

1981 Publicity Scrapbook Summary

System News:

The library's circulation system went online this year. By March six systems were in operation. (Golden Valley Post (3/19/81)

Hennepin County Libraries were closed on Saturdays during September to save money. (Crow River News 7/29/81) The County Library Board recommended a budget of \$12.9 million for next year, while County Administrator Dale Ackman recommended \$11.6 million. (Bloomington Sun 9/2/81) Closing of libraries was one alternative the county board was discussing in preliminary budget talks. (St. Anthony Bulletin 8/27/81) Programs such as "The Single Parent", "Basic Sign Language" and "Micro-computers" reflected patron interests in 1981) (HCL publicity brochures)

Augsburg Park:

This year the Garden Club Council stepped into the budget crunch to improve the library's landscaping by planting shade tolerant plants from their own gardens. (Richfield sun 6/17/81) The library has on display equipment and materials available free to people who are unable to read conventional print or are unable to hold a book. Samples include: a Talking Book radio, cassette books, catalogs of Talking Books and Talking Book magazines on records and samples of Braille books. (Richfield /Sun 4/15/81)

In a letter to the editor Russ Susag wrote: One of the cost-saving courses of action being considered as the 1982 budget is being prepared is reductions in library services. These cost reductions could affect services at Augsburg Park Library. On September 17 the Friends of the Augsburg Park Community Library are sponsoring a forum to inform friends and users of the library of the potential impact on library services in Richfield. Hennepin County Commissioner Randy Johnson has been asked to discuss the county budgeting process and the reasons behind the need for budget reductions. (Richfield Sun 9/9/81)

Brookdale Area Library:

A new pedestrian-bicycle bridge was built over the freeway as part of the Shingle Creek Trail that will provide access to the Brooklyn Center City Hall and Community Center and the new Brookdale Area library. (BC Post 9/10/81) Flora Rogge, president of the Hennepin County Library Board, reminded readers that on October 6 the Hennepin County Commissioners are expected to approve the 1982 budget. She urged readers to Call John Derus, the county commissioner representing the Brookdale area, to provide an extra \$300,000 to keep Brookdale Area Library open as an area library rather than reducing it to a community library. This additional money would allow the media center to open in January. (Brooklyn Center Post 10/1/81) The Hennepin

County Board agreed to lay over to May 5 the decision on whether or not to open the Brookdale and Ridgedale Libraries and Service Centers on schedule. (Brookdale was scheduled to open August 1; Ridgedale early in 1982). The Hennepin County Library Board, asked to cut its 1981 budget by 10% or \$1,040,000, recommended delaying the opening of the Brookdale and Ridgedale libraries. The board also recommended the closing of the Medina and Osseo libraries on September 1, reducing library hours four hours a week; eliminating Sunday hours; eliminating printing the 1981 book catalogs; cutting the collection budget by \$190,000; cancelling the computer tie-in with the Minnesota Educational Computer Consortium; delaying putting more libraries online in 1981; cutting down on the purchase of furniture, equipment and supplies. (Brooklyn Park Post 4/30/81) A variety of library fees could be increased on September 1. Users could be paying 25 cents to reserve a book and a 10 cent a day fine on overdue juvenile books. Other fee increases include a \$1 charge to loan art prints and a rental charge of \$3 on half inch videocassettes...There could also be fees for meeting room use. (Golden Valley Post 6/4/81) The city of Brooklyn Center closed, then reopened the Brookdale Area Library. The library was closed because a certificate of occupancy had not been issued. Conditions of approval were that all taxes, current and delinquent and all special assessments must be paid before occupancy. Peter Koole, Brooklyn Center assessor said Friday everything has been straightened out. (Brooklyn Center Post 9/10/81)

Brooklyn Center:

The Brooklyn Center Library closed on August 14. The library's collection will be moved on August 17th and 18th to the Brookdale Area Library building. That building will not officially open until September 8. (Brooklyn Center Post 8/13/81) The Greater Minneapolis Girl Scout Council purchased the Brooklyn Center Library for \$517,500 and will move in during the month of September. (Brooklyn Park Post 6/4/81)

Brooklyn Park:

Brooklyn Park library celebrated its fifth year in May. A reception open to the community was held on May 7. Author Marion Dane Bauer spoke on keeping a journal on May 6 and the Patchwork Players, puppeteers, presented a 45 minute program of fairy tales for children on May 9. 55,821 library cards were issued and approximately 26,000 persons attended programs at the library. (Brooklyn Park Post 5/7/81)

Champlin:

Construction began on the addition to the Champlin Community Library in September. The library remained open while construction took place outside. It was closed for a short time later in fall when the wall was torn out between the old section and the new section and the older portion was remodeled. (Champlin-Dayton Press 9/10/81) During the library closing service moved to an old bookmobile parked outside the

library's front door. Circulation has been better than expected in the yellow bookmobile, Ruth Stephens said. The bookmobile will be parked at the library until the newly remodeled library opens. (Champlin-Dayton Press 10/15/81) The Anoka Union 1/9/81 included in its news column a brief history of Champlin Library. On March 4, 1913, a women's club was organized and a library opened with a few donated books. Mrs. S. R. Colman was the first librarian. With the expansion of the library came the need for a friends group. Ruth Stephens solicited new friends among mothers of story time children. (No source, no date)

Eden Prairie:

Here's what Eden Prairie residents were requesting at their library: Answer as a man by Taylor Caldwell, Key to Rebecca by Ken Follett, Firestarter by Stephen King, Covenant by James Michener, Off the record by Harry Truman and Best evidence by David Lifton. (Eden Prairie Pilot 3/23/81)

Edina:

Dorothy Dunn told a reporter from the Edina Sun (1/23/81) "I can't remember a boring day in the last 14 years. I love my job, I love the people of Edina, I love coming to work every day. It is very difficult for me to leave." Dorothy came to the Edina branch of the Hennepin County Library in 1967, just one year before the present library was built adjacent to the city hall.

Excelsior:

Excelsior Library celebrated its fifteenth anniversary with a week of celebrations: Luring Staples, author of West Hotel, a book about the great Minneapolis Hotel, Evelyn Weymouth with creative dramatics, a tea honoring past presidents, Alice Ronstadt giving a book talk and cake for all to share. The Friends presented the library with an original wood carving of a beaver by Vince Bakken, a local artist. Brary Beaver was christened August 19 at the Excelsior Library during an end of summer party. Brary is a two foot high beaver sculpted out of wood . (Lake Minnetonka Sailor 2/16/81)Excelsior Library is supported by a group of approximately 250 Friends. November marks the beginning of this organizations annual membership drive. They hope to double the present membership. (Lake MinnetonkaSailor10/26/81)

Golden Valley:

Jeanne Gelinas, Golden Valley Librarian was a member of the American Library Association committee to name the notable books of the year for 1977-80. (Golden Valley Post 3/19/81) Golden Valley Library celebrated its tenth anniversary in September at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Golden Valley

September at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Golden Valley Library. (HCL publicity brochure)

Hopkins:

Northwestern BankWest donated an 8 foot bear to the children's section of Hopkins Library. (Hopkins Sun 1/27/81) Minnetonka porcelain artist, Shirley Foster's work was on display during October. (Sun Newspapers 9/16/81)

Medina:

The closing of Medina, Osseo and St. Anthony libraries were listed as possibilities in proposed budget cuts in the Hennepin County Library system. In one definite move, Hennepin County libraries were closed on Saturdays during September to save money. Medina Library hosted an open house for children entering kindergarten in the fall. At this introduction to the library children will be issued a library card. (Crow River News 5/13/81)

Osseo:

An early Friends of the (Osseo) Library was organized in 1949. Some of the charter members were still active in 1981. (Osseo-Maple Grove Press 3/5/81)

Oxboro:

Oxboro Library may have five fewer hours of service a week starting in January. This action was recommended because the county library budget must be trimmed. (Bloomington Sun 9/2/81)

Penn Lake:

Sixth graders in Olson Elementary School took a field trip to Penn Lake Library . The students received an orientation as to what's there and how to find it. Hennepin County Libraries used a book catalog that was foreign to six graders who were familiar with their school library's card catalog. Readers Guide to Periodical literature was an absolute necessity for finding information in magazines. After the library tour students were provided with new library cards. (Bloomington Sun 1/28/81)

Ridgedale Area Library:

Construction of a trail between the county library and West Suburban YMCA in the Ridgedale area was the subject of a feasibility study by Minnetonka. (Minnetonka Sun 6/3/81) Construction on the Ridgedale regional library and service center that began in August is about 15% complete. Construction at the site continues with the pouring of the structural frame, which will be enclosed with brick. The library will also boast a video production studio, primarily related to educational and library matters.

video production studio, primarily related to educational and library matters. (Minnetonka Sun 1/26/81)

Rogers:

The Rogers City Council directed city clerk/administrator Dan Vogt to send a letter to the Hennepin County Library System opposing any more cuts in the budget, time or employees at the Rogers Library. (Crow River News 9/3/81) Hennepin County Library celebrated National Library Week with the public dedication of its new Rogers building on April 5. Participants in the dedication program included Rogers Mayor Judy Volkers, architect Don Vermeland, Hennepin County Library Board president Flora Rogge, Library director Robert Rohlf and Rogers librarian Beverly Nelson, Hennepin County Commissioner E.R. Robb, Jr was the keynote speaker. The new Rogers Community Library opened November 24, 1980. (Sherburne County Star 4/2/81)

St. Anthony:

Friends of St. Anthony Library celebrated their first anniversary with gifts to the library. Among the items added to the library were a projection cart and screen, popular books requested by local residents, phonograph headphones and a paperback book display. (St. Anthony Bulletin 7/30/81) A preview of the Metropolitan Opera's upcoming season was presented at the library in March. A speaker from Metropolitan Opera in the Midwest discussed the opera's new productions and the return of some of its compelling favorites. (The Bulletin 3/19/81)

St. Bonifacius:

St. Bonifacius celebrated its 50th anniversary with displays and refreshments on February 20. (HCL publicity brochure)

Southdale Area Library:

Beginning October 13 Southdale had a TTD (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) in operation. Deaf and hearing impaired persons who have access to a TTD will be able to call the library for general information and reference service and to reserve library materials. A TTD allows a keyboard similar to that of a typewriter to be coupled with a telephone so that typewritten messages can be sent and received over existing phone lines. (Lake Minnetonka Sailor 10/2/81) The University of Minnesota Continuing Education offered three courses of varying lengths in the fall of 1981. (Richfield Sun 9/2/81)

Wayzata:

Winning many "Woman of the Year" awards, Thelma Jones became known for her passion for libraries. A newspaper article of the time remembered that Thelma Jones was the personification of Hennepin

was the personification of Hennepin County's Wayzata Library. Ms. Jones died on April 12. (Lake Minnetonka Sun 5/13/81)

compiled by Eileen Cavanagh 6/1/2013