2005

UA1D Evelyn Thurman Personnel File

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Ms. Mary Evelyn Thurman  
908 Merideth Drive  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  42101

Dear Ms. Thurman:

As you know, the 1995 Fall Semester concludes your participation in the optional retirement program at Western.

I want to express our sincere gratitude for the contributions you have made to Western Kentucky University during your years of service. I hope you will retain your personal interest in the University and continue to participate in its social and cultural activities.

I join your friends in wishing you a very happy retirement.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas C. Meredith  
President

TCM:mam

xc:  Dr. Robert V. Haynes  
Dr. Michael B. Binder  
Dr. Carl R. Martray  
Dr. James P. Becker  
Mr. Tony L. Glisson
NOTICE OF PERSONNEL ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL SERVICES

Name: Mary Evelyn Thurman

Address: 908 Meridith Dr, Bowling Green KY 42101

Department: University Libraries

Position Number: 312901

Faculty Rank or Position Title: Professor

Social Security No.: W/S Adm.

Account to be Charged: 2-25001

Effective Date of Action: December 31, 1995

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

XX University Budget

( ) Grants and Contracts

XX Full Time

( ) Part Time

TYPE OF ACTION

( ) Appointment

( ) Resignation

( ) Reclassification

( ) Promotion

( ) Summer Stipend

( ) Special Project

( ) Leave of Absence

( ) Other (Explain)

TYPE PAYMENT

(XX 9 Months Paid Over 12 Months Period

( ) Monthly

( ) Semi-Monthly

( ) Hourly

( ) Other (Explain)

Completion of Optional Retirement

Present or Starting Salary: $10,572

Recommended Salary:

Remarks:

Mary Evelyn Thurman will be completing the optional retirement program effective December 31, 1995.

Recommended:

Date

Approved:

Date

FOR PERSONNEL USE

DIR PR INS ADIR REC

MONTH GROSS PICA KY.RET. FED. STATE CITY WN CW BC TR BONDS NET

White—President's Office  Pink—Personnel Services  Green—Insurance  Blue—Payroll  Yellow—Retain
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Evelyn Thurman
    Library Public Services

FROM: Thomas C. Meredith
      President

RE: Salary Notification

On June 27, 1995, the Board of Regents approved Western Kentucky University's 1995-96 Combined Budgets. The approved budget includes your employment under the optional retirement plan at an annual salary rate of $10,572.00 effective July 1, 1995.

I appreciate your continued efforts toward helping Western achieve its mission and I look forward to working with you as we strive to meet the University's challenges and opportunities.

If you agree to accept this offer of continued employment and all responsibilities attendant to your position, please indicate below. You are requested to return this memorandum to the Office of the President by July 17, 1995. Any request for an extension should be initiated with the head of your department. A copy of this letter is enclosed for your records.

Enclosure

Check one and sign below:

( ) I accept this offer of continued employment.

( ) I decline this offer of continued employment.

Signature

Evelyn Thurman

Date

July 7, 1995

The Spirit Makes the Master
Ms. Mary Evelyn Thurman  
908 Merideth Drive  
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101  

Dear Ms. Thurman:  

This is to confirm that your teaching load for 1994-95 under the optional retirement policy has been increased from six hours to nine hours and that your salary has been adjusted to $10,320.  

Thank you for your willingness to teach this additional class.  

Sincerely yours,  

Thomas C. Meredith  
President  

TCM:mam  

xc: Dr. Robert V. Haynes  
Dr. Carl R. Martray  
Dr. James P. Becker  
Mr. Tony L. Glisson
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Evelyn Thurman

FROM: Thomas C. Meredith

President

RE: Salary for 1994-95

On May 10, 1994, the Board of Regents approved the 1994-95 Combined Budgets. The approved budget includes your reappointment under the optional retirement policy. Your salary under the optional retirement policy is $6,876.00 effective July 1, 1994. This salary is based on an anticipated teaching load of 6.0 hours. You will begin your fifth year under this policy on January 1, 1995.

As you know, it has been extremely difficult to provide salary increases at an average level higher than our increased funding. This action has required reallocation and reduction of funding in many areas. I appreciate your continued efforts toward helping Western fulfill its mission in these difficult times.

I look forward to working with you as we strive to meet the University's challenges and opportunities.

TCM: mam

Enclosure

cc: Personnel File
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Evelyn Thurman
FROM: Thomas C. Meredith
RE: Salary for 1993-94

The Board of Regents approved the 1993-94 Combined Budgets on May 4, 1993. The approved budget includes your reappointment under the optional retirement policy. Your salary under the optional retirement policy is $6,540.00 effective July 1, 1993. This salary is based on an anticipated teaching load of 6.0 hours. You will begin your fourth year under this policy on January 1, 1994. As you know, the continuing reductions in state funding have had great impact on the University's budget. However, we will work together to make next year a very productive year.

I appreciate your continued efforts toward helping Western fulfill its mission, and I look forward to working with you as we strive to meet the University's challenges and opportunities.

TCM: mam

Enclosure

xc: Personnel File
MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. Evelyn Thurman
FROM: Thomas C. Meredith
RE: Salary for 1992-93

The Board of Regents approved the 1992-93 Operating Budget on August 20, 1992. One part of the Operating Budget contains the personnel list which includes your reappointment under the optional retirement policy. As you know, the very severe reductions in state funding have had great impact on the University's budget for 1992-93 and have precluded general salary increases.

Your salary under the optional retirement policy is $6,264, effective July 1, 1992. This salary is based on an anticipated teaching load of 6 hours. You will begin your third year under this policy on January 1, 1993.

I appreciate your continued efforts toward helping Western fulfill its mission, and I look forward to working with you in this year of great challenge and opportunity.

TCM:mam

Enclosure:

xc: Dr. Robert V. Haynes
    Dr. Carl R. Martray
    Dr. James P. Becker
    Mr. Michael C. Dale
Ms. Evelyn Thurman  
908 Meredith Drive  
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Dear Ms. Thurman:

This is to advise you that approval is being given to the recommendation of Dr. Robert V. Haynes that your salary for the 1991 spring semester be adjusted upward from $2,982 to $5,964. This adjustment in your salary was made because your teaching load for the spring semester under the optional retirement program was increased from 3 to 6 hours. This adjustment will be included in your June 28, 1991, paycheck.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Thomas C. Meredith  
President

TCM:mmm

xc: Dr. Robert V. Haynes  
Dr. Michael B. Binder  
Dr. Carl R. Martray  
Dr. James P. Becker  
Mr. Michael C. Dale
January 18, 1991

Ms. Evelyn Thurman
908 Meredith Drive
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Dear Ms. Thurman:

Your request for retirement under the optional retirement policy, effective December 31, 1990, has been received and will be presented to the Board of Regents at a later date for official approval. You will not need to await this action before making your plans, however, as I am confident the Board will approve the recommendation.

Your salary under the optional retirement policy is $2,982 for the 1991 Spring Semester, effective January 1, 1991. This will be paid over the six months' period January - June, 1991. This salary is based upon a teaching load of three hours.

Best wishes for continuing success in the remainder of the 1990-91 school year.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas C. Meredith
President

TCM: mam

xc: Dr. Robert V. Haynes
    Dr. John H. Petersen
    Dr. Michael B. Binder
    Dr. Sally Ann Strickler
    Dr. Carl R. Martray
    Dr. James P. Becker
    Mr. Michael C. Dale

The Spirit Makes the Master
MEMORANDUM

TO: Evelyn Thurman
FROM: Thomas C. Meredith
RE: Salary for 1991-92

Western will make an extraordinary effort in 1991-92 to recognize the contributions made by faculty and staff members toward carrying out the University's mission. Again in 1991-92, therefore, we will devote a major portion (more than 77%) of available new dollars to faculty and staff compensation. This direction follows Western XXI priorities, and for the new budget we will begin the process of assigning other resources based on Western XXI.

Your salary under the optional retirement policy is $6,264, effective July 1, 1991, contingent upon approval of the 1991-92 Operating Budget by the Board of Regents. I will advise you after the budget is approved if there is any change in your 1991-92 salary. This salary is based on an anticipated teaching load of 6 hours. You will begin your second year under this policy on January 1, 1992.

Thank you for your efforts to help Western fulfill its mission. I look forward to working with you in the new academic year.

TCM: mam

xc: Dr. Robert V. Haynes
Dr. Carl R. Martray
Dr. James P. Becker
Mr. Michael C. Dale
**Notice of Personnel Action**

**Name:** Evelyn Thurman  
**Address:** 908 Merideth Drive, Bowling Green, KY  
**Department:** University Libraries

**Social Security No.:** W/S Adm.  
**Faculty Rank or Position Title:** General Reference Librarian  
**Position Number:** 311-15-1-01  
**Grade-Step:**

**Effective Date of Action:** December 31, 1990

**Employment Status:**
- University Budget  
- Grants and Contracts  
- Full Time

**Type of Action:**
- Appointment  
- Resignation  
- Reclassification

**Type Payment:**
- 9 Months Paid Over 12 Months Period

**Present or Starting Salary:**

**Recommended Salary:**

**Remarks:**

Ms. Evelyn Thurman will retire effective December 31, 1990.

Last day of work Dec. 19. To be paid for seven vacation days. Plus one holiday.

**Recommended:**  
Date: 11-27-90

**Approved:**
Date: President

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**FOR PERSONNEL USE**

**White—President's Office**  
**Pink—Personnel Services**  
**Green—Insurance**  
**Blue—Payroll**  
**Yellow—Retain**
May 4, 1990

Mary Evelyn Thurman
908 Merideth Dr.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Dear Ms. Thurman:

Since coming to Western, I have frequently commented on the university's high quality. It is evident that such success results from the dedication and hard work of a large number of faculty and staff members. I think it is important that the Compensation Plan for 1990-91 recognizes contributions made by individual employees. Therefore, a major portion (75.7 percent) of the new dollars available in 1990-91 will be budgeted for compensation for faculty and staff. As a result, there will be very little money available for increased operating and capital expenditures. The salary increases for 1990-91 will take effect July 1, 1990, rather than August 16, 1990.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $29,700 to $31,752 effective July 1, 1990, contingent upon approval of the 1990-91 Operating Budget by the Board of Regents. I will advise you after the budget is approved if there is any change in your 1990-91 salary.

I appreciate your continuing efforts to make Western a better institution. I look forward to working with you in the many challenges before us.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Meredith
President

TCM:ttc
Enclosure
cc: Personnel File
May 1, 1989

Mary Evelyn Thurman
908 Merideth Dr.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Dear Miss Thurman:

On April 27, 1989, the Western Kentucky University Board of Regents approved the 1989-90 Operating Budget which includes the personnel compensation plan.

This letter serves to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $28,380 to $29,700, effective August 16, 1989.

I appreciate the contributions you are making to the University. I look forward to working with you in 1989-90.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas C. Meredith
President

TCM:ttc

cc: Personnel File
June 7, 1988

Mary Evelyn Thurman  
908 Merideth Dr. 
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Dear Miss Thurman:

On June 3, 1988, the Western Kentucky University Board of Regents approved the 1988-89 Operating Budget which includes the personnel compensation plan.

This letter serves to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $25,752 to $28,380, effective August 16, 1988.

I appreciate the contributions you have made to the University. I have enjoyed working at Western and wish you the very best in 1988-89.

Sincerely,

Kern Alexander  
President

KA:ttc

cc: Personnel File
May 24, 1988

Miss M. Evelyn Thurman  
908 Merideth Drive  
Bowling Green, KY  42101

Dear Miss Thurman:

You are to be commended for performance of your duties in such a manner that you have been recommended by your department head, dean of the college, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs for promotion. I concurred in the recommendation, and I am pleased to advise you that the Board of Regents on May 23, 1988, approved the recommendation that effective August 16, 1988, you be promoted to the rank of Professor.

Faculty rank at Western Kentucky University is determined on the basis of criteria established by the Board of Regents and outlined in the Faculty Handbook.

Congratulations to you on this promotion, and I wish you continued success throughout your career.

Sincerely yours,

Kern Alexander  
President

xc: Dr. Robert V. Haynes  
   Dr. Michael B. Binder  
   Dr. Sally Ann Strickler  
   Mr. James B. Tomes
May 4, 1987

Mary Evelyn Thurman
908 Merideth Dr.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Dear Miss Thurman:

On April 30, 1987, the Western Kentucky University Board of Regents approved the 1987-88 Operating Budget which includes the personnel compensation plan.

This letter serves to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $23,976 to $25,752, effective August 16, 1987.

Thank you for your contributions to the University and best wishes for your continued success in 1987-88.

Sincerely,

Kern Alexander
President

KA:1d

cc: Personnel File
MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Evelyn Thurman
FROM: Kern Alexander, President
SUBJECT: Compensation

The Board of Regents approved the 1986-87 Operating Budget, including the compensation plan, on May 1, 1986.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $22,548 to $23,976, effective August 16, 1986.

I appreciate the contributions you are making to the University and wish you continued success in 1986-87.

KA:ld
Enc.

cc: Personnel File
MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. M. Evelyn Thurman
Department of Library Public Services

FROM: Paul B. Cook, Executive Vice President
for Administrative Affairs

This is to advise you that approval has been given to the recommendation of Dr. Michael Binder, with the endorsement of Dr. Robert Haynes, that your title be changed from Reference Librarian to General Reference Librarian, effective January 1, 1986.

Best wishes are extended to you for continued success in the important work which you are doing, and I invite you to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you at any time.

PBC:mcb

xc: Dr. Robert V. Haynes
Dr. Michael B. Binder
Mr. James B. Tomes
MEMORANDUM

TO: M. Evelyn Thurman
FROM: Donald W. Zacharias, President

SUBJECT: Compensation

The Board of Regents approved the 1985-86 Operating Budget, including the compensation plan, on April 27, 1985.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $21,888 to $22,548, effective August 16, 1985.

I appreciate the contributions you are making to the University and wish you continued success in 1985-86.

DWZ:gg

Enc.

cc: Personnel File
MEMORANDUM

TO: M. Evelyn Thurman

FROM: Donald W. Zacharias, President

SUBJECT: Compensation

The Board of Regents approved the 1984-85 Operating Budget, including the compensation plan, on May 12, 1984. The state appropriation for 1984-85 will increase by $630,000. As a result, the funds available for compensation are very limited. The increased expenditures for personnel compensation for 1984-85 exceed the increase in state appropriation, and we will continue to press for increased funding for salaries.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $21,456 to $21,888, effective August 16, 1984.

I appreciate the contributions you are making to the University and look forward to working with you in 1984-85.

DWZ:gg

Enc.

cc: President's Office
Personnel
MEMORANDUM

TO: M. Evelyn Thurman
FROM: Don E. Zacharias, President
SUBJECT: Compensation

The Board of Regents approved the 1983-84 Operating Budget, including the compensation plan, on April 30, 1983. The budget includes increases for salaries and wages.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $20,160 to $21,456, effective August 16, 1983.

I am grateful for the contributions you are making to the University and look forward to working with you in 1983-84.

DWZ: mcb

Enclosure
Dear Ms. M. Evelyn Thurman:

The Operating Budget, including the compensation plan approved by the Board of Regents on April 24, 1982, provides priority for salaries and wages. I am pleased that significant budgetary support can be provided for salaries.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $18,564 to $20,160 effective August 16, 1982.

I am grateful for the contributions you are making to the University and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely yours,

Donald W. Zacharias
President
Dear Ms. Evelyn Thurman:

You are to be commended for performance of your duties in such a manner that you have been recommended by your department head, dean of the college, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs for promotion. I concurred in the recommendation, and I am pleased to advise you that the Board of Regents on April 24, 1982, approved the recommendation that, effective August 16, 1982, you be promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

Faculty rank at Western Kentucky University is determined on the basis of criteria established by the Board of Regents and outlined in the Faculty Handbook.

Congratulations to you on this promotion, and I wish for you a successful year and continued success throughout your career.

Sincerely yours,

Donald W. Zacharias
President

cc: Mr. James B. Tones
    Dr. James L. Davis
    Dr. Henry N. Hardin
    Dr. Earl Wassom
MEMORANDUM

TO: Evelyn Thurman
   Library Services

FROM: James B. Tomes, Director

SUBJECT: Employee Training and Development Program

Thank you for your course proposal with regard to our Employee Training and Development Program. We will begin to organize and schedule the workshops and seminars in January, 1982. We will be contacting you at a later date to make needed arrangements.

Your willingness to participate in the Employee Training and Development Program is greatly appreciated.

cc: Dr. Earl Wassom
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

The Operating Budget, including the salary plan approved by the Board of Regents on May 23, 1981, provides top priority for salaries and wages. I am pleased that significant budgetary support can be provided for salaries.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $17,028 to $18,564 effective August 16, 1981.

I am grateful for the contributions you are making to the University and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely yours,

Donald W. Zacharias
President

Enclosure
Dear Miss Evelyn Thurman:

The Operating Budget, including the salary plan approved by the Board of Regents on April 26, 1980, provides top priority for salaries and wages. I am pleased that significant budgetary support can be provided for salaries.

This is to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $15,600 to $17,028 effective August 16, 1980.

I am grateful for the contributions you are making to the University and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely yours,

Donald W. Zacharias
President

DWZ:bdp

Enclosure
Ms. Evelyn Thurman  
908 Merideth Drive  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Dear Ms. Thurman:

This is a supplement to the letter written to you on January 28 and is to advise you that your sabbatical leave of absence is for the 1981 spring semester rather than the 1980-81 academic year as the previous letter indicated.

Sincerely yours,

Donald W. Zacharias  
President

cc: Dr. James L. Davis  
Dr. Henry Hardin  
Mrs. Imogene Foster  
Mr. James B. Tomes  
Dr. Earl Wassom
Ms. Evelyn Thurman
908 Merideth Drive
Bowling Green, KY  42101

Dear Ms. Thurman:

I am pleased to advise you that the Board of Regents, at its meeting on January 26, 1980, approved the recommendation that you be granted a sabbatical leave for the 1980-81 academic year. Your proposal was approved by the head of your department and the dean of your college, and the Sabbatical Advisory Committee recommended to Dr. Davis your proposal be included with those recommended for approval.

Congratulations are extended to you on this recognition, and I hope that the sabbatical leave will prove to be a professionally rewarding experience for you.

The sabbatical leave award was made on the basis of the proposal submitted by you, and it is expected that this time is to be used productively in your improvement and development. You are required under the guidelines to submit a written report on the activities engaged in during the leave period. A written report is to be submitted to Dr. James L. Davis, Vice President for Academic Affairs, with copies to your department head and dean, within thirty (30) days after the sabbatical has ended.

Best wishes are extended to you for a beneficial leave.

Sincerely yours,

Donald W. Zacharias
President

cc: Dr. Henry Hardin
    Dr. Earl Wassom
    Mr. James B. Tomes
May 1, 1979

Dear Miss Evelyn Thurman:

The salary structure for 1979-80 was approved by the Board of Regents at the meeting on April 28, 1979.

I am pleased to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $14,784 to $15,600, effective August 16, 1979.

I appreciate the contribution you have made to the programs of the University and look forward to my association with you during the coming year.

Best wishes are extended to you for every success in the significant endeavors in which you are engaged.

Sincerely yours,

John D. Minton
President

Enclosure
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

The current policy on faculty tenure was approved by the Board of Regents and became effective with the opening of the 1976-77 school year.

I am pleased to advise you that the recommendation for you to be granted tenure, effective with the 1979-80 school year, has been approved by the Board of Regents at its April 28 meeting.

Congratulations are extended to you on the attainment of tenure. As the University continues to develop, there will be additional challenges and opportunities for all of us.

With personal best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

John D. Minton
President

JDM:mc

cc: Dr. James L. Davis
    Dr. Henry N. Hardin
    Dr. Earl Wassom
    Mr. James B. Tomes
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

The salary structure for 1978-79 was approved by the Board of Regents at the meeting on April 29, 1978.

It is a pleasure for me to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $14,004 to $14,784, effective August 16, 1978.

I am grateful to you for the contribution you have made to the programs of the University and look forward to working with you during the coming year. I pledge to you my personal support in our continued efforts to provide an atmosphere in which each individual on the faculty and staff can realize a greater sense of personal and professional satisfaction.

Best wishes are extended to you for every success in the significant endeavors in which you are engaged, and you are invited to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President

Enclosure
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

The salary structure for 1977-78 was approved by the Board of Regents at the meeting on April 30, 1977.

It is a pleasure for me to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $13,008 to $14,004, effective August 16, 1977.

I am grateful to you for the contribution you have made to the programs of the University and look forward to working with the members of the faculty and staff during the coming year. I pledge to you my personal support in our continued efforts to provide an atmosphere in which each individual on the faculty and staff can realize a greater sense of personal and professional satisfaction.

Best wishes are extended to you for every success in the significant endeavors in which you are engaged, and you are invited to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

The salary structure for 1976-77 was approved by the Board of Regents at the meeting on April 24, 1976.

It is a pleasure for me to advise you that your annual salary has been increased from $12,276 to $13,008, effective August 16, 1976.

I am grateful to you for the contribution you have made to the programs of the University and look forward to working with the members of the faculty and staff during the coming year. I pledge to you my personal support in our continued efforts to provide an atmosphere in which each individual on the faculty and staff can realize a greater sense of personal and professional satisfaction.

Best wishes are extended to you for every success in the significant endeavors in which you are engaged, and you are invited to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President

DGD:ewe

Enclosure
TO: Belle Chandler  
Payroll Staff Assistant

FROM: Dr. Earl Wassom  
Director of Library Services

DATE: January 30, 1976

SUBJECT: Librarian Reassignment

Please be advised that Miss Evelyn Thurman, formerly Media Librarian at Jones Jaggers Laboratory School Library has been transferred to the Helm Library as Juvenile Librarian. I wish to request, therefore, that in the future Miss Thurman's payroll check be included with all Division of Library Services faculty and staff which fall under budget 19-001.

Thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

des
Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman  
908 Merideth Drive  
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Dear Miss Thurman:

This is to advise you that your request for a leave of absence for the period August 16 through December 31, 1975, has been officially approved by the Board of Regents of the University.

With personal best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing  
President

DGD:mcb

cc: Dean Raymond L. Cravens  
Dean J. T. Sandefur  
Dr. Donald E. Ritter  
Dean Henry N. Hardin  
Dr. Earl Wassom  
Mr. James B. Tomes
April 29, 1975

Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

At a meeting of the Board of Regents on April 26, 1975, approval was given to the salary structure for 1975-76.

I am pleased to inform you that your annual salary has been increased from $11,580 to $12,276, effective August 16, 1975.

I would like to express my personal appreciation and the appreciation of the University for all that you have done to make it possible for Western to fulfill its role in higher education. I pledge to you my personal support and the support of the President's Office in our continued efforts to provide an atmosphere in which each individual can realize greater professional achievements and in which the University will reach new levels of accomplishment.

Best wishes are extended to you for continued success in the important work which you are doing. I invite you to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

At a meeting of the Board of Regents on April 27, 1974, approval was given to the salary structure for 1974-75.

I am pleased to inform you that your annual salary has been increased from $11,060 to $11,580, effective August 16, 1974.

I would like to express my personal appreciation and the appreciation of the University for all that you have done to make it possible for Western to fulfill its role in higher education. I pledge to you my personal support and the support of the President's Office in our continued efforts to provide an atmosphere in which each individual can realize greater professional achievements and in which the University will reach new levels of accomplishment.

Best wishes are extended to you for continued success in the important work which you are doing. I invite you to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President

DGD: mcb

Enclosure
Dear Mrs. Mary Evelyn Thurman:

At a meeting of the Board of Regents on February 24, 1973, authorization was given to proceed with the preparation of the 1973-74 operating budget. The Regents endorsed the recommendation for giving continued priority to strengthening the salary schedule. As a result, the matter of salary increments has been given prime consideration in the development of the operating budget.

I am happy to inform you that your regular salary has been increased from $10,536 to $11,060, effective August 16, 1973.

The degree of success which Western may achieve in the fulfillment of its stated purposes and objectives is dependent on the coordinated efforts of each of us. In keeping with the conditions of your continued employment, you will be expected to comply with the scheduled office hours, workweek for staff employees, and policies and procedures outlined in the Faculty-Staff Handbook. In addition, you are subject to the provisions of Personnel Policy Number 21 regarding vacation, holidays, and sick leave.

I would like to express my personal appreciation and the appreciation of the University for all that you have done to make it possible for Western to fulfill its role in higher education. I pledge to you my personal support and the support of the President's Office in our continued efforts to provide an atmosphere in which each individual can realize greater professional achievements and in which the University will reach new levels of accomplishment.

Best wishes are extended to you for continued success in the important work which you are doing, and I invite you to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President

Enclosure
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

On January 26, 1972, the Board of Regents authorized the preparation of the operating budget for 1972-73. The Board gave approval to the recommendation that continued priority be given to strengthening the salary structure. Consequently, the area of salary increments has been given prime consideration in the development of the operating budget.

I am pleased to notify you that your regular salary has been increased from $10,136 to $10,536, effective August 16, 1972.

The stipend paid for teaching during the summer session is currently being reviewed and analyzed. This is to advise you that, pending the completion of this study, individual summer stipends for 1973 will not exceed the amount an individual will be eligible to receive in the summer of 1972.

The degree of success which Western may achieve in the fulfillment of its stated purposes and objectives is dependent on the coordinated efforts of each of us. It is the position of the University that faculty members cannot fulfill their responsibilities in a professional manner if they undertake other gainful activities which interfere with their duties and responsibilities at Western. The conditions of your continued employment must conform to the stipulations of the current faculty load guidelines in every respect. Any special assignment for which teaching load credit is granted can be permitted only with proper administrative approval. You are also expected to maintain office hours, be available for counseling with students, and attend faculty meetings and commencement programs.

I would like to express my personal appreciation and the appreciation of the University for all that you have done to make it possible for Western to fulfill its role in higher education. I pledge to you my personal support and the support of the President's Office in our continued efforts to provide an atmosphere in which you can realize greater professional achievements and in which the University will reach new levels of accomplishment.

Best wishes are extended to you for continued success in the important work which you are doing, and I invite you to call upon me if I can be of assistance to you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President

Enclosure
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

At the meeting of the Board of Regents on January 9, 1971, authorization was given to proceed with the preparation of the 1971-72 operating budget. The Board endorsed the recommendation for continued priority to be given to the strengthening of the University salary schedule, with instructions to proceed in accordance with previously approved plan. As a result, the matter of salary increments is again given prime consideration as a part of the Western operating budget.

I am happy to inform you that your regular salary has been increased from $9,560 to $10,136, effective August 16, 1971.

The degree of success which Western may achieve in the fulfillment of its stated purposes and objectives is dependent upon the coordinated and combined efforts of each of us. In pledging to you my personal support and the support of the President's Office, let me also express to you the appreciation of the University for the contribution which you are making to the continued progress and development of the school.

Best wishes are extended to you and yours, and I invite you to call upon me if I can be of help in the future.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Dero G. Downing
President

DGD/gb
Encl.
Dear Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman:

At the meeting of the Board of Regents on February 21, 1970, authorization was given to proceed with the preparation of the 1970-71 operating budget. The Board endorsed the recommendation for continued priority to be given to the strengthening of the University salary schedule, with instructions to proceed in accordance with previously approved plan. As a result, the matter of salary increments is again given prime consideration as a part of the Western operating budget.

I am happy to inform you that your regular salary has been increased from $8,920 to $9,560, effective August 16, 1970.

Your present appointment, as you know, extends to September 1. However, the revised calendar for the coming academic year makes it desirable to adjust the effective date of the new appointment. I trust you will find this arrangement to your liking. You will continue to be paid on the first of each month; however, the check which you will receive on September 1 will reflect the salary increment effective August 16. Your appointment under this contract will terminate August 15, 1971.

The degree of success which Western may achieve in the fulfillment of its stated purposes and objectives is dependent upon the coordinated and combined efforts of each of us. In pledging to you my personal support and the support of the President's Office, let me also express to you the appreciation of the University for the contribution which you are making to the continued progress and development of the school.

Best wishes are extended to you and yours, and I invite you to call upon me if I can be of help in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President

DGD/mch
Encl.
January 26, 1970

Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman
1700 High Street
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Dear Miss Thurman:

It is a pleasure for me to approve the recommendation of Dr. Cravens, with the concurrence of Dr. Page, Dr. Hardin, Dr. Wassom, and Miss Tyler, that you be transferred from the Margie Helm Library to the Laboratory Schools as Librarian, with half-time work in each, effective February 1, 1970.

Western is confident that you will fulfill your new responsibility in the same commendable manner that has characterized your present position.

Sincerely yours,

Dero G. Downing
President

DGD: mcb

cc: Dr. Raymond L. Cravens
    Dr. Tate C. Page
    Dr. Henry N. Hardin
    Dr. Earl Wassom
    Miss Sara Tyler
    Mr. James A. Carpenter
    Mr. Bobby G. Houk
    Dr. Seth Farley
    Mr. James A. Tomas
**Name:** Thurman, Mary E.  
**Sex:** F  
**U.S. Citizen?** Yes  
**Number of Tax Exemptions:** 1  
**Marital Status:** S  
**Name of Spouse:**  
**Address:** 1700  
**Date Joined Western Faculty:** Sept. 1, 1966  
**Tenure Established?**  
**Employment Contract:** ( ) 9 months ( ) 12 months ( ) Other Specify:  
**Member of Blue Cross-Blue Shield?** Yes  
**If Yes, Give Effective Date:**  
**Faculty Rank:**  
**Area of Primary Responsibility:**  
**Department:** Helm Library  
**Area of Secondary Responsibility:**  
**Institution Awarding B.S. or A.B. Degree:**  
**Degree:**  
**Date:**  
**Institution Awarding M.S. or M.A. Degree:**  
**Degree:**  
**Date:**  
**Institution Awarding Ph.D. or Ed.D. Degree:**  
**Degree:**  
**Date:**  
**Institution Awarding Other Degree(s):**  
**Degree:**  
**Date:**  
**Leave of Absence - Inclusive Dates:**  
**Remarks:**  
**Date of Last Annual Audit:** Nov. 23, 1921  
**Signature of Faculty Member:**
PUBLICATIONS:

4 "My Visit to Mary Ingalls' School," LAURA INGALLS WILDER LORÉ, Fall-Winter 1977, Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 3.
8 "Rebecca Caudill--A Personal View," KENTUCKY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN, Fall 1980, Vol. 44, No. 4, pp. 12-16. (I am working on a biography of this outstanding Kentucky author.)

I have visited the Ingalls-Wilder homesites for ten summers.* Teachers, librarians, parents, and students have requested my articles in book form. Western Kentucky University's Faculty Research Committee gave me a grant for assistance in the project. The manuscript is now ready for a publisher.


ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION:

13 "Why the Chimes Rang in Creative Dramatics," THE CHURCH SCHOOL.

BOOK REVIEW: MRS. WIGS OF THE CABBAGE PATCH, "Daily News" December 9, 1978. (A re-print by the University of KY press.)

BOOKS: THE CANARY WHO WANTS TO TALK, 1976. (out-of-print)
CHRISTMAS IN KENTUCKY WITH LITTLE BERNIE, 1976.

(second printing, 1981, paperback)
This is a true story of a family settling in the southeastern part of Kentucky.)

*Children (and others) love Laura so, I show my slides at many schools and other meetings each year.

Evelyn Thurman, Librarian
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
Division of Library Services

PROFESSIONAL DATA

Name Evelyn Thurman
Age 60 Sex Female
Department Library Public Services Unit Reference & Library Media Education

To Be Completed by Director's Office
Title Reference Librarian Position # 311-17-2-01
Rank or Grade
Date of Employment September 1966

EDUCATION

Bowling Green
Dipl. in Bkg. Business Univ. 1946
A.B. Asbury College 1951
About 30 hrs. Western Kentucky Univ. 1951-1975
M.A. in L.S. George Peabody College 1962

EXPERIENCE (Include business, military, academic - most recent first)

Librarian Western Kentucky University 1966 -
Librarian Office of Defense Schools, Kindley Airbase Bermuda 1965-66
Librarian Fort Knox Dependent High School, Ky 1962-65
Teacher Franklin Elementary School, Ky 1959-62
Teacher Office of Defense Schools, Bad Breuznach, Germany 1957-59
Teacher Simpson County Schools, KY 1956-57
Teacher Office of Defense Schools, Japan 1954-56
Teacher Simpson County Schools, KY 1951-54

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Kentucky Library Association (Life member)
Kentucky School Media Association (Life member)
Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society (Life member at Pepin, Wisconsin, Desmet, South Dakota & Independence, Kansas)
UNIVERSITY SERVICE (Include Committee Assignments) since August 1973

WKU, Advisory Committee on Faculty Continuance
Spoke to over 20 classes
Lead Workshops on campus and lead other (over 10) representing WKU
Spoke to visiting professors from Argentina
Made tapes for storytelling classes.
Spoke to two International Reading Meetings
Presented programs for over 35 organizations - literary clubs, homemakers, etc.
KSMA, member of committee to select the outstanding school librarian in Kentucky
and the best resources produced in Kentucky.

PUBLIC SERVICE since August 1973

Presented over 125 school programs - many of these were during my vacation
in a number of different states
Lead workshops for many schools

RESEARCH/CREATIVE ACTIVITY since August 1973

See attached list
January 24, 1966

Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman
Hq. Sq. Sec. Box 2046
1604 AB Gp
APO New York 09815

Dear Miss Thurman:

I was pleased to learn from Dean Raymond L. Cravens that you have indicated that you will accept a teaching position in Library Science for the 1966 summer session. It will be a pleasure to have you with us.

The total honorarium for the session will be $800.00, which will be paid to you in two payments of $400.00 each. In addition, you may occupy a room in the dormitory free of charge if you so desire.

Dean Cravens and Miss Sara Tyler, Director of Library Services, will work closely with you in outlining your specific responsibilities; and they will also confirm the exact date for commencing this assignment and the date upon which it will be terminated.

If I can be of personal service to you at any time, I hope that you will not hesitate to let me know.

With every good and kind wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

Kelly Thompson
President

KT/mc

cc: Dean Raymond L. Cravens
Miss Sara Tyler
MEMORANDUM TO - President Thompson

SUBJECT - Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman.

Miss Tyler and I wish to recommend the employment of Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman for a summer faculty position in Library Science. She taught for us during the summer session of 1963-64.

The salary discussed with Miss Thurman for the eight weeks of summer school was $800.00, plus a room in one of the Women's dormitories should she desire to live there.

Miss Thurman taught library science in our summer sessions of 1963 and 1964.

Sincerely

Raymond L. Cravens
Vice- President for Academic Affairs
and Dean of the Faculties
PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Billy Smith

The name of Miss Mary Evelyn Thurman should be added to the payroll effective June 1, 1963

should be removed from the payroll

at a salary of $350.00 per month for the months of June and July, or a total stipend of $700.00

Assignment: Department of Library Science

Comments:

Miss Thurman will also occupy a room in State Hall, rent free.

cc: Dean Raymond L. Cravens
    Miss Margie Helm

President
Former teacher, columnist dies

A former teacher in the Simpson County School System and Franklin Favorite columnist, Mary Evelyn Thurman, died Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2005 at the Hopkins Nursing Home in Woodburn, Ky. She was 83.

Ms. Thurman was an elementary teacher in Simpson County and also taught in Germany and Japan for the U.S. Army. She wrote a column that appeared in several area newspapers and mainly dealt with women’s issues.

Ms. Thurman also served as a librarian at Western Kentucky University. She was a graduate of Asbury College at Wilmore, Ky. where she earned a masters degree in elementary education and a doctorate in library science.

Ms. Thurman was an active member of the Simpson County Retired Teachers Association and the First United Methodist Church. The family has requested that expressions of sympathy take the form of contributions to the First United Methodist Church or to the Lewis Memorial Home in Franklin.

A native of Cumberland County, she was the daughter of the late W.E. and Rosa Simpson Thurman.

Survivors include two brothers, William S. Thurman of Franklin and Bernele Thurman of Burkesville; two sisters, Christella Newton of Athens, Ala. and Velma Payne of Bowling Green; three nephews, one niece (Kristie Stratton of Franklin) and two great nieces.

Funeral services were held Jan. 13 at the Memorial Chapel of Norris-New Funeral Home in Burkesville, Ky. The Rev. Carlos H. Coop officiated. Burial followed at The Rose of Sharon Cemetery in Bowling Green.
Mary E. Thurman

Tuesday, January 18, 2005

BURKESVILLE — Mary Evelyn Thurman, 83, of Bowling Green died Jan. 12, 2005, at a Woodburn nursing home.

The Cumberland County native was an elementary school teacher, having taught in the Franklin-Simpson School System and in Germany and Japan for the U.S. Army. She was a graduate of Asbury College at Wilmore and had a master’s degree in elementary education and a doctorate in library science. She was a librarian at Western Kentucky University, an active member of the Retired Teachers Association, Methodist Women and many other civic organizations and was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church in Franklin. During her teaching career, she lived in Franklin for many years. She was a daughter of the late W.E. Thurman and Rosa Simpson Thurman. She was preceded in death by a brother, Charles Thurman.

Funeral was Jan. 13 at Norris-New Funeral Home, with burial in Rose of Sharon Cemetery at Bow.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to First United Methodist Church of Franklin.

Survivors include two brothers, William S. Thurman of Franklin and Bernel Thurman of Burkesville; two sisters, Christella Newton of Athens, Ala., and Velma Payne of Bowling Green; a niece, Kristie Stratton of Franklin; three nephews, Jeff Newton of Chattanooga, Tenn., Marty Thurman of Arizona and Steve Newton of Hixton, Tenn.; and two great-nieces, Wendy Newton and Audra Stratton.
National Library Week set to be observed April 23-27

"Be a Reader, Be a Writer" is the theme for our Kentucky National Library Week, April 23-27, 1990. This should be an exciting week for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students, that are enrolled in our Wayne County and Monticello City School system. Each student is asked to write an essay of 200 words or less on any subject of his or her choice to be eligible for a chance to come to the library for the program and drawings.

Ms. Evelyn Thurman will be our guest Kentucky author on Friday, April 27, from 10:30-12:00 a.m. in the Community Room of the library. We are pleased to have Ms. Thurman share with the students some of her personal stories about the Laura Ingalls-Wilder family. "The Little House" series as some of us call them, have brought meaning as well as enjoyment into many of our homes and lives. Ms. Thurman has visited the Ingalls-Wilder home stead ten summers. She has some personal things that have been given to her, to share in her programs. We are looking to a big Friday, the 27th. Our calendar dates for the month of April consist of: G.E.D. teachers are here Monday 12:00-2:30 p.m., Tuesday 8:00-2:30 p.m. and Thursday 8:00-2:30 p.m.; Story Hour is 10:00-11:00 a.m. on Tuesday of each week; Free Tax Service is 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Wednesday downstairs when the library is closed; Wayne-Monticello Media Organization will meet Friday, April 13, at 8:30-10:30 a.m.; Library Board will meet Tuesday, April 17th at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room; Spring Conference in Louisville is April 18th-20th; National Library Week is April 23-27th with Ms. Thurman on the 27th at 10:00-12:00 a.m. in the Community Room.

Call 348-3338 for information on classified ads!
Ms. Evelyn Thurman, noted Kentucky author of books for children, will be visiting the Wayne County Public Library Friday, April 27, 1990—at 10-12.

Thurman, a professor of Library Services, has a host of publications to her credit, including a number of books, and a numerous number of journal articles. She has authored numerous book reviews, and delivered hundreds of lectures, particularly related to children's literature.

We are looking forward to a nice day with Ms. Thurman.

**PRIZES:**
- 4 $50.00 Savings Bonds — Compliments of Monticello Banking Co.
- 1 $50.00 Savings Bond — Compliments of First State Bank
- 3 Sesame Street Character Lamps
- 25 Baseball Card collections (for boys)
- 25 Soft Sculpture wall hangings (for girls)

**CONTEST:** For all students from each 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade rooms in the Wayne County Schools and Monticello School Districts.

**CONTEST RULES:** Only two children from each class will be able to attend the program. To enter the contest each child must write a short (200 words or less) story on how to "Reach For A Star" or on any creative writing subject. These writings along with your name, address and school, and your phone number will be dropped into a box. Only one entry per child.

Two names from each home room will be drawn to come visit with Ms. Thurman. These names will be put together for the drawing of prizes at the Library.

Each young person that writes an essay has the same chance to win prizes.

Sack lunches will be provided to all students by Druther's.

Ms. Thurman will have autographed copies of her books which includes, "The Ingalls-Wilder Homesteads: A Diary of Visits 1972-83." This book has a lot of nice pictures and stories about the family. The public is invited to visit the library to meet Ms. Thurman and buy a book.
Thurman receives merit award

Franklin native Evelyn Thurman has become the third recipient of the merit award for outstanding and dedicated service to librarianship at Western Kentucky University.

The Sara Elizabeth Tyler Award was presented to Ms. Thurman by Dr. Thomas C. Meredith, president of Western Kentucky University, and Dero Downing, president Emeritus.

Ms. Thurman is an associate professor of library services and has a host of publications to her credit. She has written a number of book reviews and over 100 journal articles. She won the Faculty Award of Excellence for Public Service at Western.
April 24, 1975

Miss Mary E. Thurman
Jones-Jaggers Laboratory School
Western Kentucky University

Dear Miss Thurman:

The Faculty Research Committee has spent a great deal of time evaluating the large number of faculty applications for Summer Research Fellowships for 1975. Your proposal was considered to have real merit. However, there were many more sound applications than there were funds available and your proposal was not selected for a fellowship.

The members of the Faculty Research Committee and I hope that you will still be able to conduct the research project which you have outlined.

Sincerely,

Raymond L. Cravens
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculties

RLC:bm

cc: President Dero G. Downing
    Dr. James L. Davis
    Dr. Joseph T. Sandefur
    Dr. Donald E. Ritter
MISS EVELYN THURMAN PUBLISHES ARTICLE

Bowling Green, Ky. -- The author of a series of books which form the basis for the current television series, "Little House on the Prairie," is the subject of an article published this month written by a librarian at Western Kentucky University.

Miss Evelyn Thurman of Western has written "On the Trail of Laura Ingalls Wilder," printed in the February issue of "Instructor" magazine. The publication circulates monthly to more than 300,000 teachers and educators at the elementary and junior high school level.

Miss Thurman has done extensive research in the life and writings of Laura Ingalls Wilder. Miss Thurman is librarian at the Jones-Jaggers Laboratory School at Western, and is an assistant professor in the Department of Library Science.

A native of Burksville, Ky., Miss Thurman lives at 908 Meredith Dr., Bowling Green, Ky.

-30-

TELEPHONE (AREA CODE 502) 745-4295
Jones-Jaggers Lab School
PUBLICATIONS:


8. "Rebecca Caudill -- A Personal View," KENTUCKY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN, Fall 1980, Vol. 44, No. 4, pp. 12-16. (I am working on a biography of this outstanding Kentucky author.)


11. "The Wilders in Louisiana -- Part II," NOTES FROM LAURA INGALLS WILDER MEMORIAL SOCIETY, Pepin Wisconsin, May 1981, Vol. 6, No. 1, p. 3. I have visited the Ingalls-Wilder homesites for ten summers. Teachers, librarians, parents and students have requested my articles in book form. Western Kentucky University's Faculty Research Committee gave me a grant for assistance in the project. THE INGALLS-WILDER HOMESITES is now available.


BOOK REVIEWS:


* Children (and others) love Laura so, I show my slides at many schools and other meetings each year.

(OVER)


BOOKS
THE CANARY WHO WANTS TO TALK, 1975 (out-of-print)

CHRISTMAS IN KENTUCKY WITH LITTLE BERNEL, 1976.
(second printing, 1981, paperback)

(This is a true story of a family settling in the southeastern part of Kentucky).

THE INGALLS-WILDER HOMESITES: A DIARY OF VISITS 1972-83 1984

LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE WITH SEARCH AND FIND THE WORD PUZZLES with Greg White, 1983.

Evelyn Thurman, Librarian and
Associate Professor in Library Science
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Personal & Professional Data

Address: 1722 High Street, Bowling Green, Ky. 42101
Sex: Female
Marital Status: Single

Mary E. Thurman
Librarian
Instructor

Education:

M. A., Library Science, Peabody College, 1962
A. B., Asbury College, 1944

Professional Experience Including Military Service:

Western Kentucky Univ., Instructor, Library Services and Laboratory School, 1935-
Kindley AF Base Dependent School, Librarian-elementary, 1955-56
Ft. Knox Army P. Sch., Librarian-high school, 1962-65
Franklin Plem. School, Teacher, 1959-60
Bad Kreuznach P. Sch., Teacher, 1957-59
West Simpson Co. Sch., Teacher, 1956-57
Camps Crawford & Kyoto P. School, Teacher, 1954-56

Professional Honors:

Simpson Co. Tchrs. Assn., 1953-54
Kentucky Library Assn., Life Member

Self Study, 1975. Academic Services
A Franklin native, Miss Evelyn Thurman, stopped by the Franklin Favorite office last week for a visit. On her last visit about a month ago, she told us about how very much she enjoyed her vacation this summer when she visited the home of the author, Laura Ingalls Wilder in Mansfield, Mo.

Now NBC television network has begun a weekly series on Wednesday evenings based on the life of Mrs. Wilder. Evelyn says, "I am thrilled for the children and adults to be able to see as well as read these true, fascinating pioneer stories."

Miss Thurman, a former teacher of Franklin Elementary, is librarian at the Jones Jaggers Laboratory School and the Educational Resource Center in Bowling Green. In her work, she always encourages children to read worthwhile books. TV with its powerful persuasion will certainly make it easy to get The Little House Books circulated.

"They have so much sociological value and teach the important principle of getting along with others. They have historical value, also," she noted.

To understand and enjoy them fully, the librarian suggests reading them in this order: First, "Little House in the Big Woods"; second, "Little House on the Prairie"; third, "Farmer Boy"; fourth, "On the Banks of Plum Creek"; fifth, "By the Shores of Silver Lake," which is near DeSmet, S.C.; sixth, "Little Town on the Prairie" at DeSmet, and the last two, "First Four Years" and "On the Way Home," which were published after Laura and her daughter's death. Her daughter, Rose, died in 1968.

The Little House Books are tales of the author's life from childhood through adulthood and were all written by Mrs. Wilder after she was 65 years of age at the request of her daughter who had enjoyed hearing the stories through the years and felt others should have the enjoyment.

Evelyn tells us the books have been translated into more than 25 languages. She personally saw the translations in Germany and Japan while taught in the two counties. She extends an invitation to all her Franklin friends come by Jones-Jaggers to see the display about Little House Books or to the bulletin board she prepared for Margie Helm at Western.

Maybe on Evelyn's next visit, she will show us the children's book she has written which is now waiting for publication. With her years of experience observing what little minds want and need, bet her book will be a winner.
THE SARA ELIZABETH TYLER MERIT
AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
and
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
invite you to a reception honoring
Evelyn Thurman
recipient of the
SARA ELIZABETH TYLER MERIT AWARD
for distinguished service in librarianship
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
October 24, 1989
Galleries K & L
The Kentucky Building
Western Kentucky University
Presentation at 2:30
Happy children learn quicker says Kentucky author, teacher

By LYNN STURGES
NEW ERA Assistant Lifestyles Editor

Evelyn Thurman, a Kentucky author of children's books and storyteller, says children learn faster and perform better in school when they are happy.

Ms. Thurman, who is also a librarian and associate professor in library science at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, told stories to students Friday at Belmont Elementary School before conducting a workshop at Audubon Head Start Center, 195 Poplar St., for head start teachers on creativity and story telling.

In an interview, Ms. Thurman said teachers and parents share responsibility for children, and must work together to help children learn.

She frequently talks with parents at public libraries, and she tells them to send the children to school in a happy frame of mind.

"Send your children to us happy. Don't have a fight with them at the breakfast table if they don't eat their breakfast," Ms. Thurman said.

"Of course we (teachers) keep the children a lot, but it makes a difference how the parents send them to us what we can do with them. If they come mad, we can't teach them much," she said.

Ms. Thurman said she has seen parents have success with their children when they followed her advice.

"So maybe talking to parents helps a little bit. Sometimes we know things, but sometimes we need to be reminded," she added.

When the parents do their part, the teachers will have more success in keeping the attention of a classroom full of students, she said.

Ms. Thurman thinks teachers often lose their students' attention by reading to the children directly from books. By telling stories, a teacher can keep eye contact with her students which helps in keeping their attention.

"The thing about storytelling is when you look at the children... it seems as if that story is just for that child," she said.

"If you tell stories, even though you may not cover as much, you keep the attention of all the children," Ms. Thurman said.

Ms. Thurman taught school for two years in both Japan and Germany, and she was a librarian in Bermuda for one year.

During her travel, she found they are an easy way for other teachers to learn storytelling. Folk tales are usually easy stories to remember, and almost all children like to hear them.

The author of books including 'The Canary Who Wants To Talk' and 'Christmas in Kentucky with Little Bernell' stories is fun; there is not necessarily a lesson for children in them.

"I do try to stress being kind to people and not trying to hurt people," and she said she will often add that idea to her stories in telling them.

Ms. Thurman has also written book reviews and re
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR. The Rev. Harold Kniffen displays items he has made for the annual Christmas bazaar at the St. James United Methodist Church. The bazaar will be 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at the church, 1414 Fairview Ave., and will feature crafts and baked goods. Evelyn Thurman, Western Kentucky University author, will be there to autograph her books. Breakfast and lunch will be served.
Temple Hill students hear speaker from Western

Staff and pupils of Temple Hill School received a treat in celebration of National Library Week, Nov. 14-20.

Evelyn Thurman, a native of Franklin and librarian at Western Kentucky University, an author of "The Canary Who Wants To Talk," "Christmas in Kentucky With Little Bernel" and many books, pamphlets and articles, presented a program on the homes and families of Laura Ingalls Wilder of Little House fame. Ms. Thurman has visited the Laura Ingalls Wilder museum, and many of the homesites of both the Ingalls and Wilders families.
Evelyn Thurman participated in summer reading program

Evelyn Thurman, reference librarian at Western Kentucky University, participated in the summer reading program at the Pomona (California) Public Library on Wednesday, August 4. She conducted a story hour for over 75 children. Later in the day she spoke to a group of parents on the importance of reading to children.

While in Pomona Ms. Thurman interviewed Ms. Clara Webber who was responsible for having the children's room at the public library named for Laura Ingalls Wilder. In appreciation of the honor Mrs. Wilder sent the library the original manuscript for her book The Little Town On The Prairie. Ms. Webber said for a number of years after Mrs. Wilder's death in 1957, it was not known to the people of Mansfield, Mo., where the manuscript was located. The manuscript along with other Wilder memorabilia are on display in the library. Anyone interested in Laura Ingalls Wilder lore will find the many items on display very interesting.

Ms. Webber was a close friend of Laura and Wilder's daughter, Rose Lane, and visited her home at Harlingen, Texas. Lane often sent Ms. Webber flowers or other gifts on her mother's birthday — say mother would want her to.

Rose Wilder Lane, famous writer long before her mother started writing the "Little House" books. It was to pick up a popular magazine article written by her. She was the oldest war correspondent of the Vietnam War. Ms. Lane was also the author of a number of books. In October 1979 she had plans for a trip around the world. The day of her death never dawned for her as she died in her sleep October 30.

During her stay in the Angeles area Ms. Webber visited a teacher she taught in Japan. Her friend in Anaheim took her to the Pageant of the Masters in Los Angeles.
icipated in summer reading at Pomona

Ms. Webber was a personal friend of Laura and Almanzo Wilder's daughter, Rose Wilder Lane, and visited her in her home at Harlingen, Texas. Ms. Lane often sent Ms. Webber orchids or other flowers on her mother's birthday — saying "her mother would want her to."

Rose Wilder Lane was a famous writer long before her mother started writing the "Little House" books. It was unusual to pick up a popular magazine in the 40's and 50's and not find an article written by her. She was the oldest war correspondent during the Vietnam War. Ms. Lane was also the author of a number of books. In October 1968, she had plans for a trip around the world. The day of her departure never dawned for her as she died in her sleep October 30, 1968.

During her stay in the Los Angeles area Ms. Thurman visited a teacher she taught with in Japan. Her friend from Anaheim took her to Laguna Beach to see the Pageant of the Masters which is the portrayal of masterpieces of artwork with living models. The pageant was presented in the Irvine Bowl located behind the festival of arts ground. Ms. Thurman saw the "Dancing Waters" at the Disneyland Hotel, the Crystal Cathedral at Garden Grove and other points of interest. Before returning home Mr. Thurman visited Sacramento, Salt Lake City, Denver and other cities in the west.
The Ingalls-Wilder fans are back from the homesites tour.

Friday, July 11, Evelyn Thurman, reference librarian at Western Kentucky University, loaded 41 people and two drivers onto a bus and headed westward to visit the four homesites of the Ingalls-Wilder families, whose lives inspired "Little House on the Prairie." Ms. Thurman's book, "The Ingalls-Wilder Homesites," is now being reprinted in its third edition.

"The first stop on the tour was the 172-acre Plum Creek Farm near Walnut Grove, Minn., where Laura Ingalls spent many happy and some sad times in the 1800's. The group toured the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bedal in Walnut Grove. He was the first postmaster and his wife was the first school teacher there. We heard the bell that first rang in the tower of the church the Ingalls attended; Ingalls paid his last three dollars on the purchase of the bell at a time when he needed a pair of shoes," Ms. Thurman said.

Saturday night at sunset thousands of "Little House" fans from as far away as Germany and Japan enjoyed the outdoor pageant presented two weekends in July. "You could see the cottonwoods Pa Ingalls planted at the homestead claim from the pageant location. Some of the people on the tour had never seen the prairie before, and hadn't realized the different feeling you get from the landscape. And the props were unbelievable for a small town production; we were surprised," Ms. Thurman added.

The next day, the group met Garth Williams, illustrator of the 1953 edition of Laura Ingalls' Wilder's books. Ms. Thurman reports that a great buzz fell as Williams and William Anderson, who has written a number of books on the two families, entered the museum.

Sunday afternoon the group traveled to De Smet, S.D., the last home of "Ma and Pa" Ingalls. He died in the last house he built in 1902; she lived on in the house with their blind daughter Mary until 1922. The tour of De Smet also included the surveyor's shanty, the church Ingalls had helped build, the store front house, first school house, the last home of Laura and Alonzo Wilder before they moved to Missouri in 1894, and the cemetery where the Ingalls and three of their daughters are buried.

"Monday we visited Spring Valley, Minn., which was the second childhood home of Alonzo Wilder. The Methodist church there that Alonzo and Laura attended when they visited his parents in the 1870s is on the National Register. Alonzo's brother Royal is buried there in the cemetery at Spring Valley.

Later in the day the group toured the Masters Hotel at Burr Oak, Iowa. The Ingalls helped William Stedman run the hotel during the time the pioneers were moving west in the 1870s.

"We had quite a group just from this area: Kellie Bush, Jackie Smith, Amy and Anna Couch, Sandra and Wendy Ford, Sandra Garner, Laura and Jennifer Gray, Cheryl Halcomb, Becky Meals, Katy Oliver, Wilma Sadler, Francis Turnipseed, Andrea Wilkins and Inga Wolff," Ms. Thurman added.
Pulitzer Prize

Todd Buchanan, a 1983 graduate of Western Kentucky University, was among a team of photographers awarded the Pulitzer Prize in photography for coverage of the 1984 Summer Olympic Games.

Buchanan, staff photographer for the Orange County, Calif. "Register", photographed cyclist Alex Grewal winning a race.

Educational tour

Evelyn Thurman, reference librarian at Western Kentucky University, has completed her research into the correspondence and manuscripts of Laura Ingalls Wilder at the Detroit Public Library Rare Book Room.

Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote "Little House on the Prairie".


During October, Ms. Thurman led a bus tour of 41 teachers and librarians to Laura and Almanzo Wilder's last home at Mansfield, Missouri.

A July tour is planned of the homesties at DeSmet, South Dakota, Burr Oak, Iowa, and Walnut Grove and Spring Valley, Minnesota.

People you know

University where their son William is a freshman.

The council is responsible for the program for Parents Day, held annually in the fall semester, and for selecting the Parents Fund Project for the year.

Honor for service

James H. Godfrey, past president of the National School Orchestra Association, will be honored at the NSOA reception of the 1985 Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago for his service to the organization.

Godfrey is retired from Western Kentucky University, where he was an associate professor of music education. He was conductor and a member of the organizing committee of the Barren River Area Youth Orchestra.

He was editor of the NSOA Soundpost, an instrumentalist magazine published by the organization.

He is currently a member of the NSOA Board of Directors.
By ELISE FREDERICK

Daily News Women's Editor

Laura Ingalls Wilder would have been pleased by actress Melissa Gilbert's portrayal of her. That is the belief of Western Kentucky University librarian Evelyn Thurman who knows the real Laura if not by acquaintance, through extensive research. Ms. Thurman confesses herself to be a dedicated fan of the author whose "Little House" books told of life in the new West. And apparently all that is done by Ms. Thurman is seen through the perspective of whether Laura would be pleased.

For those not acquainted with the Ingalls, the name Laura Ingalls is synonymous with the NBC series "Little House On the Prairie," starring Michael Landon and Michelle Hurst. Though Laura, a Western Kentucky University librarian, has not written a book, some have been supplied by newspapers, libraries and museums. For the homesites which had been torn down, Ms. Thurman gave descriptions of them to her niece, Kristie Lea Thurman, who attends Cumberland College of Tennessee on an art scholarship.

Most of the photographs in the book were taken by Ms. Thurman, but some were supplied by newspapers, libraries and museums. For the homesites which had been torn down, Ms. Thurman gave descriptions of them to her niece, Kristie Lea Thurman, who attends Cumberland College of Tennessee on an art scholarship.

Ms. Thurman has just completed a book tracing the homesites of the Ingalls and Wilder families. Ms. Thurman began her research on "Little House On the Prairie," starring Michael Landon and Michelle Hurst. Though Ms. Thurman has not written a book, some have been supplied by newspapers, libraries and museums. For the homesites which had been torn down, Ms. Thurman gave descriptions of them to her niece, Kristie Lea Thurman, who attends Cumberland College of Tennessee on an art scholarship.

Ms. Thurman also includes statements by two other ardent Laura fans. William Anderson, who was a staff member at the Ingalls-Wilder home in DeSmet, wrote of his enjoyment in working at the museum. And a younger fan, Greg White, then 12-years-old, wrote "Laura brought meaning into many persons lives, she let the pioneer spirit breeze through our sunny windows while reading her books... If Laura can only live with us in spirit then we should truly make our lives worthy of hers." White, now 15, has read the "Little House" series 28 times. He and Ms. Thurman collaborated on a puzzle book relating to the Laura series.

Though Ms. Thurman believes the "Little House" show has encouraged both children and adults to read the books, she said all that is on the show should not be believed. "For instance, Mary never married and she only taught Sunday School," Ms. Thurman added that she believed the producers would have had a more interesting show if they had stuck to the truth.

Ms. Thurman said she appreciates Landon's portrayal of Pa, and her only objection to Miss Gilbert was that the real Laura never had buck teeth. "She was so pretty," she said. "But, you know, if you like a person they are always pretty." Laura would have been pleased.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ms. Thurman's book "The Ingalls-Wilder Homesties," may be bought at the Western Kentucky University Bookstore, Bowman-Kelley Office Supplies and Walden Books in Greenwood Mall. The book is priced at $3.95.
New book by Evelyn Thurman fine addition to children's libraries

The book is appropriate for all ages, but is primarily written for second graders and up, Miss Thurman says. "And some second graders can even read the book themselves," she said. "I try to use easy vocabulary, but every once in a while there might be a word they don't know. But life gets boring if you don't have something to struggle with now and then!"

A PIONEER CIVIL WAR STORY FOR MOLLY AND BEN. By Evelyn Thurman. Illustrations by Mard Carpenter. Vantage Press. 27 Pages. $4.95. Reviewed by Teri Hurst, Daily News Women's Editor.

The book is appropriate for all ages, but is primarily written for second graders and up, Miss Thurman says. "And some second graders can even read the book themselves," she said. "I try to use easy vocabulary, but every once in a while there might be a word they don't know. But life gets boring if you don't have something to struggle with now and then!"

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Western honors work of three local women

The work of three Franklin women is being honored this month at Western Kentucky University. The literary and scientific writings of Mrs. Helen B. Crocker, Mrs. Sylvia Clark Pulliam and Miss Evelyn Thurman are being recognized as part of the University's celebration of 1987 — The Year of the Reader. WKU's libraries are recognizing more than 150 faculty members who have published books and articles in the past year. A special reception was held Wednesday.

Mrs. Crocker is an associate professor of history, and authored an article for the Filsom Club History Quarterly for April 1987. The article was titled "Ida Tarbell Follows Lincoln's Kentucky Footsteps."

Mrs. Pulliam is a computer science instructor, and she contributed an article for the September issue of The Journal of Computing in Small Colleges. The article was entitled "CO-OP: The Edge of the CS Market."

Miss Thurman is General Reference Librarian and authored the article titled "How Rebecca Caudill Started Writing." It was published in the Spring 1987 issue of Kentucky Libraries.

"Franklin Favorite"
Dec. 10, 1987

Franklin still claims me—
even though I have been
living in Bowling Green
over 18 years.
'Little House' puzzle book is homemade

Little Houses on the Prairie with Search and Find the Word Puzzles, by Evelyn Thurman and Greg White. 1983. 28 pages. $2.50. Reviewed by Ellen Micheletti, library assistant, Western Kentucky University.

Little Houses on the Prairie with Search and Find the Word Puzzles is a collaboration between Evelyn Thurman, librarian and author at Western Kentucky University, and Greg White, a student at Warren Central High School. Ms. Thurman is well-known for her research on the Ingalls-Wilder families and for the many talks she gives in the area schools. When Greg White was in the fifth grade at T.C. Cherry School, Ms. Thurman spoke to the students on Laura Ingalls Wilder and that talk sparked an interest that resulted in this book.

Greg White has created the puzzles using words from the "Little House" book of Laura Ingalls Wilder, and Evelyn Thurman has added an information sketch and pictures on each of the homesites. Search and find the word puzzle books are popular but have a big drawback — after they are finished, all you can do is throw them away. Little Houses on the Prairie with Search and Find the Word Puzzles is a puzzle book you will want to keep for the valuable information on each of the "Little Houses."

The television series, "Little House on the Prairie," has gained many fans for Laura Ingalls Wilder, even though it does not follow the stories in her books. People who watch the show are curious and want to know just what Laura's houses really look like. This book will answer your questions and at the same time, give you some interesting puzzles to work.

A PUZZLE within a log cabin is illustrated on the cover of a book about the houses of Laura Ingalls Wilder. A joint effort by Bowling Green residents, Evelyn Thurman and Greg L. White, the puzzle book contains various trivia about the Ingalls homesites.
Born in Burkesville, Miss Thurman received the A.B. degree from Asbury College in 1951 and the M.A. degree from Peabody College in 1962. She has served as librarian at armed services schools in Japan, Germany, Bermuda, and Kentucky. She taught in Simpson County (Ky.) schools in 1956-57 and 1959-62.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS will meet at 2 p.m. in the program room of the Bowling Green Public Library. Evelyn Thurman, Western Kentucky University librarian, writer and traveler, will be the guest speaker. Refreshments will be served. All persons over 55 are invited.

Miss Evelyn Thurman, librarian at Western Kentucky University, will discuss her writing this week on WKCT's "Public Affairs Forum," airing three times weekdays.

WKU instructor to have book published next fall

Evelyn Thurman, assistant professor of library science at Western Kentucky University and a Burkesville native, will have her book "A Pioneer Civil War Story - For Molly and Ben" published next fall by Vantage Press.

Her books "The Canary Who Wants to Talk" and "Christmas in Kentucky with Little Bernel" were published in 1975 and 1976. Her article, "The Christmas Story and Creative Dramatics," will be published in Church School magazine in the fall 1978 issue.

Another article, "On the Trails of Laura Ingalls Wilder, Part II," was published in last summer's Kentucky Library Association Bulletin; "Creative Dramatics - Don't Miss the Fun" was published in last October's Catholic Library World; and "A Visit to Mary Ingalls' School" was published in the fall-winter 1977 issue of Laura Ingalls Wilder Lore.

Writing is radio topic

Miss Evelyn Thurman has published "The Canary Who Wants To Talk," "Christmas in Kentucky" and a series of articles dealing with the life of Laura Ingalls Wilder. She currently is working on a biography of Kentucky writer Rebecca Caudill.

Her most recent publication is "A Pioneer Civil War Story for Molly and Ben." "Public Affairs Forum" is broadcast at 7:25 a.m., 1:25 p.m. and 3:25 p.m. weekdays.

The American Association of Retired Persons will meet at 2 p.m. in the program room of the Bowling Green Public Library. Evelyn Thurman, Western Kentucky University librarian, writer and traveler, will be the guest speaker. Refreshments will be served. All persons over 55 are invited.
Interest in Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little House" books has been running high lately, due in part to the NBC television series "Little House on the Prairie," and also because they continue to be excellent reading. But for many people, interest in Mrs. Wilder has always been strong. Two such persons are the authors of the following articles: Evelyn Thurman, who traveled to the various Laura Ingalls Wilder homes and writes about them, and Maxel Ferguson, who shows how to make the books even more meaningful through the use of models.

EVELYN THURMAN

I had been interested in seeing the Laura Ingalls Wilder homes for a number of years; so in the summer of 1972, I visited Laura's and Almanzo's last home at Mansfield, Missouri. Laura had named the farm Rocky Ridge.

The house has been left as it was when Laura died, even the kitchen calendar shows February 1957. The small desk where Laura did much of her writing of the Little House books is in the back sitting room. It is believed this desk once belonged to Ma. The living-room fireplace has three large slab rocks that Laura found on the farm. Almanzo was quoted as saying he did not know how he would get them in position, but they were placed just where Laura wanted them.

A museum has been built near the Wilder's last home. There is so much to see, I could have stayed for days with all the treasures. I saw Pa's fiddle, the original manuscripts of many of Laura's books, clothing, and so on. You can even buy a card that gives Laura's gingerbread recipe. The museum has many interesting items that belonged to Rose, Almanzo's and Laura's only daughter, who died in 1968. The family is buried in Mansfield.

In May of 1973, I visited DeSmet, South Dakota. This little prairie town was the setting for six of Laura's books: By the Shores of Silver Lake, Little Town on the Prairie, The Long Winter, These Happy Golden Years, The First Four Years, and On the Way Home.

A Mrs. Springer at the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society office gave me a tour of the area. The society, by the way, is located in a railroad surveyor's shanty, a small building—one that looked very large to Laura when her family moved there for the winter of 1879. The building is original, but the location is not. The pantry has a wide plank-board floor. The narrow attic steps were inviting, but the upstairs was closed to the public to preserve the building. The rooms have been furnished with some original furniture of the Ingalls and other furniture of the period.

Near the shuttered FFA students had started work on a copy of the Brewster School where Laura first taught. I saw the Congregational Church Pa helped build. The Ingalls were charter members of the church. The store-front home is located on the main street in DeSmet, and the society had recently purchased the first home built by Pa—used by the Ingalls from 1887-1928. I saw the location of the homestead a few miles from town.

Five cottonwood trees Pa planted for Ma and their four daughters are still growing well. One was struck by lightning recently and has some large dead limbs, but the tree is more alive than dead. A trip to the cemetery is impressive. Pa's tombstone is and weathered. He died 1902. I was pleased to know Laura was in DeSmet at the of her father's death. They always very close. I was told Rose had the present misplaced for Ma, Mary, Carrie her young brother's graves, and husband Nathan buried a few lots from the members of the family. Stones for the Boasts and mentioned in Laura's book be seen there.

In May of 1974, I return DeSmet to take pictures of many historical spots. I visited the small Brewster School but that had been completed six visit the previous May. The room schoolhouse is about size of a large walk-in water. The desks are made of wood.

I was also pleased to see last home of the Ingalls completely furnished. The local organizations have worked very hard to arrange the house with period. I saw two trunks labeled to the Ingalls, also items of clothing, books, and so on. I saw a necklace Mary in a favorite picture. I saw a jewelry box that was dated years ago and Pa were marr coat once belonging to was given to the society. It lived that Laura gave it to her sister. The kitchen was one of Pa's masterpie
The tombstone is tall worn. He died in pleased to know that DeSmot at the time of death. They were close. I was told that the present markers are: Mary, Mary, Carrie, and other's graves. Grace husband Nathan are lots from the other family. Tombstones Boasts and others in Laura's books can 1974, I returned to make pictures of the real spots. I visited the School building completed since my previous May. The one-story house is about the size of a walk-in wardrobe. It was made of wood. I was pleased to see the Ingalls complete- The local organized worked very hard to house with original at least that of the two trunks that belonged to Carrie Ingalls, also many things, books, and so necklace Mary wore a picture. I saw Ma's that was dated the day Pa were married. A book from the Ingalls family society. It is here Laura gave the coat. The kitchen cabinet Pa's masterpieces of carpentry. It seemed everyone who lived in the house found it useful as no part of it was ever removed. Incidentally, a paean, "The Long Winter," is given a number of times each summer.

On June 7, 1974, I visited Walnut Grove, Minnesota, a town of about 780 people. The Ingalls' Plum Creek home is located about two miles from the town. When I arrived, I headed straight to the Walnut Grove Tribune office. I was lucky. Mr. Lantz, the paper's editor, had his camera in his hand and was just walking across the street to his car. I called, "You're not going to the Ingalls home on Plum Creek, are you?" He smiled, and started back across the street. I introduced myself and told of my wish to visit the Plum Creek farm. He gave me a copy of a "special" his paper had published on the Ingalls and suggested I call the Harold Gordons who own the farm. When I called, Mrs. Gordon said, "In two minutes I would have been on my way to Tracy." I said, "I want to go to Tracy, too." (Remember, that's where Ma and the girls left by train to join Pa farther west). At my request, Mr. Lantz located more copies of the special paper published on the Ingalls while I made the telephone call. Mrs. Gordon came for me shortly. She took me to see the first school Laura attended, the bell Pa paid his last $3 for (it is placed properly in the tower of the new Congregational Church), the store and two houses containing wood from one of Laura's homes. As we drove along the streets and country roads the blossoms from the large cottonwood trees were blowing like snow. I gathered a sack hoping to plant some seeds. Mrs. Gordon took me by the roadside plaque showing the location of the Plum Creek farm. It reads:

ON THE BANKS OF PLUM CREEK

A dugout along Plum Creek southeast of this point was the childhood home of Laura Ingalls Wilder who wrote On the Banks of Plum Creek, widely known as a children's story. The book tells actual incidents of pioneer life here and in Walnut Grove, including buzzing ants and a grasshopper plague in the 1870s. Laura's parents were among the early settlers of North Hero Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon have a large country home near where Laura's first real house with glass windows was located. In fact, the Gordon's big red barn stands on the exact spot. Mrs. Gordon said part of the wide planks from Laura's house were used to make their chicken house. She said they did not realize this at the time the chicken house was built. I saw the spring that never freezes in the winter and crossed Plum Creek on a little bridge. This is the spot where Laura almost drowned one day; the rock where Laura once played can still be seen. Just across Plum Creek I saw the location of the sod house. The wild flowers are still growing as they did during Laura's happy and sometimes sad days on Plum Creek.

Visitors to the home sites have come from such distant places as Australia, England, Alaska, Italy, and Norway. Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House books have been printed in 26 languages including German, Chinese, Danish, Afrikaans, Finnish, three Indian dialects, Indonesian, Arabic, Portuguese, Dutch, Norwegian, four Philippine languages, and others.

EVELYN THURMAN, a former elementary teacher, is librarian at the Jones Loggers Laboratory School, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green.
On the Trail of Laura Ingalls Wilder, Part II

Evelyn Thurman
Western Kentucky University

he last five summers I have visited the Ingalls-Wilder homes. After my article (covering the homes at Mansfield, Missouri, Walnut Grove, Minnesota, and De Smet, South Dakota) was published in the February 1975, issue of Instructor magazine, I received many letters from Laura Ingalls Wilder fans asking for more information.

Mrs. Harvey Houck, a teacher at Decorah, Iowa wrote that the old Master's Hotel in Burr Oak was being restored. In May 1976, when I visited the little town with many tall trees, I was rather surprised at the size of the hotel. The Ingalls helped run the hotel during part of their almost two years stay in Burr Oak. (Just before they arrived in Burr Oak they had buried their only son, Charles Frederick, who lived nine months.)

It has been said that times got rather rough around the hotel - especially with a local bar next door. (A wall in one room still showed bullet marks when I was there.) Ma Ingalls decided the surroundings were too rough for their two young daughters (Mary and Laura) who helped wait on tables. The little family moved just out of the small town where Grace, the fourth daughter, was born in 1877. Her pretty blue eyes were one of the last things Mary saw before going blind. It has been said that Grace was more like her father than the other girls. She had a happy disposition and probably inherited a tendency for a weak heart from Pa; she was the second girl to die.

I found a trip to the cemetery very interesting; it is no doubt much the same as it was a hundred years ago when Laura made many visits there. The cemetery is much higher than the road. As I looked up the wrought iron gate with the words Burr Oak looked beautiful against the sky in the sunset of that late afternoon in May. I saw many old slanting white tombstones (that Laura probably saw) among the thick green grass.

A visit to Burr Oak would not be complete without a stop in David DeCou's general store and restaurant which is very near the Master's Hotel. The Ingalls family returned to Walnut Grove, Minnesota before settling in DeSmet, South Dakota where Pa built the last family house.

August 4, 1976, I visited Laura's birthplace at Pepin, Wisconsin. Just recently the local Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society has been able to purchase the land of the Charles Ingalls first family home. A little log cabin is being rebuilt where the first cabin stood. Trees will be planted to make the site as natural as possible - just as it was when Laura lived there in the eighteen hundreds. The Little House In The Big Woods is located about seven miles northwest of Pepin. The spot seemed almost hallowed as I stood there thinking of the little family so many have come to love.

Mr. Lester Lund, whose wife is the president of the local Laura Ingalls Wilder Society, and his brother took me by the local park that was dedicated in Laura's honor in 1962. The plaque reads:

LAURA INGALLS WILDER

This park is named in honor of Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of the "Little House" books which were awarded a medal in 1954 as "lasting contribution to children's literature." Laura Ingalls was born in a log cabin seven miles northwest of here February 7, 1867.

In the 1870's her parents moved the family to Kansas Territory, then to Minnesota, and finally to South Dakota. At 15, Laura was teaching school and three years later, married Almanzo Wilder. They lived for a while in South Dakota, before settling on a farm near Mansfield, Missouri. Mrs. Wilder began her writing career when she was 65. First in the series of eight books was Little House In The Big Woods describing her experiences here in the Pepin area. The book was an immediate success. The author was surprised at her success and told an interviewer after writing her first book: "I thought that would end it but what do you think? Children who read it wrote to me begging for more. I was amazed because I didn't know how to write. I went to little red school houses all over the west, and I never was graduate from anything." She died in 1957.

September 21, 1976, I visited Almanzo Wilder's (Laura's husband) birthplace at Malone, New York. This site was the setting for the book Farmer Boy. Although Laura never visited Malone her descriptions are perfect through the eyes and memory of her husband.

I was thrilled to meet Almanzo Wilder's cousin, Mrs. Frances E. Smith, who is 86 years of age. Her daughter Dorothy has written a booklet entitled The Wilder Family Story that was published in 1972. The publication revealed to me recent information about the Wilders. They told me of their visit with Rose Wilder Lane in Danbury, Connecticut in 1964. The Smiths have two large Angel Wing Begonias they started from Rose's plant; Rose visited her father's birthplace more than once.

* Sarah Wilder Day (Almanzo's father's sister) was Mrs. Frances E. Smith's grandmother. Her mother, Carrie May Day, died when Mrs. Smith was only seven years old. Sarah Wilder Day's husband was Almanzo's mother's brother - Lawrence Day.
On the way to the birthplace I could just see Almanzo driving his beautiful Morgan horses through the scenic countryside. The leaves were changing colors at the time of my visit and the trees on the banks of Trout River were picturesque. Almanzo and his father enjoyed happy fishing trips there.

Many of the Wilders are buried in the local Morningside cemetery - Sarah Wilder Day, Abel and Hannah Paine Wilder (Almanzo’s grandparents) and others. Hannah’s father, Thomas Paine, was a teacher and leader during the colony days; his cousin, Robert Treat Paine, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The Smiths have many treasured pictures of the Wilders. They have Sarah Wilder Day’s farm painting that was used on the back cover of Farmer Boy in addition to Uncle Lawrence’s desk, a chest with initials and many other items.

The house of History sponsored by the local Historical Society has a farmer boy kitchen with a large wood cooking stove. I saw a bedspread made by Almanzo’s mother, two drinking glasses from Royal’s (Almanzo’s brother) home in Spring Valley, Minnesota. It has been a rewarding experience for me to visit with the local people at the Ingalls-Wilder home sites. I am amazed at their efforts to collect and preserve materials and facts for the lovers of the “Little House” books.

Many of the home sites have “Laura Ingalls Wilder Days” each year. The Desmet Society has sponsored an open air pageant (on the homestead site) for a number of years. The Societies operate gift shops where one may buy books, post cards, twists of hay, bonnets, copies of Laura’s rag doll Charlotte and other items at a reasonable price. They will gladly send order blanks upon request.

I wish every school and public library had a kit of items from the gift shops. In working with children (or adults) I have found the expense of the kit is worth the happy, anticipated smile on one’s face as he or she starts to open it.

You will enjoy a visit to any of these home sites I have visited:

1. Pepin, Wisconsin – Laura’s birthplace
   Little House In The Big Woods
2. Burr Oak, Iowa – Grace’s birthplace
   Master’s Hotel
3. DeSmet, South Dakota – Last home for Pa and Ma Ingalls – setting for six of Laura’s books
4. Walnut Grove, Minnesota – Harold Gordon’s farm
   On The Banks Of Plum Creek
5. Mansfield, Missouri – Rocky Ridge Farm
   Laura and Almanzo’s last home
   On The Way Home
6. Malone, New York – Almanzo’s birthplace
   Farmer Boy

Everybody’s Favorite Children’s Books

Doris Elliott
Breckinridge Elementary
Lexington

By early in 1976, the Children’s Literature Association, a professional organization made up of teachers, librarians, authors and publishers, announced their choice of ten best American children’s books published in the last 200 years as their tribute to the Bicentennial. Of course, very little publishing for children was going on in this country even in the past century, and other than Samuel L. Clemens and Louisa May Alcott, none of the CLA choices extend into the 1800’s. But a brief report on that list gave me the idea that became our Bicentennial National Library Week project at Breckinridge Elementary School Library in Lexington. Altering the phraseology

Western librarian writes
to meet needs of others

By JUDY JONES
Daily News Women's Editor
Evelyn Thurman, a Franklin
native living in Bowling Green,
doesn't consider herself a writer.
However, her extensive
research of the life of Laura
Ingalls Wilder led to an article
which was published in the
February issue of Instructor
magazine and this month a
story she wrote two years ago
for study by children at Jones-
Jaggers Laboratory School was
published as a book, The
Canary Who Wants to Talk.
“When children study birds
as a unit, there are a lot of books
on birds but few with stories
that little children need,” the
Western Kentucky University
librarian said. She wrote a
story about a bird. “The
children received it so well that
I decided to try to publish it.”
Miss Thurman allowed the
boys and girls at Jones-Jaggers,
to whom the book is dedicated,
to select the type with which the
book is printed—large block
printing.
Gilbertine Moore of Franklin
illustrated the book. The canary
J. J., about which the book was
written, is portrayed in
illustrations made with
fingerprints throughout the
child-size, yellow cloth-bound
book.
Miss Thurman is pleased with
the effect Ms. Moore, who has
written two books herself,
achieved by using fingerprints
for the bird's body. “It really
fits in with the book.”

Miss Thurman has received a
special invitation, along with a
number of other Kentucky
writers, to attend the Kentucky
School Media Association and
Kentucky Audio-Visual
Association meeting in
Prestonsburg Friday and
Saturday.
Various authors will bring,
sell and autograph their works.
This summer Miss Thurman
began studying Kentucky
author Rebecca Caudill. “I feel
it should be done,” said Miss
Thurman who has always
expressed an interest in literature
and history. Miss Thurman
interviewed the 76-year-old
Mrs. Caudill May 2. “That will
always be a special day on my
calendar. It was such a thrill.
Her writing is much like Laura
Ingalls Wilder’s,” said Miss
Thurman. Miss Thurman has
studied Laura Ingalls Wilder for
many years, not only through
her books but through actually
visiting the places where the
author lived.
Miss Thurman believes
everyone should read Mrs.
Caudill’s books. She Miss
Thurman especially likes
Happy Little Family, Up and
Down the River, Schoolhouse in
the Woods and Schoolroom in
the Parlor. “These are her true
childhood experiences. These
books are very descriptive of
the olden days. I believe that the
books of both Laura Ingalls
Wilder and Rebecca Caudill are
very timely now . . . especially
with the Bicentennial. They
give so much of our history and
how our people used to live,”
Miss Thurman said.
Miss Thurman doesn’t quite
know what she will do with the
information she is gathering
about and from Rebecca
Caudill. She may put it together
in another article.
“Now children who read and
report on books must know the
author too. They must
understand authors, understand
how and why they wrote to
really understand the books.”
Miss Thurman continued, “I
don’t just write for my own
enjoyment. I hope my work will
meet a need.”
She said The Canary Who
Wants to Talk would probably
appeal mostly to children in
kindergarten through the third
grade but others might enjoy
reading it. She explained that
while the story was written to be
understandable to small
children, she hoped there would
be some challenge in it for them
too.
The Canary Who Wants to Talk
was published by The
Parthenon Press. It has 20
pages and sells for $3 in local
bookstores.
**Christmas in Kentuck...**

**Christmas story published**

By JUDY-JONES

News Women's Editor

By BRYSON

in southeastern
yo. His family is poor-

first time.

is the setting for an in Kentucky, a children's book

The small, hard-cover volume was published last

People are always looking for good Christmas stories," Miss Thurman said, explaining why she wrote the book. "They're good to have in our home," she believes, deals with today," Miss Thurman said.

She said the book is partially based on some real-life expe-

The book, illustrated with ink sketches, was printed by Kelley Office Equipment Co., Inc.

It has a brown cover and sells for $3.25.

Miss Thurman said she preferred a local printer. "And since the pictures were in black and white, I thought I would get it printed here."

Although she has been interested in children's literature for a long time, her book writing has followed ex-

Her second book, she said, was written between travels and writing articles about Mrs. Wilder and several other authors.


Miss Thurman said she prefers to tell the stories instead of reading them. "I read the story over a number of times before telling it," she said. "I want the story to be just like scenes in a play. I want them to stand out in their minds."

Miss Thurman said she likes to use creative dramatics with most of her stories. "When I was telling 'The Little Old Lady Who Wanted To Fly,' I used statues of a cow, a dog and the little old lady," she said.

"If I let the children make sounds like the cow and the dog," she said, "if children can participate in a story and become a part of it, you can hold their attention much longer and much easier."

For as many Christmas seasons as she can remember, Miss Thurman has been staging Christmas show with children in churches and grade school, and she said she has developed a philosophy for doing the shows.

"If the children are required to memorize lines, they often cannot memorize the words. Sometimes you need to go into depth," she said. "You can't summarize a story and get its full impact."

"Storytelling is an art," Ms. Thurman said. "A story can be more eloquent, you can make your ideas clearer. Storytelling is not just for librarians or teachers."

Learning to tell a good story means something to most of us are mothers fathers.

"Telling your children's t... can make a happy ..." she said. "Storytine is a h... which they will remember forever."

Continued on Page 22

**storytelling has become a career**

In 1976, the Kentucky Christmas story published at the University of Kentucky, a children's book was written by a husband and wife team. Mr. and Mrs. Wilder, also had a children's book published in Kentucky. They were also the authors of a children's book about Christmas in Kentucky.

The book, "The Little Old Lady Who Wanted To Fly," was written in 1975 and was published in 1976. The book was illustrated with ink sketches and was printed by Kelley Office Equipment Co., Inc. in Kentucky. It has a brown cover and sells for $3.25.

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Continued on Page 22

**Column 1, This Section**
Laura Ingalls Wilder

Books tell country's story, according to WKU librarian

By JUDY JONES

Daily News Women's Editor

"I'm really interested in the historical part of the books. They tell so much about how our country was built," said Evelyn Thurman, explaining her great interest in the writings of Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote 10 books on pioneer life after she was 65 years old. "She never meant to write books—only to write down stories of her childhood at the request of her daughter," said Miss Thurman.

Once considered children's books, Mrs. Wilder's works are now recognized as historical accounts of pioneer life in America to be read by people of all ages. The books have been translated into more than 26 languages.

The books have served as the basis for a television series, "Little House on the Prairie," stimulating even more interest in Mrs. Wilder's work.

"It's hard to remember exactly when I began reading Laura Ingalls Wilder's books," said Miss Thurman, a librarian at Jones-Jaggers Laboratory School and assistant professor of library science at Western Kentucky University. "Everyone should read them though," she added.

As a result of her growing interest in Ingalls and Wilders, Miss Thurman has spent the last three summers visiting their homes. Deciding that she would like to share her research on the life and writings of Laura Ingalls Wilder, Miss Thurman wrote an article describing her summer trips which has been published.

The account of Miss Thur-

man's visits, entitled "On the Trail of Laura Ingalls Wilder," has been printed in the February, 1975, issue of Instructor magazine. More than 300,000 educators at the elementary and junior high school level receive this monthly publication.

Only two days after the article appeared in print, Miss Thurman received a letter from a student teacher in New York asking for more information.

Since then Miss Thurman has received numerous letters inquiring about her research and expressing appreciation for her article, said the librarian. Miss Thurman shows slides and mementos of her visits and studies and speaks to students, literary groups and various clubs. "I have appointments scheduled through October already," she said.

"I usually speak at nights or weekends though," she added. "I try not to let such interests interfere with my work and the children."

Mrs. Wilder's books were published between 1932 and 1968. In their suggested reading order they are Little House in the Big Woods, Little House on the Prairie, Farmer Boy, On the Banks of Plum Creek, By the Shores of Silver Lake, The Long Winter, Little Town on the Prairie, These Happy Golden Years, On the Way Home, and The First Four Years. All tell about the lives of the Ingalls family members—Charles Phillip Ingalls (Pa) and Caroline Ingalls (Ma) and their children: Mary, Laura, Carrie and Grace—in the 1800s.

The television series, "Little House on the Prairie," is currently set in Walnut Grove, or Plum Creek as Mrs. Wilder referred to it.

"I want to help preserve our history and help others enjoy what we have," said Miss Thurman.

Looking for a bargain?

Turn now to Want Ads.
Mary Grace Pettit spoke to the student body of West Side Elementary School, May 11, to explain the Summer Reading Program, sponsored by the George Coon Public Library.

The program is titled, "Reading Time Trek with Wizlit," and will be June 1-July 27. Outstanding programs are planned for each Wednesday afternoon at 1:30, including a puppet show, magic show, name the dragon contest, Star Wars contest and possibly a visit to the planetarium. Each child will have a folder to list all books read, and winners will be awarded prizes in different categories.

Also, Ms. Evelyn Thurman, Kentucky author and research librarian at Western Kentucky University, spoke to the students of the Caldwell County Middle School system in April, during National Library Week. Ms. Thurman gave a slide presentation of countries she had visited and book talks on her recently published works.

"Evelyn Thurman is a wonderful author and has written books about both the Ingalls and Wilder families. Her recent publications include The Ingalls-Wilder Homesites and Little Houses on the Prairie with search and find the word puzzles, which she co-authored with Jamie L. Schroerlucke. Her earlier works include The Canary who wanted to talk, Christmas in Kentucky with Little Bernel, and A Pioneer Civil War Story for Molly and Ben.

"Ms. Thurman's visit to the Caldwell County schools was a big success. She brought books from many countries and read a Japanese folktale and answered our questions."

Evelyn Thurman

"I asked some of the student how they felt about her, and they said they liked her and hoped she would come back next year. Others said they would like to be like her and travel around the world."

Chris Morris

Tara Hart is a fourth grader. Chris Morris is in the sixth grade.

EVELYN THURMAN
Remembering Granny Carter

By Evelyn Thurman

Last week I visited relatives in Cumberland County. We enjoyed looking at many old pictures. The picture of Hazel Carnley and her Granny Carter caught my eye. I can imagine this black and white picture in full color with all of Granny’s beautiful flowers. I was told a pretty vine grew at the end of the porch making a good shade for a comfortable swing.

Granny Carter is handing Hazel her lunch box. It would be interesting to know what she packed for Hazel’s lunch—maybe sausage and biscuits, fried potato cakes, baked sweet potato and a boiled egg? Knowing grandmothers, I would guess that Granny put in a surprise, maybe a delicious dried apple fried pie. In those days everyone took their lunch to school Cafeterias were unheard of at rural schools over fifty years ago.

At the time, in Kentucky, some rural teachers were still staying with families of students during the week. I would guess that children could count a special lunch during the teachers’ stay at their home.

I love this section of Kentucky because it is my birthplace.

There always seems to be something of special attraction to ones birthplace. I can not relate a story about the second picture as I was only six weeks old when I was taken from my first home. One of my brother and sister were also born at what we always affectionately called the “brick house.” Some years later, I used to visit Mrs’ Hunt who owned the house until her death. She always invited me to tour the house. her grandson is the current owner.

Granny Carter is my aunt, Mrs. Elmer (Willie) Thurman’s mother.
Prairie homesites revisited


The Ingalls family was portrayed in the 1970s in Michael Landon’s hit television series, Little House on the Prairie. The series familiarized its viewers with Laura Ingalls and her family’s pioneer lifestyle and adventures.


She is a reference librarian and professor at Western Kentucky University and was presented the Faculty Award for Excellence at the Western commencement in 1984. On Oct. 24, 1989, Ms. Thurman was presented with the prestigious Sara Elizabeth Tyler Merit Award for distinguished service in libraries.

This talented author and her just-as-talented illustrator, Kristie T. Stratton, show what this family’s home-life was really like with illustrations, photographs and a series of eight articles combined to form a great achievement.

This book is dedicated to the people at the homesites and takes the reader on a journey to 15 places where the family lived.

The effort involved in writing the book was considerable and began in the summer of 1972 when Ms. Thurman visited Laura Ingalls Wilder’s last homesite at the Rocky Ridge Farm in Mansfield, Mo. In the summers to follow, Ms. Thurman traveled thousands of miles to visit the other 14 homesites.

Ms. Thurman’s efforts were aided by a grant from the Faculty Research Committee at Western. Ms. Thurman has created a well-written and researched book. It was published in Bowling Green and is in its fourth edition.

She said in the preface, “After I had four articles published on the homesites, many teachers, librarians, parents and students asked me to put this information in book form.”

Her descriptive style takes the reader to places like Indendence, Kan., Malone, N.Y., and Lafayette, La., just to name a few.

She relates that her first article about the homesite was published in Instructor magazine. Mrs. Harvey Houck, a teacher in Decorah, Iowa, wrote Ms. Thurman and told her that the old Masters Hotel in Burr Oak was being restored. She visited the hotel and found that the Charles Ingalls family moved to Burr Oak, Iowa, to help manage the 11 it for a man named William Steadman.

“It has been said that times got rather rough around the hotel — especially with a bar in the hotel. I believe I saw bullet marks in a door of the hotel during my visit. There was also a saloon in the second building from the hotel. Ma Ingalls decided the surroundings were too rough for their young daughters, Mary and Laura, who helped wait on tables.” Ms. Thurman wrote.

An inscription on a large marker at Laura’s first “Little House” located in the big woods of Pepin, Wis., reads, “The author was surprised at her success and told an interviewer after writing her first book, ‘I thought that would end it. But what do you think? Children who read it wrote me begging for more. I was amazed because I didn’t know how to write. I went to little red schoolhouses all over the West and I never was graduated from anything.’”

It is interesting to note that Ms. Ingalls did not begin her writing career until she was 65 years old. In 1954, was awarded a medal for her contributions to children’s literature.

For more information about Ingalls-Wilder Homesite, write to the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society, Inc., 210 Locust St., Pepin, Wis. 54759. Stop by the Laura Ingalls Wilder Library and ask about Ms. Thurman about Laura Ingalls Wilder.
Evelyn Thurman, reference librarian at WKU, participated in the summer reading program at the Pomona, California Public Library on Wednesday, August 4. She conducted a story hour for over 75 children. Later in the day she spoke to a group of parents on the importance of reading to children.

While in Pomona Ms. Thurman interviewed Ms. Clara Webber who was responsible for having the children's room at the public library named for Laura Ingalls Wilder. In appreciation of the honor Mrs. Wilder sent the library the original manuscript for her book, "The Little Town on the Prairie". Ms. Webber said for a number of years after Mrs. Wilder's death in 1957, it was not known to the people of Mansfield, Missouri where the manuscript was located. The manuscript along with other Wilder memorabilia are on display in the library. Anyone interested in Laura Ingalls Wilder lore will find the many items on display very interesting.

Ms. Webber was a personal friend of Laura and Almanzo Wilder's daughter, Rose Wilder Lane and visited her at her home at Harlingen, Texas. Ms. Lane often sent Ms. Webber orchids or other flowers on her mother's birthday, saying "her mother would want her to."

Rose Wilder Lane was a famous writer long before her mother started writing the "Little House" books. It was unusual to pick up a popular magazine in the 40's and 50's and not find an article written by her. She was the oldest war correspondent during the Vietnam War. Ms. Lane was also the author of a number of books. In October 1968, she had plans for a trip around the world. The day of departure never dawned for her as she died in her sleep October 30, 1968. During her stay in Los Angeles Ms. Thurman visited a teacher she taught with in Japan. Her friend from Anaheim took her to Laguna Beach to see the Pageant of the Masters which is the portrayal of masterpieces of artwork with living models. The Pageant was presented in the Irvine Bowl located behind the festival of arts ground. Ms. Thurman saw the "Dancing Waters" at the Disneyland Hotel, the Crystal Cathedral at Garden Grove and other points of interest which I am sure she will use in her reading program.

Before returning home Ms. Thurman visited Sacramento, Salt Lake City, Denver and other cities in the west which will be the focus for many interesting discussions.

Reading
Continued from page 1

continued on page 4
LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE

Hommage à Laura Ingalls

Quilt Williams

ウィリアム・T・アンダーソン

写真：レスリー・A・ケリー
●ローラ・インガルス・ワイダーに関する本●

1. The Laura Ingalls Wilder Songbook compiled & edited by Eugenia Garson
   Harper & Row刊

2. The Little House Cookbook : Frontier Foods from Laura Ingalls Wilder's Classic Stories by Barbara M. Walker
   Harper & Row刊
   「小さな家の料理の本」 本間千枝子 こだまとともに 訳 文化出版局

3. 「ローラのお料理ノート」 本間千枝子 本間長世著 文化出版局

4. Laura : The Life of Laura Ingalls Wilder by Donald Zochert
   Contemporary Books刊
   「ローラ・インガルス・ワイダー」小杉佐恵子訳 西武タイム

5. The Little House Diary prepared by Barbara M. Walker
   Harper & Row刊
   「小さな家のダイアリー」 こだまとともに 渡辺南都子訳 文化出版局

6. ウィリアム・アンダーソンによるローラー家に関する本
   1 The Story of the Ingalls
   2 The Story of the Wilders
   3 Laura Wilder of Mansfield
   4 A Wilder in the West : Eliza Jane's Story
   5 Laura's Rose : The Story of Rose Wilder Lane
   6 The Ingalls Family Album

7. The Home Book's Laura Ingalls Wilder
6. The Walhut Grove Story of Laura Ingalls Wilder
   J.B. Anderson Publications

9. Laura Ingalls Wilder : Pioneer and Author
   The Kipling Press刊
   「ローラ・インガルス・ワイダー——かなやく大草原の日々」
   谷口由美子訳 佑学社

7. The Heritages of De Smet
   The Beginnings of De Smet
   by Aubrey Sherwood
   Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society, De Smet

8. The Wilder Family Story by Dorothy Smith
   Almanzo & Laura Ingalls Wilder Association

9. The Ingalls Family from Plum Creek to Walnut Grove via Burr Oak, Iowa
   Laura Ingalls Wilder Family; Home and Friends
   Laura's and Almanzo's Rocky Ridge Farm : Then and Now
   by Irene Lichty LeCount
   Laura Ingalls Wilder-Rose Wilder Lane Home and Museum

10. Laura Ingalls Wilder : The Westville Florida Years
    by Alene M. Warnock

11. The Ingalls-Wilder Homesties : A Diary of Visits 1972-81
    by Evelyn Thurman

12. Laura Ingalls Wilder : A Bibliography
    by Mary J. Mooney Getoff

●これらの本や小冊子は、各地のローラ・インガルス・ワイダー博物館で購入することができます。
Kentucky woman shares interest in Wilder families

By Cheryl Brandner

Two history fanatics met in the Spring Valley Methodist Church Museum several years ago. The two women shared a fascination with the books written by Laura Ingalls-Wilder.

One lived in Spring Valley and had been researching Spring Valley's connection to Laura Ingalls-Wilder for some time. The other was from Kentucky and was in the process of visiting all the sites in the United States where the Ingalls or Wilder family had lived.

Since then Mary Jo Dathe of the Spring Valley Historical Society and Evelyn Thurman, a reference librarian and professor of library science at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky., have been corresponding and working together to uncover the story of the Wilder connection with Spring Valley.

Last week, Thurman presented the Spring Valley Historical Society with a $300 check.

A teacher friend of Thurman's had left Thurman in charge of distributing a portion of her estate to organizations of Thurman's choice.

The Spring Valley church museum and various other Ingalls-Wilder sites in other states were the recipients of the money.

Thurman has done much research on sites throughout the United States which have an Ingalls-Wilder connection.

She is currently revising many of the sites as she works on a revision of her book "The Ingalls-Wilder Homesites."

The book contains the history and a description of the various locations across the United States where the Ingalls and Wilder families lived, including towns in Minnesota, South Dakota, "Florida, "Louisiana, and Missouri.

Thurman has also written numerous journal articles on the Ingalls and Wilder families. Subjects of the articles include a description of a visit by Thurman to the school where Mary Ingalls went, analyses of various aspects of Laura Ingalls-Wilder's life, and a follow-up on the fate of Laura Ingalls-Wilder's sisters.

Thurman, an avid history buff since she was in grade school, began her tracking of the Ingalls and Wilders because of her interest in the opening of the West and the pioneers who aspired to settling this new land.

Thurman said the books written by Laura Ingalls-Wilder fit in perfectly with her study of this period of history.

Although Charles Ingalls and his family never made it as far west as Oregon, a destination Charles Ingalls dreamed of, the Ingalls family and the Little House on the Prairie books portray the typical "pioneer family," Thurman said.

Thurman said she first started researching and writing about the Ingalls-Wilders sites in the 1970s. She said she never planned to compile the information into a book but eventually did put together the book "The Ingalls-Wilder Homesites."

Thurman has visited the Spring Valley Wilder site about four times, she said. She said she was impressed with the church museum and the work the local historical society had put into the museum and the information it has collected about the Wilder site and other historical sites in Spring Valley.
Librarian impressed with visit here

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Spring Valley on May 17 and 18. Your town has grown since my last visits when I started research for the Ingalls-Wilder Homesteads in the '70s.

I can honestly say, I do not know of another town the size of Spring Valley that has a museum that equals yours -- and now the Pioneer Home Museum located on Washington Avenue and Main Street. Neither do I know of a town with a more active, capable and dedicated historical society. Mary Jo Dathe, the secretary of your local society, is worth her weight in gold. She answered many questions for me.

The merger of the Methodist, Evangelical United Brethren and United Congregational churches made the historic Methodist Church available for purchase by your historical society. The church museum brings together the entire religious community with historic items from many churches in the area. Some of the items include pulpits such as pulpits stands, tables, baptismal fonts, communion sets, pictures, flags, etc. In a large display case I saw German, Welch and Dutch Bibles, a Norwegian catechism with the city Bergen was dated 1870, a Methodist Episcopal Church pocket hymnal dated 1838, was only 2" x 3" in size; other hymnals were included in the collection. In the olden days members took their own hymnals as well as Bibles to worship.

The communion set for the Methodist church was dated 1896. The three trays with individual glass servers are unusually shaped with beautiful cut glass. There was a strong silver handle in the center of each tray. Two silver pitchers were included in the set. I found the explanation of the "Monastic" pattern on the walls and ceiling of the church very interesting.

Laura Ingalls Wilder fans will find a great deal of information regarding the James M. and Angelina Wilder family. The years from 1875 to 1898, included some exciting days such as the parents' 50th wedding anniversary and Eliza Jane Wilder's wedding to Thomas Jefferson Thayer in 1893. A painting of Royal's home is a treasure as the house is no longer standing. The Halabkt Store Journal shows a number of entries under the names of James M. Wilder and R.G. Wilder. The entries show that Angelina was given credit for making payments with butter and eggs. I noticed one cash entry for $1.15. Church records show that James Wilder made a $50 contribution to the church in 1876.

A trip to the church museum to see the colorful stained glass windows, from Italy, is well worth a person's time. The Spring Valley Community Historical Society bought the church for $15,000. The basement of the church is full of many, many interesting items including the fire wagon used in Spring Valley in 1894.

I will close in saying, "Congratulations, Spring Valley!"

Evelyn Thurman
Reference Librarian
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Local poet is praised

I have known of Jim Patton's interest and writing of poetry for some time. I was happy I was at the reference desk when he stopped by to present his two books, Somewhere in the Scheme and The Hermit, The Wisdom of the Sphinx and Other Poems to the library at Western.

I have always felt that poetry is one of our most important branches of literature. Poetry can bring warmth, reassurance, happiness or sadness as it comforts or arouses our feelings at a given time. Someone has said to miss poetry would be the same loss as being deprived of music. Poetry does give significance to life's everyday experiences.

Very often, I suggest that parents read poetry as a change from stories at bedtime. Of course, much reading for the very young is written in verse form. Poetry should bring so much pure pleasure that a child tastes should become a permanent part of his/her emotional, intellectual, and aesthetic values. When children are exposed to poetry they soon create a strong appreciation for its movement, melody and singing qualities.

Edward Lear is well known for his books on nonsense poetry, but Shel Silverstein's poems in Where the Sidewalk Ends is usually considered the most popular book of poetry for children.

Many people (even some teachers - some who teach higher education classes for future teachers) say they dislike poetry. They didn't have the type teachers I had in school. I can still hear Miss Annie K. Gill reading poetry to our English classes. Sometime she became so emotionally involved her voice would break. I was so young that, at the time, I did not realize the great appreciation she was creating within me for literature. My favorite history teacher, Mrs. Mayme Randolph, often read historical poetry to our classes.

It is a personal joy for me to recommend Jim Patton's books for gifts or reading. He has made a contribution to literature. When I see people who have followed through on their hopes and dreams, I am reminded of a statement that Rebecca Caudill's husband made to her many years ago: "One life is not fully expressed unless you write."

Letter policy

The Franklin Favorite reserves the right to edit letters for spelling, punctuation, and grammar. However, any major changes will be discussed with the writer before publication.

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The Ingalls family attended the Congregational church when Laura was growing up in many "Little Houses" on the prairie. She often attended the Methodist Sunday school on Sunday afternoon at Walnut Grove, Minnesota, and at De Smet, South Dakota. Laura enjoyed the Bible contest at the Methodist Sunday school. In fact, you can see a book she won in a Sunday school contest at the Laura Ingalls Wilder Home and Museum in Mansfield, Missouri.

Almanzo Wilder's mother was a strong Methodist. The Wilders attended a church near Malone, New York, until the family moved to Spring Valley, Minnesota, in the early 1870's, when Almanzo was thirteen years of age.

The Methodist church they attended at Spring Valley is now on the National Register because of its unusual stained-glass windows from Italy. The local historical society is currently using the small, brick church as a museum.

Laura Ingalls married Almanzo Wilder; and after many crop failures, illnesses, and a short stay in Florida, they returned to De Smet, South Dakota, in 1891. About three years later, after they had saved some money, Laura and Almanzo decided to move to the Ozarks—"the land of the big apple." The trip to Mansfield took fifty-four days by hack.

There wasn't a Congregational church in Mansfield, Missouri, so Laura made a decision: "We will attend the Methodist Church." They faithfully attended the church and made a real contribution to the activities. Laura was an organizer for good causes.

Laura's love for God and her commitment to church were certainly influenced by her parents' example. In her book On the Banks of Plum Creek, Laura tells how Pa was in need of new boots. Pa went with three dollars in his pocket to get his new boots. When he returned home, he was without the three dollars and without the boots. Pa had given the money to Brother Alden to put toward the purchase of the church bell. The church bell still hangs today in a new bell tower of the Lutheran church in Walnut Grove.
The funerals for Almanzo (in 1949) and Laura (on February 10, 1957) were held at the old church building, where a small shoe factory stands today. I visited the new brick church on a beautiful Sunday morning in 1979. A memorial service was held for Laura and Almanzo’s daughter, Rose, at the church in 1968.

Religion was a very important part of the pioneers’ lives. With preachers such as Francis Asbury, Thomas Coke, and others, the Methodist church was a strong force during the colonial days of America.

Laura Ingalls Wilder was the author of the “Little House” books, which tell about her life and about growing up on the prairie. The TV series “Little House on the Prairie” was based on her books.

Evelyn Thurman is the author of The Ingalls-Wilder Homesites. She is also a reference librarian at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and is a member of the Franklin (Kentucky) Methodist Church.
Laura and Almanzo Wilder's Friendship With Local Citizens

By Evelyn Thurman

Over the years I have found that a large part of the joy of research is the wonderful people you meet. A number of years ago when I started research for THE INGALLS WILDER HOMESITES I met Mrs. Neta Seal who was a personal friend of Laura and Almanzo Wilder.

Mrs. Seal and her husband, Silas, grew up near Mansfield, Missouri. After their marriage they lived some years in Detroit, Michigan, but they returned to Mansfield in 1928. Shortly after their return to Mansfield, they met Laura and Almanzo Wilder at Mr. Seal's automobile business. A strong friendship developed between the Seals and Wilders because of Mr. Seal's care of the Wilder's Chrysler.

Mrs. Seal has many treasured items that Laura gave her during their many years of friendship. I know Laura enjoyed Mrs. Seal's enthusiasm for living, and her very relaxed manner of conversation. I can imagine that Mrs. Seal seemed almost like a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Wilder; however, she said she always addressed them as Mr. and Mrs. Wilder.

Mr. and Mrs. Seal drove for the Wilders as they grew older. The long trip to California and Oregon in 1938, was a memorable experience. Mrs. Seal let me borrow some pictures to use with this article. Picture (1) shows Mrs. Seal with Mr. and Mrs. Wilder in a rose garden in Portland, Oregon. Picture (2) shows Mrs. Wilder and Mrs. Seal in the Idaho mountains. After the California and Oregon tour, the four traveled on to Keystone, South Dakota for the Wilders to visit Mrs. Wilder's sister Carrie, and her family. The trip also included a stop at DeSmet to visit Grace, Mrs. Wilder's youngest sister. Mrs. Seal said she did not know Grace very well, but she did remember Carrie's visit with her sister and husband at Mansfield in 1940 or 1941.

Mr. Seal drove the Wilders to Detroit, Michigan when the Wilder Branch library was dedicated on May 12, 1949. Mrs. Seal was unable to go because of illness.

The Seals were the first to arrive at the farm shortly after Mr. Wilder's death in 1949. The years that followed were very lonesome for Laura. Mrs. Seal faithfully called Laura each morning and evening, after Mr. Wilder's death.

Mrs. Seal has happy memories of their birthday dinners, picnics, and everyday conversations with her dear friends of days gone by.

(Editor's Note)

We are grateful to Evelyn Thurman for contributing to this issue of our newsletter. Ms. Thurman is author of THE INGALLS WILDER HOMESITES, which is on sale at our museum. She is also one of the Western Kentucky University faculty authors.
Evelyn Thurman made four presentations at the Greensburg (Kentucky) Elementary School, March 20, 1990.

On April 5, 1990, she made two presentations at McNeill Elementary School, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Ms. Thurman told a Japanese fairy tale to a group of students from Jones-Jaggers Elementary School, in Bowling Green, Kentucky, on April 10, 1990.
Author of 'Little House' books speaks to GES students

Ms. Evelyn Thurman spoke to Chapter 1 students and classroom friends recently. Ms. Thurman, a reference librarian at WKU, has visited the different homes of the Wilder family and has written and published articles on them, and is well-known for her articles and books for children. Mrs. Wynemia DeSpain's class read the Little House books and did research on the family (bottom left photo). They also displayed old items of the period (bottom right photo.) R-H photos by Buddy Brown.
Eloise B. Houchens Center presents BOOK & AUTHOR Evelyn Thurman

“Little House on the Prairie” Luncheon & Program Saturday, Feb. 23 at 11:30 a.m.
Reservations necessary by Thursday, Feb. 21, 1991 Call 842-6761
Family entertainment – Children welcome

This ad sponsored by the
Charles M. Moore Insurance Agency 1007 State Street 843-9054
"Little House" stories remain favorites among young readers

By JANICE BRATCHER

In the midst of modern hustle and bustle, contemporary readers still enjoy reading about the life of Laura Ingalls on the prairie.

Evelyn Thurman, a reference librarian at Western Kentucky University, has visited the original Little House (the Ingalls-Wilder Homestead) for 10 summers and never tires of collecting memorabilia connected with the life of Laura Ingalls Wilder.

She finds it refreshing to see children of 1991 reading about a simpler, more basic time when the Ingalls family was struggling to survive on what was, at that time, the Western frontier.

"Everyone has read the 'Little House on the Prairie' series. But I wanted the children here to know that there was once a real little girl behind the books. Her name was Laura Elizabeth Ingalls and she grew up to write the 'Little House' books," Ms. Thurman told a group Saturday at a Houchens Center for Women luncheon. The group included several children who expressed an interest in the "Little House" books.

Ms. Thurman explained that Laura was born Feb. 7, 1867, and lived with her family in several frontier outposts as she was growing up.

"It soon became apparent that Laura was exceptionally gifted with the ability to use words and that gift was brought to the forefront by the blindness of her sister, Mary."

"Laura saw all of the beauties of prairie life — the flowers, the sweep of the horizon, the Western sunset — for two," Ms. Thurman said.

"She saw them for herself and she described them to her blind sister Mary."

Mary became blind as result of rheumatic fever.

"The family was plagued by terrible fevers," Ms. Thurman said. "Mary had had the fever but the rest of the family was still sick. They didn't have any clean clothes to wear and Mary went to the stream to wash clothes. She took a set back and it settled in her eyes."

Mary graduated from the Iowa School for the Blind and could sew, play the piano and read Braille. She never married and was cared for by her sisters until her death.

She remained exceptionally close to Laura, even after Laura married Almanzo Wilder and moved a distance away.

Laura didn't begin the "Little House" books until she was 50 years old. The books immediately gained a wide popularity and were even made into a television series.

There is something the simple tales of prairie life that has touched the hearts of a nation.

Money was scarce and life was hard. The family labored, suffered and sacrificed.

But the "Little House" books are not sad tales but instead joyous stories of a happy family life. They are stories of a family rich in love, compassion and friendship and have been read by thousands of readers.

"Laura said that she went to sleep many nights to the sound of Pa's fiddle," Ms. Thurman said. "Music was the tie that bound the family together and cheered them up."

Laura Ingalls Wilder lived to be 90 years of age. Until her death in 1957, she continued to meet people and tape interviews about the "Little House" books.

Great literature is difficult to define but the simple stories of prairie life, as told by Laura Ingalls Wilder, remain among the favorites of American children.
Thurman makes presentation
Evelyn Thurman made a storytelling presentation to children and parents at Willowbrook Hotel in Bermuda while vacationing.
D 10 7-26-91
Memorandum

WESTERN
KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY

To: University Libraries Faculty/Staff

From: Sally A. Strickler and Marvin Leavy

Date: October 29, 1990

Subject: Recognition of Professor Thurman

We have a signal opportunity to honor Ms. Evelyn Thurman upon her departure from WKU Libraries service in November. A contribution to the Evelyn Thurman Children's Author Fund would express our appreciation of Evelyn's 20 years of devoted service as well as assure continuation of this popular summer program.

Simply stop by Helm 104 where Debby Smith is keeping an envelope to collect donations to this fund which is overseen by the College Heights Foundation. Also, please sign a card kept with the envelope to convey to her your best wishes.
Thurman visits South Dakota

Evelyn Thurman recently visited Keystone, S.D.

Ms. Thurman is noted for her work on the Ingalls-Wilder family and visited South Dakota to see exhibits of items from the home of Carrie Ingalls.

While at Keystone, she interviewed Willmeta Johnson, who knew Carrie Ingalls well. D N

Ruth born announced
Thurman attends dedication
Evelyn Thurman of Bowling Green attended and spoke at the Wilder dedication at Malone, N.Y., on Aug. 22.
On Sept. 9, Thurman made a number of Wilder and storytelling presentations at the Julia Newman Elementary School at Athens, Ala. Ms. Thurman will speak at the Laura Ingalls Wilder dedication at Pepin, Wisc. on Sept. 20.
BOWLING GREEN WOMEN’S CLUB will meet at 7:30 p.m. at McNeill Elementary School. Evelyn Thurman of the department of library science and children’s literature at Western Kentucky University, will speak.
Professor attends dedication

Evelyn Thurman, a professor of library media education at Western Kentucky University, Sept. 15 attended the dedication of a bust honoring Laura Ingalls Wilder at the state capitol building in Jefferson City, Mo.
Writer attends festival

Evelyn Thurman, professor of library media education at Western Kentucky University, attended a fall festival at the Rebecca Caudill Public Library Oct. 1-2 in Cumberland. She was invited to the festival to display her book, "Rebecca Caudill: Kentucky Author."
Mary Evelyn Thurman, 83, of Bowling Green died Jan. 12, 2005, at a Woodburn nursing home.

The Cumberland County native was an elementary school teacher, having taught in the Franklin-Simpson School System and in Germany and Japan for the U.S. Army. She was a graduate of Asbury College at Wilmore and had a master's degree in elementary education and a doctorate in library science.

She was a librarian at Western Kentucky University, an active member of the Retired Teachers Association, Methodist Women and many other civic organizations and was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church in Franklin. During her teaching career, she lived in Franklin for many years. She was a daughter of the late W. E. Thurman and Rosa Simpson Thurman. She was preceded in death by a brother, Charles Thurman.

Funeral was Thursday at Norris-New Funeral Home, with burial in Rose of Sharon Cemetery at Bow.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to First United Methodist Church of Franklin.

Survivors include her broth-