

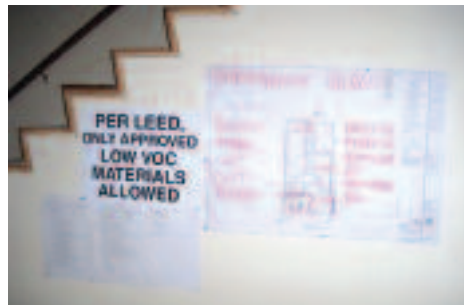
APL Branch Transformation Simply Amazing!

It's one thing to spend 18 months planning the interior of the new libraries on paper with just a few 3-d computer renderings. But it's a completely different thing to walk in the dusty buildings when floors are opened up, walls stripped down and ceilings raised to the roof lines. The transformation is so physical – from conception to reality!



The adult computing center is planned for this area and the metal framing for the two small conference rooms is visible in the rear. The balcony to the first floor is on the left.

APL is pursuing LEED Certification in all three renovations and LEED Silver at the two new libraries. And that means construction crews have to be very organized about the disposal and recycling of construction waste, and



Last month we took a first look at the materialization of these neighborhood dreams.

We were knocked out by this new development at the Pine Hills Branch (left photo). The second floor has been opened up in the middle of the building in preparation for the grand staircase and the skylight view above the central circulation desk.

The photo on the right is from the front of the second floor facing the rear of the library. The



very conscientious about all the materials used on the job. We were really impressed with the many signs reminding everyone on the job about APL's commitment to building green libraries. These were at the Delaware Branch (left photo).

And as anyone knows who's taken on renovation projects in their older homes, there's much hidden behind walls and ceilings! Check out the brick work visible above this window at the Howe – there's such craftsmanship even in places no one sees (bottom photo).



And there's great news on the New Constructions:

The construction bids for the two new libraries, Arbor Hill/West Hill Branch on Henry Johnson Boulevard and the John J. Bach on New Scotland Avenue came in slightly under budget – and that's great news. APL and DASNY are delighted to announce that the local construction firm of

Sano-Rubin Construction Co, Inc. will be building the great new designs from our architects Hom & Goldman. Construction is expected to begin in early Spring '09.

Sano-Rubin traces its history back to 1912 when Louis Rubin began business as a carpenter and general contractor. In 1934, he formed a partnership with the Sano brothers,

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Dennis Gaffney, President
Ellen Bach, Andrew Bechard,
Brian Levine, Mimi Mounteer,
Mary Ellen O'Connor,
Lois Parsons, Leonard Ricchiuti,
William F. Ryan Jr.

HONORARY TRUSTEE:

Norman Rice

INTERIM DIRECTOR:

Timothy Burke

MAIN LIBRARY

Sunday, January 11, 2PM

SUNDAY CINEMA, *North by Northwest*
(See page 6 for details)

Tuesday, January 13, 5:30PM

**ALBANY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
OF TRUSTEES MEETING** (See page 6
for details)

Thursday, January 15, Noon

**VANGUARD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
PREVIEW** (see page 4 for details)

Tuesday, January 20, Noon

JAZZ DANCE PROGRAM
(See Friends box on right for details)

Wednesday, January 21, 7-8PM

**KINDRED SPIRITS: *Dewey: The Small
Town Library Cat Who Touched the World***
by Vicki Myron and Bret Witter
(See page 6 for details)

Thursday, January 21 6:30 – 8:45PM

TEEN IRON CHEF NIGHT
(See page 7 for details)

Thursday, January 22, 6PM

WORKSHOP: ESTATE PLANNING
(See page 3 for details)

Sunday, January 25, 2PM

SUNDAY CINEMA, *Eagle Eye*
(See page 6 for details)

Saturday, January 31, 9–3 PM

**FINANCIAL RESOURCES FAIR &
VITA KICK OFF**
(see page 3 for details)

Friends of Albany Public Library Present:

TUESDAY PROGRAMS AT THE MAIN LIBRARY AT 12:15

January 6

Book Review: *Whatever It Takes: Geoffrey Canada's Quest to Change Harlem and America* by Paul Tough. A tour de force of reporting, an inspired portrait of the parents and children of Harlem to better their lives, often against great odds.
Reviewer: Barbara Smith, Albany Common Council, 4th Ward.

January 13

Book Review: *Son of Mountains: My Life as a Kurd and a Terror Suspect* by Yassin Aref. An autobiography, in prose and poetry, of the Albany N.Y. Imam convicted of terrorism.
Reviewer: Tom Ellis, educator and peace activist.

January 20

Jazz Dance Program: A free, multi-media program exploring the history of jazz dance through dance demonstrations and historic video footage featuring Tap Dancer and Lindy Hopper, choreographer, writer, and dance preservationist **Rusty Frank**.

January 27

Book Review: *The Forever War* by Dexter Filkins. This reporter's account of how the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq were experienced by those who actually waged them.
Reviewer: Paul Grondahl of the Albany Times Union.

FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Main Library – 2nd Floor Computer Lab
STARTING IN JANUARY!

Starting on Saturday, January 31, 2009, and continuing on Saturdays into April, the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will be providing free income tax assistance for low-income taxpayers (household income limit of \$42,000).

Taxpayers must bring:

- Identification – Driver's License, Passport, etc.
- Social Security cards for all dependents (and self)
- All income statements - such as W-2s, 1099s, etc
- Copies of last year's returns
- All other materials necessary to complete tax return(s)

Tax Preparation Assistance will be on a walk-in basis, from 9 – 2PM. No appointments or reservations will be taken. For any additional information about the VITA program at Albany Public Library contact the Reference Department at (518) 427 – 4303.

Simply Amazing (Continued from page 1)

Angelo and Ben, and the company was formally incorporated in 1958. Although the Sano's have not been active in the business since 1971, the

Rubin family is in its third generation of leadership. Located in Albany, NY, they have limited their geographic region to a 100-mile radius with indus-

trial, educational, corporate and health care projects constructed from Keeseville to Newburgh and Utica to Springfield, MA.

Computer Training

Schedule of Classes

Please pre-register, slots are limited.

Main Library Edgar Tompkins Computer Lab

Call 427-4303 to register

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS
Tuesday, January 6 2-3PM

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET
Tuesday, January 13 2-3PM

INTRODUCTION TO WORD
Tuesday, January 20 2-3PM

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET
Tuesday, January 27 2-3PM

Delaware Call 463-0254 to register

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNET 1
Friday, January 2 10:30-11:30AM

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNET 2
Friday, January 23 10:30-11:30AM

North Albany • Contact 463-1581

OPEN LAB
Monday, January 26 6:30-7:30PM

Howe (TRANSITIONAL LOCATION) • Contact 472-9485

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET
Monday, January 5 10-11AM

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNET SEARCHING
Monday, January 12 10-11AM

OPEN LAB
Monday, January 19 10-11AM

Computer Class Descriptions

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS - A class for the computer novice, this is a hands-on introduction to mouse skills and Microsoft Windows XP. No computer knowledge is required.

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET 1 - Learn the basics of searching the World Wide Web. Attendees must have basic computer and mouse skills.

INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET 2 - This is a continuation of Introduction the Internet 1. Keep learning the basics of searching the World Wide Web. Attendees must have basic computer and mouse skills.

INTRODUCTION TO WORD - Learn the basics of word processing. Find out how to create, edit and format simple documents using Microsoft Word. Basic computer and mouse skills required.

OPEN LAB - Come practice newly learned computer skills in the computer lab. The instructor will be present to answer questions and provide assistance as you work on your own projects.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET: - For the computer novice, a hands-on introduction to mouse skills, Windows and the Internet. No Previous computer knowledge required. Basic computer and mouse skills required.

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNET SEARCHING - Learn the basics of navigating the Internet to find the information you're looking for. Basic computer skills are required.

Financial Resources Fair & VITA Kick Off

Albany Public Library
161 Washington Avenue

January 31, 2009 • 9AM to 3PM

Get some great ideas for surviving the money crunch! Meet people from area agencies and organizations who have the information and resources that can help you. The fair is sponsored by the United Way's CA\$H Coalition and Albany Public Library. **On this same day, the library will kick off our walk-in VITA income tax assistance program.** So bring in your W-2s and learn how to begin to improving your finances all at the same time. For more information, contact the Main Library Reference Department at 427-4303.



Capital District Women's Bar Association



www.albanypubliclibrary.org

"Legally Speaking" Workshop:

Estate Planning

Local Attorney Laura M. Hoffman will answer questions about planning your estate:

- Writing a Will
- Taking Assets Inventories
- Discussing Plans With Heirs
- Power of Attorney

Thursday, January 22
6PM

Main Library
161 Washington Avenue

Free and Open to the Public
Call 427-4303 for more information

Albany Public Library: A Haven During Tough Economic Times

To decrease expenses, many Albany families have "re-discovered" the library. Some have stopped buying books, many have stopped the Netflix subscriptions and visits to Blockbuster, and a bunch have ended their cable television and high-speed internet subscription. And we've determined that they save about \$300 a month.

The challenging economy has driven families to the library for many of their entertainment needs and they don't spend a dime here. As the economy gets worse, business at Albany Public Library is getting better. So much better, in fact, that it's tough to get a seat anywhere in the library...especially at a computer.

"People are looking for inexpensive alternatives," said Interim Director, Tim Burke "and APL is the natural place to go."

According to the American Library Association, libraries serve as a barometer for an economic downturn and national studies have confirmed how the two are linked. According to the ALA, the difference in this downturn is the size of growth, a surge that librarians everywhere say they haven't seen in more than a decade.

One example of APL's growth is a 47% increase in new borrower registrations in November. There were 254 more registrations this November than there were in November of 2007.

While APL always welcomes new patrons Burke said the recession is, "a time of budget slashing at every level of government" and this puts all libraries "in a very challenging situation."

At the Main Library, there is a marked increase in the Reference Department activity. As outside support services

become more stretched, residents of Albany who are not used to seeking support, are now in situations where they are forced to reach for a lifeline.

Below are some examples of challenges being faced by the Albany Community and APL:

- There is a huge increase in assistance in applying for unemployment benefits and checking the status of claims. Those that don't have computers or computer skills are flooding into the library and our librarians are assisting them.
- Since NYS is not mailing tax forms this year and since people need their money immediately, the library will double the capacity of its VITA program this year.
- Librarians are making referrals to job programs, professional organizations and social services programs...including housing, clothing, self-help groups, crisis centers, emergency shelters, food pantries, senior services, legal assistance and adult learning.
- With many employers only accepting online applications, librarians are assisting those with weak computer skills with job searches, setting up email accounts and completing online applications.

With libraries closing in other cities due to economic challenges, it's ironic that library services are more needed than ever before. As illustrated, APL has seen a marked increase in usage but, at the same time the library is faced with funding decreases in New York's proposed budget. APL takes pride in being the "University of the Street" in Albany and will continue to provide excellent service to our community even in these challenging times.

Vanguard – Albany Symphony Orchestra

Presents

David Alan Miller
with his preview of the
January Albany Symphony's
presentation at the
Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

Rising Stars

Thursday, January 15, 2009
High Noon

Albany Public Library • 161 Washington Avenue

Free Legal Advice

Legal clinics are available at the Main Library for those who need legal advice, but can't afford a lawyer. The Legal Project of the Capital District Women's Bar Association provides consultations on most topics, including divorce, tenants' rights, custody, child support, employment and discrimination issues, bankruptcy and credit counseling. The confidential consultations are held the first Tuesday evening of every month, by appointment only. To schedule an appointment or for more information, call the Legal Project at 435-1770.

It's easy to Contribute to the Library!

Just visit us at our online giving site at www.albanypubliclibrary.org/support
Thanks

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

ARBOR HILL COMMUNITY
CENTER, INC.
47 Lark Street
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Wednesday, January 14 & 28

ATRIA SHAKER
345 Northern Boulevard
9:30 am – 10:30 am
Monday, January 5

ATRIA CROSSGATE
**140 Washington Avenue
Extension**
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Monday, January 5

AVILA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
100 White Pine Drive
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm
Mondays, January 12 & 26

CRESTWOOD PLAZA
**Whitehall Road and
Picotte Drive**
10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Wednesdays, January 7 & 21

DAUGHTERS OF SARAH –
MASSRY CENTER
**182 Washington Avenue
Extension**
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm
Mondays, January 12 & 26

HARRIMAN CAMPUS
In Front of Building 8A
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Monday, January 5

IDA YARBOROUGH
HOUSING COMPLEX
Pearl Street
9:45 am – 10:45 am
Fridays, January 9 & 23

NEW SCOTLAND
NEIGHBORHOOD
369 New Scotland Avenue
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Every Tuesday in January
AND
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm
Every Friday in January

OHAV SHALOM SENIOR
APARTMENTS
115 New Krumkill Road
11:30 am – 12:15 pm
Friday, January 16

SHERIDAN PREPARATORY
ACADEMY
400 Sheridan Avenue
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Mondays, January 12 & 26

SOUTH MALL TOWERS
Pearl & Hamilton Streets
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Fridays, January 9 & 23

WESTVIEW SENIOR SERVICES
CENTER
680 Central Avenue
9:30 am – 11:00 am
Mondays, January 12 & 26

Please check

<http://www.albanypubliclibrary.org/bookmobile/calendar/index.php>

for schedule updates and additions
or phone 518-427-4325.

Build a Reading Family: Monthly Tip

Again, we ask the question, how do we get kids interested in reading? As parents already know, children usually aren't swayed by the "try this, it's good for you" argument. But we've got a few ideas to help get them on the right path to becoming a reader and we'll be giving you one each month, here's your January Tip of the Month.

- **Read with them.** Set an example for your children to follow. Ask your librarian if they have "family packs" (usually several copies of a book plus a reading guide), or if you can check out multiple copies of the same book. Have each member of the family, or at least a couple of you, read the same book at the same time. This way, you can discuss it, ask questions, and generally help your child get the most out of their reading. If you're worried about reading "kid's stuff", don't be; as it happens, some of the best writing being done today is in the early reader and young adult sections. There's incredible stuff in fantasy and science fiction, as well as horror, mystery, and family drama stories. Again, look for Newberry winners, like Lois Lowry's amazing book *The Giver*. Don't be afraid to ask tough questions of these books — most books for young readers are more than able to sustain deep analysis.

Remember, reading should be fun, not another chore to get through. It bears repeating that if you don't read, your children won't either. Which isn't to say that if you do read, they will, it's only the first prerequisite.

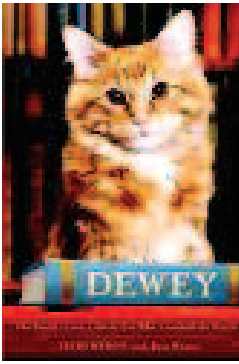
Thinking about your New Year's Resolution?

Are you ready to quit smoking? Come to a 6 week, 7 session "The Butt Stops Here" class for information and support at the Main Library. The program is run by facilitators from Seton Health Center for Smoking Cessation, in a small group format with 8-12 participants. Besides the class, a \$40 fee includes 4 weeks' worth of Nicotine replacement patches, gum & lozenges, workbook, stress reliever, survival kit, relaxation CD and carbon monoxide screening.

Cost: \$40
Dates: Every Wednesday from January 14
through February 25
Time: 12:15pm-1:15pm
Place: Main Library, conference room 1

Commit to your New Year's Resolution early!

Register now by calling the Main Library Reference Department at 427-4303.



Kindred Spirits Book Discussion

Main Library, Small Auditorium

Wednesday, January 21
7 – 8PM

Join APL Librarians Veronica Thomas and Sarah Clarke for the first Kindred Spirits meeting of 2009 to discuss *Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World* by Vicki Myron and Bret Witter. "Dewey" is the best-selling true story of a kitten who was found in a book drop and makes a permanent home at the library.

"One frigid Midwestern winter night in 1988, a ginger kitten was shoved into the after-hours book-return slot at the public library in Spencer, Iowa. And in this tender story, Myron, the library director, tells of the impact the cat, named Dewey Readmore Books, had on the library and its patrons, and on Myron herself. Through her developing relationship with the feline, Myron recounts the economic and social history of Spencer as well as her own success story—despite an alcoholic husband, living on welfare, and health problems ranging from the difficult birth of her daughter, Jodi, to breast cancer. After her divorce, Myron graduated college (the first in her family) and stumbled into a library job. She quickly rose to become director, realizing early on that 'this was a job I could love for the rest of my life.' Dewey, meanwhile, brings disabled children out of their shells, invites businessmen to pet him with one hand while holding the *Wall Street Journal* with the other, eats rubber bands and becomes a media darling. The book is not only a tribute to a cat—anthropomorphized to a degree that can strain credulity (Dewey plays hide and seek with Myron, can read her thoughts, is mortified by his hair balls)—it's a love letter to libraries."—from Publishers Weekly

Kindred Spirits is a book discussion group that meets bi-monthly to explore the human-animal connection through books. Please call the Main Library Reference Desk at 427-4313 to register and request a copy of the book.

Good News for Fans of Free Movies

Sunday Cinema, Albany Public Library's free movie series will be showing movies every two weeks in 2009, starting January 11th, at 2PM with the Alfred Hitchcock Classic, *North by Northwest*. Two weeks later, on January 25th, at 2PM the blockbuster adventure *Eagle Eye* will be shown. All Sunday Cinema movies are projected digitally on the big screen for a real movie-theater experience. The new schedule will allow for a greater selection of movies and genres shown throughout the year.

Sunday, January 11, 2PM

North by Northwest



From Roger Thornhill (Cary Grant) being chased by the crop dusting bi-plane, to the climax atop the faces of Mount Rushmore, this Hitchcock classic never lets up. Roger, an unsuspecting businessman is mistaken for a spy by a secret agent (James Mason). One of Hitchcock's personal favorites, the film combines a tense, harrowing pace with the fear of calamity lurking behind every door—truly the work of a master.
Not Rated; 136 minutes; 1959

Sunday, January 25, 2PM

Eagle Eye



Two strangers, one a young slacker whose twin brother has died mysteriously and the other a single mom, become the pawns of a mysterious woman they have never met, but who seems to know their every move. The two are framed by terrorists and forced to become part of a planned political assassination and they must work together to outwit the group before they are killed.
Rated PG-13; 118 minutes; 2008

Can't Make it to D.C. for the Inauguration?

Join us at the Main Library for an
inauguration watching party!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20
11 – 1PM

161 Washington Avenue, Albany



Albany Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 • 5:30 PM

Albany Public Library • 161 Washington Avenue
For more information call: 427-4300

Gerald D. Jennings Children's Room at the Main Library

Toddler Storytime – Friday, January 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 10:30AM. Stories, fingerplays, songs and rhymes for toddlers.

Art-on-a-cart – Friday, January 2 through Sunday, January 4 during library hours. Schools on holiday break. Be creative with supplies from the art cart in the children's room.

Pre-School Storytime – Wednesday, January 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 10:30AM. A program of stories, songs and fingerplays, plus a simple art project. Perfect for children who have outgrown our Toddler Storytimes.

Lapsit Storytime – Thursday, January 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 10:30AM. Stories, fingerplays, songs and rhymes for the youngest children, from birth to twenty-four months. A nice chance for little folks to meet each other.

Poetry Break Day – Tuesday, January 13 during Library Hours. In honor of the day, the staff will be wearing poems with impromptu readings throughout the day.

Pre-School Craft – Sunday, January 18 at 2PM. This month we will be making rain sticks for toddlers and preschoolers. A rain stick is a percussion instrument originating in South America. Please call 427-4310 to reserve a space.

Game Day – Monday, January 19 at 9-5PM. There will be games for preschoolers through teens in the Children's Room.

Teen Iron Chef Night - Thursday, January 22 at 6:30 - 8:45PM. Fun food competition with a prize for the winning team. Teens and tweens ages 12 and up are welcome. Meet us in the large conference room on the Library's 1st floor.

Delaware

Delaware Dogs with Rose – Tuesday, January 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 4–5PM. Meet service dogs and ask questions of a professional North Albany dog trainer. All ages are welcome and the session is very child-friendly.

Pre-School Storytime – Wednesday, January 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 10:30AM. Stories and fun for pre-school children and their caretakers.

Howe (TRANSITIONAL LOCATION)

Story Time – Monday, January 5, 12 and 26 at 11:15AM. Stories and fun for pre-school children and their caretakers. space is limited, please contact the library to register at 472-9485.

Game Night – Thursday, January 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 4:30-6PM. Come play Guitar Hero and Dance Dance Revolution.

North Albany

Pre-School Storytime – Wednesday, January 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 10:15AM. Stories and fun for pre-school children and their caretakers, join us for fingerplays and songs.

Winter Craft – January 20 – 23. Come in during regular library hours and make a seasonal craft

Pine Hills (TRANSITIONAL LOCATION)

Toddler Storytime – Tuesday, January 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 10:30AM. Lots of stories, songs and movement! For toddlers and their caretakers.

Read to Me Storytime – Wednesday, January 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 3:45PM. Longer stories for older kids and their caretakers.

Winter Craft – Wednesday, January 21 at 4:15PM. Beat the Winter Blues with crafts at the Pine Hills Transitional Branch!

Kids, check it out!

PICTURE BOOKS

Minji's Salon Eun-hee Choung
Monsters On Machines Deb Lund
My Friend Jamal Anna McQuinn
Tooth On The Loose
Susan Middleton Elya
Who Made This Cake?
Chihiro Nakagawa

CHAPTER BOOKS

The Dreadful Revenge Of Ernest
Gallen James Lincoln Collier
Diamond Willow Helen Frost
Buddha's Diamonds
Carolyn Marsden
The Séance Iain Lawrence

GRAPHIC NOVELS

In Odd We Trust Dean Koontz

BRANCH LOCATIONS

MAIN LIBRARY

161 Washington Avenue

PHONE 427-4300 • FAX 449-3386

Mon. thru Thurs. 9 am to 9 pm

Fri. 9 am to 6 pm

Sat. 9 am to 5 pm, Sun. 1 pm to 5 pm

BOOKMOBILE

For information and service schedule

PHONE 427-4325

www.albanypubliclibrary.org

DELAWARE BRANCH

485 Delaware Avenue

PHONE 463-0254

Mon. & Tues. 10 am to 8 pm

Wed. Noon to 6 pm

Thurs. 10 am to 6 pm, Fri. Noon to 6 pm

Sat. 9 am to 5 pm

JOHN A. HOWE BRANCH

Transitional Location

Albany Housing Authority, 200 S. Pearl St.

PHONE 472-9485

Mon. Noon to 8 pm

Tues. thru Fri. 10 am to 6 pm

Sat. Noon to 5 pm

NORTH ALBANY BRANCH

616 North Pearl Street

PHONE 463-1581

Mon. & Wed. Noon to 8 pm

Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 10 am to 6 pm

Sat. 9 am to 5 pm

PINE HILLS BRANCH

Transitional Location

Elks Lodge No. 49, 25 South Allen

PHONE 482-7911

Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Fri 10am to 6 pm

Tues. 10 am to 8 pm; Sat. 9 am to 1 pm



Albany Public Library
161 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12210

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

ALBANY, NY

PERMIT NO. 572

The library will close December 31 at 5:30PM and will remain closed
January 1 in observance of the New Years' Day.

My Library: Kimonté York



Kimonté York is a student at Bishop McGinn, an APL Teen Ambassador, a brother and a son, a member of a reading family and a strong supporter of the library. Kimonté was in third grade when he got his first library card, and he remembers it well. He was

about 15 minutes late for the "get your library card" session and he was told that he couldn't get it because of his tardiness but he persisted until he got his card. He knew small purple card was the ticket to his future.

Kimonté calls the North Albany Branch his after-school home and retreats to the stacks (and computers!) every day. He describes his branch as not big, not small but always a comforting place to retreat from the day's tribulations. While at the branch he recalls meeting Branch Librarian, Scott Jarzombek, who helped him with research and the computers. While Kimonté uses the library for many things, he admits to spending a bit too much time on his MySpace page.

Last summer, Melissa Wasilewski, our Teen Librarian, was invited to speak at the FOCUS program "Computers for Kids" where Kimonté worked through the City's

Summer Youth Employment Program. In the "Computers for Kids" program, employees rebuild computers donated through Dell and provide them with Internet, to income qualified families in Albany. When the summer job ended, Kimonté was recognized for excellence by both the Summer Youth Program and FOCUS.

The Yorks are a reading family. Both parents are readers and his father is also an author. Kimonté proudly tells us that his little brother, Arell (8) started reading at an even earlier age than he. --One recent school assignment required that Kimonté research potential careers. With assistance from the North Albany librarians, Kimonté prepared his paper (for which he received a 100!) and, through that exercise, he now looks forward to being a Forensic Scientist.

Kimonté recently completed the APL Teen Ambassador program and is working at the Main Library. When asked how the library made a difference in his life, Kimonté smiled and said, "I can't even imagine it... I wouldn't have a job, I couldn't have read books and my grades would, probably, have been bad. "He adds, "the library kept me off the streets, it is a safe haven from what is going on out there. I really can't imagine where I'd be without it."

Check it out

FICTION

Dark of Night – Suzanne Brockmann

A Darker Place – Jack Higgins

Heart and Soul – Maeve Binchy

Lethal Legacy – Linda Fairstein

Night and Day – Robert B. Parker

NONFICTION

Bounce Back: The Secrets of the

Bulletproof Spirit – Azim Khamisa and Jillian Quinn

Diagnosis: Dispatches from the

Frontline of Medical Mysteries – Lisa Sanders, M.D.

Great Powers: America and the World

After Bush – Thomas P.M. Barnett

Nine Lives: Death and Life in New

Orleans – Dan Baum

Why We Make Mistakes – Joseph T.

Hallinan

AUDIOBOOKS

Outliers: The Story of Success by

Malcolm Gladwell

Happy At Last: The Thinking Person's

Guide to Finding Joy by Richard

O'Connor, PhD

Joy's Life Diet: Four Steps to Thin

Forever by Joy Bauer

Promises To Keep: On Life and Politics

by Joe Biden

February 2009

DVD New Releases

Frozen River

High School Musical 3 – Senior Year

Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist

Nights in Rodanthe

The Secret Life of Bees