



Belden Noble Memorial Library

P.O. Box 339, 2759 Essex Rd.
Essex, NY 12936

Fall 2018

Dear Friends of the Belden Noble Memorial Library,

The importance of libraries has been getting quite a bit of attention recently. One article I read stated, "Libraries nurture relationships among people." Another quoted writers who variously referred to their libraries as "a temple," "the sun and the moon," and "a place to come together." As the year draws to a close, the words that come to my mind are "community center."

The *Get to Know Your Neighbors* series has been very successful. Special thanks to Mary-Nell Bockman and Andy Buchanan, Shirley and Jim LaForest, Norma and Todd Goff, Libby and George Pataki, Andy and Jori Wekin, Karen and Rick Dalton, Mark and Kristin Kimball, and Ron Jackson for sharing how they came to Essex and how they contribute to making Essex a better place. We are planning next year's series now – we have so many wonderful neighbors in this small town!

Other programs sponsored by the library engaged the members of our community from the littlest ones in Miss Sally's story times to Ken Hughes's hot air balloon demonstration for "kids" of all ages. Miss Sally, aka Sally Minich, has also joined the library board: she brings her experience working with young children and fundraising skills to our group.

The library holds bake sales and book sales, which are community functions as well as fundraisers. Our motto for bake sales is "Bake or Buy or Both," and folks always do! We are now planning our annual silent auction: we are soliciting donations and will open the bidding on November 20. Winners will be announced at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, December 8, as part of the town-wide celebration, the *Magic of Christmas in Essex*. As always, we are happily anticipating Steven Kellogg's annual reading during this event.

Our goal is to make the Belden Noble Memorial Library a real community center. The children's room is buzzing with activity, two book groups are meeting in our upstairs reading room, and Community Mondays, a time to discuss books, knit, play cards, play board games, work on a jigsaw puzzle, or simply converse, will start again in early January. Join us!

Finally, we depend on your support – as volunteers, as patrons, as participants in our activities, and for financial support. Please help us make the library the community center we are hoping for.

Sincerely,

Colleen M. Van Hoven

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President, Belden Noble Memorial Library Board