

GFJ Director starts a new chapter after almost 40 years



After 38 years at the George F. Johnson Library, Ed Dunscombe is retiring.

“I didn’t grow up thinking I was going to be a librarian, but after I saw I wasn’t going to play centerfield for the Mets, I started thinking about another career,” he joked.

But the humor turns nostalgic as Dunscombe reflects on a public service career he’s cherished since it began at GFJ on December 1, 1980.

“It’s been a great career. Right from the start they threw a lot of different things at me. I was a cataloger and I was a reference librarian. I’ve had great staff and colleagues over the years. I found the work got more and more interesting over the years and I didn’t really see any reason to leave,” he said.

In 2003 he was asked if he wanted to be the next director after Maria Dixon resigned. His first thought? No way!

Dunscombe was reluctant because the IBM reassessments had undercut the village’s tax base leaving the library in a dire financial situation. Within eight-12 months it was expected to run out of money and close.

“But then I realized who else was going to take the position under the circumstances,” he explained as he recalled a dark time for the library, laying off staff, not being able to buy new materials and even closing the doors to the public for part of the day.

“It was very frustrating to see families walking up to the door with kids anxious to get their books, then pulling on the door, seeing it’s locked and walking

away disappointed.”

In 2004, the future of the library hinged on the outcome of a funding vote. The result turned into what Dunscombe now touts as the highlight of his career. It came out in favor of GFJ, establishing a floor of funding that allowed GFJ to return to a full-service library.

“It’s never an easy sell to ask people to tax themselves for a service, but we’ve been able to do that, and I think that really shows how valuable this community sees this library. If the community didn’t feel we were doing a good job, they wouldn’t vote to give us a funding increase.”

It’s been 15 years since Dunscombe became director, but he was never the kind of administrator to be holed up in an office.

“I kept a lot of the vestiges from my old job because I loved being out on the floor dealing with people every day,” he said. “Seeing things from different sides made me a better director.”

As his tenure draws to a close, Dunscombe pictures walking out the door on his final day. It leaves him a little melancholy until realizing he won’t really be saying goodbye.

“One of the nicest things about working in a library is I can always come back. Unlike in private industry when you turn in your badge, I can come back here as much as I want as a patron now!”

As for what’s next, Dunscombe is looking forward to the birth of his first grandchild and travelling to Europe with his wife and daughter. Other than that, his future remains open.

“I’d like to take some time off and see what comes down the road. It’s kind of fitting for a librarian to say: I’ll just turn the page and see what the next chapter holds.”

On behalf of GFJ Library, Dunscombe welcomes Seth Jacobus as incoming director.

Online Digital Resources at GFJ

Whether you’re looking to learn a new language, research what life was like in Broome County more than 100 years ago or want to take an online course in coding or business, George F. Johnson library is the place to go!

GFJ library offers digital services that you can use from practical application to expanding your knowledge. Highlights include:

***LyndaLearning** – GFJ has partnered with LinkedIn to provide thousands of online courses in many fields, many of them tech-related.

***Mango and Transparent Languages** – Choose from 72 foreign languages (including Pirate or Klingon!) They all have apps to put on your Smart phone.

Digital Archives – Search local newspapers from 1855-1960, publications of the Endicott-Johnson (E-J) Corporation and the Union-Endicott School System (including “The E-J Workers Review,” U-E Yearbooks and local historical photographs).

JobNow – Live assistance for job seekers, plus an online resume lab, career resources and test preparation for the high school equivalency and US Citizen Test.

Online defensive driving course – Lower your car insurance cost.

***Weiss Financial Ratings** – Research and track ratings for investments, banks and insurance companies.

Plus digital books, magazines, music and more!

Need some help getting started? The Tech Center holds regular classes and offers tools to improve digital literacy.

A valid Four County Library System Card is required to use these free-of-charge services.

**GFJ Library card required.*



Summer at Libraries Rock!

Rock your summer by checking out the 2018 summer programming at Your Home Public Library (Johnson City).

All programs are free. Contact the library at 797-4816 for more information or to register.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Sign-ups for our Summer Reading Program (SRP) for youths ages 3-10 is from June 25- July 13. The SRP runs from July 1 - August 20. All reading logs must be turned in on or before Aug. 20.

Teens can earn Oakdale Mall and Barnes & Noble gift cards twice during the summer. The first deadline is Friday, July 27. The second is Monday, Aug. 20.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS (AGES 3½- 5)

Children and their caregivers are invited to join us at 10 a.m., Tuesdays, July 10 – Aug. 14 for programs that will include books, rhymes, crafts and more. *Registration not required.*

SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAMS (AGES 6-10)

Rock Painting: Wednesday, July 18, 1 p.m.

Come create works of art using paint and rocks. We will provide all materials, including the rocks (although you may bring a rock if you wish). *Registration not required.*

FAMILY PROGRAM (ALL AGES)

Animal Adventure: Thursday, June 28, 1 p.m.

Kick off our summer programs! Learn about and touch a variety of reptiles and small mammals. *Registration not required.*

Drive-In Movie, Paddington 2 (PG, 1hr 43 min): June 29, 8:30 p.m. (or when the sun sets)

Paddington, now happily settled with the Brown family and a popular member of the local community, picks up a series of odd jobs to buy the perfect present for his Aunt Lucy's 100th birthday, only for the gift to be stolen.

Ice Cream Social: Thursday, July 26, 6:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand! Experience an old-fashioned social activity. Create your own sundae and enjoy time with family and friends and some light music. *Registration not required.*

Kopernik Rocks! Thursday, July 12, 1 p.m.

The staff at the Kopernik Observatory will bring a variety of rocks, minerals and fossils for you to examine. Afterwards, step into the portable planetarium and learn about the stars and planets. *Registration not required.*

Music, World Instruments and the Science of Sound: Wednesday, Aug. 15, 6 p.m.

Discover the history of music and instruments with this unique group of singers and musicians. *Registration not required.*

Digeridoo Down Under: Friday, Aug. 10, 10 a.m.

Explore the culture of Australia through its music and instruments. *No registration required.*

Story Walk: Ongoing, all summer long

Walk the library grounds and read a book at the same time! Each station will feature the page of a picture book. A new story every two weeks. *Registration not required, weather permitting*

LEGO Club: June 11, July 9 and Aug. 13 at 6:30 p.m. (second Monday of the month)



Paws to Read: The dogs are enjoying their summer vacation and will be back in September.

TEEN PROGRAMS (AGES 10-17)

CPR Certification: Monday, July 23, 5 p.m.

Become certified in CPR. A Town of Union Ambulance Squad member will teach the course and certify attendees who pass. Registration is required, and there is a \$20 fee to cover part of the certification cost.

Rock Painting for Teens: Thursday, Aug. 9, 6:30 p.m.

Create works of art using paint and rocks. We will provide all materials, including the rocks (although you may bring a rock if you wish). *Registration not required.*

ADULT PROGRAMS

Adult Summer Reading Program 2018

Sign up at the main circulation desk to get your reading log and a free book and enter to win prizes all summer long! Reading logs must be turned in on or before Aug. 20.

Escape Room: June 20 – 27

Bring four- to eight of your smartest friends and try to figure out the mystery behind an ancient book that has gone missing from Harry L. Johnson's collection. You have one hour to locate the book – but be careful, things aren't always what they seem. *Registration begins June 1*

Book Discussion: June 28, 6:30 p.m.

YHPL and SUNY Broome's Literacy Legacy Project are partnering to bring a deliberative discussion of Dana Suskind's book, *Thirty Million Words: Building a Child's Brain*, to the library.

YHPL Book Club

YHPL hosts monthly book discussion programs on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The programs are all free and we encourage anyone to attend. We like to keep them loose and informal; definitely more discussion and less lecture.

Tuesday, July 10, 6:30 p.m.: *Radio Free Vermont* by Bill McKibbin

Tuesday, August 14, 6:30 p.m.: *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders

Summer Movie Series: Musical Biopics Every Tuesday in July at 6:30 p.m.

Relax in our air-conditioned meeting room and enjoy one of these acclaimed films about famous musicians. Popcorn and soda provided.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Presents Intelligent Plants: July 6, 1:30 p.m.

Can plants think? Can they hear? Feel? Organize? Join us to hear about the fascinating research attempting to answer these questions.

CPR Certification Class: July 23, 5 p.m.

Become certified in CPR. Registration required. *Cost is \$20 per person.*

Cornell Cooperative Extension Presents Climate Change in New York: July 27, 1:30 p.m.

What does the future hold for New York state related to climate change? In 2050? In 2100? Are we responsible?



Escape Room at YHPL

Bring four-to-eight of your smartest friends and try to figure out the mystery behind an ancient book that has gone missing from Harry L. Johnson's collection. You have one hour to locate the book – but be careful, things aren't always what they seem. Registration begins June 1 and the program runs June 20-27 (runs in one-hour increments during regular library hours).

Libraries Rock! Summer at the George F. Johnson Library (Endicott)

Our summertime theme is "Libraries Rock!" Here are the hits kids, teens and adults can enjoy this season at the GFJ Library. All events are FREE! Registration begins on Wednesday, June 20. To register, stop by the library during business hours or register online at gfjlibrary.org/kidzone



YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS

Summer Reading Club

Registration for our Libraries Rock reading club for preschool and school-age children begins on June 20. Club members can read this summer and count their minutes to earn a free book and raffle tickets for fun prizes. Books and raffle tickets will be awarded Aug. 9 through 24.

Story Times

Registration for the following story time programs is required; registration begins June 20. Call, stop in or register online at gfjlibrary.org/kidzone.

- Little Listeners (up to age 2): Tuesdays, July 10 – Aug. 7, at 10 a.m.
- Great Beginnings (ages 2 – 5): Wednesdays, July 11 – Aug. 8, at 10 a.m.
- Highland Park (ages 2 – 5): Thursdays, July 12 – Aug. 9, at 10 a.m. in the pavilion at the park on Hooper Road. *Registration is NOT required for this story time.*

The following family programs will be held Wednesdays at 7 p.m. either on the plaza in front of the library or in our downstairs meeting room. No registration required. All programs held rain or shine.

GFJ Rocks! July 11, 5 – 7 p.m.*

Join us to celebrate our summer reading program and our community. Stop by to enjoy games, crafts, music, mascot photo ops and lots of family fun. You can also sign up for our summer reading clubs and programs, too! **Note different start time.*

Johnny Only Rocks! July 18

Join local favorite, DJ Johnny Only for an evening full of music, stories and all-around fun!

Tech Night Rocks! July 25

Come explore with our librarians some of the library's innovative technology. Hands-on activities with our tablets, Smart Board, 3D printer, doodle pens and more!

Juggling Rocks! Aug. 1

Local juggler extraordinaire Will Stafford will amaze and astound!

Chalk Art Extravaganza! Aug. 8, 6 – 8 p.m.*

Amazing chalk artist Eric Maruscak will help us create fanciful and beautiful street art. **Note earlier start time.*

The following family programs will be held on Mondays from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in our downstairs meeting room. No registration is required.

Rockin' the 5 Senses July 16:

Five stations will be set up to explore your five senses with multiple, hands-on experiments.

Rockin' Wind Chimes July 30:

Choose from a wide selection of materials to make a musical wind chime for your home.

Kids Street Art

Perennial favorite, cartoonist/illustrator Eric Maruscak is back for more street art fun on Tuesday, July 10 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Children entering grades 1 through 6 can learn about chalk art and create their own fantastic pictures on the library sidewalk. *Registration is required, and space is limited.*

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Registration is required for these programs; registration begins June 20 and is for all five weeks. Programs include books, games, crafts and technology.

GFJ Rocks!

For children **entering Kindergarten and first grade**, Mondays, July 9 – Aug. 6, from 1-1:45 p.m.

For children **entering grades 2 and 3**, Thursdays, July 12 – Aug. 9, from 1 - 2 p.m.

For Tweens **entering grades 4, 5 and 6**, Tuesdays, July 10 – Aug. 7, from 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Friday Fun!

Stop in the children's room on Fridays, July 13 through Aug. 10 to check out our hands-on activity kits. Creative, self-directed fun for school-age kids only available on Fridays during the summer. *No registration required.*

ADULT PROGRAMMING

Adult Summer Reading Club June 20 – Aug. 10

Read five books, fill out a reading log and drop it in the box at the Adult Information desk. For every log you fill out you will be entered to win one of three gift baskets. The drawing will be on Friday, Aug. 10.

Natural Oil Spray Craft July 24, 6-8 p.m., downstairs meeting room

Learn how to make your own natural oil spray (bug, deodorizer or cleaning). Limited to 15 people, so register early.

Dinner and a Book Tuesday, Aug. 7, 6-8 p.m., downstairs meeting room.

Join us for a pizza/sub dinner and a leisurely discussion of your favorite books. It's a great way to get recommendations for a good book. Limited to 20 people and registration is required.

Thanks to the Friends of the GFJ Memorial Library for supplying the funds for the Adult Summer Reading Club and programs!

These programs are funded by the Friends of the George F. Johnson Memorial Library, and with public funds from the Chenango Arts Council's Decentralization Grants Program, a re-grant program of the NYS Council on the Arts, with support from Governor Cuomo and the NYS Legislature.

TEEN PROGRAMS (FOR TEENS ENTERING GRADES 7-12)

Registration for Teen programs begins June 20. Teens can receive free books for attending programs!

Summer Learning Club: June 20- Aug. 10

Rock on this summer with the ROCKS Bingo board! Complete activities to get a ROCKS bingo which will enter you for a chance to win prizes. Fill up a ROCKS bingo board and get a chance to win one of the Teen Prize Baskets.

Teen Book Discussion Group: Tuesdays, July 10 - July 31, 3:30- 4:30 p.m.

Participants in this librarian-moderated group will read one, full-length novel each week and discuss it. The books will be provided free of charge and are registrants to keep. Meet in the downstairs meeting room. *Registration is required and attendance at all four sessions is highly encouraged.*

Teen Street Art: Tuesday, July 17, 6- 7:30 p.m.

Meet on the library sidewalk and get ready to create some great chalk art with illustrator/cartoonist Eric Maruscak! Bring a picture you would like to draw. *Registration is required.*

Double the Mystery @ the Library!

Escape Room: The Phantom's Labyrinth: Friday, July 13 (select time slots)

The Phantom of the library is back, and this time he has even more twists and turns for you to try to get out of. In groups of two-to-six, do you dare enter the Phantom's Labyrinth? You may never be seen again. *Registration is required.*

Mystery Night: Friday, Aug. 3, 6- 8 p.m.

Calling all library detectives! We have another mystery for you to solve! Discover the who, what, how and why to win a prize. *Registration is required.*

Teen Fun Nights: Thursdays, July 5 – Aug. 9

Programs meet in the downstairs meeting room, unless otherwise noted. *Registration is not required for the following programs:*

- **Teen Book and a Movie: July 5 and Aug. 2, 6-8:30 p.m.**

Join us for a movie based on a YA book followed by a discussion.

- **Craft Night: July 12, 6-8 p.m.**

Be creative! All sorts of crafts are on the menu and feel free to bring your own craft ideas to share.

- **Game Night: July 19, 6-8 p.m.**

Go crazy with games. There will be board games, puzzles and BINGO.

- **Tech Night: July 26, 6-8 p.m.**

Create something on Georgie, our 3D printer, learn how to create your own podcast and play with other tech toys. Program held upstairs in the Tech Center.

- **Trivia Night: Aug. 9, 6-8 p.m.**

Trivia questions will range from entertainment, literature, sports, history and more. Bring a friend!



Broome County leaders, including YHPL Director Ben Lainhart and GFJ Director Ed Dunscombe, celebrate the launch of Baby's First Book at GFJ in Endicott.

Promoting reading right from the start

A new initiative funded by Broome County means every child born in Broome County will receive a book.

According to County Executive Jason Garnar, the Baby's First Book program, which launched in March, has supplied local hospitals with more than 100 copies of the book "Baby Cakes" by Karma Wilson and information about libraries and child literacy. The program is part of SUNY Broome Community College's Literacy Legacy Project, which promotes early literacy (reading to and with your children).

"Literacy development begins at birth and I want to invest in all our kids from the start," said Garnar. "As a father of three boys, I know how important it is to bond early with your children through reading and talking. I hope families enjoy 'Baby Cakes' and find more great books to read to their kids at their local library."

Research shows that parents who read to their children build emotional bonds that promote healthy child development.

George F. Johnson Library in Endicott and Your Home Public Library in Johnson City will be hosting book discussions in partnership with the Literacy Legacy Project. The meeting at GFJ will be held Wednesday, June 20 at 7 p.m. The meeting at YHPL will be held Thursday, June 28 at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, visit <http://www3.sunybroome.edu/literacylegacy>

Removing barriers to children's success is a priority at YHPL

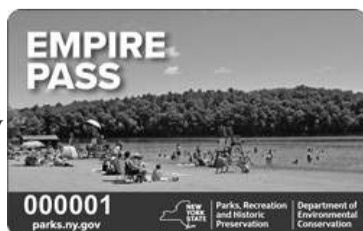
The board passed a resolution to eliminate fines for overdue children's books, making YHPL the first library in the system to do so.

YHPL Director Ben Lainhart says overdue fines can create unnecessary stress or apprehension of library use for children; dropping the penalty removes those barriers.

"For whatever reason, young children can't always get their materials back – they don't drive, don't know what day of the week it is, or they're too young to walk it back (if they're even in walking distance)," he said. "So by forgiving these fines we're basically letting them know they should bring the materials back when they can but are welcome to continue to use the library."

NYS Empire Pass available at YHPL

The NYS Empire Pass, your key to all-season enjoyment at New York State Parks, is available for check out! It provides unlimited day-use vehicle entry to most facilities operated by New York State Parks and the State Department of Environmental Conservation including forests, beaches, trails and more.



The pass is available at the circulation desk and can be checked out for one week.



A few of the items in the Discovery Collection available for check-out.

Interactive Learning at YHPL

The new Discovery Collection, which supports active and engaged learning at all levels, is now up and running at Your Home Public Library!

People of all ages are invited to explore a collection of unique items specifically geared towards science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM). Items can be checked out for a period of three weeks with an adult's library card, and can be used at home or in the classroom (extended loan periods are available for educators).

Items that have been purchased, thanks to Friends of the YHPL Library, include a K'Nex Set for wind and solar energy, bird-watching kits and various lawn games. Wish-list items include musical instruments.

"This collection includes items that are both fun and educational for use at home or in the classroom, said Director Ben Lainhart. "Since some of the items are expensive, this is a great way for our patrons to try out things to which they may not normally have access. In the future we hope to see the collection expand to include items that people may want to use once but don't have a reason to buy like that odd shaped baking pan or lawn games for that big summer party," he added.

The items are displayed in the front case of YHPL.

Checkout Policy

- Must be 18 years of age and have a valid 4CLS library card in good standing.
- Items must be returned to the YHPL Circulation Desk. They may not be returned at another library or in any book/media drop. Failure to comply will result in suspension of Discovery Collection borrowing privileges.
- Patrons must sign form agreeing to pay all replacement costs associated with damage, loss or theft of items.
- Cost of overdue items is \$1/day.

Hours of Operation

Your Home Public Library

107 Main Street, Johnson City
607-797-4816 • www.yhpl.org
Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Friday–Saturday*: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: Closed

*Closed Saturdays from July until after Labor Day.

George F. Johnson Memorial Library

1001 Park Street, Endicott
607-757-5350 • www.gfjlibrary.org
Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday–Saturday*: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: Closed

*closed Saturdays from June 30 through September 1

**Libraries closed July 4th

Your Home Public Library

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Robert Deemie, *President*
Diane Bartlow, *Vice President*
June Adamek, *Secretary*
Sarah Maximeik, *Trustee*
Melissa Pianosi, *Trustee*
LIBRARY DIRECTOR
Ben Lainhart

George F. Johnson Memorial Library

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Jennifer Musa, *President*
Christine Brown, Emile Chang-Jackson, Joseph Ciccarino, Paul Del Rosso, Nadine Herceg, Jeffrey A. Ribner, Christopher Ryan, Jo Whitney
LIBRARY DIRECTOR
Ed Dunscombe