

# Belden Noble Memorial Library Newsletter

Summer 2025 Issue

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## A Note From Our Board President

### May 1 to Sep 30

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

### Oct 1 to Apr 30

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

Our Library Director 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

Colleen Van Hoven

#### Vice President

Maureen Ecclesine

#### Treasurer

Maureen DeLaughter

#### Secretary

Kathy Nadire

#### Corresponding Secretary

Sally Minich Prosk

#### Board Members

Jani Spurgeon  
Joyce Sukel



Dear Friends of the Library,

We're open!! I mean COMPLETELY open! We switched the rooms upstairs around so you will find the children's room in the larger area, with toys and activities for a wider age range. The Young Adult collection is now upstairs and we will be adding some STEM kits in the near future. The reading room is now smaller but just as inviting and cozy.

You have probably heard that Julie Wever is no longer our Director. She brought a wry sense of humor, wonderfully creative ideas and superb grant writing skills to her work here. We wish her well.

It's been over a year and a half since the Great Tree Incident and it has taken a lot of hard work to get to the point where we can welcome our patrons back. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Ken Hughes and the Town Board for their ongoing support. The Town Board has supported our determination to return the historic building to its glorious past, right down to a completely new slate roof. In December, the Town Board met in the library to help us celebrate our 125th Anniversary, replete with a beautifully framed resolution and a visit from Assemblyman Matt Simpson.

Now, onward! It's hard to believe but we are mid-way through the seventh season of the Meet Your Neighbors program. We've met many wonderful people, listened to their stories, and learned what brought them to Essex. David Tisdale is continuing his evening movie series, concentrating on great musicals with fabulous choreography. Sally Minich-Prosk is working on establishing an ongoing relationship with the Lakeside School.

On July 19 (rain date July 20) the Library will be holding a yard sale behind the Town Hall. There should be some great things available. Anyone is welcome to donate, with the understanding that if the donation doesn't sell, it goes back to the owner!

We hope to see you all soon. Welcome back!

Sincerely,

Colleen Van Hoven

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.

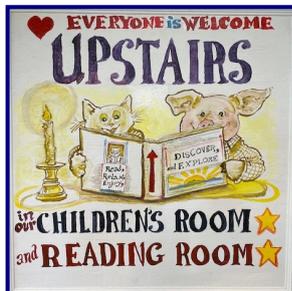


## Here's What's Happening At The Library



The library board will hold a tag sale behind Town Hall to benefit the library on Saturday, July 19 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm with a rain date of July 20. We will have many interesting items for sale and encourage you to come by to support the library while finding your newest treasure. We welcome donations for this sale with the understanding that anything which does not sell will be picked up by the donor at the conclusion of the sale.

Now that we have re-opened the upstairs area of the library, following the 'great tree incident', we've rehanging this beautiful sign made for us by Steven Kellogg. Welcome back upstairs!



Drawing by Steven Kellogg



The new Children's Area is expanded and ready for our youngest patrons to enjoy.



The Reading Room is perfect for remote work, for gathering with friends to socialize, or just as a quiet place to read.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Summer residents may get a library card by visiting the library with a valid ID.

You can follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/bnmlibrary/>

We have copy and FAX services for a nominal fee.

We offer free wifi and computer use.

You can follow us on Instagram at [instagram.com/bnmlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/bnmlibrary).

Your library card gives you access to materials from 30 local libraries and even libraries in other states and countries.

## SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



**Summer Family Concert**  
July 25 11:00 am  
Nan Hoffman returns for another wonderful hour of stories and songs for the whole family. This will be her fourth year making music at our library. Join us at the library for this popular program.

To best know what's happening at the library, please sign up for our twice monthly e-mail blasts by calling or emailing the library and asking to be added to our e-mail list.

### Friday Night Movies

David Tisdale will continue his twice-a-month Friday night movies at the library throughout the summer and into the fall. This year he is focusing on musicals with great choreography.

Call the library, sign up for our bi-monthly e-mail blasts, or check the town bulletin board to learn what's showing.



We are partnering with the Cornell Cooperative Extension to present three children's programs this summer. The descriptions are below. These programs are free, but **registration is required.**

### The Science Explorers



Explore, investigate, and experience what it is like to work as a paleontologist or ornithologist. Youth will have the opportunity to visit two stations: one where they will dig, identify, and label fossils, and another where they will examine the world of owls through the pellets they leave behind.  
**Monday, July 21 at 3:00 pm**

### I scream, you scream, we all scream...for ice cream!



Learn how to create this sweet summertime treat from scratch with Ellie Hoffman, Local Food Educator from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Essex County. We'll explore the ingredients, processes, and innovations involved in making ice cream, and mix up our own vanilla ice cream to taste!  
**Tuesday, July 22 at 3:00 pm**

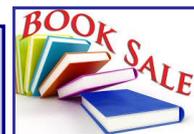
### What do you get when you put heavy cream in a jar and mix it?



If you guessed butter, you'd be right...but that's not the only answer! Find out the rest of the story at this interactive workshop led by Ellie Hoffman of CCE Essex. Come ready to shake up an appetite as we talk about all things dairy, followed by a homemade butter taste test!  
**Tuesday, August 19 at 3:00 pm**

### Welcome Teens

We are happy that teens are coming to the library now that we have opened the upstairs. We want to improve our services for this age group and encourage our local teens to share their suggestions for the Young Adult book collection. We'd also like to know what programs we can offer for teens. Meanwhile, watch for some fun activities and projects. for teens in the upstairs Reading Room. The first will be a Lego construction project.



Don't miss our annual **Essex Day Book Sale** at the library.

**Saturday, August 2**  
from 10:00am to 4:00pm

**After 3:00pm, fill a bag for \$5.00**

We've had a lot of nice book donations this year. Come early for the best selection.



### Triptych Tree Collaborative Art Project

Stop in anytime the library is open between Saturday, July 5 and July 19 to help us create this beautiful community art project. All ages are welcome.

Made possible, in part, by the Essex County Arts Council's Cultural Assistance Program Grant with funding provided by Essex County

## 'Meet Your Neighbors' Program Continues

### Thank you, Ted Cornell!

Ted, best known for rejuvenating the Grange, passed away in March. Years ago, he presented a program at the library where he talked about his experience in the theater, his art, and what brought him to Essex. His talk provided the impetus for the Meet Your Neighbor series: if he had a story to tell, other residents of Essex probably did too. The series is now in its seventh season and more than 50 individuals have shared their stories. Thanks, Ted!

A donation of \$5.00 per person to support the library is appreciated. Refreshments are served at the conclusion of the program.

### New Chairs Coming Soon

The library has been awarded a grant to purchase new, more comfortable seating. This grant comes from endowment funds raised in memory of Baird and Dorothy Voorhis via the Essex Community Fund of The Adirondack Foundation.

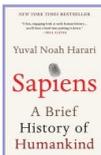
### SAVE THESE FUTURE MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS DATES

Celeste Kranz and Bill Feehely—July 3  
 Hal and Laura Kennedy – August 7  
 Christine Burke and Johnny Gray—September 4

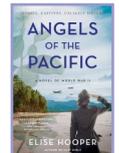


On June 5, Martha and Mike Smiles shared stories with the audience about their time in Essex.

## WHAT WE'RE READING



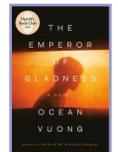
**Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind** by Yuval Noah Harari  
 This is a 2011 publication which is in our collection. It is an overview of the major stages of human development by a professor at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.



**Angels of the Pacific** by Elise Hooper is a story of nurses in the Pacific during World War II. It is based on true stories of Navy and Army nurses and is riveting!



**Emperor of Gladness** by Ocean Vuong—a bereft young man is saved from suicide by an addled elderly woman for whom he becomes caretaker. The two form a life-altering bond.



**Vesper Flights** by Helen Macdonald, best known for her book *H is For Hawk*, this is a book of essays about connections between humans and nature, particularly animals. It is a slow, contemplative read—good company in this nature-rich part of the country.

### SID COUCHEY DRAWINGS DONATION



We were surprised recently with an exciting and very generous donation from local residents Martha and Tom McGraw. They have given us ten beautifully framed Sid Couchey drawings, pictured here, which we will sell to benefit the library.

We have not yet decided how we will sell them, whether online, at our Christmas Silent Auction, or directly to patrons. If you have an interest, please contact us and we will keep you in mind when we are ready to proceed. Our great thanks to Tom and Martha for this wonderful opportunity.

### Free Movies With Your Library Card

Your library system has added the video streaming service Kanopy to the resources you can access free of charge using your library card! We're pleased to bring this streaming service to the community, with its extensive collection of narrative and documentary films, as well as TV series and kids content. Kanopy can be enjoyed on your computer, on the go with a smartphone or tablet, and even on a smart TV! Go to [cefls.kanopy.com](http://cefls.kanopy.com) to get started today!



### 2024 DONORS

Our 2025 donors will be listed in the Summer 2026 newsletter

If we have missed your name here, please let us know so we can include it in the next newsletter.

#### Individuals

Donna and Wayne Bailey  
 Livingston Bailey  
 Jere and Eileen Buch  
 Jeff and Martha Clark  
 Mary Close  
 Catherine Conover Covert  
 Maureen and Kevin DeLaughter  
 Dick and Leanna DeNeale  
 Andrew and Tracy Leas Dolan  
 Tom Duca  
 Frank and Karen East  
 Maureen Ecclesine  
 Peggyanne Ecclesine  
 Steven Engelhart  
 Paul Fine and Valerie Beral  
 Brooks and Joan Fortune  
 Rinda Foster  
 Norma Goff  
 Peter Gow  
 Kristen Powell-Granfell  
 Paul Gray  
 Timothy Hallick and Rosemary Burns-Hallick  
 Meredith Hanna  
 Wendy Miller and Robert Harper  
 Peggy Harris  
 Bob and Carole Harsh  
 Amy Heffner  
 Gary F. Heurich

Ronnie and Don Hollingsworth  
 Ken Hughes  
 Robert and Amy Ivy  
 Ron Jackson  
 Steven Kellogg  
 John and Miriam Klipper  
 Paul and Katie Krier  
 John Orberg and Janet Kuhl  
 Dianne Lansing  
 Peter and Judy MacBride  
 Tom and MaryAnne Mangano  
 Jon and Emilie McBride  
 Sean and Dorren McDermott  
 Katrina McIntyre  
 Megan McIntyre  
 Tom and Martha McGraw  
 John Mesick  
 Jan Moran  
 Etta Moredock  
 Kathy and Ben Nadire  
 Jill Neely  
 John Noble  
 Paul and Judy Noyes  
 Joel Pero and Megan Harris Pero  
 Katharine Preston and John Bingham  
 Sally Minich Prosk and Keith Prosk  
 Sophia Sattar  
 Patty Schultz  
 Nancy and Paul Siler  
 Sara Solovitch  
 Mary Ann and Thomas Sperbeck  
 Jani Spurgeon and Lou Comeau  
 Joyce Sukel  
 Sheila Sullivan  
 David and Betsy Tisdale  
 David Trost  
 Luvie Tuller  
 Sandy Vance and Lee Ackley  
 Jim and Colleen Van Hoven  
 Julie Wever and Kevin O'Neill  
 Don and Dale Winyall

#### Foundations

Adirondack Foundation  
 Essex County Arts Council  
 Essex Community Fund  
 Stewart's Holiday Wish

#### Thanks also to:

Blackbaud Giving Group  
 Wild Orchard Farm Fund  
 Town of Essex  
 Village Meat Market  
 Pink Pig

#### Susan Evans by

Daniel and Carrie Dumas  
 Tom and Naomi Nicoll  
 Jane and Matthew Babbie  
 Joseph & Charlotte Stemper  
 Joyce Sukel



#### Adelaide Farnsworth by

Cynthia Palen

### 125 Club Update

Our patrons have continued to acknowledge the 125th anniversary of the library with donations of \$125.

To date, we have 34 'club' members which has meant donations of \$4,250 in support of the library. Members who contributed after our Fall/Winter newsletter are:

Bill and Kathy Poppino  
 Erin and Mark Hall  
 Jane Terlouw  
 Ron Jackson  
 John and Miriam Klipper  
 Karol Kempster

#### Join the Club!

In addition to cash donations, many of our patrons donate services such as volunteer hours, and items for our tag sales, bake sales, Silent Auction, and other events. Patrons have donated materials, helped with story time programs, prepared items for lending, even fixed things around the library that need fixing.

The names listed here are both those who have donated financially and in-kind with items or services.

Thanks to help from dedicated volunteers, your library is open six days a week from May 1 to September 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 \_\_\_\_\_