margolin, Phillip/ *Fugitive*
Martini, Steve/ *Guardian of Lies*
Michaels, Fern/ *Razor Sharp*
Morrell, David/ *The Shimmer*
Patterson, James/ *Swimsuit*
Pearson, Ridley/ *Killer Summer*
Roberts, Nora/ *Black Hills*
Rollins, James/ *The Doomsday Key*
Slaughter, Karin/ *Undone*
Steel, Danielle/ *Matters of the Heart*
Stockett, Kathryn/ *The Help*
Weiner, Jennifer/ *Best Friends Forever*

NON-FICTION

Gilbert, Melissa/ *Prairie Tale*
King, Larry/ *My Remarkable Journey*
North, Oliver/ *American Heroes in the Fight Against Radical Islam*

The Library Lookout is Sponsored by:



**Skowhegan
Savings**

Calendar of Events

AUGUST

Every Wednesday: Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

August 4 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

August 5 Old Time Toys & Games at History House, 10 AM

August 5 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

August 8 Socrates Café at the Blueberry Cupboard, 11 AM. "Piety"

August 10 & 24 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM

August 15 Art & Heritage Festival, 9 AM to 2 PM

SEPTEMBER

Every Wednesday: Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

September 3 FOL Executive Board meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

September 8 Library Trustees meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

September 9 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

September 12 Socrates Café at the Blueberry Cupboard, 11 AM. "Humor"

Sept. 14 & 28 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM

SAVE THESE DATES!

Friday, October 2: "Library Night" at the Heritage House. (Percentage goes to Project 2012)

Saturday, November 14: "Evening With the Stars American Style"

NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS

Mary Stuart

Dot LaCasse

Miriam Malloy

Bonnie & Dick Chamberlain

Annette James

Elinor Clark

Bruce Moore

Shirley Raynard

The Library Lookout

9 Elm Street

Skowhegan, ME 04976

Your librarians:

Library Director Melissa Gaspar
Assistant Librarian Francoise LaBonte
Children's Librarian Katherine LeBlanc

Your Library Trustees:

Bill Laney, Warren Shay,
Lee Granville, Toni Jo Blaisdell,
Carol Jarvais, Corrilla Hastings
Ex Officio, Mary Hill

Friends officers:

Mary Hill, pres.
Darla Pickett, vice pres.,
Kathy Littlefield, sec. Sherri Vigue, treas.