



# The Library Lookout

April 2010

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

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Melissa Gaspar

What better way to begin the first day of spring, than an ice cream social! Over 100 people turned out to enjoy Gifford's award winning vanilla ice cream topped with maple syrup donated by Maine Maple Products of Madison and special apple and blueberry jams made with maple syrup by Sherri Vigue. Kathy Hopkins from the Somerset County Co-operative Extension demonstrated how to make maple sugar candy. The samples were delicious. Many thanks to all.

On Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> Semper Fidelis, the Dove Society and the Skowhegan Women's Club members gathered for a game of Bunco at the library. This social event and library fundraiser was a lot of fun. The next Bunco event will be open to the public.

A very exciting new book is creating quite a stir in the library field. It is called, "This Book is Overdue! How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All" by Marilyn Johnson. Championing librarians as the super sleuths of information in the digital era and of being superheroes on the cutting edge of technology, the author dispenses any misconceptions that librarians or libraries are losing ground in a modern world. With news about the economy and budget cuts, this book is a most timely and enlightening advocate of the tremendous need for libraries. The book is just in time to help celebrate National Library Week, which is April 11-17, 2010. And because libraries are the heart of their communities the theme this year is: "Communities thrive @ your library."

I would like to thank everyone for their patience last month when we were closed for a day to convert our library collection to a new automated system called Destiny. The new system was purchased by the Friends Group and we think everyone is going to love it. The MSAD54 district is also using Destiny so children in the schools already know how to search for books. We are going to enjoy showing it off to all our patrons. Eventually, patrons will be able to view the library collection from their home computers. People will be able to place a hold on books they want if the Skowhegan Public Library owns the book. They will still need to order interlibrary books through the library. Next month we will be buying two new computers for the library and a new video display carousel, which were also made possible by the Friends. Thank you so much to the Friends for all the ways they help the library.

On exhibit at the library is a solar-powered gingerbread house called "The Cloverbud Cottage". A new twist on a sweet theme, the Cloverbud Cottage was created by students from the Carrabec Community School in North Anson. Carol Dyer-Eaton, an AmeriCorps Volunteer working out of the County Extension Office helped the students as part of her work to raise awareness on sustainable living. The icing and gingerbread were donated by the Bankey. This sustainable cottage looks good enough to eat and is worth a look.

Don't forget to look at the beautiful colorful crocuses on your way into the library.

## **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, Corilla Hastings  
Ex Officio, Mary Hill

### **Friends officers:**

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

# **Calendar of Events**

Every Wednesday, Story & Craft Hour, 10 AM

Every Friday, Knitting Club for all levels and beginners, 4 to 6 PM

## **APRIL**

April 1 Friends of the Library Executive Board meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

April 7 Last day to order your "Library Lunch" at the library.

April 7 Library Renovation Committee meeting, 6 PM. Public is welcome.

April 10 Socrates Café, "Beliefs", 11 to 1.

April 12 & 26 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM.

April 16 Library Lunches delivered.

April 19 Library closed for Patriot's Day

April 21 Children's Book Sale at the Library, all day

April 23 Skowpendous Family Fun Day, 5 to 8 PM, Municipal parking lot.

## **MAY**

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

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

May 8 Socrates Café, 11 to 1.

May 10 & 24 Toddlertime, 10:30 AM.

May 12 Friends' Annual meeting

May 22 Library Lawn Sale at Hastings' barn

May 29-31 Library closed for Memorial Day Weekend.

June 1 Summer Hours will begin: M-F, 10 AM to 6 PM.

# CHILDREN'S ROOM

By Katherine LeBlanc

The Children's Room has been quite busy over the last month with several school groups who have come to visit. Three classes from The Mill Stream School in Norridgewock came for a Teddy Bear Picnic. While here they listened to a story or two and also had the opportunity to explore the Children's Room for future visits. While in Skowhegan they also visited Dr. Vermette's office and Hannaford Supermarket.

The Skowhegan Nursery School also made their first visit of the school year bringing 44 students to the library. This is such a great beginning for young students to introduce them to the library and show them all that we have to offer.

We will be offering a children's book sale during April vacation on Wednesday April 21st. During the process of changing our system over to Destiny, we as a staff jumped on the opportunity to weed the collection. There are many, many titles to chose from.

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## NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS

- Constance Connell
- Janet Daigle
- Anna Court
- Patricia and Sam Horine
- Judith McCarthy and Robert Landry
- Elizabeth Bisson
- Elisabeth and Bruce Haynes
- Darla Pickett
- Belmont Motel
- Joan and Robert Farnsworth
- Carol and Wesley Lam
- Annette James

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**Remember** to order your "Library Lunch" before April 7. Lunches will be delivered to the library at noon on April 16.

**Remember** the Library Lawn Sale on May 22. We need saleable items of all kinds. Please deliver to Hastings' barn (474-3949), or small items may be left at the library.

# NEW BOOKS

## FICTION

- Bohjalian, Christopher/ *Secrets of Eden*
- Cussler, Clive/ *The Silent Sea*
- Erdrich, Louise/ *Shadow Tag*
- Fairstein, Linda/ *Hell Gate*
- Fielding, Joy/ *The Wild Zone*
- Grippando, James/ *Money to Burn*
- Hannah, Kristin/ *Winter Garden*
- Harris, Robert/ *Conspirata*
- Lustbader Van, Eric/ *Last Snow*
- Palmer, Michael/ *The Last Surgeon*
- Parker, Robert B./ *Split Image*
- Parker, T. Jefferson/ *Iron River*
- Patterson, James / *Worst Case*
- Picoult, Jodi/ *House Rules*
- Robb, J.D./ *Fantasy in Death*
- Spindler, Erica/ *Blood Vines*
- Stabenow, Dana/ *A Night Too Dark*
- Woods, Stuart/ *Kisser*

## NON-FICTION

- Heilemann, John/ *Game Change*

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## 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.

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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

## Dear Library Patrons and Community Friends,

The Project 2012 Renovation Committee of the Skowhegan Free Public Library is planning to host an Auction on September 10, 2010 at the Tewksbury Building on Island Avenue, Skowhegan. We are now looking for donated items that will make the occasion both profitable for Project 2012 and fun for all who attend the event. We invite you to join our effort.

Here are some ideas of items that would be greatly appreciated:

- CRAFTS** Do you sew, knit, crochet or quilt? Do you paint or take photographs? Do you have a talent for building furniture, bird houses or other objects?
- INSTRUCTION** Would you give 5 or 10 lessons in computer skills? Guitar playing? Tennis? Or golf?
- BASKETS** Would you fill a basket with items, using a specific theme? For example, items for the kitchen, gardens, pets, bath products.
- COOKING** Would you prepare a special dinner for a small group? Would you create a birthday cake? Would you bake a batch of cookies each month for a family? Would you provide pizza for six Friday nights?
- VACATIONS** Would you let a family use your holiday cottage or time share for a vacation?

### DAY TRIPS

Would you take someone on a fishing trip to that secret destination (of course, they'd have to promise never to tell where!) Would you offer a boat ride (with perhaps a picnic lunch) on a nearby lake?

### WHITE ELEPHANTS

Perhaps you were once given a beautiful "something" that you know you'll never use. Someone else may love it!

These are just a few suggestions. If you would like to donate an item for the auction, please speak to anyone on the Renovation Committee or leave your name at the library (or call 474-9072) and we will get in touch with you.

### THANK YOU!



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*The Library Lookout is sponsored by*

