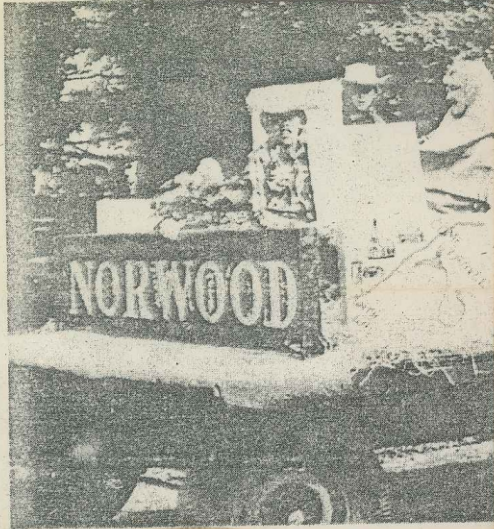


## Float Wins Prize

July 29, Plaindealer



## 'Wilbur M.R. Bookworm' Available For Library, School Story Hours

"Wilbur M.R. Bookworm," spokesman for the Community Heritage Program of The North Country Matters, was recently introduced at the North Country Library System's monthly meeting in Canton. He read his first story entitled "Why, Wilbur?" and explained that he would like to visit North Country library and school story hours to read his stories and talk to the children about their community.

Wilbur has been invited to speak in libraries in Canton, Lisbon, Norfolk, Ogdensburg, Norwood, and Massena. His first appearance at a story hour was at the Truman A. Pease Library in Norwood on Aug. 10. He read "Why, Wilbur?" and gave the group of approximately 25 children pictures of himself and his friends Petunia Pig, Horse, and Tom Turkey to color and

trace.

WILBUR M.R. Bookworm introduces himself to Mrs. Yaddow's first grade through a series of sketches as part of his Library Visit Program. The program was at Salmon River School and was sponsored by the Country Museum Society. (Emery Photo)

## Wilbur Gets Around

It's fun in there. I like that tail. This was the best part of the day. These were all comments coming from elementary children at Salmon River Central School as they participated in Wilbur M. R. Bookworm's Library Visit Program.

The giant green bookworm with a

could not resist the orange pompon tail, and just had to squeeze and touch.

Wilbur stated that he began to write books for children and visit in the libraries and area schools and museums because of a concern that a lot of children seem to have forgotten that it is

## 'Bookworm' Visits Area Stores



of the tape and months is the first Wilbur's "family" said "more and relatives

or said she was Country because since coming she

has been impressed with the amount of talent and creativity she has found here.

Part of that talent she has found is in the person of Ellen Factor, who scored the music for the taped stories, and Virginia Elaine Bogart, who illustrated and designed the book.

## Dollars for Literacy

Canton College of Technology President Earl W. MacArthur, presents a check for \$1,000 to Shirley Meunier, president of St. Lawrence County Literacy Volunteers Board of Directors,

SHIRLEY MEUNIER, WILBUR BOOKWORM'S FOUNDER, is planning to show off her creation in local drugstores. (Bond Photo)



# Kids Author Writes One For Adults

By Steve Webb  
Times Staff Writer

NORWOOD — From 1979 to 1983 Shirley S.

Meunier taught children the Bookworm series of stories, which are adventures of a green bookworm.

The Norwood resident has just aimed at a completely different audience.

"The Joy of Learning: Educational Century" is published by Wilbur and was printed Oct. 15 by Cole P. Gouverneur. The book is for adults and has some ambitious goals for it.

"The book has some new and useful ideas. We should be educating our children who care about what's happening in the system," she said.

The author feels well qualified to better educate children.

"I've taught thousands of people," said Miss Meunier.

The author has taught English in elementary school through high school and was on the board of St. Lawrence County Literacy Volunteers. She teaches basic reading at the College of Technology to students who are not at college level.

In "The Joy of Learning" Miss Meunier views on what it will take to improve the educational system.

"Some things are going to make people think I'm being totally unrealistic," said Mrs. Meunier. "I give some very specific things that parents can do to help children learn."

The philosophy that she brought to the Bookworm stories, that learning is fun, is over to her new book for adults. The book is designed to teach children basic reading through the entertaining adventures of the Bookworm.

"Part of my concept on how to use all of the senses," said Mrs. Meunier.

She recommends in her book that educators "use magazines, books, tapes, any medium to help your child exercise some discipline over the material. You must exercise caution in what we read."

The book also offers her view that children should contain equal measures of science and art, she says, have too long been short budgeted.

"Arts are not a frill; they are an essential part of education."

Visual Arts Businesses

Tri-County Arts Council

## Arts Learning Center

Shirley Meunier

7 Mechanic St.

Norwood, NY 13668

Dedicated to helping children learn through the arts.

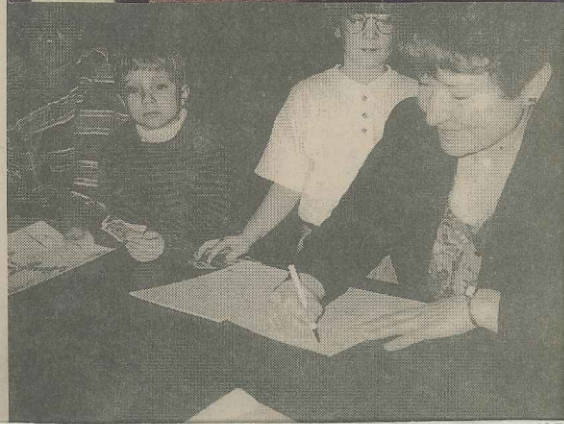
## Students Celebrate Reading

MASSENA - Trinity Catholic Elementary School celebrated part of National Library Week by participating in "The Great New York Read Aloud," the largest one-day reading celebration in the nation.

The guest author for Trinity's celebration was Shirley Meunier of the Arts Place in Norwood. Meunier is the author of "Wilbur Bookworm" stories which have been published in coloring story books, "The Joy of Learning," an adult guide to help children learn to love to learn, and a new series of books titled, "Just Thinking." Meunier gave three arts readings for three different groups ranging from Pre-K to sixth grade. Featured stories were "Why Wilbur?," "The Three Little Pigs According to Petunia Pig," and some "Just Thinking" selections. Music teacher Joyce Neilson participated in the readings by playing the piano and the flute while Meunier did some of her readings.

Meunier brought her coloring book stories to sell to the children and was kept busy for an hour in the library while she sold and signed her books. The children of Trinity Catholic School really enjoyed their celebration of "The Great New York Read Aloud."

Information regarding Meunier's books is available at the



THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.  
DRAWER A  
CANTON, NEW YORK 13617

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

JANUARY 28, 1992

Francis Fitzgerald  
Jeff Reifensnyder  
Economic Development - Clifford Westerling  
Shirley Meunier - "THE JOY OF LEARNING"  
Open To The Floor  
ment

Shirley Meunier, author of the Wilbur Bookworm Series, Numa "Just thinking" Series, and The Joy of Learning, began doing Library Visit Programs in 1979 because she was afraid kids had forgotten how much fun it is to read and learn. A graduate of St. Lawrence University and SUNY Potsdam, she taught for ten years in public schools. She has taught reading, writing, and study skills at SUNY Canton and Mater Dei Colleges. Shirley has also taught reading and English as a Second Language and served as President of the Board of Directors for the St. Lawrence County Literacy Volunteers.

ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY TEACHERS' LEARNING CENTER

P.O. BOX 231 • OUTER STATE STREET • CANTON, NEW YORK 13617 • 315-386-4504

email: sktdc@northweb.com



Oh dear, who ever heard of a green Santa Claus?

Dec. 94 Courier Observer

# Arts & Entertainment

## Norwood Learning Center Offers Holiday Programs

By HEATHER E. MACDONALD  
Staff Reporter

NORWOOD — What kind of world would we live in without creative expression? Dancing, singing, music, literature — the arts make learning fun and life worth living.

Shirley Meunier knows the value of the arts in our lives. She hopes the North Country's talented artists will be drawn to her new Learning Center in Norwood, where the arts are valued as fun teaching tools which can improve quality of life for the entire community.

"I think if I develop the place and have the ambiance, other people will come," she said. So far, several artists have already participated in The Learning Center's Holiday Arts Week. The program, a Wilbur Bookworm Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Learning Center.



SHIRLEY MEUNIER

was on display and will be throughout the weekend sessions.

On Saturday, Diane West-Doran of Norfolk will play guitar and dulcimer and sing. Lewis Cyr of Waddington will play the violin during Sunday's session.

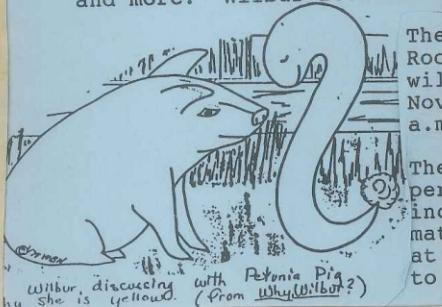
Using local talent and charging admission for the program are a part of valuing and appreciating the arts, according to Meunier. "I really believe we have cultural resources in our community beyond measure," she said, adding she's gone the non-profit route in the past. Non-profit organizations often have to spend so much time trying to come up with funding, they rarely have chance to do what they are supposed to be doing, Meunier explained.

She said she's concerned about teenagers hanging out on the streets and problems like drugs and vandalism, which are troubling towns and cities all over. "It's time for us to start doing something about it," she noted.

Meunier also worried that people don't know how to really enjoy the arts.

### JOY OF LEARNING

The College of Technology at Canton in cooperation with the Massena Library is pleased to offer Joy of Learning, a program developed by Shirley Meunier, to help adults help children to love to learn using the arts. The program will feature an author of children's books, a musician, and a visual artist. The intent of this exciting program is to help parents assist their children in the learning process in this innovative approach where visual and musical presentations, with humor, captivate the child's imagination. This stimulation motivates the child to learn more and more. Wilbur Bookworm is the "star" of this program.



Wilbur, discussing with Penina Pig why she is yellow. (From Why Wilbur?)

The Room will Nov. 10 a.m. The performance at 10 a.m. to

497 Courier Observer

### ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

#### Kids' arts workshops offered

NORWOOD — QlArtz, an association of artists, will begin a series of arts and community-based workshops. "The Arts are Fun" week of Aug. 10 at 10 a.m. at the Learning Center, 7 Mechanic St. Workshops will continue through Aug. 17.

programs will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for children up to age 13 and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. for teens 12 and up. Tuesdays will feature literature and writing; Wednesdays, music; and Thursdays, visual art, but all arts will be used daily.

#### HEART OF THE ARTS

Thursday, July 20  
7 p.m.

A thought-provoking evening of poetry, prose, and watercolors. Shirley Meunier shares some of her most recent writings from *Numa*. Ms. Meunier will be joined by award-winning artist Linda Camarata. Ms. Camarata will interpret the readings in watercolor and share her knowledge of the medium with guests in a hands-on period. Refreshments and painting supplies provided. \$2 per member/\$3 per non-member.

### SUMMER 2000

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315-393-4464 (fax)  
milton@remington-museum.org  
www.fredericremington.org

**COME!**  
Read & Sing Along

**Wilbur Bookworm**  
Family Christmas Programs  
Saturday, Dec. 17 (10AM)  
Sunday, Dec. 18 (3PM)  
Featuring: "Oh Dear, Who Ever Heard of a Green Santa Claus?"  
A myriad of local writers, musicians and artists.  
(Admission \$2, Adults \$3, Family \$7)

**Wilbur Bookworm Learning Center**  
7 Mechanic St. • Norwood  
(315)353-9975