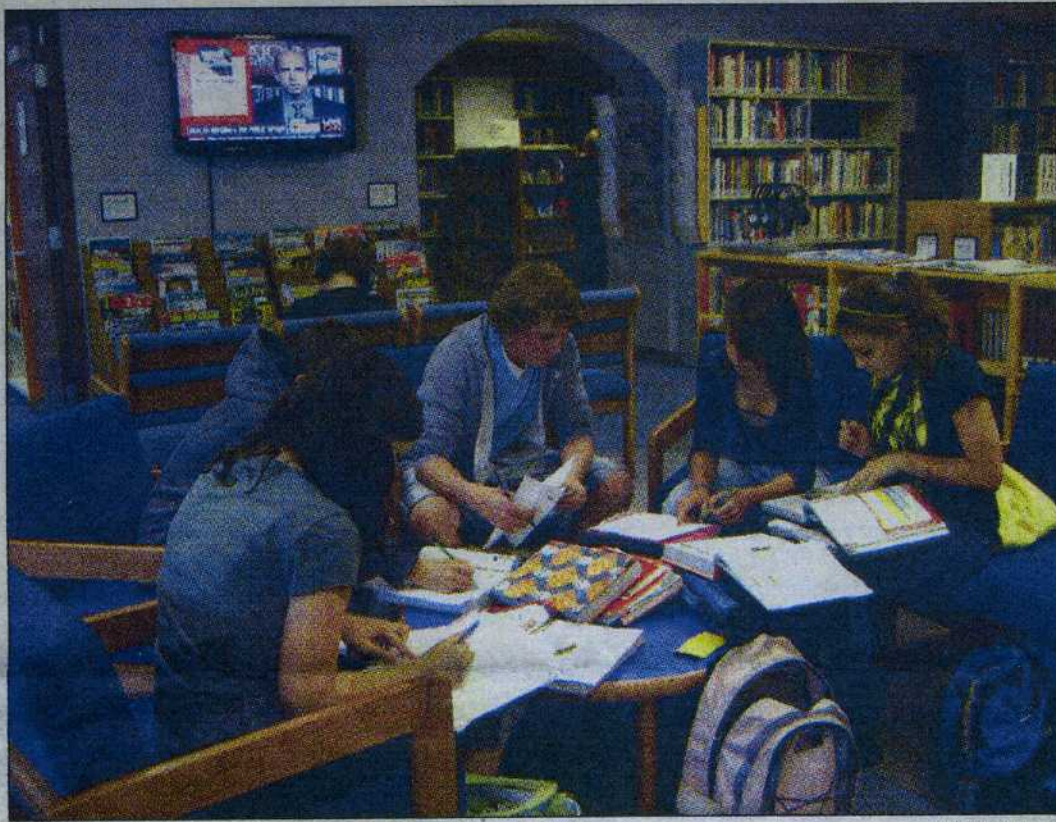


Now it's an information technology center



GRETYL MACALASTER

Librarian Ray Palin turned the library at Sunapee Middle High School into a learning commons when he took over three years ago. In addition to books, students have access to online research tools, e-readers, and other technology tools for multi-media presentations. Pam Harland, below, librarian at Plymouth Regional High School is helping to change the face of school libraries through the integration of technology and online resources for students.

Libraries turn the page

◆ **A new era:** Technology, community are backbones of modern libraries.

By GRETYL MACALASTER
Union Leader Correspondent

THE IMAGE of high school libraries as a quiet warehouses of books guarded by restrictive and stodgy librarians is all but a thing of the past.

Books are taking a backseat as banks of computers, group areas for collaborative projects, access to digital cameras, flip video cameras, e-readers and iPods take center stage. Today, a librarian has to be as on top of her technology as her bestseller lists.

"I think the library now is much more of a complete information technology center in a lot of schools," said Ray Palin, librarian at Sunapee Middle High School. "We're trying to provide information in a whole variety of forms now, where even 10 years ago print was primary and the quality of your library was based on the value of your print collection."

Both Palin and Plymouth Regional High School librarian Pam Harland were inspired by the learning commons concept that had been adopted at



► See **Libraries**, Page B2

Effort to SB2 with in Barr.

◆ **Access vs. inform** discussion at deliberati Saturday chilled suppo traditional town meeti

By CLYNTON
Union Leader Co

BARRINGTON — Suppor rant article to switch the ditional form of town g be dwindling after fierce deliberative session.

Selectman Charter We people who signed the p ticle on the warrant, said on pushing the issue any

"I still believe that it's a citizens to participate in frankly speaking it cause SB2 hearing and we have

Gov. Went warrant a advance u

◆ **Deliberative ses** in health plan, propert concerns.

By LARISSA
Union Leader Co

WOLFEBORO — The thre Governor Wentworth R warrant totaling more th unscathed to voting day

Fewer than 100 reside hour and 18 minute lon erative session held Sat in the brand new Kingsv

Libraries

Continued From Page B1

Plymouth State University and created this model in their own schools.

Harland said the focus is on the integration of technology with traditional library models, and making libraries user-centered instead of focusing on rules.

Her library is not a quiet place; it has students using netbooks and digital video cameras to create multimedia presentations, classes hearing presentations on quality web research and students asking questions about new technologies.

Both Palin and Harland have also upgraded their library websites to be their own virtual learning commons. Palin is also in the process of making electronic reference books available through an iPhone or an iPod Touch "because it's cool," he said.

"They are happy being in here. We are not just about rules and policies but adapting to what their needs are and trying to stay relevant and a little bit ahead of the curve," Harland said.

Harland said at first not all teachers were on board with the loud changes in the library, and were not fans of seeing students using headphones to listen to podcasts and an ever-present television constantly scrolling through news in the corner of the library.

"They felt it was a distraction from academics and from learning and the kids were coming in to fool around," Harland said. "I feel like over the five years I've been here that perception has changed."

Not only do librarians need to be able to offer this kind of digital media equipment and access, but also the expertise to show students and staff how to use them.

And some things have not changed. It is still the job of

a librarian to guide a student through safe and reliable research.

"Our job right now is to take kids that have grown up on the Internet and think all information is of equal value and of equal quality and to teach them the difference between scholarship and ordinary websites and free web info vs. quality, professionally written and researched stuff," Palin said.

Julie Ricker joined the Portsmouth High School staff as librarian last school year, and has already made drastic changes to improve electronic access for students. When she started, EBSCO was the only online database available to students, because it was free; now there are 17, and more widely advertised to students and staff.

"Librarians are perfectly positioned to guide students into 21st century leadership by shaping the ways they gather and use information and fostering a desire for lifelong learning," New Hampshire School Library Media Association member Sara Zoe Patterson said. "We use all tools available, books included, to build information literacy skills in students so their learning extends beyond the classroom and they use media in a way that is responsible, safe and ethical."

To go along with this shift in school library culture, the overarching school librarian association in the state recently went through a re-branding to better convey the total sum of the resource help they provide to students and to change perceptions about school librarians. The New Hampshire Educational Media Association is now the New Hampshire School Library Media Association.

For more information, visit www.nhslma.org.

Portsmouth High School librarian Julie Ricker helps senior Chris Battye, 17, with some after-

whether to keep 302 though because the warrant article was not amended during delib-

But Weeks said he wants to return to traditional town meeting because he believes more

both expensive p
"If our plow tr
able right now,

Wentworth

new Kingswood Regional High School campus on Route 28 in Wolfeboro.

The school district includes the towns of Brookfield, Effingham, New Durham, Ossipee, Tuftonboro and Wolfeboro.

Article II requests \$64,235 to cover costs of the collective bargaining agreement between the school district and the Governor Wentworth Support Staff Association.

Superintendent of Schools Jack Robertson said the association included 192 staff members who work as classroom assistants, kitchen workers, bus drivers and support staff.

He called the collective bargaining agreement a "win-win" situation for all parties.

"The key to the agreement was the association agreed to

change its health insurance plan to a less expensive plan," he said.

Workers had been paying 10 percent of their own insurance premiums, but under the new agreement the district will pay 100 percent of the premium and, in exchange, there were no blanket wage increases. Those workers who forgo health benefits will get a 2 percent raise, he added.

Article IV requests \$150,000 for repairs and improvement at the buildings or grounds including repairs to the middle school, Region 9 Vocational Career and Technical Education Center, Carpenter School, Crescent Lake School, Effingham Elementary, New Durham School, Ossipee Central School, Tuftonboro Central School and

the SAU 49 Trancility.

Robertson said used to request more for repair, but the reduced partly due high school construct.

"We do have in real estate - that are very old placed," he said.

For example a exchange unit at ham School, an roof at the Carpo Wolfeboro need

Article V covers district operating \$45,981,059, a crease over last year budget amount i Robertson ind

Bank robbery suspect named

◆ TD Bank on South Willow: Suspect is a state prison inmate on work release.

MANCHESTER — A man accused of robbing the TD Bank at 1255 S. Willow St., Monday afternoon was arrested at Home Depot a short time later, where he was awaiting a cab.

Kevin Sigurbjartsson, 21, was charged with robbery and

resisting arrest.

Police responding to the reported bank robbery at about 2:15 p.m. were told a cab company had been called for a taxi at Taco Bell, where patrons said a man had flashed a large amount of cash while calling for a cab.

The man was gone from Taco Bell by the time police arrived, but the cab company reported the taxi had been redirected to the nearby Home Depot, on March Avenue. Police converged on

Home Depot, where spotted a man robber's description in the garden section. When the officer called out to the man, the man reversed direction and headed toward the main building, where were waiting for Sigurbjartsson

Manchester man charged with

Manchester Crimewatch

A probable cause hearing was set Feb. 16 in Manchester District Court for Daniel Issu, 43, of 61 Trahan St. who could enter no plea Monday to a felony second degree assault charge that alleges he pulled on his wife's headscarf, tightening it around her neck and causing her difficulty in breathing.

A charge of endangering the welfare of a minor alleges his wife was holding their year-old

revoke that bail. A hearing was scheduled for Tuesday morning.

Ignores bail conditions

Keith Lavallee, 35, of 422 Shasta St., was released on bail Sunday after his arrest on charges of domestic assault, for allegedly grabbing his girl-

contact with the and barred Lavallee to the Shasta Street

But police said turned to Shasta Monday, so he Chester District Court for arraignment original charges charges of grabbing

