



LITERACY PROGRAM - David S. Owens, Department of Corrections director discusses the literacy program at the state correctional institution at Dallas with Ellen Casey, the governor's wife, and Dr. Robert Laubach. (C.M. Denmon Photo)

Ellen Casey praises literacy program

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Pennsylvania's First Lady Ellen Casey and David S. Owens, state Corrections Commissioner David S. Owens Jr. visited the State Correctional Institution at Dallas Friday afternoon to pay compliment to the inmates who learned how to read and volunteered to teach others how to do the same.

Mrs. Casey has been involved in the promotion of literacy in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and her visit to the local correctional institution was her third since her husband took office. Prior to her local visit, last winter she toured the education departments of Camp Hill and Huntingdon correctional facilities.

Owens congratulated the inmates for their achievement in learning to read. He told them that 90% of the inmates return to society and read-

ing is essential to helping them in the future. He told those in the audience that education has always been important to him and he is happy that Mrs. Casey is actively involved in urging the continual improvement of individuals minds.

Mrs. Casey urged the inmates at SCID to accept an even greater and nobler challenge of learning to read, that was "to help others learn how to read and to write. The tutors will help all of you go on to better jobs and better lives," she told them.

Monday, September 12, marked Literacy Day in Pennsylvania and Thursday, September 15, International Literacy Day.

"My husband cares about those who can't read and his commitment to them is strong. So is yours," she told the graduates from the program. She also commended the Scranton Volunteers (Scola) who taught the tutors and said now those tutors must help others read and write.

Dr. Robert S. Laubach "Mr. Literacy" followed Mrs. Casey. Laubach's father, Dr. Frank Laubach, who founded the literacy program was formerly from Benton and left the area to become a missionary in all parts of the world.

Dr. Robert Laubach explained the Laubach system created by his father was a program of symbols and sounds used with key words and pictorial memory cues to teach reading skills. The key to the system is the slogan "each one teach one".

"If you are illiterate you need not despair," Laubach told the inmates. "You can learn to read."

The Laubach system has been used in 105 countries and has been adapted to 314 languages.

Joseph J. Piazza, director of education at SCID, said that there are 23,000,000 illiterates in the world and the number is growing.

The ceremony ended with a short play "Literacy, the Key to Yourself", presented by members of the Libra Poetry Workshop of SCID.



COUNTY MEETING - Nancy Rowlands, president of Luzerne County Federation of Women's Club met with members of the Dallas Club to finalize plans for the Fall meeting of county clubs at Irem Temple Country Club, October 8, 9 a.m. Above, from left, Ms. Rowlands meets with Shirley Smith, Marilyn Webster, co-chairpersons, and Mary Rice, Dallas Club president. The Dallas Club will host the meeting. (C.M. Denmon Photo)

Back Mountain Library Octoberfest will be held October 7 & 8 on library grounds

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Dr. John Shaskas, DVM, announced this week that the Back Mountain Library Auction Committee, will hold an Octoberfest, October 7 and 8, in the library auction grounds.

"This is the first time the committee has planned this type of event," Shaskas explained. "We have

a variety of items remaining from the July auction and decided to get rid of them before we begin plans for the 1989 auction.

"We will also have a Flea Market and a Farmer's Market. Persons who would like to have table space for the Flea Market are urged to call the library to reserve space. All sellers must bring their own tables."

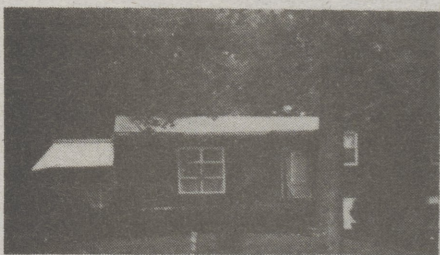
The Farmers Market will have fresh produce and fruit available and most of it will be from local

farmers. An aluminum recycling day will be held Saturday, October 8, and a truck will be on the grounds all day for drop-offs. Persons wishing to bring aluminum earlier than the above date may drop off aluminum cans, siding, gutters, etc. at the library.

The auction will be both Friday and Saturday nights. The Flea Market and Farmers Market will be on Saturday, October 8.

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