

### **Fulton Memoirs**

Betty Maute, Director Fulton Public Library March 20,2015

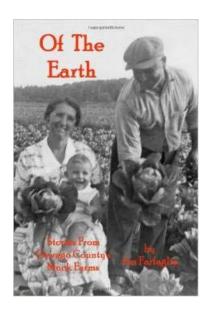
## City of Fulton

- Population 11,000
- NYS municipality facing fiscal distress
- "City the Great Depression Missed"



### The Beginning 2012

- Jim Farfaglia, local poet / author
- "Country Boy" collection of poems
- Invited local muck farmers & public



### Spring

 Poets & Writers, Inc., with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts

Jim wanted to help people write

 We both wanted to bring a sense of pride back to the Fulton community

Applied for and was awarded \$1500 to author

### **April Outreach**

- Women's Club
- Friends of Fulton History Pratt House
- Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions
- Senior Apartments







#### Summer

- One group per month met for 4 writing classes in the library
- Each senior apartments had their own class
- Recruited volunteers to work one on one or type hand written memoirs
- 41 memoirs completed, new friends were made and everyone learned something
- Ages 50-100

### August

- Stories were edited and approved by authors
- Release forms to signed



Free

1-Week Winter Break Writing Camp for ages 8-13:

Snowy Day Word Play!

When: February 17th - February 21st, 2014 • Monday - Friday

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Fulton Public Library 160 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Fulton, NY

Instructors: Jim Farfaglia and Karen Burke

Where:



Join us as we explore our winter world through writing with a week's worth of fun, adventuresome and delicious activities!

Writings may be published in a collection or the local paper with your permission.

Seating is limited.

All those interested should call 315-592-5159 to register.

### September

- Public reading
- City of Fulton Community Center
- 90 attendees



John and Idamae

### November

Book published using Amazon's CreateSpace

 Contributing authors invited to pick up a free copy at the library – Mayor provided opening words

 Authors met, mingled and signed each other's books

### What we learned

- The project MUST continue
- Annual themes would be helpful
- Recruit younger writers for diversity
- Better location needed for public reading

Marketing would make a difference

Need more money

### 2014

- Shineman Foundation grant awarded
- Education and Business Theme
- Encouraged teens to contribute
- Presentation moved to Cayuga Community College – Fulton Campus
  - Provided transport to senior housing
  - Serve only water
  - Slide show to accompany readings





# FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY









### 2015

Library as Publisher Innovator Grant from NY
3Rs Association will help with marketing

Theme: Community service providers

March - initiated weekly 'memory circles'

### Results

- New friends
- People who never thought they could write, continue to write on their own
- Learn something about your community that you did not know
- New connections for the library
- Donations to the library

Betty Maute <a href="mailto:bmaute@ncls.org">bmaute@ncls.org</a> 315-592-5159

