

THE LIBRARY *Connection*



TOMPKINS
COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

FALL 2010

A NEWSLETTER OF THE TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY,
THE TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION, AND THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Help the Library Celebrate Ten Years at Green Street

From crumbling, cramped quarters on Cayuga Street to award-winning architecture on Green Street, patrons and staff celebrate the Tompkins County Public Library's move to its plush digs at the Woolworth store each time they walk through its automatic doors. But this November, the community will have an opportunity to fete the Library in a more formal fashion as TCPL celebrates Ten Years at Green Street.

The celebration takes place Friday, November 5 through Sunday, November 7 with anniversary cake Saturday and Sunday, a library scavenger hunt throughout the weekend, a chance to win a NOOK electronic reader and programs every day.

The opening reception for the exhibit *Some Things Considered* curated by Bill Benson, and *1864 to 2060—Our Library: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* an exhibit chronicling where the Library has been and where it is headed, will be held on Friday evening in conjunction with Gallery Night.

From Tioga Street,
to the Bookmobile,
to Cayuga Street,
to Green Street ...
where will we be
by 2060?



More details about
this event can be found
at <http://tcpl.org/events>
and on Facebook.

On Saturday Michele Hamill, paper and photograph conservator for the Cornell University Library, will present "Ten Essential Steps for Preserving Family Documents and Photographs;" the founder of our library, Ezra Cornell (portrayed by Fred Antil), will visit with Library patrons; and Family Storytime will feature celebration-themed stories.

Sunday, Elizabethan Conversation presents *FAUVEL: A Medieval Donkey Tail*. A musical story of politics and corruption, FAUVEL is set in the 14th century and features medieval fiddle, hurdy-gurdy, voice, recorder, lute, masks, and audience participation.

Don't miss this opportunity to support the Library. After all, celebrations like this only happen every ten years!

From the Director

According to the Association of American Publishers, in the first five months of 2010, sales of e-books, which generally cost less than hardcover books, grew to 8.5% of total sales compared to 2.9% last year. Have e-readers become mainstream? Almost every day there is an article published about the changes in publishing, reading and learning due to the increasing speed of technological change. At TCPL, we've had access to articles in online, full text resources and online audio books for quite some time, but what does the emergence of e-books and e-readers like the Kindle, the Nook and the iPad mean?

There are many, many articles, surveys and research projects on reading and the effect of technology on reading. There are opinions about whether this is a generational issue—some argue yes, some no. Whatever we may think, technology is changing reading. In January 2009, a report released by the National Endowment for the Arts indicated that reading is on the rise, but what people are using to read is the question now—a traditional book, an e-reader like the Kindle, Sony e-book reader, the Nook e-book reader or an iPad?

Books are not going away anytime soon. After all, they have been in existence almost 1,000 years while the technology for e-books is still developing. Here at TCPL, we believe having all formats available is important for our community. In addition to our excellent print collection, we want to keep up with the latest technology and provide opportunities for our community to experience these new devices. We are exploring e-book readers and looking to expand their use. Currently we have a Kindle for in-house reading of the *New York Times* and this summer we've been experimenting with a Nintendo DS XL which holds *100 Classic Books*.

TCPL supports readers and reading—no matter the format. A recent article in *Library Journal* noted, "A good reading experience involves content, which can be understood as the bridge between the mind of the author and the mind of the reader, and the device, pulpy or plastic, bulky or svelte". —Susan Currie

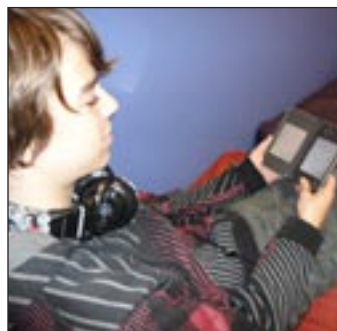


Susan Currie

Teen Volunteer Votes Nintendo DSi XL a Hit!

For the short time the Nintendo DSi XL, downloaded with *100 Classic Books*, has been in circulation at the Tompkins County Public Library, it has lived up to—even exceeded—everyone's expectations. Librarian Debbie Collier, who introduced the idea of circulating a Nintendo in Youth Services, saw the technology as a stepping stone for reluctant teen readers and a way to get already avid readers to try something new—or old, as the case may be.

Ben, a 14-year-old library volunteer, is an avid reader and gamer. He was asked to check out the Nintendo and give the staff his opinion. After two hours, Ben returned the reader, asking "Do you have Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* here? And I don't want any abridged version, I want the real thing." The batteries had run down while Ben was in the middle of *Romeo and Juliet* and he couldn't wait to finish it! Although Ben is an enthusiastic reader, he probably wouldn't have picked up *Romeo and Juliet* for a casual summer read on his own. Spending time with the DSi's *100 Classic Books*, however, got him to expand his reading choices.



Ben Doolittle with the Nintendo

The Youth Services Department has had the Nintendo for only a short time but the teens who've checked it out have all provided positive feedback: "Easy to read!"; "Sweet, cool"; "I'm already on page 13!"; "Fast to read, easy font". The library staff is delighted by this response, hoping to introduce more young adults to perennial favorites such as *20,000 Leagues Under The Sea*, *Ivanhoe*, *Kim* and more.

—Kelly Doolittle, Library Assistant

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Community Read Celebrated with Dynamic Programming

Androids have invaded the Library and they've brought some fabulous programs with them!

The 2010 Community Read, featuring Philip K. Dick's *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*, is in full swing, and, in addition to adding 300 copies of the book, as well as foreign language and audio formats to the Library's collection, a host of exciting programs is planned to help the community share the bond of reading the same book.

Upcoming Community Read programs:

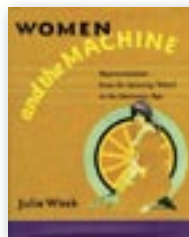
David Gill Presentation: Join California-based blogger and acclaimed Philip K. Dick scholar David Gill for a lecture and question and answer session on *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*, on Thursday, September 16 at 6:00 PM in the BorgWarner Community Room.

Discussion Group: Join Community Read Coordinator Sarah Glogowski for lively

discussions of *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* on Tuesday, September 21 at 7:00 PM and Wednesday, September 22 at 11:30 AM in the BorgWarner Community Room.

Alluring Androids and Robots in Film, Photography and Art:

Join SUNY Maritime Professor Julie Wosk for an illustrated lecture featuring images of female robots, androids, talking dolls, mannequins and other artificial women. Ranging from early automatons to lifelike female heroines in today's video games, these images tell a startling tale of changing attitudes toward science and toward women themselves. Presented on Saturday, September 25 at 2:00 PM in the BorgWarner Community Room.



Women and the Machine by Julie Wosk

Science-Fiction Writing Workshop: Aspiring science-fiction writers ages 14 and up are encouraged to join local physicist and award-winning writer Carl Frederick for this weekly short-story writing workshop. Frederick will offer insight into developing story elements, writing techniques, critiquing skills, and the business of short-story writing. The November 3 meeting will feature a public reception where participants can share the work they developed during the workshop. To register, or for more information, email Frederick at darkzoo@darkzoo.net. Please put WELF—WRITING WORKSHOP in the subject line of your email. Every Wednesday, October 6 through November 3, 6:00 to 8:00 PM in the BorgWarner Community Room East.

All Community Read programs are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Carrie Wheeler-Carmenatty at 272-4557 ext. 248.

Teens Make Waves at Your Library

This year's Teen Summer Reading Program, themed *Make Waves at Your Library*, was a great success. Young adults in grades 6–12 read and submitted book reviews to the library's In My Opinion (IMO) Teen Book Blog at <http://tcpl-teens.blogspot.com/>, with each review acting as a raffle ticket to win gift cards from a variety of local and national merchants.

More than 40 teens contributed over 300 reviews of a broad range of titles from some of the hottest series of recent years to classic YA literature—from graphic novels to books typically found in our adult literature section—with a bit of non-fiction and drama mixed in as well. In addition to the reviews being posted on the blog, many of them were also displayed, alongside the cover art, as word clouds on the windows of the Youth Services room, and throughout the teen area.



Book reviews become word clouds

Not only did participants take time out of their busy summer schedules to read, by tendering reviews, they thought critically, sharpened their writing skills, and shared opinions with other teens. Each week we saw more and more new participants and, while the Summer Reading Program has ended, the IMO blog remains, and we hope students will continue their efforts and keep sending in submissions.

This year's prizes, made possible through the support of the Helen Thomas Howland Foundation and M & T Bank, included gift cards from Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, Buffalo St. Books, Collegetown Bagels, Eastern Mountain Sports, iTunes, Purity Ice Cream, Regal Cinemas at Ithaca Mall, and Urban Outfitters. —Shawn Grant, Teen Librarian

Summer Outreach Grant



Wynter La Torre registering a young reader

Make a Splash, Read! was the theme of the New York State Library's 2010 Summer Reading Program. The Tompkins County Public Library made a splash in Ithaca when two Youth Services librarians took the Summer Reading Program out of the library and into the community, thanks to a grant from the Helen Thomas Howland Foundation, administered by the Community Foundation of Tompkins County.

Studies have shown the value of summer reading—children who continue to read over

continues on page 6



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

www.booksale.org

Volunteerism

A community of people who share a common vision

Tompkins County has dozens of organizations that depend on volunteers, so why be part of the Friends of the Library Book Sale team? Volunteers state that their work on behalf of the Book Sale provides satisfaction unique from that of other organizations.

For many volunteers, companionship keeps them returning to sort books or to work at the bi-annual Book Sales. Contact with fellow book lovers, all of whom have interesting hobbies and inimitable expertise, makes for stimulating con-



versation. Quilting, chair-caning, wine tasting, gardening, singing and many other shared interests have nurtured lasting friendships.

Living locally and sustainably is a priority for many volunteers. The collective impact of the bi-annual Book Sales—redirecting over 500,000 books, DVDs

CDs, games and other items each year—is one of the single largest reuse efforts in the northeastern United States. Now *that* is walking the ‘be green’ talk!

Pride in achievement is ultimately why Friends of the Library volunteers return week after week, year after year, donating their time to sort books or to work during the spring and fall sales. Since its inception, this organization has contributed more than \$4.5 million to the Tompkins County Public Library and small rural libraries serving county residents. This major accomplishment is a testament to a large body of loyal, hard working volunteers—they are the Friends.

People from all over the county and with a variety of backgrounds join the Friends of the Library to engage with others who share a common vision. Become a volunteer TODAY!

To volunteer to work at the **October Book Sale**

email info@booksale.org or phone (607) 272-2223.

Visit www.booksale.org for more information.

Volunteers are also needed throughout the year! Stop by the Friends of the Library at 509 Esty St., Ithaca, when donations are accepted—Tuesdays and Saturdays, 9 to noon. Orientation and training are provided to all new volunteers.

In an Entertaining Corner of the Sale ...

... Musicians sort Music! Marion Giambattista, soprano in the Cayuga Vocal Ensemble and voice teacher at SUNY Cortland and Cornell, sorts books



Marion Giambattista

in the Music section, while her husband, Alan, sorts sheet music and choral scores. He teaches physics at Cornell and performs locally on harpsichord and piano. The Giambattistas began volunteering in 2009.

“Wrangling into place the still-popular Fiction VHS section,” is how Heather Linton describes sorting movies, television shows and children’s feature films. Communications manager with an Ithaca-based energy efficiency company, she also teaches Marketing on the Internet at Ithaca College. Heather is also new to the sale, beginning last year. Joining Heather is Bob Chaffee, who has been a volunteer since 1984. He also picks up books from members of the community, delivering large donations to the warehouse on Esty Street. He chops wood to heat his house in his spare time.



Bob Chaffee and Heather Linton

Were you in line to enter the Book Sale in 1968? Joseph Hartnett-Hughes was! And since 1999 he’s been a volunteer and now sorts Non Fiction videos. Check that sec-



Inspiration for Quilt at Book Sale

When she saw a photograph on the front page of the *Ithaca Journal* of Book Sale customers making their selections from flat boxes of paperback fiction, quilter Lara Stanton thought “That could make a quilt!” The beautiful wall quilt inspired by that image is now on display at the Book Sale building, overlooking those boxes of mass market paperbacks from near where the photograph was taken. Everyone is invited to view the quilt at the Fall Book Sale.



Reprinted with permission from *The Ithaca Journal* from the edition of October 11, 2009

Lara says she enjoyed working from the same recycle/reuse mindset that the Friends of the Library has. She used fabrics already in her “stash” to create the machine-pieced, hand-quilted work of art. Commenting that she can’t bear to throw away any fabric, the variety used for the books represents her almost thirty five years of collecting and quilting. And she noted, the new quilt just “grew like Topsy”. Lara is now working on another scrap quilt. Past projects have included lap quilts and special quilts to recognize each grandchild’s graduation from high school.

tion for travel, exercise, sports and art videos. Retired from the Ithaca College library, Joseph’s passion is antiquarian items and garage sales. As someone



Joseph Hartnett-Hughes (above) and Peter Fraissinet (above right)



the globe. He’s been a volunteer since 1990 and, in what’s left of his spare time, plays fiddle and banjo.

Listen for non-American English being spoken in the Audiobook section. Beryl Barr

who has lived with cancer, he also volunteers at the Cancer Resource Center.

The sorter in the vast Records section, Peter Fraissinet, hosts the Salt Creek Show of bluegrass and old-time country music on 93.5 WVBR-FM. In his day job, Peter is Assistant Curator at Bailey Hortorium Herbarium at Cornell, working with plant specimens from around

from New Zealand sorts this popular section of books-on-tape and CDs with Sally Ezra from the UK. Both have been volunteers since 1997.

You can find these fascinating volunteers and their entertaining offerings in the southwest corner of the Book Sale. —Compiled by Louann Gordon and Betta Hedlund



Beryl Barr and Sally Ezra

Program on Mindless Eating Kicks Off Annual Appeal

On September 19, the Tompkins County Public Library Foundation will launch its 2010 Annual Appeal, with a program from 1:00 to 2:30 PM featuring Brian Wansink, renowned food psychologist and author of the international bestseller *Mindless Eating*.

Dr. Wansink, John Dyson Professor of Consumer Behavior at Cornell, is known as the “Sherlock Holmes of Food,” whose findings have been both revolutionary and diverse. He is perhaps best known for discovering what he calls “Mindless Eating,” the tendency to eat because of habit or environmental cues rather than hunger.

“With the need to focus on healthful behaviors becoming more and more urgent in our society, it makes sense to have Dr. Wansink’s program at the Library,” says Susan Currie, Library Director. “TCPL is a community hub for information and conversation about contemporary issues, and our Library is an essential forum for connecting the broader public with acclaimed scholars and authors like Dr. Wansink.”

The program marks the official launch of the Foundation’s Annual Appeal, the community fundraising campaign to encourage contributions from individuals and families, businesses and others in support of the annual fund.

Chairing the 2010 initiative is Jennifer Engel, owner of The Cat’s Pajamas, described as “Ithaca’s original general



Brian Wansink tempts with popcorn

store for kids and kids at heart.” Ms. Engel and her family have long supported TCPL. As a downtown business owner, Ms. Engel understands how the Library contributes to the community’s vitality; as an education advocate and parent, she knows how much children and families rely on library programs and services.

“The Library has always been a vital part of my family’s life,” says Ms. Engel. “When my kids were little, we spent countless hours exploring the Library together. As teens, they visited on their own and often sought the help of the expert librarians.”

Gifts to the appeal will support three key programmatic priority areas in 2011: programs and services for children and teens; new acquisitions and public programming and the arts. Offerings in these areas are core components of the Library’s service to the community, which will be made possible in the coming year only through donors’ support.

While the bulk of the Library’s revenue comes from Tompkins County, TCPL is generously and heavily funded by gifts to the Foundation and grants from the Friends of the Library. Given the fiscal constraints under which the County Legislature is operating, gifts to the annual appeal will be even more critical this year.

Caroline Cox, President of the Tompkins County Public Library Foundation

Board of Directors, says, “The needs to be supported through this year’s appeal are compelling. TCPL is a primary source for literacy and out-of-school learning for our young people. Our collections inspire, illuminate and transport readers, listeners and viewers, many of whom would not otherwise be able to afford books and audio-visual materials. And our programs in the arts, humanities and sciences—all free and open to the public—are what make our Library the true cultural center of the county. I encourage members of the community to join with Jennifer Engel, and my board colleagues and me, in supporting our annual appeal.”

To contribute to the annual appeal, complete and send in the gift form in this newsletter; visit tcpl.org and click on the “Donate Now” button on the home page, pick up giving information at the Library or contact Suzanne Smith Jablonski at 272-4557 ext. 231 or ssmithjablonski@tcpl.org.

Summer Outreach Grant

continued from page 3

the summer maintain their academic performance into the next school year at a much higher rate than children who do not read over the summer. TCPL’s outreach efforts are important as those children who are unable to visit the Library during the summer, or have no access to books outside school are at a great disadvantage when they return to school in the fall.

This summer, librarians Sarah O’Shea and Gary Seymour visited camps, youth programs and summer schools in and around Ithaca, and were able to read and act out stories to groups of ten to 170 children at a time. In addition, they distributed information about the Summer Reading Program and tear-off entry forms to doctors’ offices, clinics, youth centers and county agencies to share with the public. They visited more than 40 sites and children’s centers to spread the word about summer reading.

Through this outreach, more than 400 free prize books were distributed to children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge, and another 400 children registered in-person at the Library.

—Gary Seymour, Youth Services Librarian



Jennifer Engel reading to a young friend

Contributors 2009

The Tompkins County Public Library Foundation thanks all individuals, businesses, foundations and organizations for their contributions in support of the Library's work. The following is a list of contributors who made gifts of \$100 or more between January 1 and December 31, 2009.

Every effort has been made to list names and contributions accurately. We apologize for any inadvertent errors, and ask you to contact the Foundation at 272-4557 ext. 232 to note corrections.

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My check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed, made payable to *TCPL Foundation*

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- Naming opportunities
- Endowed book or program funds

Please mail completed form and gift to:

Tompkins County
Public Library Foundation
101 East Green Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

Thank you!

New Arrivals at TCPL

MP3s are now on the shelves. (And flying off them again as well!)

This is a new format of audio books that will be shelved along with the other audio books on CD. They look like DVDs but have a distinctive lime sticker across the top saying: MP3 CD. These audio books may be played on special MP3 players, computers and in newer cars. To find them on Power Pac type MP3 (mp3) in the “search” space and limit by “nonmusical recording”. You will find 65 titles.

Challenging Reference Question

Our reference librarians are often asked particularly challenging questions, the answers for which are most often found in our print reference section. July produced the following:

QUESTION: What is the cause of the funny smell in the air after a lightning storm?

ANSWER: That “clean” smell that occurs after lightning strikes is due to a chemical element called ozone, a form of oxygen. Ozone was officially named by Christian Friedrich Schonbein in 1839, who took notice of the characteristic smell coming from electrical equipment.

REFERENCE SOURCE: Robert Krebs’s reference guide, *The History and Use of Our Earth’s Chemical Elements* (REF 546 Krebs) details the history and uses of all the chemical elements in our environment. Arranged by element groupings, this easy-to-read guide presents factual information as well as a historical guide to man’s interaction with chemistry. A glossary and alphabetical index of elements aids users in understanding technical terminology associated with each entry. This useful guide is suitable for young adult and adult readers interested in basic chemistry.

Check out our new website at <http://tcpl.org>

The Library Connection



TOMPKINS COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

NAVIGATING A SEA OF RESOURCES

101 East Green Street
Ithaca NY 14850



Non-Profit Organization
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Ithaca NY 14850
Permit No. 780

Storytimes

return to Youth Services in October

Toddler Storytime—Tuesday AM

Family Storytime—Saturday AM

Babies Books and Bounce—day tbd

Teens Write

every Wednesday during October

Candidates Forum

*Cosponsored by TCPL, the League of Women
Voters and the Ithaca Journal*

Thursday, October 7

Calling All Creative Library Lovers!

Artists are asked to imagine the library of the future, c. 2060, and express this visualization with originality, whimsy and humor.

Creative people of all ages are invited to submit artwork for an exhibit to be held in conjunction with the Library's 10 year anniversary. The exhibit will be on display from November 5 through December 30 and feature the Library's past, present and future.

Contact sgrubb@tcpl.org for submission guidelines or visit <http://tcpl.org/events-exhibits/2010/anniversary-call-for-artists.php>

The Tompkins County Public Library serves community residents at each stage of their lives by providing free and open access to the world's wisdom, knowledge and information. The library, through its collections and professional services, fosters an informed, civic-minded community and contributes to the educational, cultural and economic well-being of the County. Both The Friends of the Library and the Tompkins County Public Library Foundation support the mission of the library through fund raising initiatives. The Friends direct an annual gift to the library based on the proceeds of their annual booksales, while the Foundation seeks private support through personal requests, grants, corporate gifts, endowed book funds and the annual appeal.

**For more information about library exhibits and events,
or to access your account, visit <http://tcpl.org>**



The Library is a founding member of the Discovery Trail. For further information visit www.discoverytrail.com