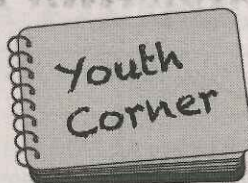


Bogue Banks Library Children's Program

By Barbara Milhaven



Young reader leads story time to the delight of all

The Bogue Banks Public Library in Pine Knoll Shores offers to young children a wealth of appropriate books and access to computers in a child-friendly, inviting environment. In addition, since its inception (then housed in the local aquarium), it has offered a story time program for preschool children. This now includes preschool and young home-schooled children—and the program attendance swells in the spring and summer with second-home owners and visiting children.

At the present time, this valuable program is organized and conducted by librarian Brita Flynn, and her seasonal and coordinating projects often can be seen spreading out into the main library when necessary—such as plant seedlings placed along the windows, taking advantage of the sunlight since the program room is an interior room. The children call her Miss

Brita, and she has a wonderful assistant, Hannah Harrington from Morehead City, who came up through the story time program and is now, at age 10, Miss Brita's junior assistant. On the day of my observation, the story time program was led by this very capable junior assistant.

Hannah extensively prepared, supervised and presented an excellent program around the theme of Groundhog Day. She had pictures, books, games, and a take-home arts and crafts project. She selected five books about groundhogs to read to the attending children and read them in the manner of a preschool teacher or a librarian. This meant that she did her best to read while holding the picture books open to face her audience, which is a difficult task to master. Hannah also solicited audience participation and even invited one of the attendees to read one of the selected books. She alternated listening activities with those containing some movement, imagination and participation in a most adult fashion. Miss Brita's story time program at our Bogue Banks Public Library was in good hands with Hannah at the helm.

Children's story time is offered on Thursdays, beginning at 10 a.m. For information about this and other library programs, see "At the Library" at left, visit the library at 320 Salter Path Road, or call them at 247-4660.



Hannah Harrington of Morehead City recently led children's Story Time at the Bogue Banks Public Library.—Photo by Donna Freeman