

William K. Sanford
Town Library



629 Albany Shaker Rd.
Loudonville, NY 12211

HOURS:

Monday - Thursday
9 AM - 9 PM
Friday
9 AM - 6 PM
Saturday
9 AM - 5 PM
Sunday
Noon - 5 PM
(beginning September 12)

Call 458-9274
for information.

e-mail us at:
info@colonielibrary.org

Web Page Address: <http://www.colonie.org/library>

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At the Library

September 2010

Noon Book Review: Ethicist Michael Brannigan on *The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains*

What started out as a much-discussed 2008 article in the *Atlantic Monthly* titled "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" has now been expanded into a new (and also much-discussed) book: *The Shallows: What The Internet Is Doing To Our Brains* – which will be the subject of our Noon Book Review on Tuesday, September 28. The author is Nicholas Carr and here's what some reviews are saying about the book: "Carr provides a deep, enlightening examination of how the Internet influences the brain and its neural pathways." And, the author "looks to neurological science to gauge the organic impact of computers, citing fascinating experiments that contrast the neural pathways built by reading books versus those forged by surfing the hypnotic Internet, where portals lead us on from one text, image, or video to another while we're being bombarded by messages, alerts, and feeds. This glimmering realm of interruption and distraction impedes the sort of comprehension and retention 'deep reading' engenders... And not only are we reconfiguring our brains, we are also forging a 'new intellectual ethic,' an arresting observation Carr [also] expands on....What are the consequences of new habits of mind that abandon sustained immersion and concentration for darting about, snagging bits of information? What is gained and what is lost? Carr's fresh, lucid, and engaging assessment of our infatuation with the Web is provocative and revelatory." (continued on back page)

Labor Day Schedule

The library will be CLOSED Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, September 4, 5, and 6 in observance of Labor Day.

Also, note that Sunday hours, Noon-5:00 PM, will resume Sunday, September 12.

David Pietrusza Returns for JFK/Nixon Debate Anniversary

Local author David Pietrusza has been here twice with C-SPAN's Book TV talking about his recent books *1960: LBJ vs. JFK vs. Nixon* and *Silent Cal's Almanack: The Homespun Wit and Wisdom of Vermont's Calvin Coolidge*. On Thursday, September 23 in our Noon Review time slot, Mr. Pietrusza will be here to mark the 50th anniversary of the four historic Kennedy - Nixon presidential debates – the first presidential debates that were held for television. (The first debate was held on September 26, 1960.) Mr. Pietrusza will discuss the four debates and their background, secrets, strategies, and highlights – and how they impacted that historic election. Mr. Pietrusza has written numerous history, political, and sports books and, in the past, has appeared on C-SPAN's Book TV, Fox News, ESPN, The History Channel, NPR, and MSNBC (among others). The talk will begin at 12:15 PM; and, like our Noon Book Reviews, you can bring your lunch. For more information on David and his work and appearances see his website at <http://www.davidpietrusza.com>

Copies of *Mayflower* Available for Book Groups

October, when the One Town, One Book book discussions start, is just one month away and our copies of *Mayflower* have already circulated hundreds of times. If your reading group would be interested in reading *Mayflower* to discuss during October, there are still plenty of books available. Just call 810-0314 or 458-9274 to inquire or just check out copies from the display.

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PROGRAMS

To register for programs requiring reservations
please call the Information desk at 810-0314 (direct line).

- 8 **WEDNESDAY- Jumpstart Your Job Search-** This highly interactive and inspirational three part series will assist participants in implementing a much more focused, thorough, and effective job search. Each class teaches many specific strategies and skills to enhance efforts to obtain employment. In addition, class members will experience support, encouragement, and numerous practical methods to maintain motivation. Topics include getting organized, job skills analysis, resumes and cover letters, networking, turning cold contact into potential jobs, classified advertisements, more effective job interviews, staying motivated and focused, and getting the job search unstuck. The trainers, Ann Grasso LMSW and Tony Grasso LCSW, have both been licensed social workers for 30 years. Tony Grasso is the Director of Clinical Services for Colonie Youth Center. This workshop series and the presenters are approved for the New York State Workforce Eligible Training Providers List. The series is presented by the Colonie Youth Center with the generous support of Berkshire Bank. Pre-registration is required by calling Tony Grasso at 438-9596 by September 1, 2010. The series continues on September 15 and 22. All sessions are at 6:30 PM.
- 11 **SATURDAY- Northeastern New York Orchid Society-** At 1:00 PM.
- 12 **SUNDAY- Helga Pritchard and Rita Buttiker Art Exhibit Opening Reception-** The exhibit will be on display from September 2-29. The artists will welcome guests at the reception from 2:00-4:00 PM.
- 13 **MONDAY- AARP of Colonie—Chapter 2873-** Alicia Osur, Director of Community Services for the Town of Colonie's Parks and Recreation Department will discuss The Crossings and other Colonie Parks. At 1:00 PM.
- 13 **MONDAY- Hudson Mohawk Bird Club: Fire and Aloha: Four Islands of Hawaii-** Born of fire, the State of Hawaii is the most remote island chain in the world. It is still growing on one end and eroding into the sea on the other. The newest, "Big Island," features both an erupting volcano and a rainforest with native birds. Maui has the moonscapes of Haleakala and the fascinating Silversword plant, Oahu has most of the people (and some beautiful scenery), while the "Garden Isle" of Kaua'i, the oldest, greenest, most eroded, and perhaps most beautiful of all. Join us as we share the geology, scenery, plantlife and cultural history of the Land of Aloha. Presented by Scott Stoner and Denise Hackert-Stoner. Scott is past president of both the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club and the Audubon Society of the Capital Region. Denise is a past officer and director of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club. Together they have birded, explored, and photographed North America from Hawaii to Labrador. At 7:00 PM.
- 14 **TUESDAY- The Sandwich Generation-** Learn how to balance caring for children and parents and still find time for yourself. Topics include: how and when to start a conversation with your parents; documents needed to prepare a Personal Data Record; and resources available in the community. Presented by Caitlin St. George from The Eddy. Reservations are required. At 7:00 PM.
- 15 **WEDNESDAY- Lunch and Learn: Identity Theft...How to Protect Yourself-** Identity theft is becoming the #1 crime in the U.S. Don't become a victim! With your stolen personal information thieves open accounts, purchase vehicles, apply for loans, credit cards, social benefits, and more — all without your knowledge! Representatives from First New York FCU will help you learn and understand how identity theft can occur and how to avoid it happening to you in this 45-minute informational seminar. There will be giveaways, lunch, and a time to ask questions. Reservations are required. From 12:00-12:45 PM.
- 15 **WEDNESDAY- Jumpstart Your Job Search-** Part 2 of a three-part workshop that began September 8. Pre-registration is required. At 6:30 PM.
- 16 **THURSDAY- Smart Home Buyers and Sellers Workshop-** This free seminar offers you a panel of experts to help get you up-to-date with local real estate trends. The panel will include a licensed sales associate, attorney, mortgage broker and home inspector. Presented by Miranda Real Estate Group. Reservations are required. At 6:30 PM.
- 20 **MONDAY- Literacy New York Greater Capital Region Tutor Orientation-** In this session you will learn about our organization and what tutoring is like. Whether you choose to tutor an adult in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) or in Basic Reading and Writing skills (BL), you will change a life and enrich your own. Additional training will be offered at a different location, depending on which program you select. Details will be given at the Orientation or check the website at www.literacycap.org. Call June O'Connor (452-3382) if you have questions or to register. From 9:30 AM-12:30 PM.

AARP Safe Driving

Tuesday & Thursday, September 14 & 16, from 9:30 AM-1:30 PM
Monday & Tuesday, October 25 & 26, from 1:00-5:00 PM
Tuesday & Wednesday, November 16 & 17, from 9:30 AM-1:30 PM
Monday & Wednesday, December 13 & 15, from 9:30 AM-1:30 PM
Call Paul Latimer at 463-5221 for reservations.

Attendance is required at both sessions. There is a \$12 AARP member/ \$14 non member materials fee payable to AARP. Class size is limited and advance registration is required.

For information on other classes please call Paul Latimer at 463-5221.

Certain services and programs are adaptable to people with disabilities, upon request.
Please contact our Outreach Librarian at 458-9274 to discuss your accessibility needs.

- 21 **TUESDAY- The Story Circle of the Capital District-** The Story Circle was established to provide members an opportunity to tell before a live audience; to hear stories told; to give the community a roster of active tellers; and to encourage beginning storytellers. Members of the group tell tales to all ages at a variety of events and locations. Members of the public interested in learning more about storytelling or listening to stories are invited to attend. Anyone desiring more information should call 786-1271. At 7:00 PM.
- 21 **TUESDAY- Colonie Tuesday Night Live Poets' Corner-** Local poets and writers of all ages are invited to present six to ten minutes of their original work at this open reading forum. The public is encouraged to stop in and listen. Hosted by William Robert Foltin (785-1252). Readings begin promptly at 7:00 PM. (Training/Conference Room)
- 22 **WEDNESDAY- Medicare 101-** Medicare can be very confusing even if you are already enrolled, or if you will be turning 65 soon. Seniors must select from a dizzying array of options, including 50 different Medicare health insurance plans, 12 Supplemental Insurance (Medigap) policies and 48 prescription drug plans. It is no wonder that seniors may need assistance in evaluating Medicare plans and identifying those that best fit their needs. A trained counselor will be available to answer questions about Medicare benefits, coverage options, out-of-pocket costs, and how to evaluate and compare plans. Sponsored by the NYS Office for Aging and the Albany County Department of Aging. Reservations are required. At 10:00 AM.
- 22 **WEDNESDAY- Jumpstart Your Job Search-** Part 3 of a three-part workshop that began September 8. Pre-registration was required. At 6:30 PM.
- 23 **THURSDAY- Noon Talk with David Pietrusza: JFK/Nixon Debate Anniversary-** At 12:15 PM. (see story page one)
- 23 **THURSDAY- Tax and Estate Planning for the Future-** Your taxes are going up! There are a number of provisions in the law that will expire as of December 31, 2010 that will raise taxes for the average person. How is the new healthcare reform bill and the financial reform bill effecting you and your taxes? This workshop will reveal secrets to lower your taxes. Learn 10 Smart Tax Tips for tax savings. Benefit from the Three Keys to Managing your 1040. Discover new estate tax planning tips. Learn all these things in this comprehensive workshop and get a free Income Tax Planning Calendar. This workshop is taught by Brian Jones of Nest Egg Financial Planners. Brian is a Registered Representative with IBN Financial Services. Reservations are required. At 7:00 PM.
- 25 **SATURDAY- Capital District Genealogical Society-** The German Special Interest Group meets at 12:00 PM. The Irish Special Interest Group meets at 12:30 PM. The Computer Group meets at 1:00 PM with an informal demonstration by one of our members of sites and tips for genealogy research on your computer. The CDGS program begins at 2:30 PM: Visiting the Homestead- Presented by Richard Terry, Irish Group and The Wuerttemberg Index- Presented by Suzanne Smith, German Group.
- 26 **SUNDAY- An Introduction to Brown University-** An informational presentation for high school juniors, seniors and their parents to hear information about Brown. Topics include academic resources, extracurriculars, housing, admissions and financial aid. At 1:30 PM.
- 27 **MONDAY- Annuities and Your Retirement-** Join us for this educational program designed to help people better understand the basics of annuities so they can choose the options that make the most sense for their specific situation. Participants will learn: different types of annuities and their features; retirement uncertainties that could impact your long-term strategy; and how an annuity can supplement your retirement income. Presented by Frank Marchesini, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones Investments. Reservations are required. At 6:00 PM.
- 28 **TUESDAY- Noon Book Review- *The Shallows: What The Internet Is Doing To Our Brains*** will be reviewed by ethicist Michael Brannigan. At 12:15 PM. (see story page one)
- 28 **TUESDAY- Fiction Book Discussion Group-** This month the group discusses *Midnight's Children* by Salman Rushdie at 7:00 PM in the Youth Services Activity Room.
- 30 **THURSDAY- Learn About Listening Technologies-** If you or someone you know has difficulty hearing when watching TV or when talking on the telephone, this presentation will provide an overview of options to help. Hearing Loss Association of America - Albany Chapter and the Capital Region Tinnitus Support Group will present a panel of speakers to include Drs. Andrew Kovalovich and Sharon Rende along with representatives from Landmark Technologies and Captel who will review the newest listening technologies and demonstrate how they work and how they can help. Opportunities to test out and try a variety of listening aids will be available. A sign language interpreter will be available. Coffee and refreshments will be served. From 6:00-8:30 PM.

HAPPENINGS...in Youth Services

ONE TOWN ONE BOOK

There is a children's version of the book being read by the adults titled THE MAYFLOWER AND THE PILGRIMS' NEW WORLD by Nathaniel Philbrick. We have ordered extra copies and will hold a book discussion on Saturday, October 16 at 2:00 PM. Come to the YS Desk and pick up your copy and reserve your spot for the discussion.



Kids entering grades 6-7 enjoyed award-winning books, art activities, water games, and a trivia contest in our best-loved summer tradition, the Battle of the Books. The winning team for 2010, the Blazing Comets, poses for a victory photo.

Computer Training Classes

All classes will meet in the Training/Conference Room.
Prior registration is required; come to the Information Desk or call 810-0314.

Introduction to Computers: Gateway to the World Wide Web- Date: September 2 @ 2:00 PM Are you a computer novice? This hands-on computer course is designed for individuals with little or no previous experience. The course will focus on developing skills in the following areas: 1) Basic understanding of the Windows environment. 2) Ability to use the computer mouse. 3) Ability to use the computer keyboard. 4) Ability to access computer programs and files. This 2-1/2 hour class is limited to 6 participants.

Introduction to the Internet- Date: September 10 @ Noon This class is designed for library patrons who have little or no experience with the Internet, but who are basically competent with using a computer. Learn Internet terminology and how to access the Internet from home, work, and at the library. Emphasis will be on browsing the Internet using an Internet browser's toolbars, menus, and hypertext links. The class lasts approximately two hours and is limited to 8 participants.

Intermediate Internet: Using Search Engines- Date: September 23 @ 10:00 AM This class is designed for library patrons who have experience using the Internet, and are very familiar with using the computer mouse, keyboard and the Windows environment. Learn the best methods of searching the Internet. We will explore the many search engines and directories available to aid you in your informational quest. **WARNING:** This is not an Introduction to the Internet. We ask that you have already spent time online and have a modest understanding of the Internet. Each class lasts 2-1/2 hours and is limited to 8 participants.

Basic Word Processing and File Management- Date: September 2 @ 10:00 AM This class explores the basic features of the Microsoft Word 2007 Screen from top to bottom. The purpose of this class is to encourage students to perform basic editing functions on a prepared document, to create a folder in Windows Explorer, and to save the document to the folder. Students should have dexterity with the mouse, keyboard experience, familiarity with the Windows environment, and a sense of humor. The 2-1/2 hour class is limited to six students.

Introduction to Microsoft Excel 2007- Date: September 23 @ 1:00 PM This class will explore the basic features of Excel. Students will learn how to create a worksheet and perform simple calculations and manipulations with data. Students should be familiar with the Windows environment, the keyboard and be able to use a mouse. Students may take this more than once if they feel they need more practice with the basics. This class will be two hours and is limited to eight students.

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Subscriptions to "At the Library" are available for \$5.00 per year to cover the cost of printing, postage, and handling. You will also receive our bi-monthly children's newsletter, "Happenings...in Youth Services."

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Patrons can also receive the newsletters by e-mail in .pdf format. Just send your request and e-mail address to info@colonielibrary.org and we'll add you to the list.

Noon Book Review continued

Our reviewer will be Michael Brannigan, the George and Jane Pfaff Endowed Chair in Ethics and Moral Values at the College of St. Rose. He also has been writing on ethical issues for the *Times Union* over the past year or so. Professor Brannigan specializes in intercultural bioethics, medical ethics and cultural philosophies, and intercultural perspectives regarding end-of-life care. Finally, he is also affiliated with the March Center for Biomedical Ethics at the Albany Medical School. Bring your lunch if you're on lunch hour. The review begins at 12:15 PM.

Knitting Group Dates

The Library sponsored knitting group will meet in the Stedman Room on the following Fridays from 2:00-4:00 PM: September 10 & 24 and October 8 & 22. For further information contact Gwen Gurien at 475-1470 or hgurien@nycap.rr.com.

Reference Stumper:

September 2010

1) Quote of the Month: "Fourteen thousand years ago, in what is now France, a remote Ice Age ancestor took a walk with a young child into what many of us today would think of as a dark and forbidding place. Deep in an underground cave the adult held the child's hand against a wall and blew pigment over it, leaving a shadowlike imprint of a tiny hand that remain to this very day."

2) Brain Teaser: This regularly scheduled television drama ran for 11 years. What was the title of the first drama produced on this program and what actor played the leading role?

The winner chosen will be the first person to answer both parts of the "Stumper" correctly. Answer to "Quote of the Month" must include title AND author.

Participants may submit their responses in 3 ways: 1) E-mail to: leoneb@uhls.lib.ny.us 2) Telephone the Information desk at 810-0314 3) By stopping off at the Access Services Desk in the library.

July Winner: No winner.