

Adirondack Daily Enterprise

Keene Valley oral history project is now offered as a classroom resource

KEENE VALLEY — On Monday the Keene Valley Library added a Teacher’s Guide to the “*Adirondack Community: Capturing, Retaining, and Communicating the Stories of Who We Are*” and “*OurStoryBridge: Connecting the Past and the Present*” websites. This guide is designed for teachers in the Adirondacks, New York state and across the country.

The Teacher’s Guide consists of a “*How To*” document outlining how to use the stories for lessons in any school in any community; the Story Selection Chart a tool to match stories with specific high school courses;

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180 stories currently available;

and the Sample School Assignment.

Brad Hurlburt, Keene Central School teacher and liaison to the Adirondack Community project, helped create the Teacher's Guide.

“At Keene Central School, we have used Adirondack Community stories in the classroom to enhance our lessons with this amazing collection and to provide students with firsthand historical knowledge, including models of local civic engagement,” Hurlburt said. *“Although the storytellers are based in the Adirondack Mountains of New York state, their stories teach universal lessons.”*

Angelina Lappin, an 11th-grader in North Carolina who categorized each story by 28 typical high school courses, said, *“I was rendered speechless by all that I learned while listening to the 180 stories on the website. I recognized the relevance of the stories to my high school curriculum and connect deeply with other students' stories, sensing the magic and passion that exists within the Adirondack community.”*

Adirondack Community, at www.myadirondackstory.org, is a multi-year local history project that collects and organizes three- to five-minute audio stories and related photographs from town of Keene community members.

OurStoryBridge, at www.ourstorybridge.org, is a free resource and toolkit for producing a crowdsourced community story project, and is designed to

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using Adirondack Community as a model.

For more information on Adirondack Community and OurStoryBridge, email createyourstoryproject@gmail.com or call 410-353-6372.

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