

# 1980 Scrapbook Summary

## System News:

Robert Rohlf, Hennepin County Library director since 1969 will head the public libraries division of the American Library Association (ALA) next year. (Mpls Star Tribune 7/1/80) As PLA president, he will encourage participation in a new planning process for public libraries, which actively involves the public in setting service standards and goals. (Richfield Sun 7/5/80)

Hennepin County libraries increased their rates to 15 cents per item with a maximum fine of \$5. for cataloged materials and \$1.50 for uncataloged materials. (The previous rate was 10 cents per item per day to a maximum of \$3. or \$1.) There continued to be no fine on overdue children's books. (Mpls Star Tribune 12/30/80) The library will be charging for 16 mm films beginning 1/1/81. (Brooklyn Center Post 11/13/80)

Hennepin County Commissioner B.F.(Bud) Robb, Jr. pushed for Hennepin County to resume efforts to build four libraries (Plymouth, Eden Prairie, Maple Grove and Long Lake). The Capital Budgeting Task Force recommended in its 1980-84 budget that the board complete two other major suburban libraries at Ridgedale and Brookdale and review the impact on the suburbs before committing itself to new non-regional libraries. Robb's proposal does not allocate money for construction but directs the county staff to "investigate, select and recommend for approval and purchase by the county board appropriate library sites for these four libraries". The 1980 estimated yearly operating cost for the four libraries was \$421,000. Robb said he wants to buy land now to avoid higher prices later. He also said he wants to put back on track the 1969 long-range library plan adopted by the board. It called for the county to build or buy 21 buildings between 1969 and 1985 for suburban Hennepin County. (Mpls Star Tribune 3/31/80)

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners approved bids totaling \$6.8 million for the construction of the Ridgedale-Hennepin Area Library and Service Center in Minnetonka. Construction was expected to begin in late summer. This will complete a county plan to decentralize social and court services. It will mean a move for about 90-95 employees of the library's Administrative and Technical Services Divisions. (Lake Minnetonka Sun 6/4/80)

Robert Rohlf asked the county board for an 11.8 per cent increase in the library's operating budget for 1980. Inflation was a major factor along with staff increases and increased service demands. He also asked for the addition of 23.7 new staff positions next year. (Hopkins Sun 7/19/79)

Three cable television firms bid for providing cable TV to the cities of Eden Prairie, Edina, Hopkins, Minnetonka and Richfield. (Star Tribune 6/19/80) The Southwest Cable Commission composed of elected representatives from the five cities received 70 copies of each company's proposal. Six of these have been sent to area libraries where they are available to the public. (Hopkins Sun 6/25/80)

ABC television launched a public relations offensive against cable TV, arguing that viewers might one day have to pay to watch important programs they now see free. (Star Tribune? n.d.)

Bi-Folkals Productions produces media kits for group programming with older adults. The kits were developed under an LSCA grant to the Wisconsin Division for Library Services. Hennepin County Library purchased three Bi-Folkal kits. (HCL publicity brochure n.d.)

Hennepin County Board Chair Nancy Olkon announced the receipt of \$150,000 federal grant to aid displaced homemakers in their transition to employment. The grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor as part of its CETA program. Olkon said Hennepin County is one of only four CETA Prime Sponsors in the Midwest to receive such a grant out of more than 50 applicants. (Richfield Sun 1/9/80)

A wide variety of programming was offered at all libraries in 1980--from "the new zoo and you", basic sign language, log building, long distance bicycling, food preservation, bonsai trees, how to get published and storyteller, Denny Dey. (HCL publicity brochures, 1980)

## Individual libraries:

### Augsburg Park:

Augsburg Park celebrated its fifth anniversary with an open house on February 23, 1980. (Richfield Sun 2/20/80)

The Plains Bookbus appeared at the Augsburg Park Community Library on Monday, October 6 and Tuesday, October 7 with its collection of small press books and magazines by notable Midwestern writers. (Richfield Sun 10/1/80)

### Brookdale:

The Brooklyn Park Post noted that Brookdale Area library construction was 10 to 12 weeks ahead of schedule. Construction began in November. The architects were Hodne-Stageberg Partners, Inc. (Brooklyn Park Post 4/17/80)

### Brooklyn Center:

Brooklyn Center was 69 years old in February of 1980. Brooklyn Center Library hosted a slide show on the history of the Earle Brown Farm and movies from the 1930s. It was in February of 1911 when truck farmers, afraid Minneapolis would annex parts of Crystal Township and their taxes would rise, voted to incorporate some of Crystal and Brooklyn Townships into what we know today as Brooklyn Center. (Brooklyn Park Post 2/14/80)

### Long Lake:

Adelle Dalen retired in March, 1980 after serving there for 11 years. There were plans on the books to purchase land and build a new library but funding from the county was a problem. (Sun Newspapers 3/5/80)

### Oxboro:

Oxboro celebrated its 5th birthday in January of 1980. (Star Tribune 1/19/80)

### Penn Lake:

Penn Lake celebrated its 10th anniversary in January, 1980. Friends hosted the birthday party. Penn Lake staff offered a three part workshop on accessing information at the library. The emphasis was on the library's catalog, periodical and newspaper indexes, reference books, the organization of materials and other important access tools. (Bloomington Sun 2/6/80)

### Ridgedale:

The Hennepin County Board awarded the bids to Witcher Construction, Hayes Contractors, Collins Electric, R & O Elevator, Noble Nursery and Natural Green Landscaping. (Mpls Tribune 7/24/80) Hennepin County officials broke ground Monday, August 18 for the Ridgedale-Hennepin Area Library and Service Center in Minnetonka. The 123,000 sq.ft. building will house a regional library, library administrative offices, a license service center, social services offices and courts. The library portion of the building represents an expansion of services while the other offices now are housed in other locations. Construction bids for the project came in favorably at more than \$1.3 million less than budgeted. The building is expected to be completed in 18 to 24 months ( Mpls Tribune 7/24/80)

### Rockford Road:

Margaret Gillespie became head librarian at Rockford Road Library in the summer of 1980.

### Rogers:

Ground breaking ceremonies for Rogers library were Monday, April 21. On hand were officials from the Hennepin County Commissioners office, library board members and Rogers city officials. Guest speakers were Sen. George Pillsbury and Rogers Mayor C.J. Schaber. The new library which is being built on John Milless Dr. near the Rogers Plaza shopping center will serve the northwest portion of Hennepin County around Dayton and Rogers. (Crow River News 4/30/80) Rogers library has 3337 sq. feet including a separate area for a bookmobile garage and space for that staff. The project cost \$354,000 which includes land and furnishings. (Star News 12/4/80)

Rogers got its own library on Monday, May 5. Beverly Nelson began her job as Rogers librarian in a book-mobile parked in the Rogers Plaza parking lot. (Crow River News 4/16/80) Rogers library opened for business in December 1980. (Crow Wing News 12/3/80)