

# TRACINGS

The Newsletter of  
The Friends of Tracy Memorial Library

Fall Issue

2022

## Author's Event

On Wednesday evening, October 4th, the Library hosted an intimate and engaging authors' event sponsored by the Friends. The conversation between Sarah McCraw Crow--Canterbury resident and author of *The Wrong Kind of Woman*--and Amy Makechnie--Andover resident and author of *The Unforgettable Guinevere St Clair, Ten Thousand Tries*, and the forthcoming *McNifficents*--was filled with insightful reflections and inspired lots of laughs. Facilitated by Proctor Academy English teacher, John Bouton, and propelled by great questions from the audience, the animated and honest discussion revealed many connections between the two writers. The topics of conversation were fluid and broad; the two compared notes on the origin of complex characters and life after having gotten to "know" them, the roles of various players in the development and publication of a book, the balance of creativity and family life, and the combination of confidence and uncertainty that can come with success.



## Interview with Ben Cote of Youth Services



Ben Cote is the Head of Youth Services at TML. A native of Newport, Ben has been involved with public libraries from the age of 15. He worked at the Richards Free Library in Newport and served on the Board of Trustees. In June of 2018, he became Head of Youth Services at TML and guided the program through some very trying years.

Q. There has been a resurgence in library usage this year. What are you seeing in youth services?

We've seen a substantial increase in the number of young people using our resources. During Covid we tried doing on-line programs, but my sense was that kids were "screened out." We are now approaching the usage levels of 2 years ago.

Q. How was attendance at TML's summer programs?

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Great. We had three summer performances for kids, all well attended. The highlight was the Whale Mobile – a replica of an actual whale that kids could walk through. We had 80 people signed up for the Whale. The Pop-Up Crafts program was held on the lawn in front of the library was popular with teens. Story Time outside in the garden attracted 50 people, and our Book Bike reached many patrons at Windy Hill and Elkins Beach.

Q. How does Youth Services utilize technology?

In Youth Services we have Chrome Boxes and Chrome books. Young patrons can use Chrome to access the internet with open access. The Chrome devices are utilized daily at TML by teens for school assignments and just for recreation.

Q. What is coming up in the fall for Youth Services?

Recently, we had our “Back to School” open house where students were able to sign up for a free library card. As a reminder, any student in the Kearsarge School district can get a free TML library card. We’ll continue with Story Time on Wednesdays and have added Take and Make Crafts as a take home project to complement each week’s story. And, of course, we have Lego Club every Tuesday.

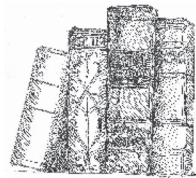
Q. What are your goals for the coming year?

I would like to attract more teens to the library – make it a space where everyone feels welcome. In the past we have had Game Days and Movie Days for teens – I would like to bring those programs back.

Q. Final thoughts?

The library has a wide variety of resources for kids and teens – not just books but technology, games, movies and programs. And we have a staff of youth services assistants dedicated to helping kids and teens. There’s something here for everybody.

<b>Library Hours</b>	Thursday 9-8
Tuesday 9-8	Friday 9-5
Wednesday 9-5	Saturday 9-1



## Director’s Notes Fall 2022

The last 6 months have been our busiest since the start of the pandemic, bringing in an average of over 125 visitors a day. Summer is a joyful time at the Library, as we welcome seasonal residents and visitors. This year, the Library began offering a short-term, 3-month non-resident card for out-of-state visitors. Our staff have compiled a list of “Staff Picks” for your enjoyment - pick up a copy of the brochure next time you visit the library!

As we head into winter, don’t forget that our Digital Library can be accessed from home 24/7. We have downloadable ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, and movies from Overdrive, Hoopla, and Kanopy. You can access the NY Times, Consumer Reports, and even learn a new language with Mango from the comfort of your home. Please ask us how to access these incredible resources with your Tracy Memorial Library Card from your smartphone, tablet, or computer.

**Crystal Schimpf, Library Director**

*Currently Reading: **The Paper Menagerie and Other Stories** by Ken Liu*

### Popular Adult Fiction

- *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn
- *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles
- *Shadows Reel* by C.J. Box
- *The Hotel Nantucket* by Elin Hilderbrand
- *The Paris Apartment* by Lucy Foley

### Popular Magazines

- The New Yorker
- The Economist
- People
- Real Simple
- Cook’s Illustrated

## Popular Picture Books

- **Norman Didn't Do It! (Yes, He Did.)**  
by Ryan T. Higgins
- **The Very Impatient Caterpillar**  
by Ross Burach
- **Milk and juice: A Recycling Romance**  
by Meredith Crandall Brown
- **On account of the gum**  
by Adam Rex
- **Mel Fell**  
by Corey R. Tabor

## New Staff for the Tracy Library

*Cathy Nolan Vincevic*

*"I wanted to do something to support the rebuilding of the community."*



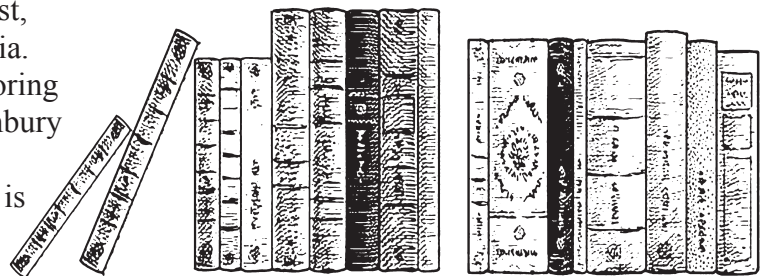
Cathy Nolan Vincevic comes to the Tracy Library as the library returns to a full schedule. She brings with her years of library experience. Cathy served as director of the Gordon Nash Library in New Hampton for 8 years and she was the director at the Allenstown Public Library. Her true love is art – she produces works in collage, pen and ink, watercolor, and a variety of mediums. As a performance artist, she has performed from New York City to Croatia. Since 2013, she and her husband have been restoring the Danbury House Hotel, which is now the Danbury House Studio. Her reading list is eclectic from non-fiction to magic realism, her favorite author is George Saunders.

*Kathy Bartlett – Youth Services Assistant*

*"I enjoy interacting with kids and helping people in the community."*



Kathy Bartlett joined the Tracy Library staff in May, after a long career in engineering at Timken in Lebanon. She and her family have lived in New London since 2003. When her children were young, Kathy volunteered at the summer reading activities, and so was excited at the opportunity to join the library staff now. Since joining the team, Kathy has assisted with the three events that were part of this summer's youth program, "Oceans of Possibilities". In her spare time, Kathy enjoys walking, hiking, and reading both historical and contemporary fiction.





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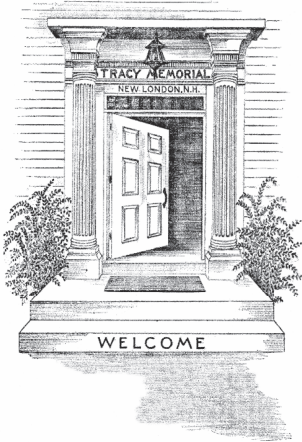
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