

**December 2012**

**Volume 1, Issue 4**

**Winter!**



**F**riends  
**O**f The  
**L**ibrary

**Tables of Content Coming In April 2012!**

Tricia Huebner and her committee of elves have been meeting and working diligently on the 4th Bi-Annual Tables of Content event, which will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2012. This event is a major fundraiser for the Rutland Free Library and includes dinner with 14 Vermont and regional authors. Participants can meet authors and purchase autographed copies of their latest books during the cocktail hour preceding dinner. Many local businesses sponsor this event, including the Friends of the Library, in support of the library. Tickets will go on sale in the spring and are \$125 per person. Look at the library’s website after the first of the year to see which authors will be attending. If you are unable to attend, you will be able to purchase books ahead of time (online), which will benefit the library as well.

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**Library Staff—Lyndsey Runyan**

Lyndsey is the newest staff member at the Rutland Free Library. She started in September moving from Seattle, Washington, and she says she is very excited to be working as a public librarian. This is Lyndsey’s first time in Vermont and she notes that things are very different here. The snow in October freaked her out, but I reassured her that this was not the norm!

Lyndsey was born in Redmond, Washington, and attended Evergreen College in Olympia, WA where she obtained her BA degree in Political & Economic Theory. She went on to get her Masters in Library and Informational Science from the University of Washington in Seattle. She also took a course in boat building (sailboats!) She has an older brother who lives in Oakland, CA and her parents still reside in Seattle.

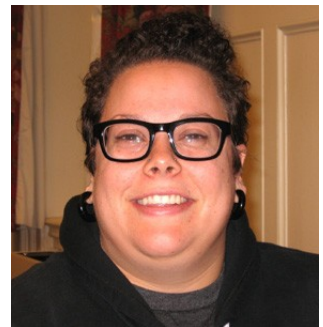
Lyndsey has had some eclectic jobs before landing one in her field. They included being a nanny, a social service worker at a drop-in center for homeless youth, a personal assistant to a metal works artist, and as a graduate assistant at the University of WA library. Lyndsey enjoys being outside, sailing, and hiking. She also played kickball and soccer while in school. Of course, she also loves to read. Her favorite author is Octavia Butler. “I like Dystopia/Sci-Fi books—I know that’s kind of different!” she laughs. She has also been experimenting with the process of fermentation by making soda, sauerkraut and other “fizzy” food items.

While Lyndsey’s experience working with the Friends of the Library has been limited so far, she says that all of

the friends have come up to say hello and introduce themselves and have been very nice to her. She says that Barbara Foley has been particularly helpful to her in working with volunteers. And she notes that the Friend’s book sales are “awesome!”

Lyndsey loves dogs (she has a 5 year old “mutt” named Olive who is very mellow and loves living in VT), is teaching herself to cook, likes Hoodies and Shoes! Some of her dislikes include scratchy wool sweaters, squash, and impatient people.

Lyndsey looks forward to becoming more involved in activities, both at the library and in the Rutland community. “I want people to come into the library and tell me what they are reading and what they would like to see



for books and authors in the library collection. I am always interested in hearing about new authors I’m not familiar with,” she notes.

Future? She feels she is just starting out in her library career and wants to continue growing for many years to come. “And I’d like to have my own land and house, a gigantic garden and goats, chickens and more dogs!”



## Board of Trustees—Larry Courcelle

Larry was born in Proctor, VT and grew up in Rutland attending the Immaculate Heart of Mary and Mount St. Joseph Academy schools.

He received his Bachelor degree in Business Education from Castleton State College. After college, he went to work for the Vermont Roofing Company and has been there for 40 years! He is a Supervisor and Estimator.

He and his wife, Wanda, built a home in 1981 on South Road in Mendon. She is a retired school teacher (Shaftsbury, Castleton & Barstow) after 38 years. She currently teaches a Creative Writing Course at CCV.

Larry and Wanda have two children. Their son, Jeff, is a Software Engineer in Southern NH, and their daughter, Sarah,

teaches 3rd grade at Founders Memorial School in Essex. They also have a cat, Thumper, who they found during a cold January night. "He likes to watch movies, destroy things, and he manages my 401k" jokes Larry.

Larry volunteers on so many committees and boards that it would make your head spin! In addition to being on the Board of Trustees at the library, he is the Chair of the Building Committee and serves on the Policy & Planning committee. He is on the Mendon Select Board, has been on the Mendon Recreation Committee for 27 years, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission for 11 years, the Rutland County Recreational District Committee for 7

years (and was also Chair of the Site and Governance Committee there), served on the George D. Aiken Resource Conservation & Development Council for 5 years, and was the impetus for the first ever Rutland Free Library Halloween float at the Rutland Halloween parade this year. He has been asked to volunteer on numerous other boards and committees but has had to decline due to time constraints. Just dealing with the aftermath of the flooding in Mendon from Irene has been a huge job.

Larry looks forward to retirement and going to Alaska in the next 5 years. "And I have a feeling that everyone will be after me to volunteer on their boards!" he laughs.

### **Hobbies & Interests:**

**Hiking, snowshoeing, volunteering**

**Favorites:** Shakespeare

**Likes:** Weekends! Quiet time, hiking in the woods

**Dislikes:** Rectangles and Saran Wrap (he wouldn't elaborate on these any further, but said that the trustees would know what this was about!)



## Patti Buscemi—Friend of the Library

Patti was born in Northampton, MA & grew up in Easthampton, MA. She met her husband on a blind date after high school and they were married and had 4 children, Don, Charlie, Jennifer & Lisa. Frank Krempa is her current partner.

Patti has worked as an LNA at a variety of nursing homes in Rutland, was a Para-Educator in both Rutland City and Castleton School systems, and has been employed at RMHS for the past 9 years in the Child & Family Services Program, VOW and CRT Programs at Court Square.

She has 4 dogs: 2 Lhasos, Ariel and Jasmine; 2 Yorkies, Teddy & Ellie, a Senegal Parrot named Baby, and several fish! She obviously loves pets! She also enjoys gardening and reading. Patti's special interests include the Humane Society & SPCA. Her favorite author is Patricia Cornwall, and she enjoys any CSI type, medical, and forensic thrillers.

**Likes:** Movies & Stories about animals. **Dislikes:** Cruelty and unfairness.

Patti has been involved with the Reparative Board, is a Grace Congregational Church participant, and Friend of the Library. She has been on the Friends Board for 1.5 years and is currently the secretary. "I love what the Friends do and it has been a positive experience for me. The Library was my first love as a child and I use to go twice a week after school. I enjoy being able to give back to the library."

In the future, Patti hopes to expand on the things she enjoys doing now, like home projects. Her dream after retirement is to open a Doggie Daycare!



# Being Grateful..by Director, Paula Baker



As I come to the end of a calendar year, filled with holidays, family memories and the onset of much darkness going to and from work I usually find I'm in a more reflective state. The world's problems seem immense, many Vermonters have had their lives turned upside down with the tropical storm Irene, town budgets are strained, the list of unemployed is growing, local food shelves are busy and needs everywhere are great. That is where my reflections start...out there somewhere and big, very big. The desire to pull the covers over my head and look away is strong. But reflection is interesting. It takes me

places I didn't plan to visit and although I start with "out there" I invariably end up "here". "Here" is local and doable. "Here" is where all change happens and "here" reminds me to be both grateful and action-oriented.

So here is my gratitude list, leaving out the personal: I am grateful to the communities of Rutland City, Rutland Town, Mendon, Ira and Tinnmouth for their continued support of a regional institution. This support gives the library staff the opportunity to help people with online job applications, to provide free programs for adults and children, to make a place for people to find community, and yes, sometimes shelter. I am grateful to city voters who are paying for the library's new roofs, sewer repairs and dehumidification to save a very special building. I am grateful to the Friends of the Library

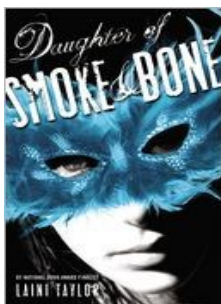
for cheerfully sorting and selling thousands of books to increase library support. I am grateful to the state library, who within 12 hours of Irene, emailed information on FEMA and other resources, and continue to do so. I am grateful for a very hard-working board who has drafted an ambitious 5-year plan that is aimed at adding services and increasing stability. I am grateful to a staff, who because they love libraries, continue to work hard for every individual they encounter, recommending books, solving problems, hatching new ideas and staying the course. I am grateful to the library visitors who love everything and tell us so. I am grateful to the visitors who don't love everything and tell us so. I am grateful to the volunteers who bring in their dogs to encourage children's literacy. I am grateful to the garden club's volunteer for our beds. I am grateful for the many, many volunteers who mail pack-

ages, re-shelve books, mend, clean, type, catalog, process materials, and bring us cookies. I am grateful to the volunteer who coordinates the entire volunteer program, voluntarily. And I am grateful to the many donors who stretch their own budgets to help keep library services going.

In the end reflection reminds me that every action, no matter how small, matters. As I look over my list, it is clear that so many actions at work in this region have an incredible ripple effect so I am grateful to be in a community of caring individuals. I believe that good works, even if tiny and local, do affect the bigger, seemingly unsolvable problems because they come from the heart, a profound source of courage, insight and change.



# The Daughter of Smoke and Bone by Laini Taylor (Recommended by Lyndsey Runyan)



The last two nights I have been up until wee hours unable to put down this amazing tale of star crossed love of epic proportions. Karou has two lives, one as an eclectic art student in the beautiful ancient city of Prague and one as the adopted daughter of a monster teeth collection and wish monger. She has always known that she was different but she is about to find out how much.

## Friends of the Rutland Free Library

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**"Where the 'book ends' that support the library are the book's Friends of the Library!"**

**We're on the Web!**  
**www.rutlandfree.org**

Just  
click on the  
Bookworm  
icon!



The Friends of the Rutland Free Library is a volunteer group which fosters and promotes continued improvement and sustained interest in the Rutland Free Library.

We endeavor to accomplish this by stimulating awareness and appreciation of the library as a treasured resource of information and programs. Working toward this end, the Friends serve in an advocacy role to maintain special collections, acquisitions, and activities of the library. They also provide direct financial assistance through the purchase of special items, encourage gifts, endowments and memorials, and support the activities and efforts of the library with volunteer help. This partnership allows the library to remain an essential part of the community.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend of the Library, please contact us by phone (773-1860), by email (msdroy@aol.com) or via the website [www.rutlandfree.org](http://www.rutlandfree.org).

## Books as Gifts by Book Discussion Group Leader, Barbara

The Rutland Free Library book discussion group meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. in the Fox Room of the Library. There are currently 16 members who attend on a regular basis and another 5 to 8 members who come periodically. Anyone who is interested in joining them just needs to read the book and show up! There are no dues & no commitments! Call the Library to see what book the group is currently reading, and join them for some lively discussions!

I've always wanted to be known as the person who gives books as gifts. As with all resolutions I'm only partially successful. But, just in case some of you also would like to be known in this way, I'm including a list here of some titles you might be interested in reading or giving. All the books I've given my daughters over the years have been pre-read. Some have even been gently used from the Friends Book Sales.

THE PARIS WIFE by Paula McClain is the story of Ernest Hemingway and his first wife which has been on best sellers' lists. To go along with this you might want to read some of Hemingway's works starting with THE SUN ALSO RISES.

A book I love and have read more than once is a quirky book called I CAPTURE THE CASTLE by Dodie Smith. I was reminded of this when I saw that it was made into a movie and was on TV last night.

Interested in WWII? THE ZOOKEEPER'S WIFE by Diane Ackerman would be a good book. Have you thought about what happened to the animals in zoos during the war? Ackerman wrote about the Warsaw Zoo and how the animals fared; but, even more, about the man and woman who were in charge of the zoo and ultimately the people who were helped by them.

Cooking your passion? Try HOME COOKING by Laurie

Colwin or books by Ruth Reichl or Madeleine Kamman.

Want some light reading? Interested in knitting and people? I'm in the process of reading five books by prolific author Debbie Macomber who writes about Blossom Street in Seattle. THE SHOP ON BLOSSOM STREET is the first and a quick read about three women and their knitting teacher who become unlikely friends. Knitting directions are included in each book for those of you who knit and are looking for new projects.

Interested in quilting? Any of the Elm Creek books by Jennifer Chiaverini should interest you or a friend. So many books ...so little time!