

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL LIBRARY COUNCIL
2021-2022 Technology and Digitization Grants
Southern Tier Library and Cuba Circulating Library
Final Report

The Cuba Library has submitted 55 reels of microfilm to Northern New York Library Network for digitization and inclusion on the NYS Historic Newspapers website. As of July 2022, 28 reels have been digitized, processed, and are accessible via the website. Additionally, 27 reels are currently being processed, and are in the OCR stage at this time.

Our goals for this project were to:

1. Increase access to the Cuba Patriot Newspaper throughout the region.
2. Increase awareness of this valuable historic resource throughout the region.
3. Increase the robustness of the NY Historic Newspapers collection by adding a newspaper from an underrepresented county.

Evaluation:

We have advertised the digitization of the Patriot both on social media and via print in local newspapers. We have also included the link to the NYS Historic Newspapers website on our library page. A link to this site can also be found on the Allegany County Historical Society page, and we are working with the Cuba Historical Society to get a link added to their page.

I have had several people tell me how much they appreciate this digitization project, and comment on how easy they find the search format of NYS Historic Newspapers. The editor of the Patriot has also related to me that she gets calls on a regular basis asking how people can access back issues of the paper. In other words, this project has indeed increased access to the Patriot, not only locally but also far past our region.

In coordination with this project, we have held two local history programs at the library. Taught by local historian Tom Taylor, the programs have been on photos and postcards from Cuba's history. These programs have been well-attended, and have given us an additional opportunity to promote the digitization project.

Expenses:

Category	RBDB Expenses	Any in-kind contribution*	Total
Personnel	\$87.70	\$500.00	\$587.70
Contracts	\$7,912.30		\$7,912.30
Other (Describe):	shipping	\$100.00	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$8,000	\$600.00	\$8,600

