

News Release: American Library Association

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Mrs. Marie Cole of Greenwich Connecticut has been presented a Trustee Citation by the American Library Trustee Association, in recognition of her many years of dedicated leadership on the Greenwich (Connecticut) Public Library Board of Trustees. The citation was awarded during the opening general session of the 94th Annual Conference of the American Library Association in San Francisco, June 29 - July 5th.

Mrs. Cole came to the Greenwich Library Board of Trustees in 1958, and under her leadership, the library conducted two successful fund drives; and moved into a large department store building with an equally large library addition including a 368-seat auditorium. The Friends of the Greenwich Library grew into an organization of 2,200 local families with an annual budget of over \$20,000 from membership alone. Library activities expanded from just a book-reading and reference library into a town cultural center with an art gallery, concerts and the whole range of information, film and video services. Over 2-1/2% of the town budget (over \$20 per capita) goes to the support of library service in Greenwich, and a recent survey showed that over 74% of the families in Greenwich use the library at least three times a year.

The citation presented to Mrs. Cole reads in part, "In recognition of so many

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years of dedicated leadership on the Greenwich (Connecticut) Library Board of Trustees. . . For her concept of the library as a community adult educational institution that led her to change the Board of Trustees from a self perpetuating board to a vital representative governing board including members of every minority group. . . ."

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