



# C-E-F TRAILBLAZER

## Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System News

*"First Multi-County Library System in New York State"*

STANLEY A. RANSOM  
Director

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Snow and darkness swirl together,  
Typical North Country weather.  
Trudging to the office, we  
Caren on ice precariously.  
Bundled round, appearance spherical,  
The fact we get to work's a miracle,  
But this sturdy Northern breed  
Will flinch not from the daily need  
Of people needing books exotic,  
Learnéd, frivolous or zealotic,  
Each to his taste, the books provided  
Are sent out as the choice is decided.  
In spite of snow and ice and slush,  
Our bookmobiles still onward 'mush'  
Carrying their welcome load of books,  
Rewarded by the happy looks  
Of patrons waiting in the snow  
At temperatures of ten below.  
Santa on his worldwide run  
Could not distribute much more fun  
Than bookmobiles on their scheduled day  
Bring to people along the way.  
Back at the library, muffled sounds  
Echo the carolers on their rounds.  
Briefly we stop, briefly remember,  
- It's almost the twenty-fifth of December.  
So we pause in our work for the very best reason:  
To wish all of you a good holiday season!  
Merry, Merry Christmas!



Mary G. Leggett

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The System's Job information Center, located at Plattsburgh Public Library, is about to begin service and we are all excited about it. Our county of Essex has currently the highest unemployment rate in the State and Franklin and Clinton counties are also badly affected. The System will be filling a vital North Country need with the Job Information Center.

A Book is a Loving Gift is the title of an attractive, 12 page booklist for holiday giving produced by Linda Engelbert of the Ramapo-Catskill Library System. We have arranged to purchase a limited quantity of these booklists, as well as a companion booklist, Books That Belong, for distribution by our member libraries. It's our Christmas present to you. Some of you may still have undistributed copies of the John Hancock Christmas Carol Booklets. Don't forget to get these out too!

Warm Holiday Greetings to you all!

Stanley A. Ransom, Director

### GRANT FOR JOB INFORMATION CENTER APPROVED

A grant of \$15,000 from the Library Services and Construction Act has been approved for a Job Information Center. This Center is another System service to the people of the North Country. It is located at Plattsburgh Public Library and staffed by System personnel hired with funds under this Federal Grant. The Center will cooperate and interact with the local branch of the New York State Employment Service and its director, Miss Emily Weinurm. We are fortunate indeed to get this grant; if we hadn't, the funds would be used downstate.

Mrs. Leona Salzman will supervise the Job Information Center. Mrs. Salzman is a graduate of Millersville State College, Pennsylvania, and received her library science degree from Drexel University, Philadelphia. Mrs. Salzman will help patrons with resumé's, job preparedness, tactics of

job searches and will also help patrons with information on how they can make money at home. A specific group of books and films will provide the nucleus for the Center - and will include books on civil service examinations, state licensure examinations, etc.

The Center will open December 1, 1976. Hours will be: Monday, 10-5, 7-9; Tuesdays through Friday, 10-12, 1-5. We hope in the near future to add a recording device to the telephone that will allow patrons to leave messages twenty-four hours a day. The telephone number is 563-8370 and is listed under Job Information Center.

A special tie-in to this service is being given to each of our member libraries. We are sending them a useful "Job Information Shelf" of books and pamphlets to start job seekers on their way to success. A sign for this shelf will be on the way to each library very shortly.

Among the titles sent out are:

Greco	<u>How to Get the Job that's Right for you</u>
Crystal	<u>Where Do I Go From Here With My Life</u>
Angel	<u>Why and How to Prepare and Effective Job Resumes</u>
Donaho	<u>How to Get the Job You Want</u>
Arco	<u>Resumés That Get Jobs</u>
Arco	<u>How to Pass Employment Tests</u>
Arco	<u>Civil Service Examination Books</u>

Please let us know how this service is received at your library and of course, should you have any questions, be sure to contact us at Headquarters.

### GRANTS AND MORE GRANTS

Happily for those who are not able to reach a library or a bookmobile stop, the Books By Mail Grant has been renewed for another year. This grant is contracted out to the North Country Library System in Watertown under the direction of Ronald Roberts, System Director, and Erma Hover of that staff. Books By Mail enable shut-ins, parents with small children, people who lack transportation, to order books sent to their homes under this LSCA grant. The program has been very well received and we are glad to be able to continue it.

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Another LSCA grant for \$43,500 has been given to the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center. The grant will be earmarked for operating expenses for this library for another year. Congratulations to our librarians at Akwesasne!

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The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System has received a grant of \$995.00 for two historic preservation workshops. These workshops will be open to historians, museum curators and librarians and will be held during 1977.

#### TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

Paul Vogan was recently elected President of the New York State Retired Teachers Association at Kutsher's Country Club, Monticello, New York. About 700 delegates and friends attended the annual conference.

This Association was organized by a group of retired educators in 1951 to render service to others and to themselves. The membership, which now exceeds 27,000, puts most of its effort into securing favorable legislation for retired educators and rendering services to those its members in need.

Mr. Vogan has been a member of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System Board of Trustees since 1960. He served as President of the Board in 1965. He is currently first Vice President of the Board.

Congratulations on your new position as President of NYSRTA; they are fortunate indeed to have someone of your caliber as President.

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Edward Hoyt of Malone was elected Treasurer of the Franklin County Historical and Museum Society recently. Mr. Hoyt has been a leader in this organization and has been deeply involved in demonstrations of old time skills. Edward Hoyt has been a member of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System Board of Trustees since 1962 and was President of the Board in 1966 and 1967. Congratulations on your new office!

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Stanley Metcalf, Trustee of the Wells Memorial Library in Upper Jay, is the subject of a long article published in the November 11, 1976, issue of the Lake Placid News. At 86, retired from his own prosperous business, Stanley Metcalf has certainly not retired from life. An avid skier, Mr. Metcalf was made an honorary member of the Whiteface Ski Patrol last year - the oldest member ever. Observers say he outlasts his children and his grandchildren on Whiteface's slopes.

Mr. Metcalf is active as well in civic affairs, serving with the Upper Jay Volunteer Fire Department, President of the AuSable Rotary and member of the Board of Trustees of the Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay. A closing paragraph in an autobiography he wrote for his children and grandchildren reveals much of his character: "It has, in general, been a satisfactory life so far. I look forward to as many more years of activity as I am spared to have. While I am growing older physically, I hope I will stay young mentally. Life should still have challenges and rewards for me."

#### STAFF NEWS

John Crager, Young Adult and Bookmobile Consultant at Headquarters, has

been elected head of the New York Library Association's Bookmobile Committee.

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Shelley Fracalossi has been hired as a temporary part-time typist in Technical Services. Cindy Balko and Charles Starr are also working with us under the State University at Plattsburgh's Work Study plan. We have Debbie Ducatte and Debbie Laporte working as pages for us under a program of the Joint Council of Economic Opportunity.

COMMISSIONER'S REGULATIONS

We have received many questions recently over the new page on education requirements included in this year's Annual Report which each librarian must fill out.

If you refer to the May, 1975, issue of The Trailblazer, you will find the new regulations for library directors. Any library serving a population of less than 2,500 need not meet these regulations. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Ransom at Headquarters.

BOOK REVIEWS

Shields, Addie L., ed. Beekmantown, A Landmark in a Passageway. Pub. by the Beekmantown Bicentennial Committee. \$3.00 paper

Another good addition to the local history shelf. This is a history of Beekmantown, its early settlers including the Beekman family, the British invasion, personal recollections, a description of the farm community, full of anecdotes and details about Beekmantown. Illustrated with many photographs and maps. You can purchase this book by writing Addie Shields, RD #2, Box 764E, Plattsburgh, New York, 12901.

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Rosecrans, Thomas R. Adirondack Rock and Ice Climbs. Pub. by the Rosecrans Outing and Climbing Klub, RD #1, Lake George, New York, 12845. \$6.00 paper

Designed for the mountain climber with

some prior experience, this is an invaluable little pocket guide to climbing in the Adirondacks. It includes the practice of rock and ice climbing, seasonal conditions, the classification of climbs according to difficulty, and specific climbs in the Adirondack area. Great for Christmas giving and a good addition to library collections. Order from the author, address as above.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

The library has mounted a drive for funds to replace the money formerly received from the School Board. The generosity and support of the townspeople has been remarkable. Names of the many donors have been published each week in the Adirondack Record Post.

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Linda Kahn held a meeting of the officers of the Friends of the Library recently. Attending were Linda Kahn, President; Elaine Knapp, Vice President; Elie Rule, Secretary; Betty Mintzer, Treasurer; Helen Douglass, First Vice President of the Library Board of Trustees. The Friends of the Library are users of the library and concerned with its welfare. Plans for future fund raising projects and a need for new members were discussed. Other meetings are planned for the near future.

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The library has received a very fine check from the Pre-School Story Hour group, under the direction of Mrs. Naomi Nicoll. The check is to be used for the purchase of children's books.

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The Lions Club is interested in furthering its aid to the blind through tapes which can be obtained by the Library from the New York State Library for the Blind. Books in braille may also be obtained. Folders at the library explain



this service. The library is grateful to Paul Maicus for his pictures of the library and to Pearl Maicus for her excellent posters.

#### CHAZY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of this Library held their annual Christmas Coffee on Sunday, December 5, in the library from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This was a special occasion to chat with friends, meet new people, have some hot coffee or tea and pastry and help the library with a donation. Committee members were: Helen Sweet, Beulah Wright, Elizabeth Fulton and Miriam Wiley.

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The Friends of the Library held their monthly story hour at the library on Saturday, November 20 from 11 a.m. to noon. Movies and a story were featured. Kindergarten to third grade children were invited. Committee members were: Miriam Wiley and Madeline Gagnon.

#### ELIZABETHTOWN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Blair and Ketchum's Country Journal, published monthly by Country Journal Publishing Company, Brattleboro, Vermont, is now being received at this library. The type of articles in this periodical run the gamut from butchering, raising sheep, gardening, cooking, solar heating and the actual construction of a solar heated house.

There is now a telephone at the Elizabethtown Library. The number is 873-2690.

#### BELDEN-NOBLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ESSEX

Leila Wells, former assistant librarian here and a volunteer of many years standing, recently celebrated her 96th birthday. An

article in the Valley News describes Mrs. Wells and her many activities.

Leila was born October 29, 1880, on John Brown's Farm at Lake Placid. She was graduated from Westport High School and Westport Teachers Training Class of 1902. Married to the late Thomas Wells, Leila has three living children: Dennis, living in nearby Willsboro; Sister Mary Felicitas and Sister Mary Emerita, both Sisters of Mercy at Plattsburgh and Tupper Lake respectively.

In 1969, Leila published her first book, Memories of the Good Old Days, and has since published, Once Upon a Time and Times Have Changed, all three being attractively illustrated by Sister Felicitas.

Mrs. Wells has been a speaker at many elementary schools, enthusiastically recalling the days of butter churns, soft soap, wool-gathering, wood stoves, and candlemaking. This summer she was guest speaker at a Catholic Daughters of America reception at Corinth. She has been making "Log Cabin" quilts for more than forty years and she had an exhibit and demonstration of her quilting techniques at the Adirondack Center Museum in 1973. She still uses her treadle machine to sew log cabin designs for pillows which she markets in local craft shops. Meanwhile she continues her active interest in the local library by reading with her "talking book" records.

Note: We've had the pleasure of knowing Leila Wells for about seventeen years, talking and working with her at library meetings. She was always interested in the library and was herself a contribution to each meeting. The community and the library is the richer for having her a part of the Village of Essex.

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#### Editor's Notes

It is the editor's privilege to occasionally bring items to your notice. In the Adirondack Record Post not long

ago, there was a short article listing the bookmobile stops in the area for November and December. The article goes

on to say, "As the year draws to a close, it would be hard to say how wonderful this service is, especially now with gas 65 cents a gal. and climbing all the while ... This (the bookmobile) is one of the best values for your tax dollar."

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Wayne Bryne, husband of Trustee Peg Byrne and himself a former Trustee, called to tell us that December 7th's issue of the Wall Street Journal carried notice of a Washington, D.C. bumper sticker which bore the message, "Librarians are novel lovers."

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Watch for The Belle of Amherst, a

television adaptation of the widely acclaimed stage production based on the life of Emily Dickinson. Julie Harris will star in this television special filmed before a live audience in Los Angeles. It will be presented on PBS on Wednesday, December 29 at 8:00 p.m. Encore and matinee performances are scheduled Saturday, January 1 at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, January 2 at 2:00 p.m. Walter Kerr of the New York Times described The Belle of Amherst as "... the most stimulating event of the season..." and he considered Miss Harris' portrayal a "one-woman triumph as the custodian of Emily Dickinson's mind, heart, letters, verses, determinations and disappointments." Be sure to check your local television listing for the day, time and station since they do vary.

Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor

#### LEGISLATIVE ALERT - ACTION NEEDED

GOVERNOR CAREY IS REPORTED TO BE CONSIDERING REDUCTIONS IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXISTING FORMULAS FOR A RANGE OF LOCAL PROGRAMS - INCLUDING LIBRARIES! MESSAGES ARE NEEDED IMMEDIATELY TO GOVERNOR CAREY POINTING OUT THAT LIBRARY PROGRAMS ALL OVER THE STATE ARE BEING DEVASTATED BY LOCAL CUTS. STATE CUTS ON TOP OF THESE WOULD RESULT IN A NEW ROUND OF CLOSINGS OF SCHOOL AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND A FURTHER REDUCTION OF SERVICE IN SUNY LIBRARIES AND OTHER MAJOR RESEARCH CENTERS.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS ALL OVER THE STATE ARE BEING WHACKED BY LOCAL CUTS! WE NEED YOUR HELP. PLEASE SUPPORT LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND INCREASE THE STATE AID FORMULA FOR LIBRARIES. RURAL AREAS ARE PARTICULARLY IN NEED.

CONTACT GOVERNOR CAREY, STATE CAPITOL, ALBANY, 12224, RIGHT AWAY.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director  
Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor