

# Belden Noble Memorial Library Newsletter

Fall 2023 Issue

2759 Essex Road  
P.O. Box 339 Essex, New York 12936  
beldennoblelibrary@gmail.com  
518-963-8079



## A Note From Our Board

Please note: The library is temporarily located in the basement of the Essex Community Church. We will be there until the Belden Noble building is repaired.

### May 1 to Sep 30

Mon. 2pm-4pm  
Tues. 2pm-4pm  
Wed. 9am to 4pm  
Thurs. 11pm-4pm  
Fri. 11pm-4pm  
Sat. 9am-4pm  
Sun. closed

### Oct 1 to Apr 30

Mon. closed  
Tues. closed  
Wed. 9am to 4pm  
Thurs. 11am-4pm  
Fri. 11am-4pm  
Sat. 9am-4pm  
Sun. closed

Our Library Director, Julie Wever, manages the library on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The library is staffed by volunteers at other times.

**Belden Noble Memorial Library is an association library operated by our Board of Trustees:**

#### President

Maureen DeLaughter

#### Vice President

Colleen Van Hoven

#### Treasurer

Kathy Nadire

#### Secretary

Unfilled

#### Corresponding Secretary

Sally Minich Prosk

#### Board Members

Maureen Ecclesine  
Meredith Hanna  
Joyce Sukul  
Jani Spurgeon

November 2023

Dear Friends,

On September 7, as the librarian and Board members pondered this very newsletter, 7000 pounds of tree crashed through the roof over our heads. We were unhurt but the aftershocks continue to reverberate and will for the foreseeable future.

Because the Town of Essex owns the historic building, Supervisor Ken Hughes has been ensnarled with insurance companies, engineers, electricians, chimney masons and building restorers. He has been a tremendous support to us, arriving a few minutes after the tree fell and being readily available ever since. We are grateful to the Essex Community Church for providing us with our temporary "branch" library. We appreciate the inconvenience our presence causes the church but on the plus side parishioners now have the opportunity to browse the library during coffee hour! We cannot thank enough the many volunteers who helped move the library into its new space one Saturday and had it completely organized before church the next day. Community support at all levels has been overwhelming.

Now we need your help. There is no electricity or heat on the second floor of the library because of the damage to the roof. And although there is electricity on the first floor, there is no heat because the furnace vents through the chimney that is no longer there. We are concerned about dampness and mold affecting the books, carpets, photographs and fabrics throughout the building. In addition we now have expenses related to both library locations. The church has generously agreed not to charge rent but we have picked up the cost of several utilities, cleaning, and supplies. And costs continue to accrue in our original location. Bottom line: we need your financial support right now more than ever.

**(continued on page 4)**

We send occasional e-mail notices to let our patrons know what's happening at the library. While our print newsletters are sent only twice a year, our e-mail messages, with all the latest news about upcoming programs, new additions to the collection and other library news are sent out once or twice a month. Don't miss out on the latest library news. Join our e-mail list by visiting our Web page at [essexlibrary.org](http://essexlibrary.org) and click on 'Join Our E-Mail List'. It takes just a few seconds.



**JOIN OUR  
EMAIL LIST**

## Notes From Our Librarian, Julie Wever



During this season of thanks and celebration, we thank and celebrate YOU, our many supporters and patrons. Full time residents and our seasonal friends use their library during the busiest and more laid-back times of the year. It's so exciting to open the door to caregivers who walk in – and out – with a baby on one hip and a bag of books on the other. Attendance at in-person programs and workshops for all ages fills us with thanks that loyal fans, the Town of Essex, and grant funders support us in various ways.

One of several highlights of this past summer was the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum's live "Birds of Prey" program. We ran out of chairs and the library was literally standing room only! Some of the "all age" activities currently under development for the new year are a trivia contest, summer challenges and crafts, a technology petting zoo, knitting and genealogy help, book discussions and storytelling, the opportunity to "Meet Your Neighbor," and grant-funded maker space fun in our expanding children's room. Would you like to suggest a program to add to the docket? We welcome your ideas! Stop in and let's discuss.

"I have this friend" who used the library value calculator newly posted on our web site. Although the calculator is several years old, the value of her fairly modest library use exceeded \$1,200. Your library is the best bargain in town.

During the upcoming holiday season, we hope you enjoy the food, the festivities, the fun, and most importantly your family and friends. And, please consider supporting your library. There are many ways that you can help, some of which are highlighted on page 4. A more complete "wish list" is on our web site (essexlibrary.org). BNML is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your tax- deductible donation may be sent to: Belden Noble Memorial Library, PO Box 339, Essex, NY 12936.

Please stop in to say hello at our "branch" location in the Essex Community Church. Holiday goodies for the librarian are always appreciated but not required.

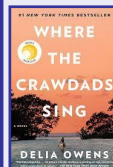
- Julie

### Upcoming Programs

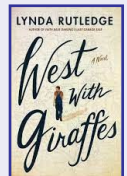
- November: Upcycling workshop
- Drop-in Crafternoons (November, December)
- December: Family game afternoons, take and make kids' crafts, holiday story time
- The Holidays: Borrow a "binge box" and enjoy five related movies while stringing your popcorn.
- Holiday Break week: Make the season merry and bright with games and crafts
- January: family Bingo and other games

**Coming Soon:** Movie Binge Boxes and our own Essex "Sunburst Film Festival" Join our e-mail list to get updates!

### Our Most Frequently Borrowed Titles in 2023



**Where the Crawdads Sing**  
by Delia Owens

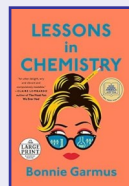


**West With Giraffes**  
by Lynda Rutledge



**Life on the Mississippi**  
by Rinker Buck

**Lessons in Chemistry**  
by Bonnie Garmus



**Demon Copperhead** by  
Barbara Kingsolver

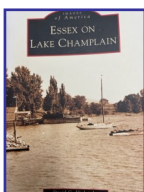
### Gifts That Help Support Your Library



Looking for holiday gift ideas? May we suggest these library related items which will help support your library?

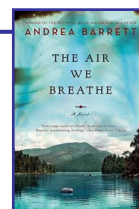
**T-Shirts** - \$15.00

**Essex on Lake Champlain** by David Hislop - \$5.00



**Notecards** (set of 5) - drawing of the Belden Noble Library by Jim Van Hoven Jr. \$6.00

**Mugs** - \$10.00



Coming in January, please join us for a special 'Cabin Fever' program. Bob Harsh will lead a multi-part book discussion of local author Andrea Barrett's book

### The Air We Breathe.

If time and interest allow, participants will travel to the Trudeau and TB Museums in Saranac Lake and will explore a mobile cure cottage via online interaction.

**This program is funded by the Lake Placid Education Foundation.**

## Meet Our New Board Members



### Jani Spurgeon

When I moved to Essex in 1985 I was honored to be asked to serve on the library board. A few years later, the time constraints of two children and a job in Plattsburgh resulted in my resignation. Now, happily retired, I am pleased to be back on the board of our wonderful little library.

### Meredith Hanna

Having grown up in Upper Michigan in a small rural village we did not have a library close by but we did have an old greyhound bus that would come out to the rural areas of the county. They had a contest to name the bus and I won naming the bus Moby after Moby Dick. The bus was outfitted with shelves that were filled with books which would change each month. I thought it was a wonderful place!



As I got older I was always fascinated with libraries. They were often housed in beautiful old historic buildings and the ones that were funded by Andrew Carnegie were mansions.

As I travel I will often look for the library in the area and it will be my first stop. Librarians are friendly and very knowledgeable about the area. One of the reasons I was interested in serving on the Library Board is that I believe in lifelong education and how libraries can transform lives. Libraries have information available to everyone and I feel strongly that we need to protect the freedom to read and not have materials censored.

There are many ways you can support your library!  
 Donate your time or expertise by volunteering at the circulation desk, leading a program, or lending a hand at our maker stations. Would you like to share the rich resources of our region by donating a museum pass? Do you have books, DVDs, games or puzzles to pass along? Library programs are always more fun with prizes, but with our tight budget, good prizes aren't always easy to come by. Can you help? Do you want to donate materials we'll be sure to add to the collection?  
 Check out our wish list at [essexlibrary.org](http://essexlibrary.org).  
**WE THANK YOU!**

### Many, Many Thanks to the Wonderful Residents of Essex Who Helped Us Move Mountains!

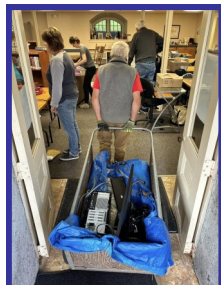
We put out a call asking for volunteers to help us move library items to the Essex Community Church. We are very grateful to all those who came to help. It could not have happened without these wonderful volunteers (in no particular order). Thanks also to the Board members of the Essex Community Church who worked with the Belden Noble Library Board to make this happen, including Jim Van Hoven, Norma Goff, Ed Mason, Lin Houghton and Lora Langston. Thanks also to the crew at the Highway Department for assisting with clean up.



Sandy Vance  
 Patty Shultz  
 Mo Ecclesine  
 Lou Comeau  
 Danny Sweatt  
 Julie Wever

Joyce Sukel  
 Steven Englehart  
 Susie Smith  
 Colleen Van Hoven  
 Norma Goff  
 David Tisdale

Meredith Hanna  
 Jani Spurgeon  
 Don Christian  
 Sally Minich Prosk  
 Jim Van Hoven  
 Don Hollingsworth



A very, very special thank you to Essex Supervisor, Ken Hughes who has worked tirelessly since the tree came down. Ken has been working with arborists, insurance agents, engineers, contractors, and roofers non-stop, in addition to working with our board, librarian and volunteers on moving day to help us get the 'branch' library set up. Ken is our library hero!

**Did You Know?**

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are about 126,800 librarians in the US. New York has the most, with 12,360.

The New York Public Library contains around 46 million items, though not all of them are books. It houses a 16th-century globe, an original copy of the Bill of Rights and a Honus Wagner baseball card largely considered to be one of the rarest in the world.

According to the Institute of Museum and Library Services, around 1.3 billion people visit public libraries every year.

(Continued from Page 1)

Equally important, we want your patronage at our "branch" location. We have established a children's area and comfortable seating for browsing and catching up on favorite magazines. Although we couldn't move all our books, the new fiction and non-fiction books, a sampling of our Adirondack collection, and the CEF rotating collection are available. There is a computer for public use and access to WiFi. Our director, Julie, can access books requested from either our main building or the CEF system. She continues to plan special events and activities to serve all our patrons and she looks forward to your participation. While we are uncertain of the particulars of our future, the issues confronting us are daunting.



Tree Fallen on Library September, 7 2023

While we could lapse into a "Let's wait and see" mode, we have chosen to be proactive and to try to plan for any eventualities. For that reason, we are seeking your financial support to help us prepare for the future and allow us to continue to play a vital role in our community. And please stop in the "branch" library. It's small and cozy and we are determined to make it as full-service as possible.

Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

Colleen Van Hoven, Board Vice-Chair

Thanks to help from dedicated volunteers, your library is open six days a week from May 1 to September 29 and four days a week from October 1 to April 30. Typical jobs include: shelving, rotating collection management, circulation, and of course, a sunny smile. It's a great feeling to send residents and visitors on their way with an item or information that will make their day. For more information about becoming a library volunteer, please contact Joyce Sukel by calling the library.

**Please Support Your Library!**

*Yes, I want to help our library continue to grow and provide the best possible library services for Essex!*

**Volunteer!** The Belden Noble Library could not function without its volunteers. We will do our best to match your talents with one of the many jobs available. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Make a tax deductible contribution and keep good things happening at your library.**

**Make a financial contribution!** Yes, charitable donations will help your library!  
*As an official 501(c)3 organization, we are eligible for matching gifts.*

**Donate Stocks, Bonds, and/or Mutual Funds.** You can donate stocks, bonds, and mutual funds directly to the library. When you donate stock to charity, you'll generally take a tax deduction for the full fair market value. And because you are donating stock, your contribution and tax deduction may instantly increase over 20%. The same benefits apply for bonds and mutual funds.

**Make provisions for the Library in your estate plans.** If you have already made a provision for the Library in your estate plans and have not yet informed us, or would like more information about this charitable gesture, please contact the library.

**Please make checks payable to Belden Noble Memorial Library and send to P.O. Box 339, Essex, NY 12936, or you can return this form in person at the library.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_