

# A Glance @ Guernsey

## Guernsey Memorial Library

### Spanish Titles To Help Local Populations

by Sarah Wiggins

As part of the normal collection development practice, I ordered a few Spanish language titles and a few cookbooks for Spanish and Mexican cooking. Library staff saw these titles then commented on the need for them. This led me to investigate further.

In talking with Bharti Shahi, an ESL tutor in Norwich, I learned that there is a small contingent of Spanish speakers in the com-

munity. She stated that they are working hard to learn English but some miss their families and their limited language skills affect their ability to socialize as they would like to.

Mrs. Shahi also pointed out that there are American born individuals who are interested in teaching Spanish and would like to see more Spanish resources in the library as well.

Although the library holds titles relating to Spanish and/or Mexican culture, history, poetry and language, we will be working to increase our resources in this area to include more

novellas, movies and other items with sub-titles.

A few of the new titles added to the collection in 2009 are:

1. The Last Prince of the Mexican Empire by C.M. Mayo
2. Pele, King of Soccer by Monica Brown
3. Tortuga in Trouble by Ann Paul
4. Trouble: a novel by Kate Christensen
5. 2666 by Roberto Bolano
6. Midnight on the Line by Tim Gaynor
7. Fresh Mexico by Marcela Valladolid



### From the Director's Desk...by Sarah Wiggins

Over the next few months, the library is planning to implement several new major services for our patrons and library staff.

E-mail Notification is the first service we are working to introduce.

E-mail notification allows the library to send out overdue notices (excluding bills) and hold notices and our electronic newsletter using e-mail. This service will reduce cost because the library will use less paper, fewer envelopes and less postage to send out these cour-

tesy reminders. This system will also reduce the amount of staff time and labor required in processing overdues.

In preparation for starting to e-mail our notices, Guernsey Library staff have been collecting e-mail addresses from our patrons at checkout but participation in this service is not required.

The next step will require that the Four County system e-mails all patrons with addresses in their records asking if they would like to "opt out" of this service. If yes, then Guernsey Library will remove

the e-mail address from the patron's record and continue to send paper notices.

E-mail notification has been tested by other libraries in the Four Counties' system and overall their feedback is very positive.

E-mail notification service has been a part of libraries elsewhere for at least the past 10 years. Both Guernsey staff and library users are looking forward to this change.

### Staff Picks: Top 10 Reads for the Summer

1. The Cat Who Came in From the Cold J. Moussaiff Masson
2. The City of Ember Jeanne DuPrau
3. Odd Thomas Dean Koontz
4. When the Wind Blows James Patterson
5. The Book of Lost Things John Connolly
6. First family David Baldacci
7. Handle with care Jodi Picoult
8. Summer on Blossom Street Debbie Macomber
9. Superstition Karen Robards
10. The Inn at Eagle Point Sherryl Woods

Compiled by  
Sharon Reihl and Trish Spencer

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## The Board Speaks.....by Barb Collins

The current wooden playground located in the park behind the library was constructed in 1982. After providing a spot for rest and recreation for the community for over 25 years the decision has been made to replace the current playground with a new structure this year.

The new playground will be constructed on the same location and will be approximately the same dimensions. We are hoping to

complete this project this fall and will be using money raised by the former Friends of Guernsey group to provide the funding. We welcome anyone who is interested to be involved with planning this new play area. Anyone wishing to help with the project or to make a contribution should contact the Guernsey Memorial Library.



## Staff Spotlight on Gail Merian

By Sue Morehead

Gail Merian likes working at Guernsey Memorial Library because "people are friendly and it's a fun job." She also likes history and archaeology and enjoys talking with library patrons and finding out more about them. Gail, a part time employee for the past seven years, works in the local history/genealogy room and occasionally on the circulation desk.

She retired in May 2009 from her "day" job and looks forward to pursuing her personal interests of traveling, hiking, rock collecting and archaeology, as well as continuing to work at the library. She recently finished hiking the entire length of the Finger Lakes Trail, a distance of over 500 miles, and received a special award certificate in recognition.

In June she will be receiving yet another award, a New York State Library Assistants Association general certificate of achievement. Library assistants who apply for a certificate must put together a folder of professional, educational and personal accomplishments and have it reviewed and approved by NYS-LAA.

## Reviews by Sue...Execution Dock by Anne Perry

**Publication Date:** 2009

**Number of Pages:** 306 pages

**Setting:** London, England

**Time Period:** Victorian Era

**Series:** William Monk series

**Plot Summary:** Anne Perry's newest book, featuring William Monk in a mystery series set in Victorian London, is a winner.

Monk, now a commander in the Thames River Palace, is trying to close a case involving the torture and murder of a young boy. His primary suspect is a brothel owner named Jericho Phillips. Monk's attempt to bring Phillips to justice leads to great danger and tests old friendships.

**Subject Headings:** Mystery; Suspense; Historical Fiction

**Similar Authors:** Bruce Alexander

**Appeal/Special Features:** Perry is a master at bringing London in the Victorian Era to life, from high society to the

seamier side. Every book has a compelling and suspenseful plot and well-developed, true-to-life characters. This particular book is a real "page-turner." If you like historical mysteries, try this author.

## Children's Corner...Summer Reading Program 2009: Get Creative @ Your Library

by Kim Hazen

Join in on the fun this summer at the Guernsey Memorial Library! The summer reading program will run from July 6th through August 14th. There will be many exciting programs for children including our annual reading club and many special performances. Teens are invited to a creative craft program with a local author. Children from birth through the age of twelve are invited to join the reading club. Each week get a prize for reading and enter your name into a drawing for even larger prizes! Registration begins Monday, June 29th.

Jeff Boyer will kick off the summer with *Har-Har Harry's Musical Clown Show* on Monday,

July 6th at 3:30 p.m. *Har-Har Harry's Musical Clown Show* will include singing, dancing, magic, and games.

Nan Hoffman will feature folk music and storytelling on Monday, July 13th at 3:30 p.m. Her performance will include a variety of songs and instruments and will encourage children to participate by singing along, clapping out rhythms, playing rhythm instruments, doing movement activities, and using puppets and props.

Magician Aaron Isaacs combines magic, music, and comedy in an unforgettable and unique performance on Wednesday, July 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Aaron Isaac's "I Love to

Read" *Magic Show* is a comedy and audience participation magic show filled with hilarious fun and amazing magic performed with music.

Join us for a Butterfly Release with Lindsay Kuhn on Wednesday, July 29th @ 7:00 p.m. Children will be able to release their own butterfly and will get a close up look at butterfly eggs, larvae and pupae. Registration is required.

Teens, ages 13 and up, are invited to make a three dimensional, colorful, decorative star with local author and illustrator Suzanne Bloom on Monday, August 3rd at 3:30 p.m.

Please bring light weight buttons, beads, fringe etc. Registration is required.

The grand finale will include a performance by The Puppet People on Friday, August 14th at 2:00 p.m.

Puppet Potpourri XP is an original variety show accompanied by musical favorites, such as: the Entertainer, the Sorcerer's Apprentice, the Barber of Seville, Little Brown Jug, and the Charleston. It features hand puppets, mouth puppets, rod puppets and trick marionettes.

For more information about any of the programs offered this summer please contact Kim Hazen at 334-4034. We look forward to seeing you this summer!



*The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.*  
-Mark Twain

### Our History by Kathy Barton

Chenango county has a rich history where it has been known for its dairy farming, manufacturing, its artists and musicians. Another area that gives Chenango county its own uniqueness is its inventors. The Otis A. Thompson History Room has two folders on Chenango County Inventors.

They contain newspaper articles as well as old patents for various inventions. Ebenezer Beals and his son, Albert E. Beals, were inventors. On January 23, 1883, Ebenezer patented a Locomotive-Brake system that would have, "connected series of brake shoes distributed and bearing with self-equalizing pressure

one upon each side of each driving-wheel, and actuated solely by lines of connection passing behind the wheels and below their axles." What is also interesting about this patent is that after Ebenezer's name it reads, "assignor to Jane M. Guernsey of same place." Jane and William Guernsey are also witnesses on this patent. Ebenezer died February 23, 1920. Albert E. Beals was a graduate of Cornell with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He specialized in refrigeration design and engineering.

Some of his inventions are as follows: a patent was approved and a contract was entered into July 9, 1897, by Bagley & Sewall Company, located in Watertown, N.Y. and Albert E. Beals. This was for constructing a crossing machine patented in the United States under patent #672,948, December 15, 1896, and in Canada #53,388 September 5, 1896.

### Cont.. Our History

This crossing machine is a machine that removes bark. The advertisement for this machine that Mr. Beals created could "bark 30 to 50 cords (of 128 cubic feet to the cord) in 10 hours. It will save two or three men. Each man saved is a dividend on \$7,000 per year. It will save 10 per cent to 20 per cent of each cord."

Albert at sometime moved to Detroit, Michigan and patented a "Process of Making Ice". His application was filed November 23, 1908 and was patented May 31, 1910 with patent #959,697.

On January 3, 1935 a patent was granted to Albert for an invention with 29 unique features, a method and apparatus for automatically controlling the operation of air conditioning systems. This patent was filed on Sept. 14, 1931.

(An article was found in The Norwich Sun -Thursday, January 3, 1935 issue).

Other inventors were, David Maydole, known for adz-eye hammers and ice skates; Erasmus Smith, patented a machine for making staves in June 1839; William Gillman, invented a "cuff button" attachment for pinning the cuff to a dress or coat sleeve. 1887, William H. Corse invented a muffler that used certain mineral compounds which made the muffler a non-conductor of heat. It was also noiseless. 1904; William Craine invented the Triple-Wall Silo, 1900; William B. Guernsey invented an electric Burglar Alarm. 1870. Mike Conklin invented Fire Out which was a fire-fighting water additive. Information from Jan. 7, 1981 article from The Evening Sun.

### Special Thank You to the Contributors to this issue

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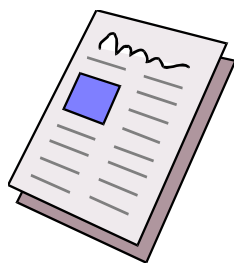
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**[www.guernseylibrary.org](http://www.guernseylibrary.org)**



### Library Hours

**June 20, 2009- August 23, 2009**

Monday 9:00 am-8:30 pm

Tuesday 9:00 am-8:30 pm

Wednesday 9:00 am-8:30 pm

Thursday 9:00 am-8:30 pm

Friday 9:00 am-6:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Sunday CLOSED