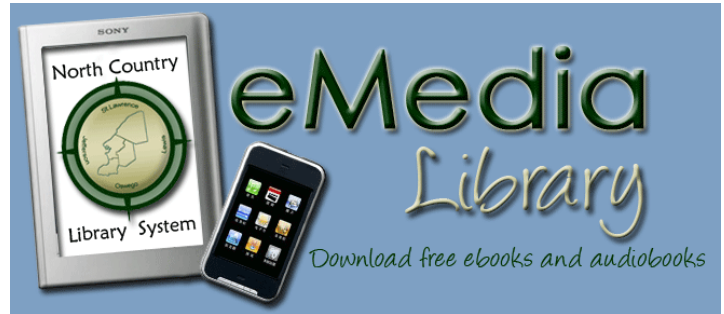


# NCLS @ccess

North Country Library System - 22072 County Route 190 - Watertown, NY 13601 - [www.nclsweb.org](http://www.nclsweb.org)

March - April  
2011

**Overdrive  
launches on  
April 4th!**



The program you have all been waiting for is here. North Country Library System will officially launch the Overdrive downloadable e-books and audiobooks program on April 4th. NCLS is currently holding classes for library staff and trustees. Libraries will receive promotional material in their deliveries the week prior to the launch.

Visit our website for a list of compatible devices and updated information at:  
<http://ncls.northcountrylibraries.org/node/255>

**“What is more important in a library than anything else- than everything else- is that it exists.”**  
-Archibald MacLeish

## **The New York State Budget Crisis**

As you are all well aware, the NYS budget has been unfavorable for libraries for many years. In 2010, most of our libraries only received \$73 in state aid (LLSA). NCLS and all other public library systems have still not received all 2010 funding and cannot anticipate how much 2011 funding will be or when it might be received.

Our director, Steve Bolton, visited our state legislators in their Albany offices on March 1st during ‘Lobby Day.’ He has also kept a very busy schedule of local visits. So far this year, he has met with Senator Patty Ritchie, Assemblywoman Addie Russell, Assemblyman Kenneth Blankenbush, Senator Joe Griffo, Assemblyman Will Barclay, and is scheduled to meet with Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney later this month.

The message from legislators is clear: they want and need to hear from you. With so many various issues of importance to tackle, state legislators need to be constantly reminded of the priorities of libraries and hear about the negative impact funding cuts and stagnation are having.

The New York Library Association has a brief and very helpful ‘Talking Points’ sheet on their web site that helps to simplify and clarify the major legislative priorities, which you can use to create your own message to legislators. Visit NYLA at [www.nyla.org](http://www.nyla.org) and click on “2011 Lobby Day Talking Points.”

A list of legislators and their contact information can be found at [www.nclsweb.org](http://www.nclsweb.org) under ‘Advocacy.’



## Carthage Free Library PCC

*The New York State Library, a unit of the Office of Cultural Education within the New York State Education Department, has received a federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) award in the Public Computer Center category as part of Round One funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). This project will enable public libraries to extend hours, upgrade connectivity, add more than 800 new public computer workstations, and provide access to 24/7 job search resources in 41 economically distressed upstate New York counties. More than 6 million New York residents will be served through this initiative. Several libraries in the NCLS system won BTOP grants to create Public Computing Centers at their libraries. This month, we will profile the Carthage Free Library PCC.*

### Carthage Free Library PCC by Chrystie Bockus

In partnership with the American Recovery Act and the New York State Library, the Carthage Free Library hired two full time employees, Chrystie Bockus and Jamie Peck, to launch its new Public Computing Center and purchased 16 laptops to offer digital literacy and job readiness instruction. Since our public computing center opened in November, we have serviced over 1500 patrons and taught over 100 classes. We offer a variety of classes, outreach programs, and open lab time at our computer Center.

Along with our library classes, we have established a partnership with Augustinian Academy, a private parochial school in Carthage. The school services around 200 students in grades preschool to eighth grade. Twice a week Jamie, our instructor, goes to the academy to teach computer classes and assist with curriculum development. Our goal is to help the teachers incorporate digital literacy skills into their lesson plans and assignments. Jamie has assisted with a variety of projects including a website designed to display Augustinian Academy's history from the school's opening in 1885 to present day.

In addition to outreach at the Academy, we have established partnerships with and teach classes for the Jefferson and Lewis County WorkPlaces, JCC Express, and Long Falls High Rise. We provide individual assistance at the library to those needing help with computer software, email, job searches, resume and cover letter development and computer skills. We offer a variety of beginning computer and software classes such as Navigating the Desktop, Beginning Publisher, and Beginning Excel to the general public. In the near future, we plan to offer a new series of courses to the homeschooled population and a variety of art classes for children and teens.

### Carthage Free Library PCC Staff

Jamie, our PCC Trainer, is a certified art teacher with an extensive background in youth, teen and adult education. She received her Bachelor's in Fine Arts from Alfred University and her Master's In Art Education from Oswego State University. She has taught in both public and institutional settings and has directed a variety of youth programs. Two of Jamie's favorite authors are Douglas Coupland and David Sedaris and her favorite book is *Life After God*. Her hobbies include outdoors activities such as hiking and snowshoeing. Jamie also owns a small ceramics business and she enjoys making pieces to sell.



*Carthage Free Library PCC Staff,  
Jamie Peck and Chrystie Bockus*

Chrystie, our PCC Coordinator, is a certified English teacher with a background in both high school and adult education. She received her Bachelor's in English Literature and Writing as well as her Master's in Teaching at the State University of Potsdam. She has taught in both the public and private sector and has worked for a variety of youth programs. She enjoys reading young adult literature, fiction and children's books. One of Chrystie's favorite authors is Mitch Albom, author of *Tuesday's With Morrie*, and the last fiction book she read was *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister*, by Gregory Maguire. Her hobbies include reading to her children, camping, crafting beaded jewelry and watching movies at the movie theater.

## Upcoming Overdrive Classes

- 14th- Overdrive, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
Pulaski Public Library
- 14th- Overdrive, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  
Pulaski Public Library
- 15th- Overdrive, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
North Country Library System
- 15th- Overdrive, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  
North Country Library System
- 16th- Overdrive, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
Canton Free Library
- 16th- Overdrive, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  
Canton Free Library
- 21st- Overdrive, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
Lowville Free Library
- 21st- Overdrive, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  
Lowville Free Library

**OverDrive**  
leading digital media services

## NCLS at Job Fair



NCLS had a presence at the Job Fair held at the Dulles State Office Building on March 3rd. Traffic was steady as Joan Pellikka and Paulette Roes greeted more than 100 job seekers. The booth

featured library resources available at member libraries including, books on the job hunt, resume and cover letter writing, interviewing techniques, useful websites and Learning Express Library.

Jamie Peck and Chrystie Bockus from the Carthage PCC were on hand to let people know how the PCCs can assist with developing computer skills employers are seeking. All who stopped by the booth were surprised by how much their library had to offer.

## NCLS Calendar of Events

[www.nclsweb.org/events](http://www.nclsweb.org/events)



### March

- 16th- StoryWalk Training  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, Potsdam Public Library
- 22nd- Exploring the New NYS Annual Report Process  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm  
NCLS Training Lab
- 23rd- One World Many Stories/ You Are Here  
Summer Reading Program Workshop  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, Lowville Free Library
- 24th- NCLS Board of Directors Meeting  
10:00 am, NCLS Board Room
- 24th- One World Many Stories/ You Are Here  
Summer Reading Program Workshop  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, Pulaski Public Library
- 29th- One World Many Stories/ You Are Here  
Summer Reading Program Workshop  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, NCLS Meeting Room
- 30th- Exploring the New NYS Annual Report Process  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
WEBINAR
- 31st- One World Many Stories/ You Are Here  
Summer Reading Program Workshop  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, NNYLN, Potsdam

### April

- 12th- Library Makeovers: Adding WOW to Your Library  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, NCLS Meeting Room
- 13th- Library Makeovers: Adding WOW to Your Library  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, Lowville Free Library
- 26th- Collection Management  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm, NCLS Meeting Room

## Alice Barton Retires

Dozens turned out at Hawn Memorial Library in Clayton on March 2nd to wish Library Director, Alice Barton, well in her retirement. Alice has been a part of the North Country Library System community for the past 18 years. In that time she has ushered in many new technologies including public access computers, Internet access and Wi-Fi. Hawn Memorial Library was one of the earliest libraries to move to an automated circulation system and over the years has built a solid schedule of programming to benefit all in the Clayton community. Consequently, the library has received numerous system awards during Alice's tenure.



Alice has thoroughly enjoyed her time at Hawn. While she will surely miss the library staff and trustees, it is the patrons who are closest to her heart. Alice is grateful to have had the opportunity to serve them for so many years. The community will miss her as well.

Alice plans to relax and do some travelling, beginning with a trip to Australia and New Zealand in the fall. Congratulations, Alice, and best wishes in your retirement!

If your library has information to share in *NCLS @ccess*,  
Please contact Joan Pellikka at NCLS: 782-5540 or [jpellikka@ncls.org](mailto:jpellikka@ncls.org)

Happy



Spring!

## Automation Update

Congratulations to Harrisville Free Library, which had their "Go Live" day on October 26th and is now fully automated using the Sirsi circulation system!

Libraries currently barcoding their collections are:

Central Square Library  
Croghan Free Library  
Phoenix Public Library  
Rensselaer Falls Library  
Williamstown Library



The list continues to grow. Canton's Morley branch, Lyons Falls and Theresa have recently signed contracts and are preparing to automate as well.

If your library is interested in automation, please contact your Consultant at NCLS.