



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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The Future is Upon Us, Baby, and We Had Better be Ready for it

OCLC - here it comes!
Ruffle bugles, beat the drums!
Peer into its depths and see
Information cryptically,
What the book is, where located,
Appetite for knowledge sated
By computerized IQ
What and where and also who...
The future looms predictably
On print-out from OCLC.

M. Leggett

We tend to be a bit nervously facetious about computers - but the fact is that we are now taking our first step into this new technology and we are expecting our computer (the OCLC terminal) this summer.

The preliminaries are in motion. Mr. Ransom, Richard Ward, Carol Bedore and Rose Waddell were in Albany on March 15 at Twin Towers in Albany as part of the first group to talk to OCLC (Ohio College Library Center) experts. This was an intensive one day seminar on how to integrate OCLC into our present system.

What can OCLC do? It can do the difficult cataloging on titles for which there

is little or no cataloging information. It can offer prompt cataloging on titles for which our jobbers cannot supply catalog cards. Verification for pre-order searching can also be done with OCLC. For the reference department, OCLC is a bonanza: verifying and locating materials for interlibrary loan, identifying obscure materials that are being asked for.

So we are moving into the computer age - and this is just the beginning. Easier information storage and retrieval will start with this new addition to Headquarters - and the spinoff from this will help every library in the System.

Mary Gordon Leggett

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The chief purpose of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System is to provide "quality library service to the residents of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties." With this in mind, the C-E-F Board of Trustees adopted in January a three page document entitled "Planning for 1977". Our services for 1977 will be based upon this plan. Copies of the plan are being distributed to all member libraries. We invite you to offer suggestions for improving the quality, variety and speed of our services. Each one will be given serious consideration and, if possible, will be incorporated into our planning for this or next year.

A new edition of our film catalog is nearing completion. Marie Chauvin has finished typing the master list, close to 75 pages. We will soon complete the index. The cover is ready. Then comes the duplicating of 1,000 copies of each, then stapling. Thank you for your patience.

Coming up May 9, 16, and 23 is our Conservation and Preservation Workshop series. Led by nationally known experts, the workshops offer a rare opportunity for librarians, curators, historians and collectors to learn about the preservation of books, art prints, manuscripts, maps, paintings, textiles and photographs. If you have even a small collection of historic letters, diaries, documents or other materials, this series will help you to take proper care of them. An invitation will be coming to you soon. Please respond by May 1 so we can save a place for you.

This series is being presented by the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System at Clinton Community College with the assistance of funds provided by the New York State Council on the Arts.

See you at the workshops!

Stanley A. Ransom

SERVICE PLANS - 1977

Service to our member libraries and their patrons should be given a major boost soon, thanks to some delightfully unexpected and additional LSCA grants. Thank you, Division of Library Development!

A new delivery van is our first grant to note. We have applied to CETA for a driver, and with this combination, we expect to plan weekly deliveries to all libraries rather than monthly stops.

Second is the improvement of our Union Catalog, which lists what books are in our own and member library collections. We use it to check to see who has a particular book when we receive an inter-library loan request. Up to now we lack any information on books held by member libraries prior to 1954 in Clinton and Essex Counties and prior to 1962 in Franklin County. After that date, each member library sends a card to us each time they add a new book to their collection.

We would like to ask permission of each library to allow us to microfilm their card catalog. From this microfilm we can produce a catalog card to file in or update our Union Catalog. One advantage will be to enable us to locate books faster and to send them to you and your patron more quickly. Another advantage is that we will have a security microfilm of your library holdings in case of fire. We will be sending more information as soon as possible.

Our third grant is for the purchase and installation of the Ohio College Library Center (OCLC) terminal, scheduled for July or August. This will help speed our cataloging, ordering and reference verification. It will also eventually be used for direct interlibrary loans and for other types of contact with other libraries.

The fourth grant was for the improvement of our Job Information Center. We will now be able to staff the Center with a full time professional librarian assisted by a clerk for 30 hours per week. This should prove a very valuable service to the unemployed and the career seekers in our three counties. We are cooperating closely with the New York State Employment Service.

We welcome these opportunities to prove the effectiveness and the practical usefulness of the System and its member libraries to our patrons, the residents of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties.

Stanley A. Ransom

HISTORIC PRESERVATION WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED

Dates have been set for the three workshops on Historic Preservation. These workshops planned by the System have been made possible by a grant from the Council on the Arts.

On May 9, Carolyn Horton, President of Carolyn Horton Associates, New York City, will deal with the preservation and restoration of books, pamphlets and other library materials. Carolyn Horton is the expert in this field and should make this an outstanding workshop.

On May 16, Edward Weldon, the State Archivist, will present a program on archives and record management. He will also explain the proper way to handle and preserve official records. Edward Weldon is a former editor of The American Archivist and an authority in his field. In fact, his workshop is a prototype of similar workshops he expects to do throughout the State.

On May 23, a dynamic duo, Noel Kunz and Nancy Donaldson from the Conservation Center at New York University will discuss flat paper restoration and conservation of prints, maps, photographs and paintings.

All of the meetings will be held at

Clinton Community College, Route 9 South, Plattsburgh. Those attending will please bring their lunch; coffee will be provided. The workshops are planned for 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on each of the Mondays scheduled

Invitations will be mailed out shortly with reservations to be confirmed by May 1. Member librarians and trustees, historians and curators, collectors, town and county government people, and System supervisory staff will be invited. Keep these dates in mind: May 9; May 16; May 23 - all Mondays from 9:30 to 4:00 - and all at Clinton Community College.

LIBRARY LEGISLATION DAY, MARCH 22

This day was set aside as one of several days marked for librarians to talk to their representatives in Albany about library funding.

Librarians asked their legislators to continue support for the State Library in Albany that has been so badly hurt by cut-backs in staff, to support the development of intersystem cooperation through regional library service. Increased aid for public library systems was also a discussion point, as was the Donovan bill (S3045) for public library service on Indian reservations, and the School Library Contingency Bill.

Stanley Ransom of C-E-F, Anne Romans of Plattsburgh Public Library, and Anne Mitchell of Feinberg Library formed part of the representation for NYLA from this area.

Mary Leggett of the Albany IV Political Action Committee of CSEA; Carol Bedore, Unit President CSEA; and CSEA committee member Richard Ward talked to legislators as representatives of both CSEA and NYLA from this area.

We were pleased by legislators' attitude and their thoughtful recognition of the financial problems of all libraries - and the time these busy men took to talk

to us.

We will be going down to Albany again, although we hope that next time we won't run into the same horrible snow storm on the way home.

RESULTS OF COUNTY SURVEY DISCUSSED

Roberta Merrens, Research Associate in Charge of Outreach from the Miner Center, presented the results of a study made on rural access to services in Clinton County to Stanley Ransom, Dick Ward and Mary Leggett at Headquarters on March 23. This Crossroads Survey, as it is informally called, used information from key informants in the county, a check of crossroads or meeting places in the county, and general sample surveys to assess patterns of access to employment, health care, recreation, libraries, community and commercial services within the county. By use of maps and carefully planned overlays, Roberta was able to demonstrate the way needs of people in Clinton County were, or were not, met in the county.

The Rural Outreach Office of Miner Center was kind enough to give the System 14 volumes covering information on each township in Clinton County and 7 volumes identifying the general patterns of access in all areas that were surveyed. This set will be a valuable aid to libraries, chambers of commerce, professional and business people seeking advantageous locations in Clinton County.

NEW C-E-F BOOKMOBILE EXHIBITED

The public got its first look at the new Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library bookmobile on Wednesday, March 9, from 5 to 8 p.m., when it was on display in the Parking Lot of the new Clinton County Government Center in Plattsburgh. The Gerstenslager Company, maker of the bookmobile, and the Board of Trustees of the System provided refreshments for all visitors from 5 until 8.

This new bookmobile, a badly needed replacement for an older one rapidly dis-

integrating from hard use, is a gift from the legislative bodies of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties to the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System for the use of people in the three counties. It will be stopping at 67 communities in these counties, communities too small to support a public library. Bookmobile users will welcome the new bookmobile since circulation at all these stops goes up each year, running the gamut of requests from best-sellers to books for do-it-yourselfers to materials for doctoral dissertations. Bookmobile service, as well as the excellent service from the 26 member libraries and 4 book stations in the three counties, form a complete pattern of library service in this area.

During the ceremony at 7:00 p.m., Donald Garrant, Chairman of the Clinton County Board of Legislators, acting as representative for all three legislative bodies, presented the keys to the new bookmobile to Mrs. James Rogers, President of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Board of Trustees. A plaque commemorating this gift of the three legislative bodies of Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties was presented by Mrs. Rogers and installed in the bookmobile.

The bookmobile was also on display at the County Building in Malone on March 17 from 10 to 3 and in Elizabethtown on March 21 from 10 to 3.

The public response to these opportunities to see our new System bookmobile was very good indeed. Supervisors and C-E-F trustees from Essex and Franklin Counties came on board on the day of exhibit in each county - and we are justifiably proud of their gift for good library service. The new bookmobile goes into action, fully stocked and ready to go, on Monday, April 4.

IN MEMORIAM

Thomas B. Cantwell of Saranac Lake, local attorney and civic leader, died

unexpectedly in February. Mr. Cantwell was at one time a trustee of the System library and was, at the time of his death, President of the Saranac Lake Free Library. All those who knew Tom Cantwell, including those of us at the System, will sorely miss this man of integrity who devoted so much of his time to helping his community and all the people of the North Country.

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are many adults in Clinton County who cannot read or write. They cannot vote, sign their child's report card, read the labels on a bottle of medicine. Literacy Volunteers of America, an organization devoted to helping these people on a one-to-one basis, providing them with tutors, with especially designed materials to help them learn easily, needs volunteers.

Perhaps you, as a librarian or a trustee or someone in your community, would like to join the thousands of active volunteers. You do not need a college education to be a Literacy Volunteer; what you do need is an interest in people and in books, and a willingness to give some of your time each week.

If you decide you would like to be a Literacy Volunteer, you will be trained. Courses for new volunteers will be given at the LVA (Literacy Volunteers of America) Office, Room 023, Hawkins Hall, State University at Plattsburgh. The dates scheduled are Mondays - April 18, April 25, May 2; Thursdays - April 21, April 28, May 5.

LVA is part of the effort being made by the American Library Association to focus on the problems of illiteracy. LVA has offered to work closely with local libraries since librarians, particularly, can combine the skills of professionals with the time and talent of volunteers.

So if you yourself, or anyone in your community, wishes to join in this vital program, please call one of the following

people:

Polly Parsons at 563-3283
Diana Crichton at 561-6540
Helen Sumner at 563-1270
or the Literacy Volunteer Office at
561-5332.

M. Leggett

BOOK REVIEW

Houston, James. Ghost Fox. Harcourt, 1977. - \$8.95

The time is the French and Indians Wars; the place is New Hampshire where seventeen year old Sarah Wells is stolen from the family farm during a brutal and bloody raiding party by Abnaki Indians. After a long, grueling forced march into Canada, Sarah finds she has within her enough strength to fight for her survival in a new and completely different culture. The warmth and humanity of the Indians and whites comes through, as well as the brutality of war. Sarah's yearning for home and her adaptation to life with the Indians, a life that brings with it love and sense of belonging, is both moving and exciting. The author's development of both Indian and white characters is carefully delineated; the twists of the plot are superb. Lake Champlain and Vermont also figure in the background.

Ghost Fox is a good buy for any member library with a clientele looking for historical novels. I rather wish that I hadn't read it yet - so that I could have the pleasure of reading for the first time again. But it is a novel that will bear re-reading and you can be sure that I will re-read it.

M. Leggett

HEADQUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

A Three R's meeting on NYSILL and Interlibrary Loan was held at Clarkson College, Potsdam, on February 17.

Speakers for the morning session were E. J. Josey, Chief of the Bureau of Specialist Library Services; Jane G. Rollins, Associate in Library services and NYSILL Coordinator; Peter Paulson, Director of the New York State Library; Mary Felix, Associate Librarian with Collection Development and Network Services of the New York State Library; and Marie De Lorenzo, Supervisor of Electronic Data Processing, New York State Library. After lunch, there was a panel discussion by NC3R's librarians with Elinore Vorse as moderator.

Stanley and Dorothy Ransom, Rose Waddell and Richard Ward attended from Headquarters.

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Lee Salzman of the C-E-F Job Information Center and Anne Romans of Plattsburgh Public Library represented the System at a Career Information Forum held at Clinton Community College on March 30. Several people from local businesses and agencies were also members of the Forum designed to provide students with some insight into career opportunities open to them on the local, state and national levels.

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Nancy Clegg of Headquarters staff has been making up monthly collections for member librarians for about two years. It has been some time since we asked if you would like changes made in your collections; it is now time to ask again what kind of books you need.

Keeping in mind that we can't include best-sellers in your collections, what kind of fiction do your readers like? If they like light romances, historical novels, gothics, they may have to be satisfied with older books. We do have many new or almost new books that haven't completely circulated. You could look these over if we included them in your collections - these are both fiction and non-fiction.

A limited number of large print books

is available. We have been sending these only to libraries that request them; however there may be people in other libraries who would enjoy them. So if you want them, let us know. Please do return them promptly; they are in heavy demand.

We have many requests for craft books and try to send at least one to each library. Please keep returning so all may share. If you don't use craft books, let us know so they may go where the demand is.

You know what your patrons want. So if you wish to make changes in your collection, please notify Nancy Clegg and she'll try her best to fill your requirements.

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Another new face at Headquarters. Linda Fish has been hired as a clerk-typist to help Lee Salzman in the Job Information Center.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

Beatrice Cole and Laura Cree attended a workshop in Rochester the week of March 1, 1977. Titled "Management by Objective", the workshop was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Office of Native American Programs.

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The following people gave financial donations to the library: Hobart Jenkins, Downers Grove, Illinois; Mary Druke of Vermont; Mr. and Mrs. John Bartlett of Staten Island; Dr. and Mrs. Frank Peskor of St. Lawrence University.

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A Directory of Helping Services 1977, St. Regis Reservation, Akwesasne, has been sent out to people on the reservation. The library is now publishing a bi-monthly

newsletter full of a variety of information on the library, education, health and employment services, etc.

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Adult Consumer Education classes are being held at the library on Fridays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Subjects covered include home wiring, cooking under pressure, family health services, indoor gardening, dairy dishes for dieters, auto repair, electricity and spot cleaning.

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Recent visitors at the Museum in the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center came from Capetown, South Africa; London and Manchester, England; Hamburg, Germany; West Germany, Nova Scotia, Puerto Rico, Holland, Belgium, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Poland, Australia, France, Canada and many states including Alaska and Hawaii. Truly the Museum seems to be an international meeting place.

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

Miss Elsa Voelcker, a descendant of the Rogers family, has presented a copy of her recent work, An Industrial History of AuSable Forks, N. Y., to this library. The publication presents in word and picture an authentic history of AuSable Forks from its beginnings, including the J & J Rogers Company. Only 3 copies have been made: one for Miss Voelcker's college toward her Master's Degree, one for her family, and the last for the library. It is hoped that additional copies of this valuable reference on AuSable Forks will be made available.

BELDEN-NOBLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ESSEX

Officers were elected at the annual meeting of the library held on February 2. Sid Couchey was elected Chairman; Rev. Merle Felter, Vice Chairman; Matilda Polhemus, Treasurer. New trustees are Janice Moran and Janet Wilson.

Patti Ingelstrom resigned as trustee. She has served as both librarian and trustee for several years. Her resignation was accepted with regret by the Board.

KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

Ann Garcia, librarian, reports that in response to a request for more funds for the library they received a most generous donation from the proceeds of a Night at Bingo.

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A copy of Alex Haley's Roots inscribed to the Keeseville Free Library, was acquired for the library by Lorna Spearman, sister of assistant librarian, Elaine Rushford.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Dave Minnich, librarian, announces that they are going to celebrate National Library Week, fittingly enough, by having an election concerning the library on April 19. Dave is good enough to keep this editor posted on the doings of his busy library by sending copies of his Director's Reports.

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On January 2, the Malone Telegram began to microfilm all copies of this newspaper which started in 1905. The project was started by Wead Library Director Dave Minnich and Three R's Director Dick Kimball. Through Kimball's office, local libraries and newspapers receive funding and guidance on proper recovery of old newspaper pages. The project will take several years and several thousand dollars. The Retired Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP) is busy restoring torn pages in old issues of the Telegram. Microfilm copies of past and present issues will be stored at the Wead Library, newspaper offices and a storage vault, thus assuring a permanent record of the community.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

Arnold McNaughton of Hemingford, Quebec, gave a two volume set on royal genealogy to this library. The set is The Book of Kings, a royal genealogy compiled by Arnold McNaughton; foreword by the Earl Mountbatten of Burma. The two volumes are: 1. The Royal Houses. 2. The Book of Kings. They cover the royal families of Great Britain and Spain, etc. The original hard cover edition, now out of print, sold for \$125.00. This new edition sells for \$25.00 and can be ordered from Mr. McNaughton. It is interesting to note that this library has patrons and donors from both sides of the border - a really international library.

Mrs. Vogan, the librarian, also reports a gift of two books from the Mooers Home Bureau: Holiday Decorations You Can Make, by Better Homes and Gardens, and The Book of Handicrafts for All the Family, by Eve Harlow.

SHERMAN FREE LIBRARY, PORT HENRY

The 90th annual meeting of the library was held recently. Officers re-elected for another year were: Mary Consadine, President; John Mullen, Vice President; Walton O. Rich, Treasurer; C. Eleanor Hall, Secretary; Burton Searles, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Helen MacDonald, Robert Brown, and William Wheelock continue on as trustees.

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The Valley News ran a lengthy article on the Sherman Free Library, complete with pictures. An all-time record of 12,000 volumes circulated in 1976. Librarian Kathleen Brooks attributes this to the fact that this was the first full year of membership in the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System. The article also mentioned the night, January 17, 1887, "when the opera house was crowded by citizens of Port Henry assembled to show their appreciation and gratitude to Mr. George Riley Sherman for his magnificent gift of the Sherman Free Library and its privileges to the people of this village." The first library contained

about 2,500 books; now it owns 14,251 books. The original generous endowment has been whittled down by inflation and the library now gets some support from the Village of Port Henry and the Town of Moriah. This article is an excellent picture of the library and its services and is well worth saving.

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The library was given a large collection of postal cards and pictures of Mrs. Mary J. Clements, former librarian. Edwin Smart gave the library a collection of books on the Kennedy family.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

Librarian Joyce Meagher received a copy of Between Friends from W. J. Cameron, district manager for Century Importers, Inc. of Buffalo. This book, given to the library, is amply illustrated by photographers commissioned by the National Film Board of Canada and includes a variety of widely separated border stations and customs offices at ports of entry. Beautiful photographs show the wide vistas of Canada and the faces and occupations of its people. The book was compiled as Canada's official Bicentennial gift to the United States of America. Again we find a library that has travelers from Canada and exemplifies the traditional friendliness between the two countries.

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The Genealogical Committee of Saranac Lake has on display at the library various family history items reflecting descent from the early pioneers. Indices of the 1850 Census of Harrietstown, St. Armand and North Elba, early wills, Bibles, 1812 and Civil War papers are also on display, along with a family ancestral chart loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Austin Gowans.

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Opening April 4 at this library will

be a one-man show of fifty black and white lithographs of American scenes by Edward Glannon. A long-time painter in oils and watercolors, Glannon has for the past five years studied lithography - and every step in the lithographic process is done by the artist himself. Public Broadcasting showed The Land I Love about Ed Glannon and his paintings - a program that won the Freedom Award. Mr. Glannon has a watercolor in the National Collection of the Smithsonian Institute and an oil in the National Gallery at Dublin, Ireland.

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TUPPER LAKE

The month of February brought two appealing new exhibits to this library. One is a delightful collection of dolls from around the world, belonging to Beth Meader. Included in the collection are four beautiful Madame Alexander dolls portraying Louisa May Alcott's Little Women. The other is a lovely collection of paper weights loaned to the library by Mrs. Mildred Gould. They have been accumulated from several foreign countries as well as the United States. The exciting art work of Jane Gillis is also on display.

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The library is the proud possessor of a new IBM Selectric II typewriter, generously donated by an anonymous patron of the library. It has many useful features, but according to the newest staff member, Sue LaBarge, the most valuable part of it is the "correction key." Mrs. LaBarge has been with the library since last October.

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The staff at the library has been kept very busy the last few weeks due to the Muscular Dystrophy Read-A-Thon. This project is sponsored by grades 7 through 9, and has a side benefit of exposing some children to books they would not otherwise read.

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Spring has a few bad features (mud and sand on the carpeting, overexcited kids) and many good features (sun, warm weather, no heavy coats and boots) but a very welcome feature this spring will be the return of the "permanent" volunteer, Mrs. Nel McGregor. Nel has been vacationing in California since January and is due back shortly. Chalice Dechene, the librarian, adds, "Hurry, Nel, we have a few jobs lined up for you already!"

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Chalice Dechene presented a check for \$120.00 to the Magic Carpet Reading Program.

DODGE LIBRARY, WEST CHAZY

The library held its Open House March 31. In the afternoon, about 125 children were amused by the library clown, Mary Lou Recore, and, not incidentally, consumed large quantities of cookies and punch. In the evening, librarian Arlene Bassett, and trustees George Grotton, Pat Martin, Edward Oakley and Susan Oliver were there to welcome guests. Stanley Ransom, Dick Ward, Jane Llewellyn and Mary Leggett attended from Headquarters.

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The Board of Trustees of this library has adopted a formal Book Selection Policy, now posted on their bulletin board.

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On Saturday, April 2, the first Story Hour was held. Fourteen children ages 4 - 11 attended. The next Story Hour will be April 23.

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Arlene Bassett has been trying a fresh approach to reaching new readers. She has been calling members of the community, asking them to come in and visit the library,

reminding them that there are books available for any special interest.

PAINÉ MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLSBORO

The Story Hour youngsters have been enjoying fairy tales through storytelling, films, records, and borrowing from the li-

brary's wide selection of books. Janice Allen and her staff have been using video equipment at the library. They filmed a guided tour of the library to use with classes coming from the school. They also taped a Story Hour and a Girl Scout group working on a Book Badge. Rita Looney is a new volunteer in the Story Hour program.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor